



Erasmus Mundus Association

for Consortia cooperation

November 30, 2023

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Erasmus
Mundus

Introduction: why EMACT?

- EMJM = outstanding network of institutions and programmes... but with very few (or almost no) relations between them
 - Many common problems and needs
 - Many potential cooperation in the academic field
- EMACT as a topic-based and problem-based approach but... which **shall be smooth and light**

Introduction: why EMACT?

- **Exchanging on our difficulties/needs on specific topics + good practices**
 - E.g.: insurance schemes, applications platforms, implementation of joint degrees, etc.
 - E.g.: quality insurance mechanisms (sharing external expertise, practices, etc.)
 - E.g.: teaching practices, etc.
- **Pooling resources or exchanging skills (for teaching/research)**
 - E.g.: pooling / sharing information about scholars' invitations
 - E.g.: sharing online seminars or courses, pooling available skills/knowledge on transversal topic (e.g. on ecological and digital transition)
 - E.g.: pooling internship offers, considering Master's thesis exchanges (for transdisciplinary topics)
 - E.g.: sharing seminars / courses (in-person invitations or online seminars)
 - E.g.: favouring transdisciplinary seminars/research on transversal topics

Introduction: **why EMACT?**

- **Dissemination and outreach of EMJMs programmes**
 - E.g. dissemination of joint information, working papers, MOOCs, industrial partnerships, joint social networking, etc.

- **Collective actions to support changes in the current regulations**
 - E.g.: overcome the resistances for the European accreditation process

A short but intense story

- **2020-2021:** A first group of French coordinators (to face COVID issues)
- **February 17, 2021:** 1st EMACT meeting (constitution of the association)
- **January 27, 2022:** 2nd EMACT meeting (definition of an agenda)
- **May 16, 2022:** 3rd EMACT meeting (**first time in-person**) (follow-up)



A short but intense story

A few figures... about the in-person meeting May 16, 2022

- **118 registrations**
- **86 consortia**
 - AquaH, ARCHMAT, BDMA, BeinPM, Bioceb, BIOPHAM, BIOREF, CARTO, ChEMoinformactics+, ChIR, CNE, CYBER, DENSYS, DEPEND, DocNomads, DREAM, DRIE, DYCLAM+, E-PiCo, ECT+, EDISS, EIMAS, EMA, EMACT, EMCL, EMDM SpaceMed, EMERALD, EMGS, EMILDAI, EMIMEO, EMJMD ALA, EMLE, EMMIR, EMQAL, EPH+, EPOG+, EPS, ESWOCHY, Eu-HEM, Euroculture, Europhotonics, Europubhealth+ - EPH+, EUROSUD, FAME+, FIPDes, FOOD4S, GEM, GENIAL, GLOCAL, IMAESC, IMBRSea, IMFSE, IMIM, IMRD, IMSISS, ISLANDS, JEMARO, JMPMB, Kino Eyes, LAGLOBE, LASCALA, LCT, LIVE, M-Carto, ME3+, MEDFOR, MESC+, MITRA, Mundus Journalism, MUNDUS MAPP, Nanomed, NEURASMUS, NOHA, PlantHealth, PSRS, QEM, RADMEP, Re:Anima, SE4GD, SEAS 4.0, SMACCs, TCCM, TISE, TROPIMUNDO+, WACOMA, WINTOUR
- **Key stakeholders attending the meeting**
 - EACEA
 - EMA
 - ProDeJIP
 - AMPLIFIER/GODIJIP

A short but intense story

- **May 16, 2022**



A short but intense story

- **May 16, 2022**



A short but intense story

- **May 16, 2022**



EMACT and the Erasmus Mundus Support Initiative

- The EACEA has launched a call for the creation of an *Erasmus Mundus Support Structure/Initiative* (selected in 2023), covering part of the initial EMACT objectives:
 - Promoting and supporting the **exchange of experience and good practices**
 - Enhancing **networking opportunities** and **mutual support** for various stakeholders
 - Developing a **collaborative structure** for the community to complement existing initiatives
 - Promoting the Erasmus Mundus programme and showcasing its achievements
- The EMACT specificity as a (yet informal) but **long-term representation of EMJM(D)s**
 - **Exchanging with consortia as peers**
 - **Regular meeting of the board** to discuss main topics among consortia coordinators
 - **Advocacy** (European approach, national ministries, assurance quality agencies...)
 - **Close interactions with the EMSI** (test of the new platform, discussions on EM perspectives, contribution to conferences, surveys...)

Undertaken initiatives

- **Surveys on**
 - **application platforms**
 - **academic cooperation** (wishes of the consortia)
 - **sustainability survey**
- **Joint work with EMA** (Erasmus Mundus students and Alumni association): **Alumni management tool**
- **Two initiatives in favour of the “European approach”** (*42 consortia / universities signing*)
 - **1 letter for the Italian Ministry** to ask **for the implementation of the “European approach”**
 - **1 letter for the French Ministry** to ask **for a free access the “European approach”**:
- **Initiatives concerning the French Ministry**
 - for the inclusion of the **EM specificities in the new national platform for masters (TMM)**
 - for the **edition of joint degree** with French partner when the French partner is not coordinating

Undertaken initiatives

- **Participation to various events / discussions**
 - Exchanges with the **EACEA**
 - **Erasmus Mundus Support Initiative's meetings**. E.g. « Erasmus Mundus: A European Stakeholder Perspective on Relevance, Impact, and Ambitions » (September 18, 2023)...
 - **T.I.M.E (Top International Managers in Engineering)** association (October 25-28, 2023)
- **Dissemination of relevant information (EMACT newsletter)**
 - from EMA (visa issues, programme representatives, country representatives...)
 - from useful projects (Civic engagement,
 - agenda...

Some of the priorities for 2023-2024

WORKING GROUPS	PRIORITIES / ACTIONS
EMJMD Management & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey on insurance contracts • creation of a working group for eMundus users • Development (with EM-A) of a platform for alumni management
Joint degree and European approach to quality assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey on the joint degree process (concrete cases and implementation, exchange of good practices, mutual support) • Participation in the pilot of a "label for joint degrees" • <u>Later</u>: meeting with national accreditation agencies / authorities
Visas and residence permits & Dissemination and attractivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey on local practices • Create a list of international offices
Academic/pedagogical cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of the volunteers for master's thesis joint supervision and for sharing scholars' invitations

Board

Ermina Begovic	SEAS 4.0 , Sustainable Ship And Shipping 4.0, Italy
José Borges	MEDFOR , Mediterranean Forestry and Natural Resources Management, Portugal
Mickael Capron	BIOREF , Biorefinery Master, France
Juliane Cron	CARTO , Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Cartography, Germany
Heathcliff Demaie	DENSYS , Decentralized Smart Energy Systems, France
David Flacher	EPOG+ , Economic Policies for the Global transition, France
Raquel Galeano	IMAESC , Masters in Adult Education for Social Change, UK
Cécilia Provost	E-PiCo , Electric Vehicle Propulsion and Control; JEMARO , Japan-Europe Master on Advanced Robotics; DREAM , European Master in Dynamics of Renewables-based Power Systems, France
Ilva Putzier	EMLE , European Master in Law and Economics, Netherlands
Barbara Rega	FIPDes , Food Innovation and Product design, France

Organisation and tools

A platform with channels and moderators

Dissemination and attractivity (communication, selection process, etc.)	Vanessa Borges (MEDFOR, Portugal)
Visas and residence permits	Sophia Fesei Dangana and Isabel Keller (International relations, Université de Lorraine)
EMJMD Management	Heathcliff Demaie (DENSYS – France)
Joint degree and European approach to quality assurance	Sébastien Clausen (PANGEA – France)
Sustainability	Cécilia Provost (Centrale Nantes, France)
Academic/pedagogical cooperation	<i>To be renewed</i>
Miscellaneous	Heathcliff Demaie (DENSYS – France)

Organisation and tools

The Mattermost platform



The screenshot shows the Mattermost web interface. On the left is a dark blue sidebar with a search bar and a list of channels categorized into 'ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES', 'ACADEMIC ISSUES', 'COUNTRY-SPECIFIC', and 'CHANNELS'. The 'Presentations' channel is selected. The main area shows a message from 'flacher' with the EM-ACT logo, sent at 1:21 AM on April 20, 2021. The message content is as follows:

Update your status 1:21 AM
Dear @all ,

All the channel's coordinators and board members met today. Here are the three main conclusions:

- 1) We propose each consortium coordinator to introduce his/her programme on this « Presentation » channel, in particular telling the group:
 - the name and acronym of the programme (and 2-3 lines of presentation)
 - the country of the coordinating institution + the partners and their countries
 - if it awards a joint degree or not
 - how many times the consortium has been selected as Erasmus Mundus
- 2) Channel's coordinators/moderators will contact the channel's members to identify the priorities and then organise a meeting. This process will take between now and the end of May.
- 3) There is still a need for volunteers for moderators of two channels: « Visa » and « Academic issues ». Let us know!

Thanks!
David.

Update your status 1:31 AM
I start:
I am David Flacher, coordinator of the EPOG+ (Economic Policies for the Global transition) EMJMD. This programme is clearly oriented towards the ecological transition. Relying on a pluralistic/critical approach of economics, it includes a different dimensions of the transitions (digital transition, socio-economic transition,

Write to Presentations

Available on:

- Internet browsers
- Desktop apps
- Mobile apps

Organisation and tools

A newsletter

- **Approximately every month**
(based on information provided by consortia and institutions)

Joining EMACT:

<https://join.emact.eu>



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Dear colleagues,

Here is the EMACT newsletter with some of the information we received from you. We decided to publish only the information of collective interest for the coordinators. In particular, we do not publish calls for applications and we will focus, in the future, mostly on future events or opportunities. If you have news to publish **about events, scholars' invitations, etc.** please send **by December 15** a short paragraph with the relevant information (the paragraph shall be written in order for us just to copy and paste it in the newsletter) to news@emact.eu. The next newsletter will be sent in a newsletter at the beginning of January.

We are also pleased to announce that the **EMACT board has 4 new members**: in order to replace Elena Fabbri, the board has decided to ask all those who proposed themselves as volunteers at the last May 16 meeting, whether they would like to join the board. We thus welcome **Jean-Marc Bonniseau** (QEM), **Raquel Galeano** (IMAESC), **Cécilia Provost** (E-PiCo, JEMARO, DREAM), **Iva Putzier** (EMLE)

You will also find below the **follow-up about the activities launched by EMACT** at the May 16, 2022 meeting.

Best regards,

The board of EMACT.



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FOLLOW-UP | Topics in relation to French authorities

TMM - Meeting (October 21) - French Ministry of Higher Education and Research

The board has met the team in charge of the TMM (Trouver Mon Master) at the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

Outcomes of the meeting

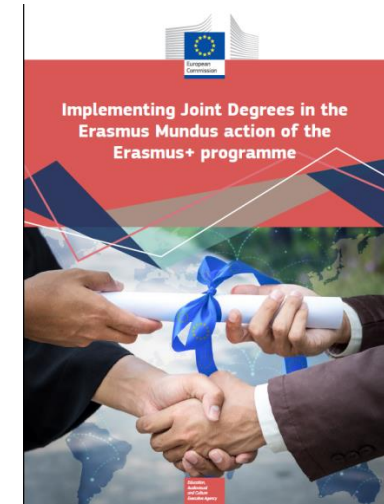
- **International programmes (>50% of**



A few outcomes of our last survey

Task force on Joint degree

- Task Leader: **Ilva Putzier** (EMLE, Erasmus University, NL)
- Presentation: **Barbara Rega** (FIPDes, AgroParisTech, FR)



An outcome from the **May 2022 meeting in Paris** :

Workshop on Joint Degree and European Approach to QA (25 attenders)

- Sharing our understanding, needs and objectives: identify shared priorities
- Planning actions within the EMACT community

	Objectives	Concrete actions	Resource persons
Priority 1	<p>Identify good practices for JD</p> <p>Process –how to get there?</p> <p>Results –type of diploma ?</p>	<p>1) Survey on good practices and stakes</p> <p>2) Which alliances are working on JD/European D?</p>	<p>Ilva PUTZIER (EMLE)</p> <p>F. FABRE (EMIMEO)</p> <p>I. CAVACO (ChIR)</p> <p>A. Ceresa Geten (DyCLAM+)</p> <p>T. den Hartog, L. Windig (GEM)</p>

2023 Survey on Joint Degrees

You can still participate!

Purpose:

To add new insights since the last 2019 EACEA survey

→ European Alliances landscape and development of the concept of the European Degree

→ New entries

Identify examples of good practices for JD

Process –how to get there?

Results –type of diploma ?

Qualitative data

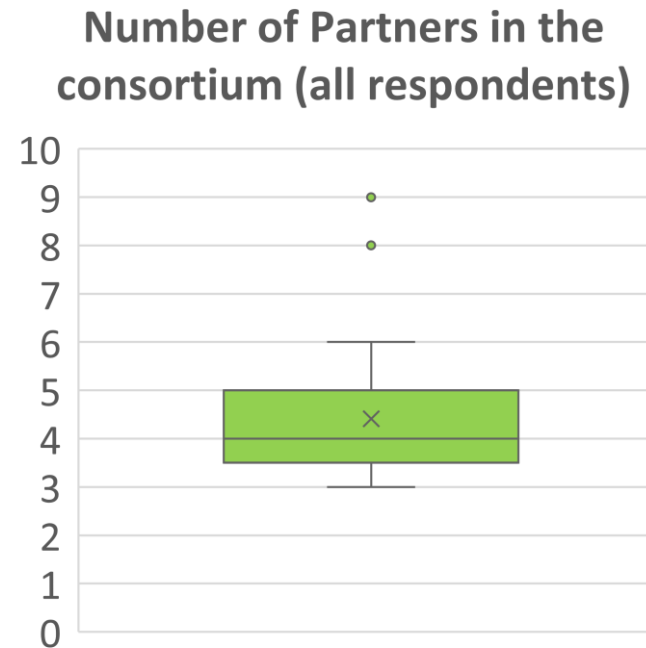
- *Which were the hurdles faced and strategies to overcome them?*
- *Which accreditation agencies?/ Joint Diploma supplement? /*
- *Strategy towards a Joint Degree and/or European Degree?*
- *Link to any "European University" (recognized by the EACEA)?*



2023 Survey on Joint Degrees

Main results

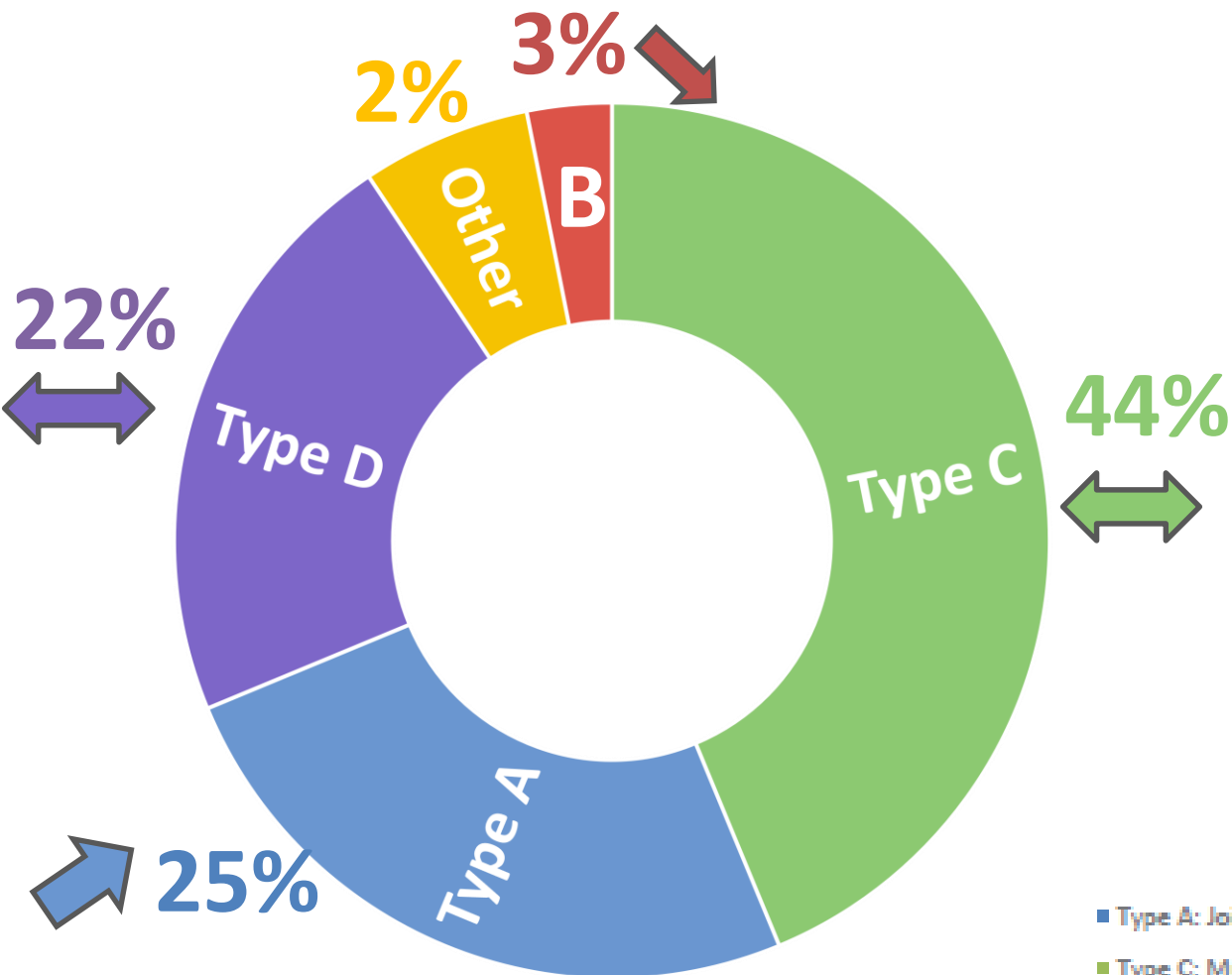
- **34** Consortia
- Answers from both administrative & academic staff
- Mainly **120 ECTS** programs
- Maturity of the programs: **average 6,9 y**
- Programs selected for **2 or 3 (consecutive) times** as EMJM(D)
- Average period of funding: **11,5y**
- **Small Consortia** (av. : 4,4 partners)



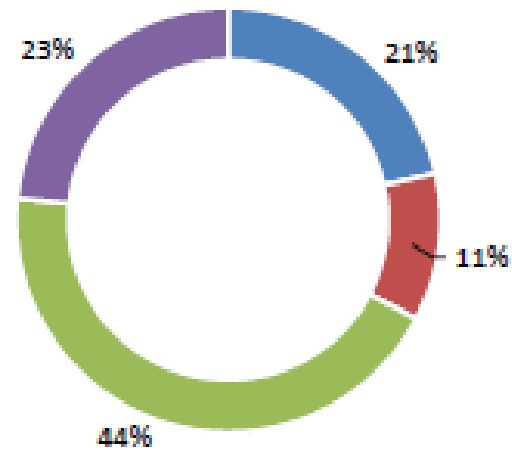
NB. Firstly define the Joint degree: The term joint diploma refers to a degree certificate that is issued by two or more Consortium partners to some or all students. Next to the joint diploma, there might be also partners that award individual national degrees.

Type of joint degree awarded

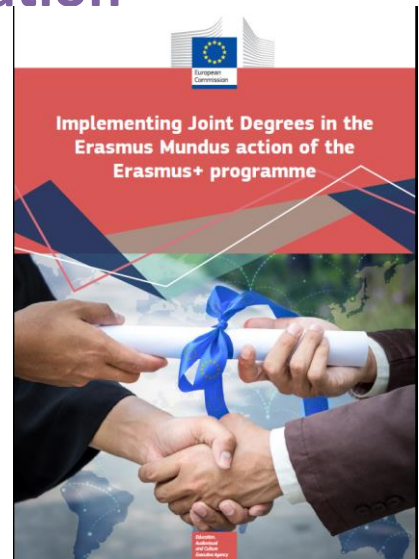
64% is delivering a Joint Degree (A+B+D)



- Type A: Full Joint Degree
- Type B: Joint Degree per track
- Type C: Multiple Degree
- Type D: Combination



■ Type A: Joint Degree (23/107) ■ Type B: Joint Degree per Track (12/107)
 ■ Type C: Multiple Degree (47/107) ■ Type D: Combination (25/107)

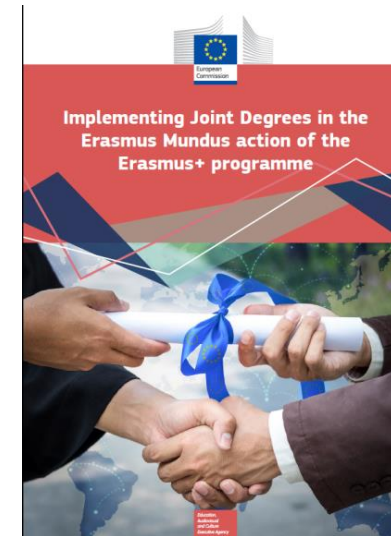


2023 Survey on Joint Degrees

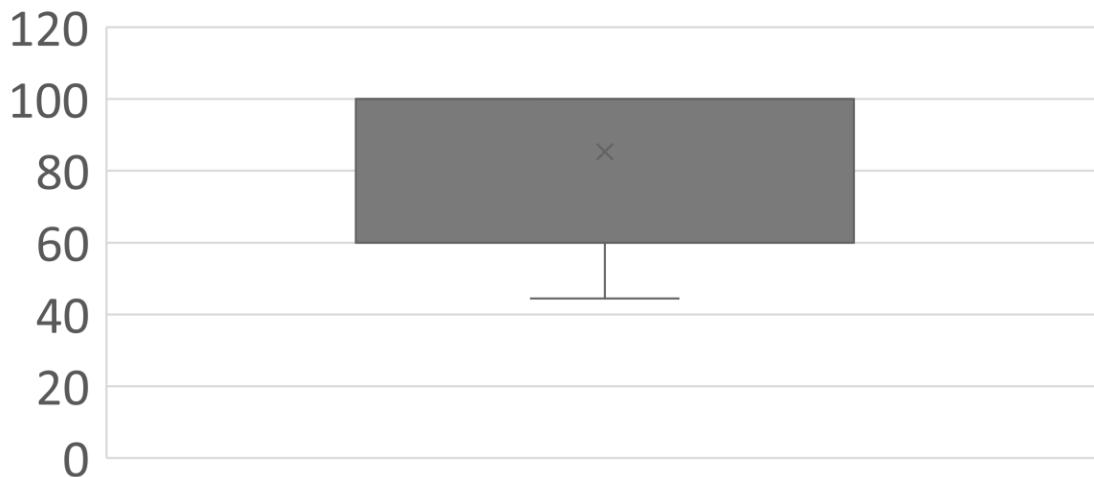
Main results

- **Top:** Spain, Germany, France, Italy, Belgium
- **4 non EU** countries (India, Uganda, South Africa, Sudan)
- Average of **3,7** partners issuing the JD (1 JD at 8!)

≠



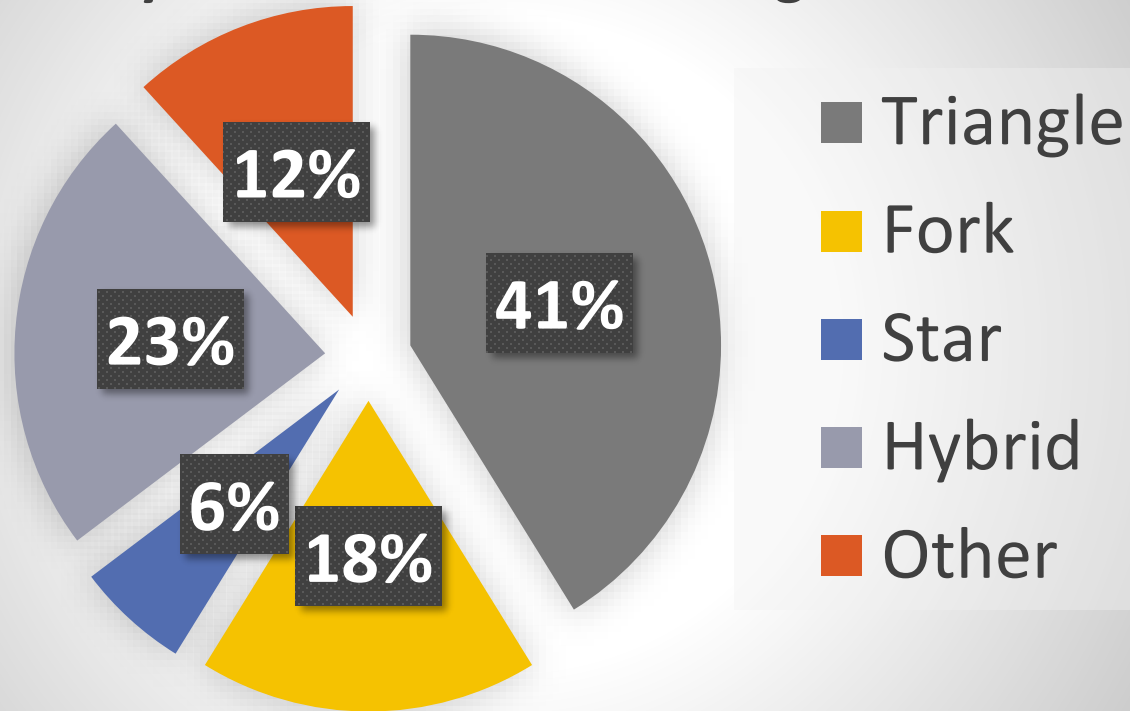
% Partners issuing the JD in each Consortium



- No participation in EMUMDs
- Not covered by the survey answers
- Involved in less than 10 EMUMDs
- More than 33% of projects awarding a joint degree
- Less than 33% of projects awarding a joint degree

The mobility scheme strongly influences the diploma awarding process

Mobility scheme of JD awarding EMJMD



Triangle: students start together at one university and move together from one university to the next

Fork: students start together at one university for a period and then are distributed among other partners

Hybrid: Triangle + Fork

Star: all students are separate and follow different mobility paths depending on their study track

Other: reverse fork; Hybrid: two first and two second year institutes, allowing for four different tracks in total; triangle for the first 1.5 years, then free choice for thesis; one semester together at coordinating institution, the rest free paths.

Qualitative data

- **Describe the PROCESS of signing your JD**
 - All different!
- **Expected BENEFITS**
 - Academia: Showing the jointness; joint academic recognition & cooperation, financial and institutional sustainability
 - Employers: Clarity (one certificate for one masters)
 - Students : not clear benefit; different reputation of the degrees in the different countries (e.g. Northern countries)
- **LINK with the EUROPEAN DEGREE and European Alliances**
 - Only 1 (new) EMJMD has been created within the frame of an EA
 - Low awareness of the European Degree
 - High expectations about the first results of the **Pilot call on Joint European Degree label**

Limitations, challenges & opportunities

Limitations / Blocking factors / Challenges

- **Academic requirements:**
 - e.g. minimum ECTS
 - Rules on on-line courses **(NEW)**
 - Interdisciplinarity studies → different types of degree **(NEW)**
- **Administrative and legal procedure:**
 - Very time consuming process (the round of wet/digital signatures !)
 - **The legal framework** can bring (mis)interpretation; there are practices but not clear rules...
 - Rigid formal requirements (e.g. template, language) can hinder reaching a consensus
 - Creation of big University mergers with decreased **agility and responsiveness**

Reflections to be continued: towards a European Degree/Approach?

- Identify the comparative advantages towards final beneficiaries
 - To which extent the type of degrees may have a significant impact on the development and sustainability of joint programmes? Which support from EC (mid/long term perspective)?
 - **« The idea of a JD is still not prominent at the level of European Universities. The needs and benefits are not yet seen. More time and networking are needed ».**
- **Legal framework & agile and robust administrative practices are key for the success of JD**
- **HEIs and EACEA play a strategic role and are catalyzers for administrative agreements and legislative change.**

Thanks!

<https://join.emact.eu>

contact@emact.eu