

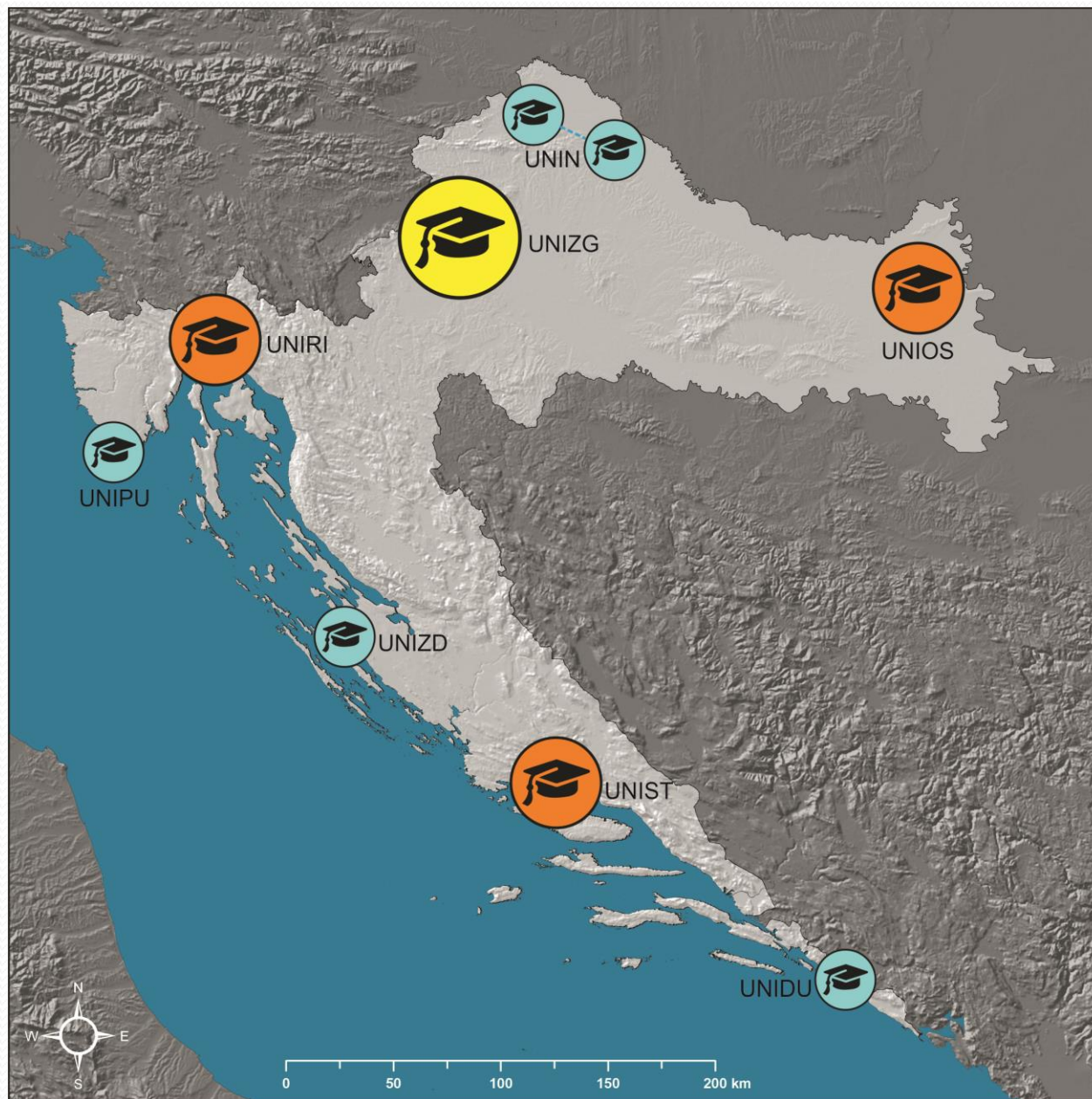
THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION: QUALITY ASSURANCE AS THE  
INITIATOR OF CHANGES - GLOBAL, EUROPEAN AND CROATIAN PERSPECTIVE  
Zagreb, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018

How the Agency for Science and Higher  
Education helps universities to respond to  
contemporary challenges in higher education  
through the process of external assessment  
of quality assurance system?

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(on behalf of the Croatian Rectors' Conference)

# The Croatian Rectors' Conference consists of all the rectors of **public universities** in the Republic of Croatia:

- University of Dubrovnik,
- Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek,
  - Juraj Dobrila University of Pula,
  - University of Rijeka,
- University North (Varaždin – Koprivnica),
  - University of Split,
  - University of Zadar
  - University of Zagreb



Geographical disposition of Croatian public universities  
(the size of the cartographic sign approximates the relative size of the university)



# Historical background

- A long university tradition in Croatia began in 1396 with the establishment of the University of Zadar
- The continuity of the modern university in Croatia is based on the University of Zagreb, founded in 1874.



# *Universitas* principle

- within the university community
- among the university community, society and economy.



# The task of the academic community

- Modern technological resources provide spatial and temporal convergence which contributes to many contacts and conflicts on various levels, from global to personal.
- Along with many benefits caused by technological progress, we have witnessed many crises: from ecological, financial, to the moral one.
- The task of the academic community is to lead the creation and transfer of new knowledge and technologies that would mitigate or completely eliminate the crisis.
- Technological benefits with the expected direct economic effects should not overshadow the humanist impulse which recognizes the complexity and needs of the human spirit in times of many challenges that are emphasized in the global society.




The previous external assessment procedures of quality assurance in higher education institutions in Croatia contributed to

- the standardization of appropriate procedures in the system of higher education and science
- the creation of an internal quality assurance system
- the improvement of quality of scientific, academic and expert work at universities
- the shaping of the culture of quality which is implemented in various aspects of academic and non-teaching staff and in students' activities.



Multiple meaning of the application of the culture of quality in higher education institutions for their development, their visibility and recognisability and, finally, comparability and relevance at national and international levels.





Thanks to the successful functioning of the Agency for Science and Higher Education, the culture of quality came into being at Croatian universities, based on excellence and integrity in scientific, academic and expert activities, which greatly contributes to the functional involvement of Croatian universities in the European higher education area.



MINISTRY OF SCIENCE  
AND EDUCATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA



agency for science and higher education croatia



CROATIAN  
RECTOR'S  
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