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I. LLL-project E-TRAIN: Training experts on a European level

ÖAR together with the Dutch-Flemish [NVAO](#) is lead partner of the lifelong learning project [E-TRAIN](#). This project wants to strengthen the European dimension of external quality assurance by preparing panel members for their tasks across national borders.

The first of two pilot trainings has already been held in The Hague; the second training will take place in Vienna in April 2012.

At the same time, the national trainings with which the quality assurance agencies prepare their experts should be developed further. There are two pilot trainings as well; the first one was organised in Vienna in November.

In autumn 2012 a European database on quality assurance experts will be launched. It will facilitate finding internationally experienced experts for quality assurance procedures.

First results of the project – which will end next year in September – are already published: In a *Guide to good practices for the training of experts* current training practices of European agencies are collected including aspects which are considered exemplary.

The *Guidelines for training of experts* are the starting point for the development of a European approach to the training of experts. They have been written by a group of European quality assurance experts headed by ÖAR.



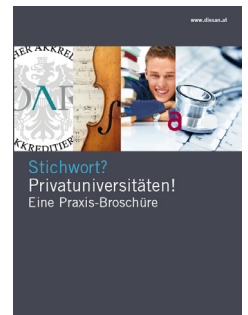
Both publications are downloadable on:

<http://www.eaconsortium.net/main/projects/e-train/outcomes>

II. Tips for students of private universities

For more than ten years now the [Studierendenanwaltschaft](#) (student ombudsman service) is the central contact point for the concerns of home and foreign students from the entire Austrian higher education sector.

This institution takes on a mediating role when it comes to individual problematic cases or systematic shortcomings. Based on these wide experiences special service booklets are published. „Stichwort? Privatuniversitäten!“ („Keyword? Private Universities!“) is the most recent issue of this series.



It is a first since it has been conceptualised and written jointly by the office of the Austrian Accreditation Council and the *Studierendenanwaltschaft*.

The collection of keywords with extensive explanations ranges from A for „Akademische Grade“ to Z for „Zulassungsverfahren“ and provides diverse information on legal and organisational aspects of study.

This booklet helps to clear up both basic questions and individual problems and thereby contributes to more transparency and acceptance for all players in everyday campus life.

The brochure [German version only] can be ordered free of charge. Please contact the *Studierendenanwaltschaft*:

verena.kainz@bmwf.gv.at; 01-531 20-5544

III. ÖAR annual report online

The latest annual report is available online. It gives an overview on the framework and activities of the ÖAR in 2010. A detailed chapter provides an insight into the quantitative development of the private higher education sector.

All annual reports since 2004 are gathered on ÖAR's website:

<http://www.akkreditierungsrat.at/cont/de/download.aspx#Jahresberichte>

[abbreviated English version available]