

# Workshop: Transnational QA in EHEA

The output the workshop should result in:

- the participants will get a good insight into the Swedish Higher education institutions experiences of transnational quality assurance through the presentation of a recent study based on a survey to over 40 Swedish HEIs, followed up by interviews.
- Insights into the other agency's experiences of transnational quality assurance in their respective countries – especially of joint programmes – and a better understanding of its challenges within the different national legislations.
- Insights into the other participants views on institutional reviews of European universities.

# Results

- We can conclude that there are quite large differences among the participating countries (Denmark not included in below).
- Everyone (except for Greenland) had HEI:s participating in European university alliances. There was however only one coordinator (Oslo University).
- Some have implemented the European approach, or are at least in the process of implementing it (the Baltic countries and Norway).

# Results

- A recurring theme was trust. It is overall expected and necessary (between ENQA members) if transnational quality assurance is to be a reality.
- There is however fear of losing control in a manner leading to local conditions and contexts being overlooked (both in having other agencies performing quality assurance in one's own country and in performing it in another country):
  - Does one size fit all?
  - Different countries, different systems. How to assure equal assessment?
  - What is fit for purpose depends on nationally defined purposes.
  - How do to make sure that the right stakeholders are being identified?

# Results

- There were different views between the agencies regarding the need for programme reviews as long as there are institutional reviews. A certain trend can be detected that these views were dependent on each agency's respective national authority.
- Important to keep an eye on whether HEI:s participating in joint programmes have the authority to accredit programmes at the national level. The risk of unserious actors using a back door must be recognised.

# Results

- To end on a positive note: General recognition of cooperation as a strength and the benefit of pooling resources (especially for small HEI:s). Clear ownership, financing and responsibility for quality assurance are imperative in this.