

HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION SYSTEM IN SPAIN: PECULIARITIES

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- Spain is an Autonomous State.
- There is a national government and a national parliament.
- BUT there are 17 Autonomous Regions and 2 Autonomous cities (Ceuta and Melilla) with a certain level of Self-Government. In each Autonomous Region there is also an Autonomous Government and parliament

AT NATIONAL LEVEL

1. The basic legislation and laws about education are approved at national level in the national parliament: Structure of the degrees for example.
2. There is a Spanish Network of Agencies (REACU) composed by all the Higher Education Quality Assurance Agencies in which there is agreed and established the minimum content of the evaluation protocols and guidelines.

AT AUTONOMOUS LEVEL

1. The competence in Education is one of those are delegated to the autonomous communities.
2. The autonomous communities can approve laws at regional level and adapt the national legislation to its specific characteristics.
3. The autonomous communities **can decide to create its own Quality Assurance Agency** to carry out the evaluations and other tasks related to Higher Education.

-11 QA Agencies, with different activities.

-ANECA is not the coordinator or supervisor of the other agencies.

-Each QA Agency is independent and has "competences" in its region.

-The QA Agencies with positive assessment against the ESG and registered on EQAR has full competences about the degrees evaluation.

AT AUTONOMOUS LEVEL



AGENCY	ENQA	EQAR	ECA	INOAAHE
AAC Andalucía	X	X		X
ACCUUE Canarias	Affiliate			
ACPUA Aragón	X	X	X	
ACSUCYL Cast. León	X	X	X	
ACSUG Galicia	X	X	X	
ANECA	X	X	X	X
AQU Cataluña	X	X	X	X
AQUIB Balears	Affiliate			
AVAP Valencia	Affiliate			
FCM Madrid	X	X		
UNIBASQ País Vasco	X	X	X	X

BACHELORS DEGREES/GRADE:

- Normally between 180 and 240 ECTS credits
- Normally between 3 and 4 academic years
- Normally the degrees with professional competences.

MASTERS DEGREES:

- Normally between 60 and 120 ECTS credits
- Normally 1-2 academic years

PHD DEGREES

- Not structured in ECTS credits
- Normally you have to present the Thesis after 3 academic years (full time dedication) or 5 years (partially dedication).

**UNTIL NOW IN SPAIN IT IS ONLY IMPLEMENTED THE
PROGRAMME ASSESSMENT WHICH IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL THE
DEGREES**

The university design a degree proposal



The university has to make a **yearly follow-up**



Results of the degree implementation
 Bachelor/PhD: After 6 years
 Master: After 4 years



EX-ANTE EVALUATION OR VERIFICATION (without site visit)



FOLLOW-UP (without site visit)



EX-POST EVALUATION OR ACREDITATION (with site visit)



NEW DECREE APPROVED IN 2015 TRYING TO INTRODUCE THE INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION IN SPAIN (is not developed yet):

Requirements of the University Centres to can apply for the institutional accreditation:

- The University Centre has its Quality Assurance System certified in a positive way by a Quality Assurance Agency.
- The University Centre has at least the 50% of its Bachelor and Masters Degrees accredited using the programme assessment.

If a University Centre receive a positive evaluation regarding the institutional accreditation, all the degrees included in it are considered as accredited.

The validity of the institutional accreditation will be 5 years, and after that it has to be carried out another evaluation

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**