



EXTRA^{sup} – an Erasmus+ project on the recognition and quality assurance of extracurricular learning outcomes & competences of students

EXTRA^{sup} is an Erasmus+ project supporting the implementation of policy reforms linked to the European Higher Education Area. It is led by the French ministry for higher education, research and innovation (MESRI) and the international center for pedagogical studies (CIEP).

From November 2016 to March 2018, EXTRA^{sup} will aim at gathering higher education stakeholders in France together with European experts to produce a **methodological toolkit**. The **toolkit** is meant for the higher education institutions, the teaching staff and the students willing to take steps towards the recognition and validation of the learning outcomes and competences developed by students in the framework of citizenship activities or personal involvement within their training programs.



1 project - 4 steps



2 surveys (one in France and one in Europe) reflect the state of play and reach a diagnosis on the topic of the recognition of extracurricular activities (ECA)



3 working groups gathering the stakeholders (teaching staff, students, quality managers) will produce a synthesis of the debates and main topics that have emerged from the discussions on ECA recognition



1 methodological toolkit designed for higher education institutions provides help to support the implementation of the recognition of ECA



1 final conference to allow the partners to share the results of the work of all the contributors to EXTRA^{sup}.



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MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR, DE LA RECHERCHE ET DE L'INNOVATION

EXTRA^{sup} — a project strongly inscribed within the scope of both a national and a European process



In France indeed, the Law on equality and citizenship that was adopted early 2017 allows for the validation, by the higher education institutions awarding State diplomas, of the competences and knowledge acquired by students through extra-academic activities (namely voluntary work, military operational reserve or civic service). French higher education institutions have been implementing the recognition of the involvement of students in associations since 2001, usually using ECTS. The new Law on equality and citizenship widens the range of activities included within this recognition process (extra-academic and citizenship activities) and makes it possible for higher education institutions to validate the competences and knowledge developed through those activities from the academic year 2017-2018.

At the European level, the Bologna process, initiated in 1999 on the basis of the Sorbonne Declaration, includes, as part of its orientations, the need to introduce a social dimension within the European Higher Education Area as well as a student-centered learning approach and a demand for the identification of the intended learning outcomes within each higher education programme. In a wider manner, the project launched in 2014 by the Council of Europe --“Competences for Democratic Culture”--proposes a reference framework of values, attitudes and competences as well as knowledge and critical thinking deemed necessary to fully exercise democratic citizenship and intercultural dialogue.



Who is part of the project?

In France, participants to **EXTRA^{sup}** are the ministry for higher education, research and Innovation, the international center for pedagogical studies (CIEP), relier network, QuaRES association, Confederal University Leonardo da Vinci, stakeholders (teaching staff, quality assurance agency, Conferences, students' unions, etc.), students and the Erasmus+ national agency. The European participants are ESU (*European Students' Union*), DAAD (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst – German Office for students' exchanges*), Ministry for higher education and research of Luxembourg (through its representation in BFUG, Bologna Follow-up Group) and Université Libre de Bruxelles.

More information...

...on the [Ministry for higher education, research and innovation in France](#)

...on the [International center for pedagogical studies](#)

...on the [circular letter of Nov. 3, 2011](#) on the development of students' associations and activities

...on the [decree of May 10, 2017](#) on the recognition of students' involvement in associations, in social or professional activities

...on the [circular letter of Sept. 7, 2017](#) on the recognition of students' involvement in higher education institutions

...on the [Law on equality and citizenship](#)

...on the project [«Competences for a democratic culture»](#) of the Council of Europe