

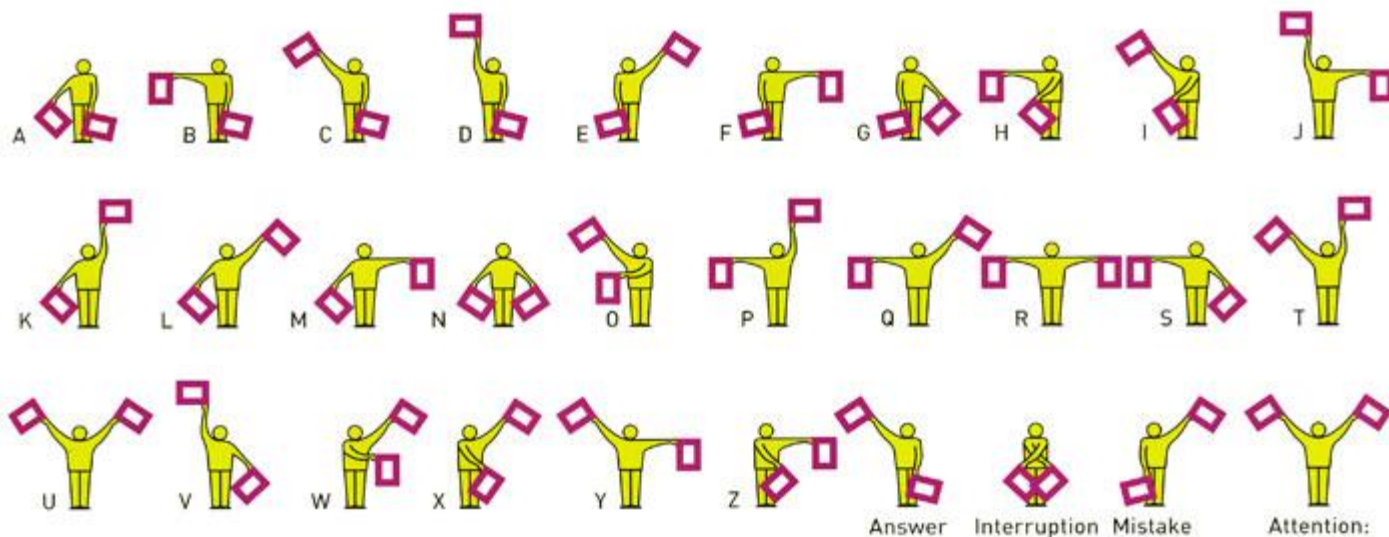
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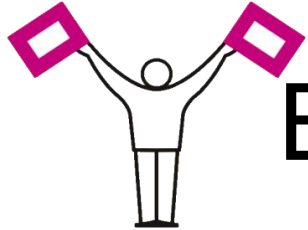
Joint Master's degree programme in
Baltic Sea Region Studies

Tarja Hyppönen
BSRS, University of Turku

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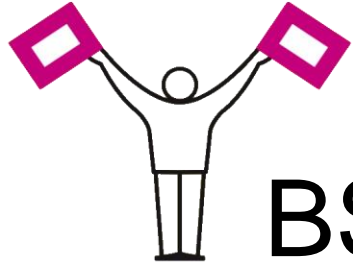


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Bologna process

Joint degree(s)

Joint Master's degree programme in BSRS



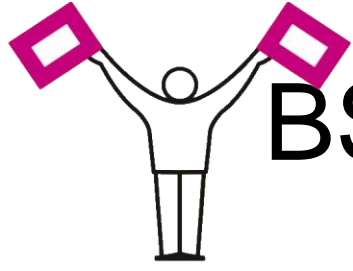
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BOLOGNA PROCESS

The overarching aim of the Bologna Process is to create a European Higher Education Area (EHEA) based on international cooperation and academic exchange that is attractive to European students and staff as well as to students and staff from other parts of the world.

-to improve the international comparability of degrees and thereby promote student mobility and international study opportunities.

- by 2010

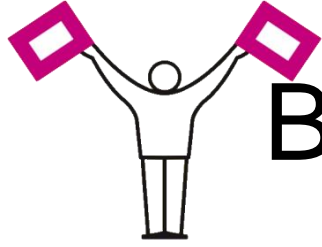


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Bologna process

- the envisaged European Higher Education Area will facilitate mobility of students, graduates and higher education staff;
- prepare students for their future careers and for life as active citizens in democratic societies, and support their personal development;
- offer broad access to high-quality higher education, based on democratic principles and academic freedom.

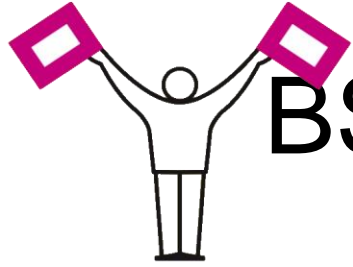


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Bologna treaty – signed by

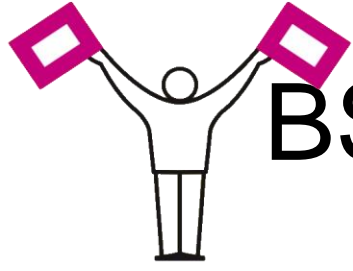
- (Sorbonne 1998) (4 countries)
- Bologna 1999 (29 countries)
- Praha 2001 (33 countries)
- Berlin 2003 (40 countries)
- Bergen 2005 (45 countries)
- London 2007 (46 countries)



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Bologna process

- policies defined internationally but implemented at national level and
- actors:
 - Ministries of Education
 - HE institutions
 - Students
 - International organizations

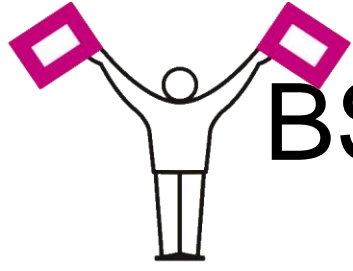


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- key components
 - transparent and comparable degree structure (3 cycles: Bachelor – Master - Doctor)
 - implementation of the Diploma supplement
 - accumulative, comparable and transferable credits system (ECTS)
 - mobility of students, teachers and researchers
 - quality assurance

European dimension of higher education



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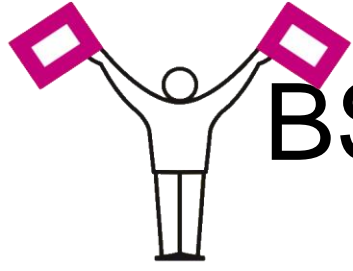
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JOINT DEGREES

Praque communiqué 2001:

.. to step up the development of modules, courses and curricula offered in partnership by institutions from different countries and leading to a **recognised joint degree**

Berlin communiqué 2003: 'to actively support the development .. of integrated curricula leading to joint degrees'



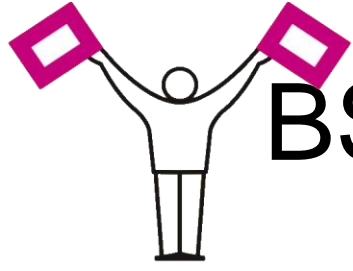
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JOINT DEGREES

high on political agenda as they are relevant to Bologna objectives:

- development of joint quality assurance
- recognition of degrees and qualifications
- transparency (ECTS, DS, comparative approach)
- convergence of systems
- student and staff mobility



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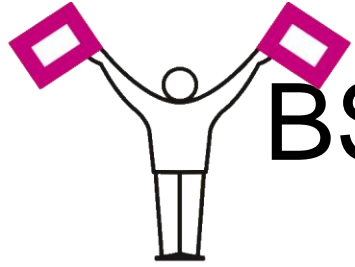
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JOINT DEGREES

... are the highest or the closest form of cooperation in HE

... effect of a joint degree/programme is greater than the sum of its parts

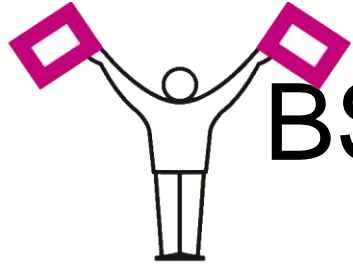
BUT, also laborious and as weak as the weakest part



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WHAT WE DID AND HOW

Joint Master's degree programme in
BSRS, step by step

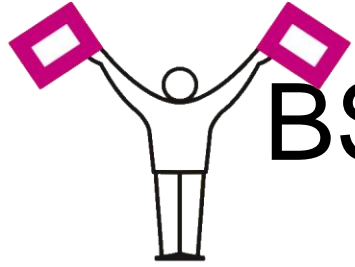


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JD in BSRS

- intensive collaboration with BSR related programmes having similar profiles in the Baltic universities since autumn 1999
- at non degree level (1-2 semester programs)

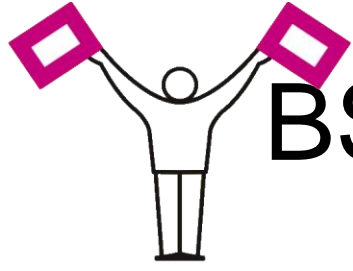


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JD in BSRS

- since 2000 also with HUB, Copenhagen, Södertörn, Gdansk

Several joint projects/activities > partners
know each other

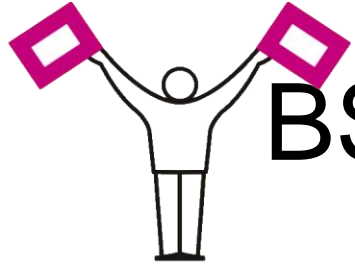


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JD in Baltic (Sea Region) Studies

- common academic and regional interest, institutional similarity, limited resources
- similar (enough) focus BS/BSR
- multi/interdisciplinary approach: history, culture, society, politics, international relations, human geography, environment ...

VERY BOTTOM UP

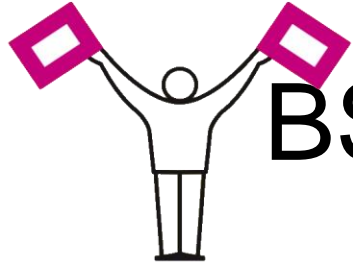


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JD in BSRS

- joint degree was seen as an added value
- better to collaborate than to compete



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JD in BSRS

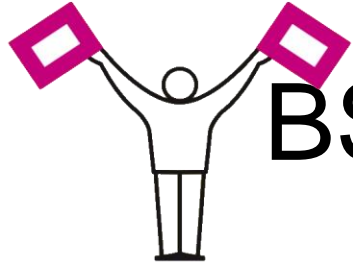
Preparatory phase 2001-2003

- great interest, less tools

Planning 2003-2005

- concrete work and elaboration of the idea and elements of a joint Master's programme

Implementation 2005 >>>



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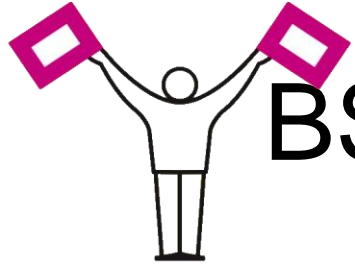
JD in BSRS

Lessons learned:

Bologna treaty – different national implementations
and interpretations

Bologna treaty >< national legislation(s)

No clear national policy on joint / double degrees



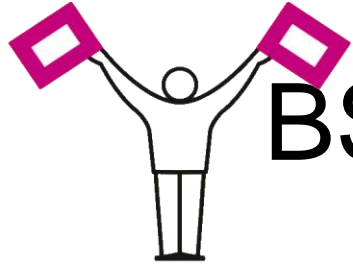
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JD in BSRS

Today

- more of material, experience, best practices
(see EUA, ACA...)
- Erasmus Mundus master's programs
 - 'real' joint programs



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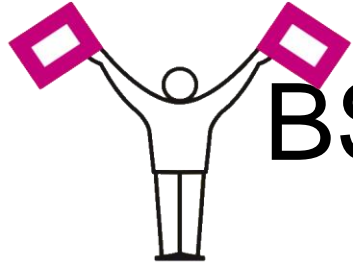
JOINT DEGREES

wide variety of cooperation levels (from maximum to minimum cooperation)

- institutionalized joint degrees ('transnational universities')
- double degrees between 2 partners
- joint degree partnership of several members
- huge consortia awarding joint or double degrees
- joint curriculum development with little mobility
- situation close to franchise

NO SINGLE MODEL

but always based on specific agreement between partners



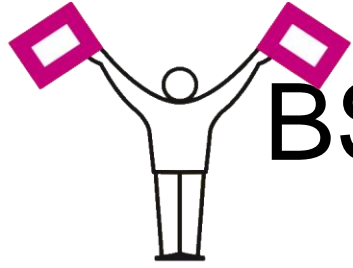
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2 main models:

- A. one group of students taken in to one partner university and moving as a group from one univ to another

- B. several groups of students (a group at each partner university) move individually



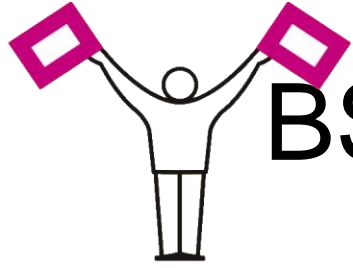
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JD in BSRS

own solutions: a joint degree programme, but the students apply and are admitted to one of the partner universities, home university

- 10-15 students to each university
- same admission criteria
- same application deadline



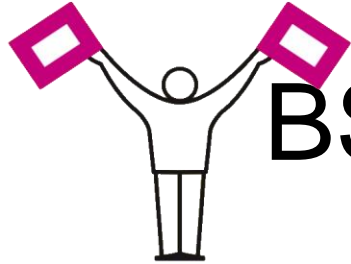
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JD in BSRS

own solutions:

- module structure
- mandatory study period in a partner university
- degree is awarded by the home university with DS (incl explanation of JD)



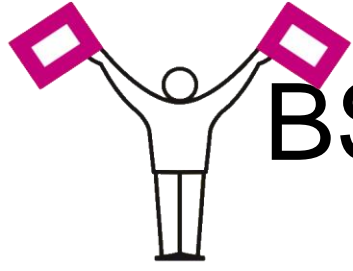
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JD in BSRS

- The **frame agreement** on the collaboration and main structure was signed in August 2005 by:
- University of Turku, BSRS
- University of Latvia, BSRS
- University of Tartu (Estonia), Baltic Studies
- Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania), BSRS

- Other partners offer courses (Gdansk, Copenhagen, Humboldt in Berlin, Södertörn..)

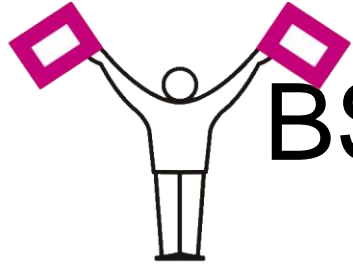


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JD in BSRS

- an interdisciplinary programme
(**FIN** government decree on Master's programmes 14.7.2005)
- 120 ECTS, 2 years
- leading to *Master of Arts/Political Science/.. in Baltic Sea Region Studies*
- started Autumn 2005

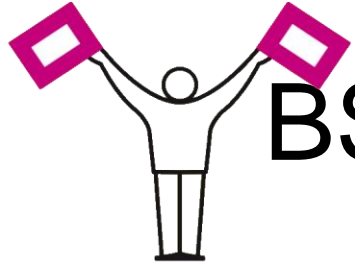


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JD in BSRS

- University of Latvia: Master of Humanities in Baltic Sea Region Studies
- University of Tartu: Master of Arts in Social Sciences
- University of Turku: Master of Arts in Baltic Sea Region Studies
- Vytautas Magnus University: Master in Political Science in Baltic Sea Region Studies

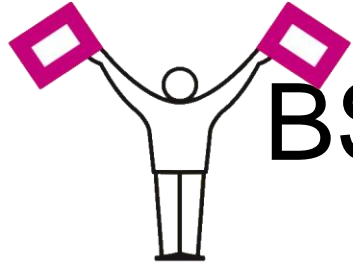


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JD in BSRS

- marketing started in Jan 2005
- first students enrolled in 2005
- first students graduated in 2007



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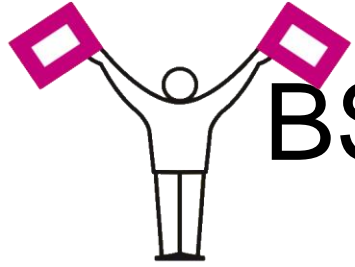
JD in BSRS

Structure

1st sem: common studies, 10-20 ECTS, home

2nd and 3rd sem: specialisation studies according to the individual study plan and orientation at home and partner university, 50-60 ECTS

4th sem: thesis and seminars 30-40 ECTS, home

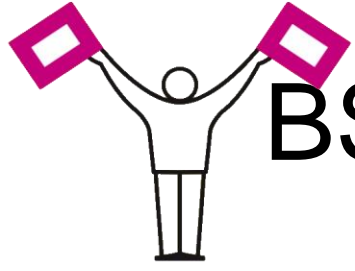


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JD in BSRS

- Basic requirements for admission are:
 - At least a three years Bachelor, Master or equivalent diploma in a relevant field.
- Language requirements:
 - A very good knowledge of English.
Additional knowledge of at least one language of the region is advantageous



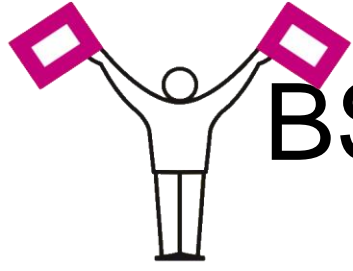
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JD in BSRS

application deadline April, 15

- intake annually



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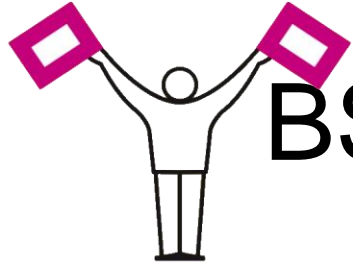
JD in BSRS, specialisations of partners

Univ of Tartu; economy, political science, media & communication

Univ of Latvia: social sciences, politics, culture, languages

VMU: political science, history

Univ of Turku: international relations, history, culture (comparative art studies), human geography



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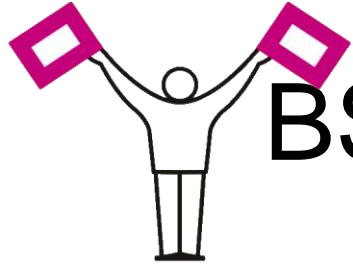
JD in BSRS

programme governance:

- local steering groups
- common steering committee

2 members from each univ
meets at least twice a year

common matters, policy, strategy,
student mobility, admission criteria..



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JD in BSRS

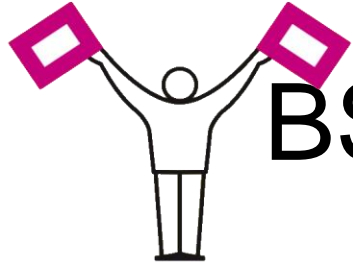
Turku: <http://balticstudies.utu.fi/>

Tartu: <http://www.baltic.ut.ee/>

Latvia:

<http://www.lu.lv/eng/studies/english/baltic.html>

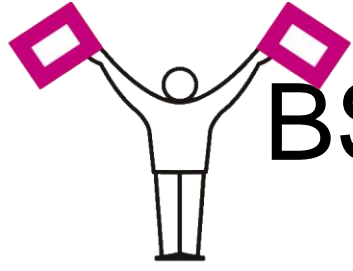
VMU: <http://www.vdu.lt/LTcourses/>



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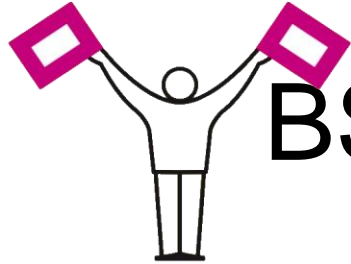
- Material on joint degrees
- Tauch C & Rauchvargers A, Survey on Master Degrees and Joint Degrees in Europe, EUA, 2002
- Developing Joint Masters Programmes for Europe, EUA 2004



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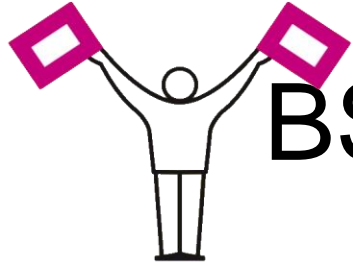
- Recent material on joint degrees (1):
 - a gallup poll undertaken for the European Commission (Feb 2007, 5600 HE academics polled)
 - the *Bologna with Students Eyes* survey, produced by ESIB (now ESU, the European Students Union)
 - the *Trends V* survey, conducted by EUA



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- Recent material on joint degrees (2):
 - the Eurydice interview on country trends in 2006/07
 - the Bologna Stocktaking report presented to ministers at the 2007 London summit
 - Guidelines on Quality Enhancement in European Joint Master Programmes, EMNEM - European Masters New Evaluation Methodology, 2006
 - Survey on Master Degrees in Europe, by Howard Davies, EUA Publications 2009



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Material on joint degree

www-sites

www.eua.be

<http://www.aca-secretariat.be/>

<http://www.naric.org.uk/>

<http://www.enic-naric.net/>