

o a q

organ für akkreditierung und qualitätssicherung
der schweizerischen hochschulen

Moving between cultures

OAQ's Cross-Border External QA activities

EQAR Seminar

Bayreuth, 29./30. April 2014

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- **WHO** we are
 - **WHAT** we do
 - **WHY** we do it

WHO
we are

OAQ

Swiss Center Quality Assurance in Higher Education

- Currently „between“ laws:
 - Universitätsförderungsgesetz of 1999
 - Hochschulförderungs- und Koordinationsgesetz of 2011
- Public organisation, jointly owned by the Swiss Cantons and the Swiss Federation
 - ➔ **tax funded NPO**
- External QA on the institutional level, focusing on the QA systems of the HEI
- Provision to perform services for third parties
 - ➔ **at full cost**
- 9 FTE, 13 staff, plurilingual (d,f,i,e)

Governance Structure

Council of Higher Education

defines the frame of reference with the accreditation guidelines
nominates the members of the accreditation council

Accreditation Council

- takes decisions
- monitors the agency

Preparation

Self-evaluation

External Evaluation

Decision

Agency

plans and conducts procedures; warrants integrity of procedures :

- Guidelines
- Points of reference
- FAQs
- Synthesis reports

WHAT
we do

Fields of Activity

Higher Education Institutions(HFKG)		Germany / Austria	Medical Professions (MedBG)	Psychological Professions (PsyG)
<p>Universities (UFG)</p> <p><i>Type of procedures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Audit • Beitragsrechtliche Überprüfung • Accreditation <p><i>Scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions on university level <p><i>Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University Conference • Ministry 	<p>Universities of Applied Science (FHSG)</p> <p><i>Type of procedures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation • Evaluation <p><i>Scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions on AUS level <p><i>Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry 	<p><i>Type of procedures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation • Quality Audit <p><i>Scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities (public) • AUS (public) <p><i>Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OAQ 	<p><i>Type of procedures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation <p><i>Scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate study programmes • Postgraduate study programmes <p><i>Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swiss Accreditation Council • Ministry 	<p><i>Type of procedures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation <p><i>Scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate study programmes <p><i>Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry

Cross border external QA

	Switzerland	Austria	Germany
Legal basis	UFG / HFKG	HS-QSG	„Rules“
Format	Quality Audit	Quality Audit	Accreditation of QA System w/ respect to education
Focus	QA System (all processes)	QA System (all processes)	Implementation of Bologna Reform
Access		EQAR	ENQA style review

**Why
we do it**

Benefits and Challenges

„External QA on international level“

„false friends“:
cultural differences

Development of formats

Finances

Staff development

Logistics

Thank you!