

European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education



The DEQAR CONNECT Project: Enhancing Connectivity and Interoperability

MICROBOL WG on Recognition 11 May 2021 Colin Tück



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DEQAR: "quality at your fingertips"



https://www.deqar.eu/

- Easy access to external quality assurance (QA) reports and decisions by EQAR-registered agencies
- Enhance transparency and visibility at the European level
- Facilitates trust and automatic recognition, based on robust quality assurance in line with ESG
- Responds to information needs of various stakeholders, in particular ENIC-NARICs and admission officers





DEQAR Key Figures



	May 2021
Reports	59 970
Institutions (with at least one report)	2 805
Higher Education Systems (≥ 50% of HEIs in DEQAR)	21
Agencies	41 of 50





DEQAR Coverage

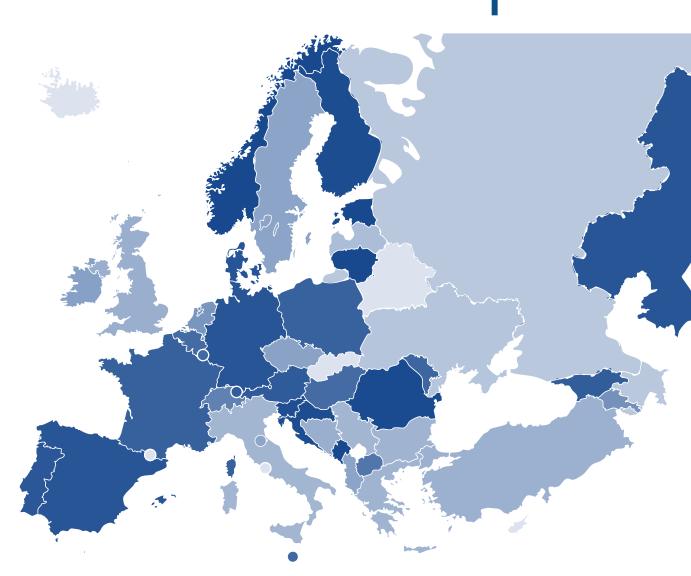
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No reports

100%

of higher education institutions in ETER/national list

10%







DEQAR & micro-credentials

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• Our starting point:

- ESG are applicable to micro-credentials
- Institutions and QA agencies already use them
- Micro-credentials awarded by HEIs:
 - Separate certifications already found in DEQAR
 - Institutional audit/accreditation show coverage?
- Micro-credentials awarded by alternative providers:
 - ESG have been used, some examples (e.g. private companies, professional associations)
 - Need to be reflected in DEQAR, but we are still looking for an adequate way





DEQAR CONNECT: integration with ENIC-NARICs



Goal:

- automatic search in DEQAR part of own application/workflow
- simplify accreditation/QA check
- Four centres involved:
 - Italy: CIMEA

France Education International

Romania: CNRED

Netherlands: Nuffic

- Opportunities:
 - examples can be used by other centres or HEIs
 - reference in recognition documents
 - better cope with increasing diversity of providers





DEQAR CONNECT: progress so far

CERTIFICATIO	N COMPARABILITY X	
Reference N.	Date 24-02-2021	
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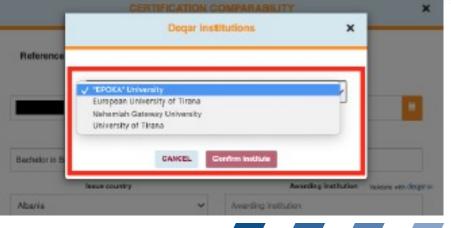
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Phoenix. DEQAR data will be directly available in Phoenix, without external request as mentioned above. This solution could be developed **in the medium-term**. If this solution presents advantages regarding the integration of DEQAR data, we have identified the following obstacles (that can be overcome):

The association between Phoenix ID and DEQAR ID (as for example for the HEIs) : as we could not change Phoenix ID, we need to create an intermediate table between the Phoenix ID and the DEQAR ID. Moreover, this development could be longer as we originally planned because we have to check the name of each HEI registered in Phoenix and find the equivalent in the DECAR database.



DEQAR CONNECT: other interoperability initiatives



- Digital credentials: Europass/EDCI
 - Interface to populate Accreditation Database/QDR from DEQAR data automatically
 - Can be used/activated on a per-country basis
- Digital credentials: EBSI/ESSIF
 - Goal: issue Verifiable Credentials with DEQAR data automatically (= Verifiable Accreditation)
 - Proof of concept work in progress
 - Verifiable Credential could even be embedded in credential
- Higher Education Interoperable Data Initiative (HEIDI)
 - Working on agreed system of institutional identifiers
 - Can be basis for course identifiers, for example





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Thank you. Questions?



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