# Making the Connection between Internationalisation and Quality Assurance



By representatives of MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement



#### A few introductions...

- Who are you and why did you choose for this session?
- Who are we?



### Content

- New definition of internationalisation
- Concept of quality
- International quality tools:
  - 1. International external examiners
  - 2. International benchmarking
  - 3. MusiQuE
- Questions and discussion



#### Definition of internationalisation

 The intentional process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions and delivery of post-secondary education, in order to enhance the quality of education and research for all students and staff, and to make a meaningful contribution to society.

### Concept of Quality

- Difference between 'standards' and 'quality'
- Music sector has always been strong on musical/artistic standards
- 'Educational quality' fairly new aspect (Bologna Process!)
- MusiQuE brings both together and can suggest tools to support both aspects



#### 3 international tools available

- International external examiners -> artistic standards
- 2. International benchmarking -> educational quality
- 3. Review by MusiQuE Music Quality
  Enhancement -> both artistic standards
  AND educational quality

#### 1. International external examiners

- Bringing an external and international perspective to the assessment of (final) examination performances
  - A specialist in a specific discipline
  - He/she serves on assessment panels

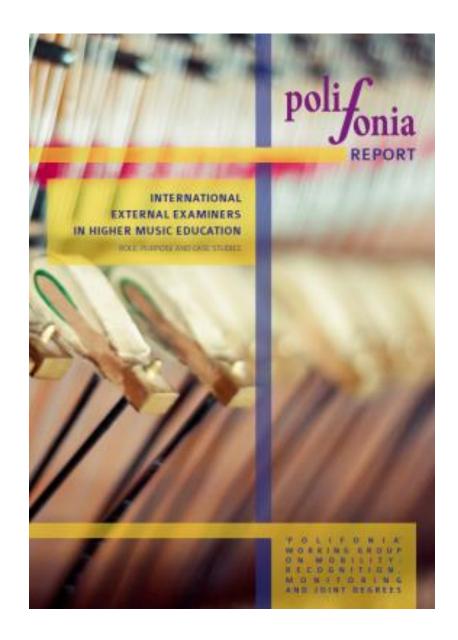


## 1. International external examiners

- Benefits

- Programmes continuously benchmarked at international level
- Teachers' expertise enhanced
- Objectivity of the assessment enhanced
- Link between the assessment, QA and international policies of the institution strengthened





#### 2. International benchmarking

Benchmarking is a **learning tool** aimed at improving performance based on the comparison between institutions / departments / programmes that share common objectives and operate under comparable conditions.



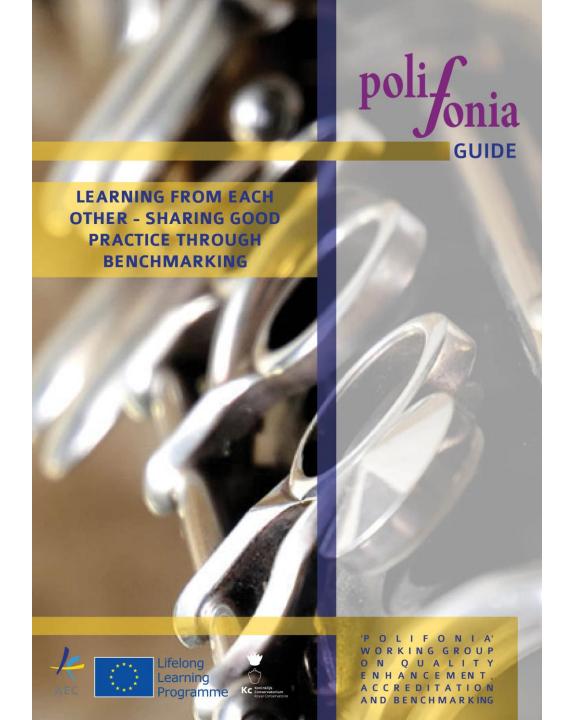
#### 2. International benchmarking

- Similar institutions forming a benchmarking group to:
  - obtain a set of comparative data which can be used for internal analysis
  - compare their practices and/or performance
  - share best practice
- Example of the IBE project (Royal Northern College of Music with Oslo, Graz, The Hague, Montreal, Sydney, Singapore and Boston)

#### 2. Benefits of benchmarking

- Forum for sharing knowledge and experience in a 'safe' environment
- Data to inform decision-making
- Opportunity to build networks and expand contacts
- International perspective on your educational quality





## 3. MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement

- An independent European-level subject-specific external evaluation body
- Its aim:
  - assist institutions in quality enhancement
  - improve quality of higher music education as a whole
- MusiQuE takes over and develops AEC review responsibility
  - More than 30 reviews completed since 2008
  - Several procedures ongoing/scheduled
- Various services with one philosophy



#### Types of MusiQuE reviews

#### Reviews:

- Quality enhancement reviews for institutions, programmes and joint programmes
- Accreditation procedures for institutions, programmes and joint programmes
  - Joint procedures with national quality assurance and accreditation agencies

Principles of MusiQuE reviews



# The usual MusiQuE procedures: 3 steps

- Preparation of analytical self-evaluation report
- Site-visit of peer-review team
  - Meetings with various stakeholders
  - Visits of classes and lessons, attendance of concerts/ recitals
- Report of the peer-review team



# MusiQuE Standards for Institutional, Programme and Joint Programme Review

#### 3 Sets of Standards

- 8 Domains of enquiry
  - 1) Mission and vision /Programme goals and context
  - 2) Educational processes
  - 3) Student profiles (admission to, progress through and completion of the programme)
  - 4) Teaching staff
  - 5) Facilities, resources and support
  - 6) Organisation and decision-making processes and
  - 7) Internal quality culture
  - 8) Public interaction



#### MusiQuE's recent development

- MusiQuE as the 'go-to' provider for review and accreditation in music
  - EQAR registration in June 2016



- MusiQuE enabled to conduct formally recognised accreditation procedures
- Standards for pre-college training and music teacher training
- Supporting procedures in multi-disciplinary institutions with various performing arts disciplines
- Critical friend approach



#### Finally... this is all about:

- Moving internationalisation into a central position in institutional strategies
- Being accountable and focus on improving ourselves
- Strengthening credibility of the sector: this is something we can organise ourselves



# MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement

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