

Monitoring the quality of ECTS and DS labels

Raimonda Markeviciene

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What does ECTS/DS label should tell about the institution?

- Transparency of information and mobility procedures are expected
- Studies - student-centred / workload based
- Quality of information is available to students and their proxies (parents, funders etc.) / and potential partners
- Quality of employing information and transparency tools: showing that institution uses DS/ECTS properly

Labels and national authorities

Does ECTS label mean anything for external bodies, such as:

Ministries?

QA agencies?

NA agencies?

What does ECTS/DS label mean to institutions?

- Increase the quality of mobility?
- provide more possibilities for joint degrees?
- Marketing of institution at home and abroad?
- Aiding recognition of periods of study?
- Seeking to embed mobility culture?
- Communicating quality and prestige to the outside world thus boosting institutional self-respect?

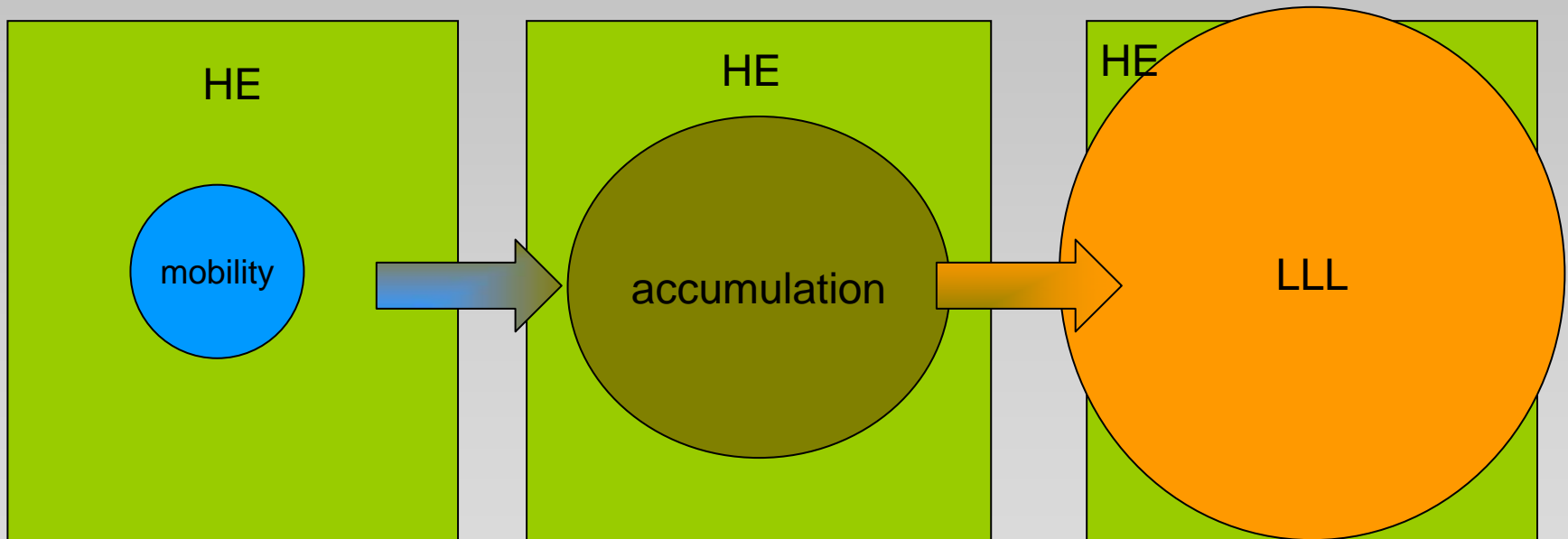
ECTS label criteria

ECTS label criteria for the time being is based on:

1. mobility documents
2. general philosophy of accumulation (information - Information Package)

Label requirements – message to national and international authorities

Possible (logical) development of ECTS label concept:
mobility – accumulation – LLL



Prerequisite: labels recognized, supported and encouraged on national levels

Living up to the label...now

Cannot last sustained only by International Offices:
ECTS label is a start for certain institutional
behavioral pattern that underlines and targets
more than mobility goals

Necessity to have structures and committed
personnel who follow :

1. Timely renewal of the information;
2. Mobility procedures;
3. Recognition procedures;

But... who should do the monitoring?



External bodies

Who?

EU commission, EACEA, LLP National Agencies, Bologna experts or independent experts

What activities they may offer?

- Regular checks of the label holders' web sites
- Site visits by Bologna experts or independent experts
- Combination of the two?

Where does this lead to?

- Suggestions and recommendations for the institutions?
- Suggestions and recommendations for the Commission as a label grantor?

AND WHAT THEN?



Peer review - magnifying glass of the international colleagues

It always exists:

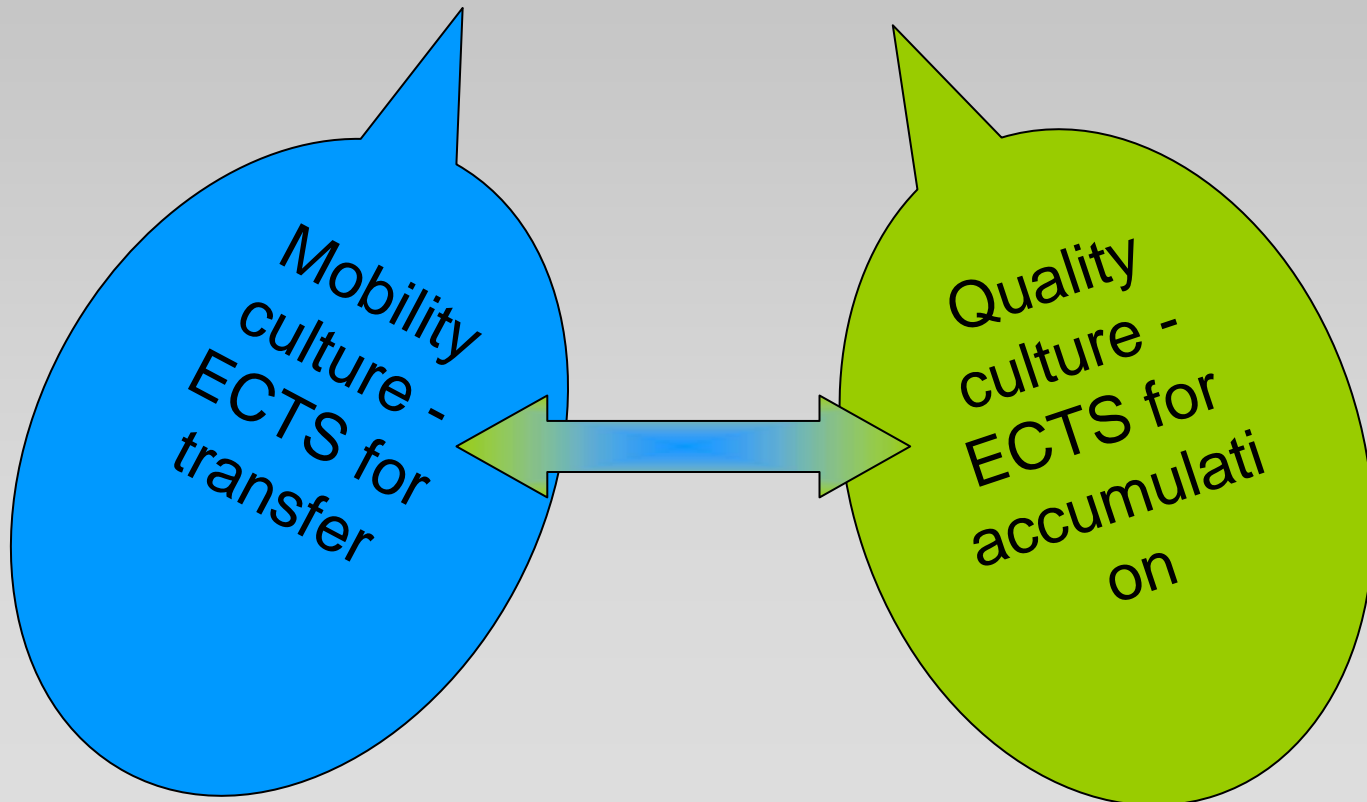
Hidden (sensitive reaction and analysis of colleagues)
Comments necessary)

But could be:

Invited (questionnaires:
Is information easy to find?
Is it clear?
Are studies recognized?
What were the difficulties for recognition...)
Good for internal negotiations

Internal monitoring?

YES if ECTS/DS became part of the:



Quality culture (EUA)

QC refers to an organizational culture that intends to enhance quality permanently and is characterized by two distinct elements:

1. cultural/psychological element of shared values, beliefs, expectations and commitment towards quality;
2. A structural/managerial element with defined processes that enhance quality and aim at coordinating individual efforts

Mobility culture: what is it?

Academic mobility culture is the possibility of students and teachers to move between different institutions for the development of mind, attitudes, behavioural patterns as well as institutional mind-set and structures.

Institutional mobility culture reaches every single staff member.

Monitoring ECTS label

Procedure
s of credit
allocation

Quality of
informatio
n and its
presentati
on

Procedure
s of
Mobility
organizatio
n

Recogni-
tion
Practice
and
Decisions

Quality of
foreign
partners

Student
opinion
and
suggesti
ons

Maintaining label requirements, improving information and performance

DS label criteria

Meeting formal requirements:

- Issuing of the Diploma Supplement to all graduates in all first and second cycle degree programmes, free of charge and in a widely spoken European language;
- Use of the [standard DS model](#) developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO;
- Public information (online) about the availability of the DS for all graduates, plus a filled-in example.

Monitoring DS label

Quality of information

Ability to provide Personalized information

Preserving structure

Reaction to changing milieu (Part8)

Retaining requirements of issuing DS (automatic Free, to all)

Alumni and feedbacks on recognition

Maintaining label requirements, improving information

"A mind once stretched by a new idea never
regains its original dimensions."

Alexander Pope

