



*European context
(Bologna) of Higher
Education in SW*

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European context of Higher Education in SW

- ◆ Context of SW Education in Europe (before Bologna)
- ◆ *SW Education developing in a European context*
 - Converging developments
 - Diverging developments
- ◆ Bologna Declaration 1999
- ◆ Some effects of the Bologna Process



EUROPE

F.Y.R.O.M. - The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Scale 1: 19,500,000
Lambert Conformal Conic Projection,
standard parallels 40°N and 56°N

0 100 200 300 Kilometers
0 100 200 300 Miles

Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative



Context SW Education in Europe

- ◆ European Social Work or Social Work in Europe?
- ◆ Discussions about:
 - Generic versus specific
 - Voluntarism and professionalism
 - Managerialism and value-based social work



Context SW Education in Europe

Various programmes in Europe:

- ◆ Social Work
- ◆ Social Pedagogy
- ◆ Community Work
- ◆ Social Education (Denmark)
- ◆ Special Education (Poland)
- ◆ Advocacy/legal Work



Context SW Education in Europe


Various levels:

- ◆ Vocational training
- ◆ (University)
Colleges/Polytechnics
- ◆ Universities



Context of Europeanisation

- ◆ European Associations:
 - EASSW
 - FESET
 - European Region of IFSW
 - AIEJI (social educators)
 - European Region of ICSW
- ◆ Thematic Network Socrates:
 - European Social Work: commonalities and differences
 - Publication: Campanini, A. en Frost, E. ed.(2004) European Social Work. Roma, Carocci Editore. ISBN: 88-430-2967-3



SW Education in a European context

Converging developments:

- Documentation of IASSW:
 - International definition of SW
 - Global standards for social work education and training
- Bologna Declaration and process
- ECTS
- European dimension and mobility
 - Erasmus, Comenius and LdV under LLL
- Diploma supplement



SW Education in a European context

Diverging developments:

- SW in many countries protected profession by law
- Professional practice is many times local, regional, national
- Professional bodies redefine professional identity
- Academisation splits the education into social work and social sciences and teacher education (Hu, It, Es)
- In spite of Bologna, education is still nationally defined



Bologna Declaration 1999 a Europe of Knowledge

“the most compatative
knowledge based society in the
world” ... “capable of giving its
citizens the necessary
competencies to face the
challenges of the new
millennium”

45 signatures, TR included



Bologna Action Lines

- Bologna Declaration (1999)
 1. Adaptation of a system of easily readable and comparable degrees
 2. Adoption of a system essentially based on two cycles
 3. Establishment of a system of credits
 4. Promotion of mobility
 5. Promotion of European co-operation in quality assurance
 6. Promotion of the European dimension in higher education




Bologna Action Lines

- Prague Communiqué (2001)
 7. Lifelong learning (LLL)
 8. Promoting the attractiveness of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- *Berlin Communiqué (2003)*
 9. European Higher Education Area and European Research Area – two pillars of the knowledge based society
“Degrees should have different defined outcomes”



Bologna Process in concrete measures

- ◆ competences & learning outcomes as a reference
 - transparency
 - benchmarks for quality assurance & accreditation
 - *employability*; better communication stakeholders
- BaMa structure
 - Ba = 180 – 240 credits
 - Ma = 90 – 180 credits
- Ba has to give access to the labour market and employment
- Ma = specialisation



Learning Outcomes

◆ ECTS: *credit-system*

- EUA-conference Zürich 2002: ECTS based on *study load*, but also related to *learning outcomes*

◆ *Joint Quality Initiative: Dublin descriptors*

- for ba- en ma-curricula list of generic and subject-specific competences
- Directive for curriculumdevelopment quality assurance and accreditation

Learning Outcomes versus Aims & objectives

Aims&objectives

- ◆ Input driven
i.e. what the teacher intends to cover
- ◆ Teacher-centred
- ◆ Subject based
cfr different disciplines in SW

Learn Outcomes

- ◆ Output driven
i.e. what the student is expected to learn
- ◆ Student centred
- ◆ Competence based
- ◆ Modularisation



Competences

- ◆ Integration of knowledge, skills and attitude
- ◆ Key concept in the prospective of lifelong learning
- ◆ A new perspective for professionalisation
- ◆ A challenge for ethical discussion
i.e. The social worker can relate authentically to people and groups of people within his function



Modularisation

- ◆ Cluster of subjects
- ◆ Built on competence based
- ◆ Outcome based
- ◆ Assessment replacing exams
- ◆ Student demonstrates/proves the competences



Effects: challenges, worries and concerns

- ◆ Increasing academic focus
 - Relevance of scientific theories
 - Integrating research in teaching
- ◆ Convergence on the contents of SW programs – generalist BA
- ◆ Development/specialisation of MA & PhD in SW in many EU-countries
- ◆ Focus on employability in line with lifelong learning



Effects: worries and concerns

- ◆ International/European focus
 - Increase of student en teacher exchange in SW
 - Development of international modules
 - Need for international/European quality assurance
 - Need for international/European accreditation



Effects: challenges, worries and concerns

- ◆ Quality assurance arouse suspicion an anxiety
- ◆ Quality assurance creates competition
- ◆ Accreditation provides better understanding of the own education in the own institution
- ◆ The Bologna Process is increasing dramatically time and investment



Resources

- 1 Reverda, N., (2005), Presentatie Utrecht
- 2 Van Damme D.,(2005) *Learning Outcomes* in het Vlaamse hoger onderwijsbeleid
- 3 Bjornavold J.,(2005) "Learning outcomes" in a European Perspective: towards Common European Framework of Qualifications, European Commission
4. Labonté-Roset, C, (2006) Social Work Education and Training in Europe and the Bologna Process
5. Franshen, M., (2006) Bolognaseminarium Learning Outcomes and Competences

[www.eassw.org/Schools of Social Work/Turkey](http://www.eassw.org/Schools_of_Social_Work/Turkey)