



COMPASS Final Dissemination Event (40th EUCEN Conference, Lille), 19. November 2010
The Charter: Commitments on Higher Education Institutions State of Play

*The workshop “**Commitments on Higher Education Institutions State of Play**” is one of two workshops related to the outcomes of the one year COMPASS-Project. This session focuses explicitly on the results of the online-survey and the overall situation of Higher Education Institutions regarding the commitments of the University Charter - whereas the other workshop is related to the commitments of federal and national governments.*

In the paradigm shift towards a European Lifelong Learning Area, two crucial challenges currently confront HE. Firstly there is a widening gap between the policy making process of LLL at European level with statements from various stakeholders. Secondly project results like BeFlex and BeFlex+ indicate that there is a stunning diversity of LLL activities at HE level, while at the same time only a minority of universities have been fully engaged in the process of integrating LLL into their institutional missions and strategies to continue the shift from University LLL activities to genuine LLL Universities as part of a overarching knowledge system for LLL. Moreover, this unbalanced constellation is adversely consolidated through the low commitment of Member States concerning LLL in HE (e.g. the Progress reports on Education & Training 2010, national reports on Adult Education Plan).

The COMPASS project is addressing these challenges analyzing the European state of play by using the 10 commitments for Higher Education Institutions of the Universities Charter on LLL.

In the first online-survey which was launched in summer this year, Universities were invited to reflect on what is really happening in their institutions with regards to their engagement with the LLL-commitments.

The interim results of the online-survey will be presented and key questions will be discussed:

1. Which trends can be found? What are the priorities and “hot topics” concerning LLL for HEIs in Europe?
2. Which differences appear concerning the LLL-activities and strategies when you look at the answers coming from Universities in the different European Member States?
3. Which lessons have we learnt from the set-up of the online-survey?

In a second step, the discussion among EUCEN members and all participants of the workshops will be continued towards the further impact of the project:

- How can these results provoke discussions in the HEIs and on the policy level on a regional/national/European scale?
- How can you benchmark LLL-strategy implementation processes?
- How can this data be used for recommendations for the further development and elaboration of comprehensive and coherent LLL-strategies?

The results of the discussion will feed the reflection process for the project consortium contributing to promote the wider and deeper implementation of the Charter.