



Brussels, 29 April 2002  
EAC.A.2/ASE/ase D(2002)

**Current State of implementation of the Diploma Supplement in the countries participating in the SOCRATES programme (April 2002)**

**1. EU/EEA Countries**

COUNTRY	STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION
<b>Austria</b>	In Austria, the Diploma Supplement is being introduced by Federal laws for university studies. Its introduction is closely associated with the introduction of ECTS.
<b>Belgium</b> (French-speaking)	A common university version of the Supplement has been created and the universities will in principle be delivering their first Diploma Supplement in the academic year 2001-2002. The "Hautes Ecoles" ( higher education institutions other than universities) are also in the process to deliver it during the following academic years. The implementation of the diploma supplement is made on a voluntary basis, no specific law has been taken to make it compulsory.  <b>Website :</b> <a href="http://www.cfwb.be/infosup">http://www.cfwb.be/infosup</a>
<b>Belgium</b> (Flemish-speaking)	Universities and Hogescholen introduced the Diploma Supplement in 1991 and 1994 respectively. The revised model will not be introduced immediately due to pressure of other educational reforms.
<b>Denmark</b>	The Diploma Supplement is to be implemented by law from September 2002. All higher education institutions are obliged to issue a Diploma Supplement in English to all students graduated after this date.
<b>France</b>	There is a rising interest for the DS in France . Its implementation will be easier since the National Council for Higher Education and Research (CNESER ) on 26 November 2001 has given a favourable advice to a decree proposed by the Ministry about the shaping of the European Education Area ; in this document, the use of the "diploma supplement 'is recommended to favour mobility and lisibility of qualifications'.

<b>Finland</b>	Finnish university and polytechnic legislation obliges HEIs to provide their students, on request, with an annex to their diploma for international use. The Finnish Ministry of education has recommended that all institutions follow the Diploma Supplement model.
<b>Germany</b>	The DS is already implemented as a national system. It has been introduced in the year 2000 by corresponding decisions of the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) and by the Rectors' Conference (HRK) for all study courses".
<b>Greece</b>	In Greece, the Diploma Supplement has been welcomed with enthusiasm. Its is strongly linked with ECTS. Many HEIs will introduce it after solving various technical problems.
<b>Iceland</b>	In Iceland the Diploma Supplement will not be made compulsory. However, the National Rectors Conference in Iceland has recommended that all the universities issue Supplements. Most of the universities have declared they will issue Supplements, some from the academic year 2001-2002 but others will start later due to technological reasons.
<b>Ireland</b>	The Diploma Supplement was promoted at various levels in the Republic of Ireland. It is not going to be introduced by law and its implementation is to be decided by individual HEIs.
<b>Italy</b>	The Diploma Supplement was introduced by law in the recent radical educational reform to the Italian higher education system (law 509/99). It is now compulsory to issue a Supplement for all degrees awarded in the new framework, and its scheme was approved in May 2001 by the Ministry of Education, according to the European model.. The use of a central panel to co-ordinate its introduction provides a useful lesson for all those countries intending to implement Supplements by law. A full information about the Diploma Supplement and its adoption procedures in Italy is now provided at the <b>WEB address <a href="http://www.crui.it/DS">www.crui.it/DS</a></b>
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	The Diploma Supplement has already been introduced in the Higher Education system. Supplements are issued in German/English to all students free of charge.  <b>Website : <a href="http://www.firstlink.li/eu/sokrates">http://www.firstlink.li/eu/sokrates</a></b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	A small number of higher education institutions issue an earlier version of the Diploma Supplement. It is likely that the current model will become increasingly popular as the Bologna process intensifies reform.

<b>Norway</b>	<p>A letter has been issued by the Ministry, requesting that all universities/university colleges start using the Diploma Supplement immediately. By the end of 2001 all institutions had developed DSs. DSs are issued automatically. Their use has been made obligatory by the Ministry's request.</p> <p>Website : <a href="http://www.nnr.no">http://www.nnr.no</a></p>
<b>Portugal</b>	<p>The Ministry of Education has published the information about the higher education structure on the web, but only in Portuguese. The English version should be placed soon. A flier prepared by the Ministry has been distributed to all higher education Institutions with the basic information on the DS. An increasing number of Higher Education Institutions are willing to implement the DS, and promotion actions have been asked for.</p> <p>Website : <a href="http://www.desup.minedu.pt/naric.htm">http://www.desup.minedu.pt/naric.htm</a></p>
<b>Spain</b>	<p>The new Spanish Law (LOU) will develop the rules to introduce the DS in a short time. Spanish Universities are willing to produce the DS and a pilot group is working to solve technical problems with the support of Consejo de Universidades and the Spanish Conference of Rectors.</p>
<b>Sweden</b>	<p>The Diploma Supplement was implemented in law 2002 and will be issued automatically together with the degree from 1 January 2003. It is compulsory for all higher education institutions and it will be free of charge. Retroactive issuing will be voluntary for the higher education institutions.</p>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<p>Something similar to the Diploma Supplement is being introduced in the UK as part of the Progress File – known as the 'Transcript'. This is not identical to the Diploma Supplement and attempts are being made to ensure their compatibility. Many HEIs are sympathetic to the Diploma Supplement which contains more information.</p>

## 2. Associated countries

<b>COUNTRY/REGION</b>	<b>STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	<p>The DS was promoted via different channels: National information seminar (Nov.2000), Dissemination of information brochures (2001), information seminars organized by the universities (Spring 2001). The majority of Bulgarian universities have expressed their willingness to</p>

	introduce the DS. Actually the Ministry of Education and Science is looking for possibilities to provide the necessary legal framework for the implementation of the DS at national level and for the recognition of the DS issued by foreign universities.
<b>Czech Republic</b>	The DS was introduced by Higher Education Act N° 111 of 1998. This document is mentioned there as one of the documents on studies. It is issued on the request of the student. The language of the DS isn't prescribed. The European model of DS was promoted during two seminars realized by Czech NARIC in 1999 and 2000. The technical manual on DS was translated into Czech and distributed to HEI. During the NARIC seminar in 2001 the experience with the implementation of DS by individual higher education institutions was discussed. The Czech higher education institutions haven't had much experience with it. The number of applications for DS is not too high. They intend to issue DS to every student in the future automatically in Czech or in English. We prepare the seminar on DS for newly established Czech private higher education institutions for March.
<b>Cyprus</b>	NOT AVAILABLE
<b>Estonia</b>	The preparation of appropriate legislation is now in progress. DS will be obligatory for HEIs as from academic year 2002-2003. It will be issued to all graduates (until now, it is only to those who request it). <b>Website</b> : <a href="http://www.euedu.ee/socrates/english/naric/index.html">http://www.euedu.ee/socrates/english/naric/index.html</a>
<b>Hungary</b>	In 2000 the Hungarian ENIC/NARIC published a handbook on DS, with description, implementation details and examples. In 2001, a pilot project has been launched: the College of Commerce, Catering and Tourism of the Budapest Business School issues DS to its students, upon request. Issues to be solved: legal framework, connection to institutional computer information systems, technical solutions to assure authenticity, data protection.
<b>Poland</b>	May 2000 : national Conference for Rectors and representatives of central offices of higher education. 2000/2001: pilot project aiming to determine organisational conditions for the introduction of the DS and involving about 70 HEIs (information was sent to all Polish HEIs). The database for the production of Polish DS has been created and the description of Polish higher education system prepared.  <b>Website</b> : <a href="http://www.buwiwm.edu.pl">http://www.buwiwm.edu.pl</a>
<b>Latvia</b>	All information about DS is available in Latvian language. The pilot project was organized in the University of Latvia. Some higher education institutions are issuing DS. The recommendations for implementation of DS are prepared by

	<p>Rectors Council and submitted to Higher education department, MoES. The relevant regulations about implementation of DS will be prepared and approved.</p> <p>Website : <a href="http://www.aic.lv">http://www.aic.lv</a></p>
<b>Lithuania</b>	<p>A new Diploma Supplement is being introduced in the course of 2002. Until now all universities issue diploma supplements to all students (it can be issued upon request in English or in another language). A working group has been set up with representatives of HEIs, of the Ministry of education and science, and of the ENIC/NARIC to prepare all necessary legislation for the implementation of the new Diploma Supplement.</p>
<b>Malta</b>	<p>NOT AVAILABLE</p>
<b>Romania</b>	<p>DS introduced by Minister's order no.3659/20.04.2000. The the Diploma Supplement is issued upon request. Information on the DS was published in a booklet, the electronic template was sent to all universities.</p>
<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<p>According to the new Higher Education Act which came into force on April 1, 2002, the DS shall be issued by all higher education institutions together with diploma to all graduates in the future (as a compulsory part of credentials).</p>
<b>Slovenia</b>	<p>The DS has been issued on the basis of Article 32 of the Higher Education Act (Ur. l. RS 67/93, 22/94 - Constitutional Court Decision, 39/95 - Constitutional Court Decision, 18/98 - Constitutional Court Decision, 35/98 - Constitutional Court Decision, and 99/99), taking into account the <i>Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education in the European Region</i> (Ur. l. RS - International Treaties 14/99) and the recommendations of the European Commission, Council of Europe and Unesco/Cepes.</p>

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