EU Feasibility study on design and testing of a Multi-dimensional Global Ranking:

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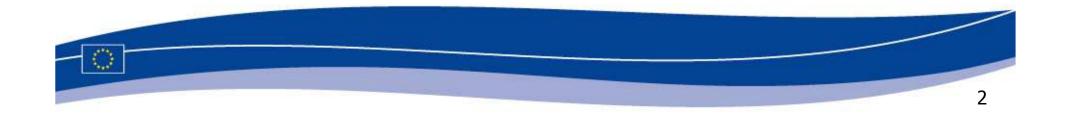29 June 2010, Brussels

Outline

A. EU Context: the Modernisation Agenda for
     Universities
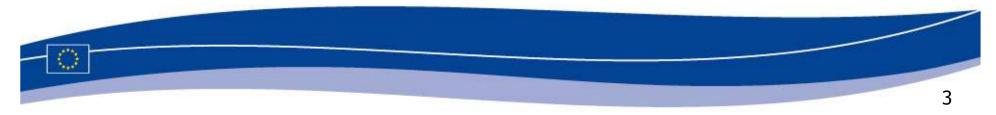
B. Overview of EU-supported transparency initiatives

C. Towards a Multi-dimensional Global Ranking

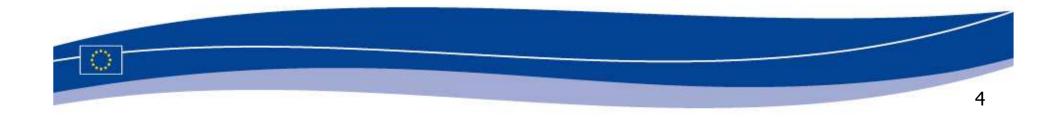# A. EU-context Modernisation agenda for Universities

Main messages of the Modernisation agenda: (1)

- Modern universities should dare to diversify on the basis of their strenghts. Not all institutions need the same mix between education and research.

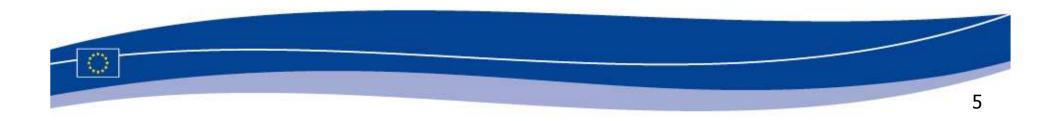- The diverse missions and performances of our universities should be made transparent to all stakeholders.

Main messages of the Modernisation agenda: (2)

- More transparency will make it easier for students, teachers and researchers to make an informed choice where and what to study and where to work.

- More transparency would also serve university management to better position themselves and improve their developments strategies, quality and performances!
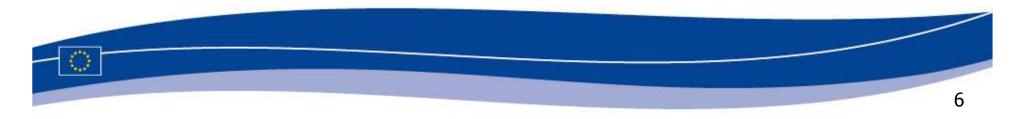
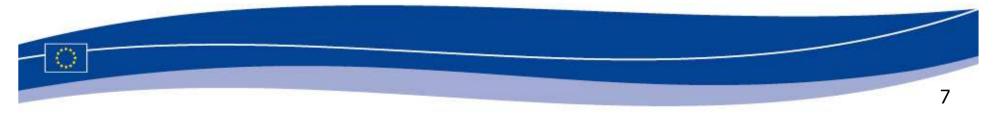# B. EU supported transparency initiatives in higher education

- European Data Collection project *(www.eumida.org)*

- Expertgroup on Assessment of University Based Research

- Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes (AHELO)

- Mapping diversity of university profiles *(www.u-map.eu)*

- Feasibility study on design and testing of a multi-dimensional global ranking *(www.u--multirank.eu)*

- Quality Assurance (ENQA, EQAR, ESG's)

C. Towards a Multi-dimensional Global University Ranking

- Various rankings have their own purpose and target groups (Berlin principles)

- Shortcomings existing rankings:
  - tendency to focus on research in hard sciences and ignore performances of universities in other areas like humanities, social sciences teaching quality, innovation, internationalisation and community outreach.
  - focus on entire institutions, not on programmes/disciplines

- Therefore desirable that, based on existing initiatives, instruments will be developed which enable a multi-dimensional ranking.
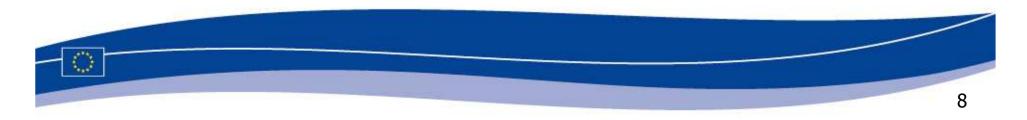
Characteristics of multi-dimensional ranking to be developed and tested

- Multi-dimensional and user-driven (different users and target groups can choose an own « smart ranking »)

- Ranking both at institutional and discipline-level

- Independent (not run by governments or universities)

- Global (covering institutions in Europe and other continents)

Planning of the u-multirank project

- *End of May 2009*: Start of project

- *End of December 2009*: Final Report design phase

- *January 2010*: Start testing phase

- *End of May 2011*: Final Report testing phase

- NB Continuous stakeholder-involvement in the project