

Z VEDECKÉHO ŽIVOTA / FROM SCIENTIFIC LIFE

How to Create an Internationally Recognized Study Programmes in Public Administration?

*Ako vytvoriť medzinárodne uznávané
študijné programy vo verejnej správe?*

The answer to this question provides the results of the project Public Administration Education Quality Enhancement (PAQUALITY), realised within Erasmus+ K2 call, Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education, from September 1st, 2018 to August 31st, 2021. The project starts in September 2020 the last year of its implementation and the publication of main project outputs is awaited. The project is coordinated by the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central (NISPAcee).

To the project partners belong European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA); Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic; Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; Ljubljana University, Ljubljana, Slovenia; Budapest Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary; Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; University of Economics, Bratislava, Slovakia; Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice, Slovakia and Varna Free University, Varna, Bulgaria.

The project aims to support changes in the area of public administration education in conformity with Bologna objectives, mainly promotion of European co-operation in quality assurance with a view to developing comparable criteria and methodologies, and promotion of the necessary European dimensions in higher education, particularly with regards to curricular development, inter-institutional co-operation, mobility schemes and integrated programs of study,

training and research. Special focus will be on PA programs in the Slovak Republic, the location of NISPAcee and 3 project partners. EAPAA standards implemented directly through accreditation or certification, or indirectly through promotion and fostering of an adoption of EAPAA's requirements into national quality assurance systems, will serve as a tool for an achievement of the project objective.

The innovative methodology of the whole project is based on mutual learning and cooperation of all partners. It will allow all higher education institutions to be involved in an international external evaluation in roles of evaluators. Traditionally are these programs only a subject of an evaluation by an evaluation agency. This will provide them with a knowledge and experience for fostering necessary changes on national levels, and EAPAA as well. Simultaneously they will become equipped with necessary tools and experience for self- assessment and an enhancement of their own programs towards European quality.

During last year of the project, the project team is working on three project outputs:

O6 - Methodological Framework for Developing PA Curricula in Conformity with the European Quality;

O7 - Methodological Approach to the European Public Administration Accreditation in the New EU Member Countries;

O8 - Policy Recommendations for Implementation of the European Public Administration Accreditation at Different Levels.

To the already finished project outputs belong 11 country studies on public administration education and national quality assessment systems, development of an open source for quality sharing in PA education, establishment of communication tools among the programs and relevant

quality assurance agencies, development of at least 8 self-evaluation studies for an improvement of the partners' programs and implementation of two 3-days learning events - workshops in two countries – Slovakia and Bulgaria. The promotion of the project outputs will be supported by a set of multiplier events, because of the Covid-19 epidemic, probably in virtual form

in first half of 2021. More information about the project and its activities you find here: https://www.nispa.org/paquality.php?proj_id=16&sid=1903.

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