



JEAN  
MONNET  
CHAIR



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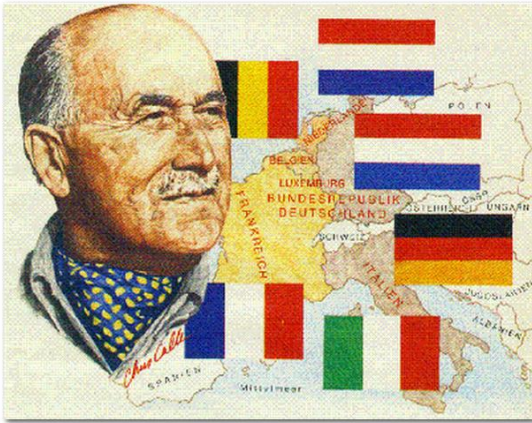
JEAN MONNET CHAIR ON BEST EUROPEAN  
PRACTICES OF QUALITY ASSURANCE  
(JM4EQA)



JEAN MONNET CHAIR

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## ABOUT JEAN MONNET PROGRAM



In memory of the contribution of Jean Monnet (1888-1979), an outstanding French politician, ideologist and "architect" of the European Union, to the development of European integration, the European Commission opened in 1989 the Program "Jean Monnet Activities", envisaging creation of University Chairs, lectures and seminars named after Jean Monnet. At

the present time, the Jean Monnet programme is integrated into the European Commission Erasmus+ programme and aims to increase knowledge of European integration processes through teaching, research and debate on topics related to the history, politics, economics and legislation of the European Union (EU), as well as EU relations with other regions of the world. The aim of this programme is to ensure high-quality teaching, research, analysis and dialogue in the field of European integration disciplines and European studies in higher education institutions of the EU and partner countries.

The main goal of the Jean Monnet Program is to raise awareness of European integration. In the framework of the Jean Monnet Program, the term European studies is used in this case, which implies the study of the European integration stages, the institutional and legal foundations of the European Union, as well as the political, economic and social transformations carried out within the EU.

### **Jean Monnet Program comprises three main activities:**

- ✓ Teaching and Research: Jean Monnet Module, Jean Monnet Chair and Centers of Excellence - conducting research and teaching various disciplines devoted to issues and problems of European integration at various educational levels, including advanced training of teachers, with the systematic publication of the results of research activities;
- ✓ Policy debate with the Academic World: Jean Monnet Networks and Jean Monnet Project - aimed at uniting various organizations and structures, as well as individual experts and teachers within the framework of common topics related to issues of European integration;

- ✓ Support to Associations: Jean Monnet support to Associations engaged in research together with the EU in the field of European integration issues for the subsequent promotion of research results and the dissemination of information about processes taking place in the EU.

The efforts of the European Commission aiming at fully support of the development of European studies allow to disseminate properly the information, improve the level of academic knowledge about European integration and thus bring up a new generation of highly qualified experts in the field of European studies.

### **Jean Monnet's Programme includes the following activities:**

- ✓ the organization of conferences on the priority areas of the European integration; encouragement of teaching in universities through the establishment of Chair named after Jean Monnet, implementation of Jean Monnet training modules and Jean Monnet centers; promotion of academic research activities as well as research activities within cross-national scientific groups organized by universities and research centers;
- ✓ awarding grants to young researchers;
- ✓ support of national associations and University professors' associations in the field of European studies;
- ✓ support of major institutions that are actively engaged in European studies (the College of Europe, the European University Institute, the European Institute of Public Administration, the Academy of European Law).

The Jean Monnet Programme currently covers 78 countries and its educational network covers more than 800 universities.

### **Jean Monnet Chair in DSTU**

The Jean Monnet Chair belongs to the "teaching and research" activity and implies the support of teaching activities of the leading teachers of the University: at least 90 hours a year on European integration within the main University programs.



In 2016 the application of DSTU passed the competitive selection of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission within the Erasmus+ programme Jean Monnet. Jean Monnet Chair on Best European Practices of Quality Assurance (JM4EQA) began its activities in October 2016 with the signing of the relevant agreement. The main task of the Jean Monnet Chair at DSTU is to develop and teach the module (discipline) "Best European practices on quality assurance" for master's students "Education measurement and quality assessment" in the field of study "Quality Management".

The new discipline developed by professor of Jean Monnet Chair, Head of the Chair "Pedagogical dimension", Doctor of Pedagogy Nadezhda Efremova, consists of lectures and workshops aimed at studying the best European pedagogical practices and systems of independent assessment of education quality.

The focus of the training is on providing an overview of the current state of the theory and methodology of assessment of education quality, the practice of application thereof in educational systems in Russia and abroad, the systems of independent evaluation of students' achievements by means of pedagogical measurements.

The discipline has informational and analytical nature and is based on information about the main projects in the field of quality assurance and evaluation of education; it includes information on international projects PISA, PIAAC, TIMSS, PIRLS, etc., national projects NCLB, NAEP (USA), country cases, as well as comparative analysis of the projects and programs under study. The discipline demonstrates the tasks of academic quality assurance in the context of European integration of educational systems, considers different models and structural features of various

programs, aims at an in-depth analysis of various constructs "education quality", typical for international and national projects. There is a particular focus on the relationship between management and policy decision-making in the field of education, taking into account the information of the European standards of education quality assurance and control available in the studied projects.



Furthermore, during the three years, Jean Monet Chair held methodological seminars, advanced training courses for teachers and educators, international conferences with the participation of European experts in education quality assurance, published training materials and monographs.

Students of the Advanced training program "Quality Assurance as a key to European and Russian education system integration" were teachers and staff of departments and units of DSTU and other universities of the Rostov region, the directors of secondary schools of Rostov-on-Don. Distance learning was provided for students from the Kabardino-Balkarian and Chechen republics.

In the process of mastering this educational program, the participants learned the provisions of the Bologna process and the European higher education area, the objectives and tools of the Bologna process; the specificity of the European and national qualification framework; the standards and recommendations for quality assurance and academic mobility of students and teachers, the requirements for the recognition of diplomas, etc. They also received some information about the most famous international and national projects and programs in the field of education quality ensuring, controlling and assessing, gained experience in

comparative analysis of achievements in various national educational systems.



The classes were given by key members of Jean Monnet Chair, experts in the field of quality assurance having experience of participation in international projects: Vice-Rector for international Affairs Shvedova S. V., head of the Chair "Pedagogical dimension" Efremova N. F., Head of International Education Office Maevskaya I. M.

Jean Monnet Chair in DSTU was guided by the methodological basis which was accumulated thanks to the previous involvement of key staff of the Jean Monnet Chair (N. F. Efremova, S. V. Shvedova, I. M. Maevskaya, M. K. Seninets) in European Commission projects in the field of education such as Tuning Russia (2010-2013), IQA (Independent Quality Assurance, 2012-2015), VALERU (Validation of Non-formal/Informal Learning in Russian Higher Education, 2013-2016), EQUASP (On-line Quality Assurance of Study Programmes, 2013-2016).

### **On ensuring the education quality in Europe**

The 10th jubilee conference of Ministers of education of the Bologna process countries, held in Paris in 2018, which brought together representatives of 70 countries of the world, emphasized the increasing role of convergence and harmonization of education systems in Europe with the aim of creating a single European higher education area (EHEA). Of particular importance in the process of integration of higher education systems is to ensure the quality of education, among the goals to be reached by 2020 is the task to ensure mutual confidence in the higher education systems of the Bologna process member states in order to achieve greater compatibility and comparability of national higher education

systems for improving its quality and mobility of students. As a result, in many countries worldwide, including Russia, creation of an effective system of education quality assurance has become one of the priorities of the national education policy.

One of the results of the European cooperation in the field of education quality assurance is the formation of networks and associations of accreditation agencies. The most significant is The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ENQA. The ENQA includes many national accreditation agencies such as, for example, ANECA (Spain), ANVUR (Italy), HAOA (Bulgaria), FINEEC (Finland), along with private accreditation agencies that conduct various types of accreditation procedures. In present three agencies, represent the Russian Federation in ENQA: Federal state budget agency "National Accreditation Agency" (NAA), Agency for "Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Career Development" (AKKORK) - which is an independent expert organization in the field of vocational education in Russia, and the National Center of Public Accreditation (NCPA).

The main objectives of ENQA are: examination and improvement of quality assurance procedures in the EHEA; dissemination of new ideas and best practices in the field of quality assurance among the members of the organization and stakeholders; examination of the activities of the member agencies of the Association and cooperation with foreign (non-European) organizations and associations. In order to improve the transparency and efficiency of quality assurance procedures, the Association is forming a European register of quality assurance agencies, which includes agencies that have undergone external expertise. ENQA works in close cooperation with the European students Union - ESU, European University Association - EUA, the European Association of institutions in higher education - EURASHE, the Network of information centers - ENIC-NARIC, Business Europe Association, the International organization in the field of education, Education International of the European Commission.

In order to help universities and national education authorities, ENQA prepared a document including recommended standards and guidelines in the implementation of education quality assessment - Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area - ESG, approved by the Ministers of education in 2005. In May 2015, a new updated version of ESG ENQA was adopted at the Ministerial Conference in Yerevan. ESG define the overall structure of quality assurance systems for education and training at the European, national and institutional level; contribute to ensuring and improving the quality of higher education in the

European education area; maintain mutual trust and promote recognition and mobility beyond national borders; provide information on quality assurance in the European higher education area. They reflect the agreed position of all organizations involved in the processes of improving quality assurance in the European educational space and represent a solid basis for the successful implementation of these processes. These materials are used by universities and quality assurance agencies as a reference guide for external and internal quality assurance systems in higher education, as well as The European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR).

However, despite the existence of standards and recommendations, each country has its own approaches to ensuring and assessing the quality of higher education.

Since 2006, the annual European quality assurance forums (EQAF) have been held on the initiative of the European Universities Association.

I EQAF: Introduction of quality culture in higher education (23-25.11.06, Germany, technical University of Munich).

II EQAF: Implementation and quality assurance: strategy and practice (15-17. 11. 07, Italy, Rome, University Of La Sapienza).

III EQAF: Trends in quality assurance (20-22. 11. 08, Hungary, Budapest, Corvinus University).

IV EQAF: Creativity and diversity: quality assurance challenges after 2010 (19-21.11. 09, Denmark, Copenhagen business school).

V EQAF: building bridges: understanding quality assurance procedures in European, country and institutional contexts (18-20. 11. 10, France, Lyon, Claude Bernard University).

VI EQAF: Quality and trust are at the heart of everything we do (17-19. 11. 11, Netherlands, University of Antwerp).

VII EQAF: How quality assurance processes affect the real quality of higher education (22-24.11. 12, Estonia, University of Tallinn).

VIII EQAF: working Together to improve quality (21-23. 11. 13, Sweden, University of Gothenburg).

IX EQAF: Changes in education: quality assurance and transition from teaching to learning (13-15. 11. 14, Spain, University of Barcelona).

X EQAF: summing up (critical assessment): looking to the future (19-21.11. 15, UK, London, quality assurance Agency).

XI EQAF: Quality in context-implementation of improvements (17-19.11. 16, Slovenia, Slovenian students ' Union, University of Ljubljana).

XII EQAF: Responsible quality assurance: committing to impact (23-25. 11. 17, Latvia, University of Latvia)



XIII EQAF: Expanding the range of quality assurance (15-17. 11. 18, Austria, Vienna University of Economics and business in conjunction with the Austrian quality Agency AQ Austria)

In November 2019, the XIV forum will be held in Berlin, which will focus on supporting public participation in higher education.

Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area

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## Partners

- International Kazakh-Turkish University. H. A. Yasavi, Turkestan (Kazakhstan);



- The Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN), Moscow;



- North-Eastern Federal University, Yakutia;



- The Autonomous University of Madrid, Madrid (Spain);



- Department of education of the Embassy of Spain in the Russian Federation;



- Ministry of General and vocational education of the Rostov region.



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