



The Bologna Process at the Finish Line?

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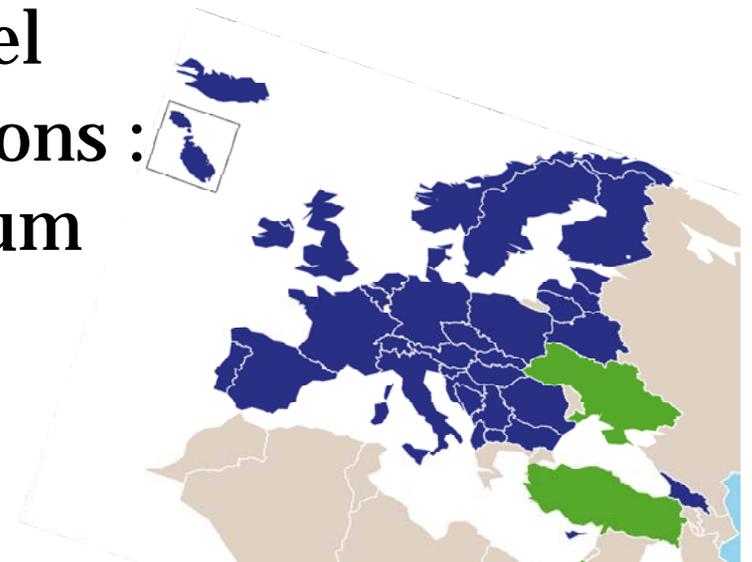
Dubrovnik, Croatia

27th of September, 2010



Representing over 11 millions of students in Europe...

- 44 members = National Unions of Students
- 37 countries
- 2 Board Meetings per year :
3-6 November : Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2 European Student Conventions :
14-17 October : Leuven, Belgium





Stakeholder role

- UNESCO World Higher Education Forum + 10
Paris, 2009
- OECD – IMHE 2010
- European Union
- European Commission
- Council of Europe
- Bologna Follow Up Group as a consultative
member

BWSE : Bologna With Student Eyes



BOLOGNA AT THE FINISH LINE

An account of ten years of European higher
education reform





Basics about BWSE and BAFL

- A research project by ESU
- Inquiring into the state of the Bologna Process
- Investigating how well implementation of the Process' action lines match students' needs and the original ambitions of the Declarations of years past + sharing good and bad practices
- And arriving at concrete suggestions on how to move forward with the European HE reform agenda



Student-centred research

- **The heart of the research for BWSE and BAFL is based on students' views as reflected by their respective National Student Unions (NUSes)**
- **But also taking national stocktaking reports and other data sources into account**
- **From this data, conclusions are derived and recommendations and suggestions for future policy lines put together**

A student vision of the Bologna Process

- High quality higher education for all
- Cater for the diverse student and societal needs
- Equal opportunities for all, free from discrimination
- Student participation
- Academic freedom
- Education as both a public good and a public responsibility



Bologna at the Finish Line ... ?

- Finish line is not 2010 –
The Area is not open, it is still a process.
- Bologna “à la carte” implementation causes negative effects, inequality and confusion
- Bologna ⇔ Lisbon?
Questionnable role of the EU COM
- Focus on financial input from the market
- Focus on Global attractiveness
- Focus on Social Dimension?



ESU's Priorities for the next decade

- Not allowing for further confusion regarding the main goals and tools of the Bologna Process.
- Holistic, in-depth and financially supported continued implementation of all Bologna action lines, with a special focus on the social dimension, mobility and student-centred learning.



ESU's Priorities for the next decade

- **Inter-governmental solidarity to overcome the ill-effects of the 'two-speed' Bologna implementation, rather than an excessive focus on the individual promotion of national higher education systems.**
- **Full student participation in all decision-making structures at national, regional and institutional levels.**

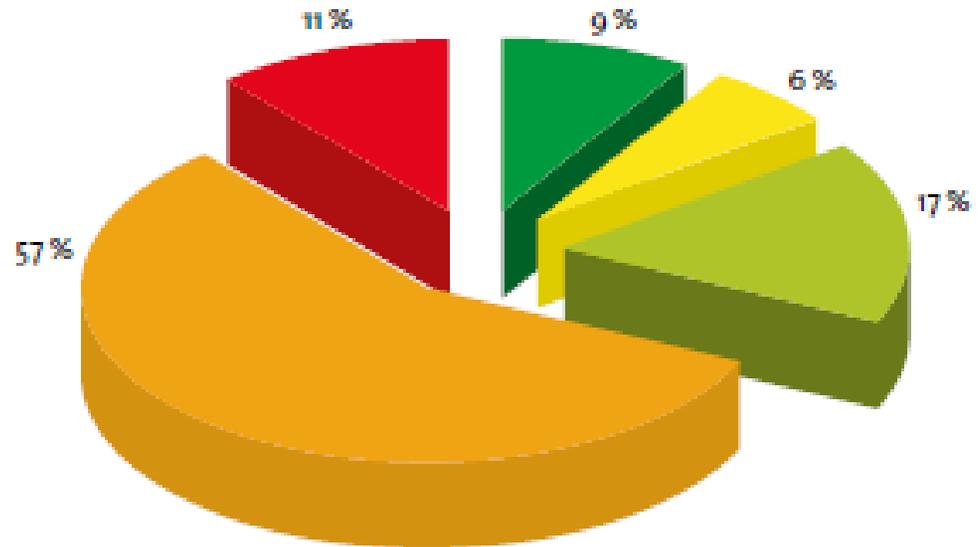


Current challenges

- Economic crisis “reason” for extra budget cuts
- 20% Youth unemployment under 25 in Europe
- Need for more transversal skills
- 900.000 to 1.5 million students do not study abroad because of mainly recognition and financing problems – mobility stays at 4%
- Discrimination without limits of Non-EEA students, sheer marketisation

fig. 3—Introduction of tuition fees for non-European/non-EU students

- No fees at the moment
- Discussions about introducing fees
- Fees already exist; reduction proposed
- Fees already exist; no changes proposed
- Fees already exist; increase proposed



- **Ministers around the Bologna table**



- **Ministers at home**





Thank you!

More information
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