

European Quality Assurance
Register for Higher Education



ABOUT QUALITY, QA and INTERNATIONALIZATION

AZVO - Seminar
Zagreb, 30 October 2018
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EXPERIENCES with QA

- University Maastricht (1986 - 2002): start, autonomy, reviews
- Netherlands Flemish Accreditation Organization
NVAO (2002 – 2012):
start accreditation, fear, control, bureaucracy
- Association of Dutch universities, VSNU (2012 – 2017):
institutional QA, political interference

EQAR

- decided in 2007
- founded in 2008
- holds the register
- might open QA-market
- leads to trust, basis for good internationalization
- compliance with ESG

IMPORTANCE of INDEPENDENCE

- independence of agency
- necessary condition
- no political interference
- “legal” independence
- independence of reviewers

TRUST, HONESTY and REALISM

- external and independent QA
- but more honesty and realism is needed
- look for stable partnerships
- “European universities” might help
- diminish cleavage between NW and SE
- take care of “freedoms”

CONCLUSIONS

- from QA to quality culture
- “system of QA” leads to trust
- trust is essential for internationalization
- independence is necessary condition
- be honest and realistic
- universities are part of global system