

EMREX and Joint Degrees

A joint, multiple or double Degree is a degree including courses where the students have followed a joint programme and done their studies in two or more institutions in two or more countries, definition see below. A joint degree means the participating institutions divide the courses needed to a degree. In the case of double degree or dual degree the institutions provide an opportunity to get two degrees in a streamlined way so that the time needed is less than getting the degrees separately. In all these cases the Degree Certificate or Diploma Supplement must present all courses that are included in the degree and helps fulfill the degree requirements. As of today many countries manages this process manually and signed originals are often a must as a basis for transfer. Both the process for the student to receive the transcript and to deliver it to their home institution, and the process for the administrator to register the transfer in the local study documentation system is very time consuming.

This problem can be solved in the future!

The EMREX-solution will facilitate the administrative processes around issuing joint, multiple or double Degrees. EMREX will manage the secure transfer of documents between institutions without the need for paper. On student demand EMREX transfers all data available from the original transcript digitally to the home institution where it can be downloaded directly in to a Certificate or Diploma Supplement. The secure verification process means that no original papers will be of use and the administration can be fast and minimized!

It should be pointed out the EMREX solution provides the transfer only. It is not a Student Information System and it does not issue the diplomas but instead it connects to virtually any system to supply the information. Only a minimum of adherence to international standards is needed for the communication and the programming needed to connect to the own system is reasonable. All code produced within Emrex is open source.

Definition of Joint Degrees

Lisbon Recognition Convention Committee has tabled a definition with three possibilities:

A joint degree should, for the purposes of this recommendation, be understood as referring to a higher education qualification issued jointly by at least two or more higher education institutions or jointly by one or more higher education institutions and other awarding bodies, on the basis of a study programme developed and/or provided jointly by the higher education institutions, possibly also in cooperation with other institutions. A joint degree may be issued as

- a. a joint diploma in addition to one or more national diplomas
- b. a joint diploma issued by the institutions offering the study programme in question without being accompanied by any national diploma
- c. one or more national diplomas issued officially as the only attestation of the joint qualification in question

In other contexts only option b, a model without national diploma, is called a "real" joint degree while the other is called double or multiple degrees.