

## Lessons Learned: Incoming Cross-Border Higher Education. The case of Austria

### EQAF 2018 Special Session

**Date:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 13:00-16:00

**Location:** WU ([Vienna University of Economics and Business](#)), Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Vienna

**Registration:** Participants are requested to register in advance for this free session ([here](#)). Please note that the number of participants is limited.

The Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and AQ Austria kindly invite to a special session during the 13<sup>th</sup> European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) in Vienna.

Austria has seen a rise in (incoming) Cross Border HE (CBHE) activity in the last decade (but no major HE exports). Hence a new approach for the regulation of (incoming) CBHE was introduced in 2012 aiming at enhancing transparency and evidence with respect to this phenomenon (e.g. what kinds of programs and providers exist and which exporting countries are involved, registration procedure).

There is some evidence by now, but the discussion on these programmes is still highly polarised, especially when it comes to the question of quality assurance and matching legal responses. Austria is just one example for similar issues arising from the growing volume of CBHE, lack of transparency and legal restrictions by the Services Directive. In countries such as Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK current discussions demonstrate that consensus on how to best and most effectively address challenges of CBHE is still to be found.

Having learned a lot about CBHE during the last years, Austria wants to share the lessons learned regarding quality assurance and national legislation with other countries and provide a platform for discussion on further developments.

### Programme:

13:00     **Welcome Coffee**

13:30     Opening: **Elmar Pichl**, Director General, Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Quality assurance of incoming cross-border higher education. The case of Austria, **Achim Hopbach**, Managing Director of AQ Austria, AT

Response: Foreign higher education institutions providing programmes in Austria, **Friedrich Albrecht**, Rector of University of Applied Sciences Zittau/Görlitz, DE

Response: Quality assurance agency of a country with higher education institutions offering programmes in Austria, **Ian Kimber**, Director Quality Development, Quality Assurance Agency, UK

16:00     **Discussion**  
**End**