

QUESTIONNAIRE TO FACILITATE THE STUDY OF THE HAQAA INTRODUCTORY TRANSVERSAL MODULE ON AFRICAN CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The following assertions seem very plausible, even most of them obviously correct. However, all of them are wrong (at least under the approach applied by the HAQAA Materials to discuss the issues to which they relate). Please revisit the written text of the Module and explain, for each of them, in not more than seven lines, why the assertions are wrong.

- 1.- Quality Assurance is an essential dimension of Higher Education (HE) policy.
- 2.- The problem of the tension between the autonomy of public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and the necessary intervention of the State and the other public Administrations that finance them can be solved by drawing a clear list of the competences attributed to the first (the HEIs).
- 3.- The European Higher Education Area (EHEA) has, from a policy perspective, a much wider coverage than that of the HE cluster of CESA (the Continental Education Strategy for Africa launched by the African Union).
- 4.- The success of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is to be explained by the set of EU legal rules that underpin it as an instrument for the transfer / recognition of credits between Universities in EU Member States.
- 5.- The best approach to solving the problem of recognition is that of creating a single set of principles and rules that apply to credit transfer and to the recognition of the academic and professional effects of diplomas.
- 6.- If the Addis Abeba UNESCO Convention on Recognition was ratified and applied by all African states, the recognition of credits and diplomas would be automatic at the request of students.
- 7.- For a government or a HEI, the best strategy is that of advancing at the same rhythm in all the different dimensions of HE.
- 8.- The relative success of MERCOSUR integration in the area of HE is due to the fact that MERCOSUR's constitutive Treaty (the Treaty of Asunción in 1991) focused this policy area as a priority.
- 9.- As states that were former French colonies have a common heritage and are all members of the same African Regional Economic Community, they have advanced more in HE integration than states in other African regions.
- 10.- The best way of solving the problem of the definition of objectives for a HE reform is to arrive to a consensus on a sufficiently long and comprehensive list of objectives, all at the same level.