

EBLIDA

Estoril

14<sup>th</sup> of May 2004

# European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

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# Motivations for the Bologna Declaration (and Sorbonne)

- n Lack of competitiveness and attractiveness of the EHEA (e.g. as compared with US)
- n High diversity of programmes – durations, objectives, approaches, ... (confusion)
- n Difficulties in the recognition of qualifications and mobility



# Overall aim

## Build the European Higher Education Area by 2010

- n 40 countries
- n Multilateral process, larger than the EU
- n The Declaration is not a law or a treaty
- n Tension between organisation and diversity



# Major issues

- n From the Bologna Declaration (1999)
  - n Competitiveness of EHEA
  - n Mobility
  - n Employability
- n From the Prague Communiqué (2001)
  - n Lifelong learning
  - n Social dimension
- n From the Berlin Communiqué (2003)
  - n Links with the European Research Area (ERA)



# Instrumental objectives

- n Easily readable degrees
- n System of two main cycles
- n European credit system (ECTS based)
- n Promotion of mobility
- n Quality assurance
- n European dimensions
- n Information
- n Recognition of qualifications
- n Qualifications framework

# Berlin commitments for 2005

- n Two cycle system in implementation
- n Diploma Supplement being issued
- n Quality evaluation or accreditation
  - n Definition of responsibilities
  - n Evaluation of programmes or institutions
  - n Accreditation, certification or equivalent



# Agreements

- n Responsibility
  - n Public responsibility for HE
- n Quality assurance
  - n Common criteria
- n Qualifications framework
  - n Common (working group created)
  - n National

# Agreements (cont.)

## n Degrees

- n 1st degree (Ba): 180 to 240 ECTS units;
- n 2nd degree (Ma): 90 to 120 ECTS units (minimum of 60 ECTS units of post-graduation level)

## n Transparency and recognition

- n European credit system (ECTS units for accumulation and transfer)
- n Diploma Supplement
- n Lisbon Recognition Convention

# Paradigms

- n Outcomes oriented
- n Learner centred education
- n Organised diversity



# What needs to be done

- n Work together by subject area at European level
- n Identify common core learning outcomes (knowledge, competencies, skills, ...)
- n Adapt programmes to the common learning outcomes
- n Apply ECTS
- n Issue Diploma Supplement
- n Apply the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention

# Thank you!

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