



JOINT/DOUBLE/MULTIPLE DEGREES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Information correct as of MAY 2013

Country	Duration (ECTS)	Joint Degree (if applicable, please refer to the corresponding legislation)	Double/multiple Degree (if applicable, please refer to the corresponding legislation)	Additional comments	Useful Links
AUSTRIA	60/90/120	Possible § 51/1/27, § 87/5 of the Universities Act: http://www.bmwf.gv.at/fileadmin/user_upload/legislation/E_UG.pdf	Possible § 51/1/27, § 87/5 of the Universities Act: http://www.bmwf.gv.at/fileadmin/user_upload/legislation/E_UG.pdf	The HE institutions concerned have to conclude an agreement on the installation and execution of the common degree programme.	Joint degree recommendation: http://www.bmwf.gv.at/fileadmin/user_upload/wissenschaft/naric/Joint_Degree_Diploma_Programmes.pdf
BELGIUM (FR)	60/90/120	Possible (art 18 § 2, art 29 § 2-3 of the Law on Higher Education March 31, 2004 and June 16, 2006)	Possible (art 18 § 2, art 29 § 2-3 of the Law on Higher Education March 31, 2004 and June 16, 2006)	The Joint Degree is issued in addition to one of the legal degrees listed in the French Community legislation.	http://www.equivalences.cfwb.be (in French)
BELGIUM (NL)	60/90/120	Possible	Possible	Article 94, §3 of the Law on Higher Education Reform April 4, 2003	http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/regelgeving/Double_and_Joint_Degrees_in_the_Flemish_Community.htm
BULGARIA	60/90/120	Not possible, but new law is being prepared	Possible	Under the current Regulation for Unified State Requirements to the main documents issued by higher education, Joint Master Degrees are not possible. According which additional	

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				requisites in the diploma form are not permitted. But the NARIC Center refers the matter to the national authorities and it is expected with the adoption of the new law on higher education, currently being developed, the Joint Master Degree to become possible.	
CYPRUS	60/90/120	Possible. Public Universities can offer Joint Degrees in cooperation with other HEIs (Regulations for Studies and Student Affairs – University of Cyprus – Reg No.172/2006). Private Universities can offer Joint Degrees subject to approval and evaluation by the Evaluation Committee for Private Universities.	Possible		
CZECH REPUBLIC	60/90/120	Possible – the Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll.	Possible – the Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll.	All study programmes provided by Czech HEIs including joint/double degree must be approved by the Accreditation Commission of the Czech Republic.	The Higher Education Act: http://www.msmt.cz/uploads/Areas_of_work/higher_education/Act_No_111_1998.pdf Rules for accreditation (in Czech only): http://www.akreditacnikomise.cz/cs/s_tandardy-pro-posuzovani-zadosti/160_-joint-degrees.html
DENMARK	60/90/120	Possible – BEK nr.1389 Bekendtgørelse om universiteternes	Possible		On law and decrees: http://fivu.dk/en/legislation/prevailing-laws-and-regulations

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		international uddannelsesforløb (amendment to the University Act introduced 1 January 2012).			The Danish education system: http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system Transparency tools for qualifications and competencies: http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/recognition-and-transparency/transparency-tools
ESTONIA	60/90/120	Possible (Universities Act)	Possible		
FINLAND	60/90/120	Possible with some restrictions	Possible	Legislation requires the attachment of a degree certificate also in a national language (Finnish/Swedish)	http://oph.fi/download/137549_Joint_and_double_degrees_november2011.pdf
FRANCE	60/90/120	Possible with some restrictions (Law 11 th May 2005)	Possible	Restrictions: joint degrees awarded only on “ <i>imprimerie nationale française</i> ” paper, only in French (for French universities’ section), signed by the “Recteur” (local delegate of the Central Government for Higher Education, appointed by the Minister) and Legal representative of University Also possible: International co-tutelle (6 th January 2005 Decree – in French: http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jopdf/common/jo_pdf.jsp?nu	1) Legislation introducing Joint Degrees: > Law 11 th May 2005 http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000810668&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id 2) Legislation shaping the implementation of Joint Degrees: > 2006 Circulaire from Ministry of Higher Education: http://www.education.gouv.fr/bo/2006/47/MENS0603037C.htm > Completed by 2011 Circulaire: http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/pid20536/bulletin-officiel

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				mJO=0&dateJO=20050113&numTexte=4&pageDebut=00553&pageFin=00553)	html?cid_bo=56457
GERMANY	60/90/120	Possible	Possible	All national and international study programmes (BA and MA) have to be accredited or recognised. The rules for recognition of degrees are set by the German "Länder" (regions). While a Bachelor degree requires 180 - 240 ECTS, a Masters degree requires additional 60-120 ECTS. Entry requirement for a Masters programme is a first degree (Bachelor, Magister Artium, Diploma, etc.). In principle, a Masters degree awarded by German HEIs (University, Technical University, University of Applied Sciences) entitles to enter a doctoral programme. However, entry requirements are specified by each HEI in their doctoral degree regulations. PhD programmes are usually not structured along ECTS. PhD programmes are set up under the authority of HEIs (no rules for recognition from central level).	Legal Documents (German only): - structural guidelines incl. list of degrees that can be awarded (Ländergemeinsame Strukturvorgaben): http://www.kmk.org/fileadmin/veroeffentlichungen_beschluesse/2003/2003_10_10-Laendergemeinsame-Strukturvorgaben.pdf Rules for the accreditation of study programmes (published by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany - Accreditation Council): http://www.akkreditierungsrat.de/fileadmin/Seiteninhalte/AR/Beschluesse/AR_Regeln_Studiengaenge_aktuell.pdf
GREECE	60/90/120	Possible Law 3685/2008	Possible Law 3685/2008	A Cooperation Agreement among participating HEIs	Legislative framework for postgraduate programmes (in Greek):

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				describes all the necessary procedures for the programmes to take place (thematic field, selection procedure, funding resources etc)	http://www.et.gr - search for law 3685/2008 (Official Gazette 148/issue A/16-7- 2008). Law 3685/2008 was amended by law 4009/2011, which reforms all aspects of higher education in Greece. As far as the creation of postgraduate programmes is concerned, the new law delegates wider autonomy to HEIs.
HUNGARY	60/90/120	Possible. (Legislation: Act CCIV of 2011 on Higher Education Section 79)	Possible. (Legislation: Act CCIV of 2011 on Higher Education Section 79)	Minimum duration of studies is 180 ECTS at Bachelor level and 60 ECTS at Master level.	Ministry of Human Resources: http://www.kormany.hu/en/ Ministry of Human Resources - Hungarian Equivalence and Information Centre (ENIC / NARIC Office): http://www.oktatas.hu/kepesitesek_elismertetese/english Educational Authority (only in HU): http://www.oktatas.hu/ Hungarian Accreditation Committee: http://www.mab.hu/joomla/index.php?lang=en Act CCIV of 2011 on Higher Education: http://www.oktatas.hu/pub_bin/dload/nyelvvizsga_honositas/elismertetes_honositas/Act_on_NatHE2011.pdf
ICELAND	60/90/120	Possible. Law no. 63 from 2006 on Higher Education in Iceland, article 9 in chapter 3: Higher Education Institutions are authorised to grant degrees according the Article 7 in cooperation with	Possible. Law no. 63 from 2006 on Higher Education in Iceland, article 9 in chapter 3: Higher Education Institutions are authorised to grant degrees according the Article 7 in cooperation with		http://eng.menntamalaraduneyti.is/media/MRN-PDF-Althjodlegt/Higher-Education-Act-no.-63-2006nytt.pdf

		other Higher Education Institutions on a national and international basis.	other Higher Education Institutions on a national and international basis.		
IRELAND	60/90/120	Possible. [Universities Act 1997 and Qualifications (Education and Training) Act 1999]	Possible	90 ECTS is more common. Check with individual HEIs.	
ITALY	From 60 to 120	Possible (for universities see Diploma supplement point 8, DM 509/1999 and art.3, c10, DM. n.270/2004; For H.ED. Institutions for fine arts, music and dance see art. 3, c8, DPR n. 212/2005)	Possible (for universities see Diploma supplement point 8, DM 509/1999 and art.3, c10,DM. n.270/2004; For H.ED. Institutions for fine arts, music and dance see art. 3, c8, DPR n. 212/2005)	Since 1999 Italian HEIs have the authority to establish joint courses and to release joint degrees autonomously , on the basis of the rules signed in the consortium agreement (for universities see DM 509/1999 and art.3, c10, DM. n.270/2004; For H.ED. Institutions for fine arts, music and dance see art. 3, c8, DPR n. 212/2005). In the University Diploma supplement point 8 is written: <i>“Italian universities may establish degree courses in cooperation with foreign partner universities; on completion of integrated curricula joint or double/multiple degrees are awarded”</i>	D.M. 270/2004: http://www.miur.it/0006Menu_C/0012Docume/0098Normat/4640Modific2.htm DPR 212/2005: http://legxv.camera.it/cartellecomuni/leg14/RapportoAttivitaCommissioni/commissioni/allegati/07/07_all_DPR_212_05.pdf Diploma supplement, point n.8: http://www.cimea.it/default.aspx?IDC=29 Proof of recognition: http://erasmusmundus.it/descrizione/proof-ofrecognition.aspx
LIECHTENSTEIN	60/90/120	Possible	Possible		

LATVIA	60 / 90 / 120 Master's Degree full time studies with length of 1 or 2 years, but for recognition not less than ECTS 300 together for Bachelor's + Master's Degrees (at least 5 years studies altogether) in total are needed [defined by Law on Higher Education Institutions, Article 57 (1)]	Possible. Law on Higher Education of Latvia - its last amendments have been adopted by Parliament of the Republic of Latvia on 14 July 2011, and they became in force on 1 August 2011. Among other things the amended Law provides for the possibility to create joint study programmes, to issue joint degrees, to use languages of the European Union in the study process of the joint programmes etc.	Possible. Law on Higher Education of Latvia - its last amendments have been adopted by Parliament of the Republic of Latvia on 14 July 2011, and they became in force on 1 August 2011. Among other things the amended Law provides for the possibility to create joint study programmes, to issue joint degrees, to use languages of the European Union in the study process of the joint programmes etc.	Law on Higher Education of Latvia - its last amendments have been adopted by Parliament of the Republic of Latvia on 14 July 2011, and they became in force on 1 August 2011. Among other things the amended Law provides for the possibility to create joint study programmes, to issue joint degrees, to use languages of the European Union in the study process of the joint programmes etc.	<p>*) Law on Institutions [Augstskolu likums (inLatvian)] of Higher Education: http://izm.izm.gov.lv/laws-regulation_s.html (last amendments are not yet available on this web-page in English, Latvian version of the most actual version is available on: http://www.likumi.lv/doc.php?id=37967)</p> <p>*) For accreditation: Higher Education Quality Evaluation Centre: http://www.aiknc.lv;</p> <p>*) For recognition: Academic Information Centre: http://www.aic.lv;</p> <p>*) Different other useful reference materials - Documents and Publications, incl. link to Cabinet of Ministers Regulations - Procedure of Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions, Colleges And Higher Education Programmes: http://www.aiknc.lv/en/kopmat</p>
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LITHUANIA	90 / 120	Possible	Possible	<p>Ministerial decree “On General Requirements for Joint Study Programmes” provides description on joint programme and joint degree as well as the general framework for joint degrees such as necessity of: agreement between partners, provisions for admission, mobility, graduation, issuing of diploma etc. The decree says that the JSPs should be prepared, evaluated and accredited according to all of the partner institutions’ home countries legal acts. The programme starts as soon as the programme is registered in all of the participating countries. In Lithuania JSPs are registered in the same manner as a regular study programmes. Organisation of regular study programmes provided in the Law on Higher Education and Research of Republic of Lithuania</p>	<p>General information how to prepare Joint study programme in Lithuania: http://www.smpf.lt/lt/programos/erasmus_mundus/1_veikla_jungtine_studiju_programa_organizavimas (Lithuanian) Law on Higher Education and Research of Republic of Lithuania Issued 30 April 2009: http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaies.ka.showdoc_1?p_id=419823 (English) Ministerial decree “On General Requirements for Joint Study Programmes” Issued December 31, 2009 http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaies.ka.showdoc_1?p_id=404475&p_query=&p_tr2=2 (Lithuanian)</p>
LUXEMBURG	60/90/120				
MALTA	60/90/120	Possible	Possible	<p>Recognition according to the principles of the LRC as long as institutions and programmes are accredited in their respective countries</p>	

<p>THE NETHERLANDS</p>	<p>60/90/120. Few exceptions are possible.</p>	<p>Possible. Dutch Higher Education Act article 7.3 for Bachelor and Master programmes. By letters of 9 July 2010 and of 16 December 2010 (both in Dutch), the Minister further clarified rules regarding joint degrees. The accreditation framework is described in several formal documents of NVAO.</p>	<p>Possible</p>	<p>An institution in the Netherlands can award a degree to anyone who successfully completes an accredited study programme. The Accreditation Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) is responsible for the accreditation of academically oriented higher education programmes (wo) and higher professionally oriented education study programmes (hbo). The organization's tasks arise from the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW). Accreditation takes place at the request of the institutions, based on assessment reports produced by review and assessment boards. Accredited programmes are registered in the Central Register of Higher Education Study Programmes (CROHO), which contains an overview of all accredited study programmes in the Netherlands.</p>	<p>Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders: http://nvaio.com/ Central Register of Higher Education study Programmes (CROHO): http://www.ibgroep.nl/zakelijk/ho/croho/raadplegen_croho.asp contains an overview of all accredited study programmes in the Netherlands.</p> <p>Letter from the Minister of 9 July 2010: http://www.nvaio.net/page/downloads/brief_OCW_joint_degrees_9_juli_2010.pdf.</p> <p>Letter from the Minister of 16 December 2010: http://www.nvaio.net/page/downloads/Brief_OCW_voorwaarden_joint_degree_16_dec_2010.pdf</p> <p>NVAO-documents regarding accreditation: June 2011 (existing programmes): http://www.nvaio.net/page/downloads/Protocol_Joint_Degree_accreditatie_ENGLISH_7_juni_2010.pdf June 2011 (initial accreditation): http://www.nvaio.net/page/downloads/Protocol_Joint_Degree_tno_ENGLISH_7_juni_2010.pdf</p>
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NORWAY	60/90/120	Possible	Possible	All universities are self accrediting, and can choose which master degrees to create, while the university colleges must apply for this to the ENIC/NARIC (NOKUT)	http://www.lovddata.no/all/hl-20050401-015.html
POLAND	60/90/120	Possible (Act 'Law on higher education' amended on the 18 th of March 2011 and Act on the academic degrees and the academic title as well as on the degrees and the title within the scope of Art. of 14 March 2003 as amended and in force from 1 st October 2011	Possible (Act 'Law on higher education' amended on the 18 th of March 2011 and Act on the academic degrees and the academic title as well as on the degrees and the title within the scope of Art. of 14 March 2003 as amended and in force from 1 st October 2011	'Proof of recognition' not required: each Erasmus Mundus application will be checked on a case-by-case basis	
PORTUGAL	60/90/120	Possible (Decree-Law 74/2006 of the 24 th of March)	Possible (Decree-Law 74/2006 of the 24 th of March)		Link to Decree- Law (in Portuguese): http://www.dges.mctes.pt/NR/rdonlyres/90DBE647-5CB6-4846-B88F-101180D9E425/1130/DL742007.pdf
ROMANIA	60 /90 / 120	Not possible	Possible. The new law of national education allows, for HEIs, to organize common study programmes together with HEIs from abroad; but such programmes should be accredited by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in HE; the law does not mention anything about the possibility of issuing joint diplomas, the template of diplomas is regulated by national regulations and therefore only double or multiple	The current legislation does not mention joint degrees at all; nevertheless it is possible to establish joint study programmes. As a result, a diploma is issued by one of the universities involved- as agreed in the bilateral inter-institutional agreement - and this diploma is then recognised by the other university involved.	The following link provides the text of the Law no. 1/2011, i.e. the law of education (in Romanian): http://www.edu.ro/index.php/legaldocs/14847

			degrees are possible.		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	2 nd cycle study programmes, full-time mode of study: 1-3 years, min 60 ECTS. One-tier programmes (joining 1 st cycle and 2 nd cycle), min 300 ECTS	Possible (The Act on Higher Education N°131/2002 Coll. as amended, §54a, §68 (8), §83 (18))	Possible (The Act on Higher Education N°131/2002 Coll. as amended, §54a, §68 (8), §83 (18))	All study programmes provided by Slovak HEIs including joint/double degrees must be accredited by the Minister of Education based on the opinion of the Accreditation Commission except of decisions according to §83 (18)	The website of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, the page on HE legislation (in Slovak only): http://www.minedu.sk/860-sk/zakony/ The website of the Accreditation Commission (in English): http://www.akredkom.sk/en/
SLOVENIA	60/90/120	Possible	Not possible. According Slovenian Higher Education Act double/multiple degrees not foreseen.	* Higher Education Act, Article 36 provides the following: each academic year corresponds to 60 ECTS. Master study programme may go on from 1 to 2 years corresponding the ECTS from 60 to 120 but must together with undergraduate study programme in the same academic discipline last 5 years – 300 ECTS (for example: 3-year undergraduate study programme – 180 ECTS must be continued with 2-year master – 120 ECTS; 4-year undergraduate study programme – 240 ECTS must be continued with 1-year master – 60 ECTS). However there is no legal impediment for having 1.5 year master study programmes – 90 ECTS	Uradni list Republike Slovenije (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, Higher Education Act - available in Slovenian language): http://zakonodaja.gov.si/rpsi/r02/predpis_ZAKO172.html ; Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: http://www.nakvis.si/indexang.html

				in Slovenia, provided that there exists undergraduate study programme in the same academic discipline lasting 3,5 years – 210 ECTS (currently there are no undergraduate study programmes lasting 3.5 years).	
SPAIN	60/90/120	<p>Possible for both public and private universities and Higher education institutions</p> <p>Royal Decree 861/2010, of 2nd July.</p> <p>Royal Decree 1002/2011, of 5th August for awarding a specific model of joint diploma and Joint diploma Supplement</p>	Possible	<p>According to the Spanish Royal Decree 861/2010 of 2nd July, that regulates tertiary education under the framework of the European Higher Education Area, only the joint Master and Doctorate programmes that will be awarded with the Erasmus Mundus label by the European Commission will be automatically accredited and registered in the RUCT (The Register of Spanish Higher Education Institutions and programmes) by the Ministry of Education. (see «Disposición adicional duodécima” on page 9). But related to other national or international joint degrees (not Erasmus Mundus), these programmes must be accredited by the National Agency for Quality Assurance of Higher education (ANECA) before they start to be implemented.</p> <p>Royal Decree 1002/2011, of 5th August provides a specific</p>	<p>http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2010/07/03/pdfs/BOE-A-2010-10542.pdf</p> <p>http://www.educacion.gob.es/dctm/ministerio/educacion/universidades/convocatorias/entidades/erasmus-mundus2/2011-documento-ministerio-prueba-reconocimiento-proof-of-recognition-2.pdf?documentId=0901e72b80aa37cc</p> <p>http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2010/08/06/pdfs/BOE-A-2010-12621.pdf</p>

				model of joint diploma for Erasmus Mundus programmes in English ((ANEXO XIII, page 36) as well as a specific model for the joint diploma supplement in English (<u>ANEXO XII.B, page 31</u>) following the recommendations and guidelines of the Council of Europe and UNESCO.	
SWEDEN	60/90/120	Possible, by decision in the Parliament and written in the Higher Education Act.	Possible	Based on the principle that if the HEI has the right to issue a national degree in a certain area and level it also has the right to issue a joint degree at the same area and level.	http://www.hsv.se/lawsandregulations.4.5161b99123700c42b07ffe3904.html (link to the Higher Education Act and other useful documents)
UNITED KINGDOM	60/90/120	Possible, but depending on the regulation of each institution	Possible, but depending on the regulation of each institution	NA requires all selected EMMC applicants to produce evidence that their institution has recognised the proposed degree in the form of a signed document of the governing body or head of institution	http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/QualificationsExplained/DG_10039017 https://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/FHEQ/default.asp