

# Sarajevo Conference on Higher Education

Building Capacity for Change in  
the Western Balkans  
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Ministry of Education and  
Science of Montenegro



# HE in Montenegro

- Montenegro recognized as its own goal to harmonize its HE system following Bologna Declaration principles, and start the process of joining EHEA
- As a result of that, a new Law on HE was adopted on October 2003, which was made completely in accordance with Bologna Declaration principles
- National team for Bologna implementation monitoring



# Changes made in accordance with Bologna principles

- Centralized University
- Development of QA (internal and external evaluation)
- three-cycle system
- Introduction of ECTS, Diploma Supplement, Joint Degree
- Establishment of ENIC center
- Student as active partner in HE reform
- LLL



# HE Structure

- Higher Education System in Montenegro consists of:
- One state university “University of Montenegro”
- One private University “MEDITERAN”
- Nine individual private faculties



# Specificities

- There are two types of study organized at the HEI:
  - \* Academic (obtaining bachelor, master and doctoral degree)
  - \* Applied (obtaining bachelor and master degree)
- After 3 years – Diploma of undergraduate academic/applied study and Bachelor degree  
( BSc; BApp; BA)
- After 3+1 – Diploma of postgraduate specialist academic/applied study and Degree of Specialist ( Spec.Sci ; Spec.App; Spec.A)
- After 3+1+1 or 3+2, 3+1+2 -Diploma of postgraduate master academic/applied study and Degree of Master  
( MSc; MApp; MA)
- After 3+1+1+3 – Diploma of Doctoral study (PhD) Degree - Doctor of Science



# Financing of HE in Montenegro

- There is dual track financing
- Of overall number of students some 40 % do not pay tuition fees
- According to our Law, Ministry of Education and Science is about to prepare draft on regulation of HE financing
- Current discussions are oriented towards inclusion of social dimension with regard to tuition fees



# Quality Assurance in Montenegro

- QA is obligatory for all higher education institutions
- QA should be ensured through internal and external evaluation
- Institutions perform internal evaluation continuously in accordance with institution statute
- Certification and comparable procedures are defined by the Law
- Quality Assurance Centre established at the University of ME
- Within the Ministry of Education and Science, persons responsible for quality assurance system in HE are appointed.
- Through IPA funds, project “NQF and Quality Assurance in ME” is approved and started



# Council for Higher Education

- The national body responsible for Higher Education (established in 2005)
- Council is nominated by the Government
- Council analyses the state and achievements in higher education
- It gives professional proposals to the Government for the improvement of higher education





- Council forms special commissions for evaluation and accreditation of institutions and study programs
- Foreign experts can also be appointed as the members of special commissions
- For certain fields of its activities Council can form the working entities, commissions and independent expert groups



# Recognition of foreign diplomas

- Law on recognition and assessment of foreign diplomas (in accordance with Lisbon convention), adopted in 2008
- There are two kinds of recognition
  - with the purpose of employment (under responsibility of the Ministry, ENIC centre)
  - with the purpose of continuing of education (under responsibility of HEI)

The main and the first step in the recognition procedure is checking status of HEI and diploma authenticity



# Challenges:

- Further fostering of regional cooperation in the field of NQF
- Further fostering of regional cooperation between national authorities for QA
- Inclusion of social dimension in HE reform (tuition fees, educational access...)
- Improvement of academic mobility in the region



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thank you  
for your attention

