

Summer Course 2019

“Bologna Veinte Años Después” (“Bologna Twenty Years Later”)

Last 11th and 12th of July 2019 Unibasq held a Summer Course named “Bologna Veinte Años después” (“Bologna Twenty Years Later”) at Miramar Palace, in Donostia.

Itziar Alkorta, director of the Summer Courses of UPV/EHU, introduced the session with a wink to the shooting of the latest Woody Allen film that was being done in the same premises simultaneously.

Director of Unibasq and Vice-President of ENQA Eva Ferreira, welcomed the participants and speakers, and took advantage of the presence of the members of the Staff of Unibasq to thank them for all the efforts of the last work-term, giving the floor afterwards to Cristina Uriarte, Chancellor for Education, Linguistic Policies and Culture of the Basque Government, who said that the purpose of the Bologna declaration was to strengthen Europe; a purpose that the Basque Country has embraced and reflected in the Basque models for Degree Programmes. The Chancellor highlighted the joint efforts and agreements reached, and the coordination of the Basque University system, and expressed that high indicators support our system and that Bologna has helped boost all this. Uriarte finished her speech remarking that the creation of Unibasq is an evidence of the implication in the implementation and support of this Project, and said that the processes are not always uniform and should not be blind to the different realities in the different areas of the European Union.



Itziar Alkorta, director of the Summer Courses of UPV/EHU. Cristina Uriarte, Chancellor of Education, Linguistic Policies and Culture of the Basque Government, and Eva Ferreira, director of Unibasq

After the official opening of the Summer Course, Aitor Zurimendi, Assistant Director of Unibasq, introduced the first two speakers: Eva Ferreira and Enrique Collell Blanco, Cabinet Chief of the General Secretariat of Universities of the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities.

Ferreira explained that Bologna was signed in with the aim to boost the free movement of students and teachers and establishing a system for the recognition of degrees that removed the obstacles and provided comparable methodologies and standards.



Eva Ferreira, director of Unibasq and Enrique Collell Blanco, Cabinet Chief of the General Secretariat of Universities of the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities

Unibasq's director showed her conviction on the necessity of defending the European Framework, although she believes that procedures should be applied differently to those institutions that have a longer trajectory than to those newly created. She also proposed that accreditation protocols for mature institutions should not be disproportionate and should be supported, in addition to mentioning the need for a more effective dissemination of the social impact of the academic activities.

Enrique Collell Blanco, Cabinet Chief of the General Secretariat of Universities of the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, who was the next speaker, presented the public policies of the Ministry and the reforms suggested for the Spanish University System.

Collell opened his presentation proposing a new definition of the status of teaching and researching staff and suggested it be linked to a career as a university professor. He finished expressing his wish to incorporate Dual (work-based learning) degrees and master's degrees similar to the ones offered in the Basque University System.

After a round table in which university professor's recruitment and the redefinition of the teaching and researching staff figures were discussed, amongst other issues, the second block of the morning session began with the intervention of [Christoph Grollmund](#), President of ENQA, who, based on his personal experience and difficulties when studying abroad in his younger age, defended the benefits of the EHEA.



Christoph Grollimund, President of ENQA

Grollimund explained “How?” and “What?” meant the implementation of the Bologna process, and shared his concern about its future due to the presence of certain pseudo-political and technocratic forces and the return of centrifugal movements that may bring about a breach in the EHEA. Additionally, he established the three pillars on which ENQA should support to face the previously stated situation, which are the representation of the interests of the Quality Assurance Agencies, providing service to members and other stakeholders, and attracting innovation to external quality assurance.

The next speaker of the session was José Arnáez Vadillo, director of ANECA, who remarked the little advancement in educational cooperation although he recognised that the EHEA had boosted mobility substantially.



José Arnáez Vadillo, director of ANECA, José Ángel Domínguez Pérez, director of ACSUCYL y Antonio Serrano, director of ACPU

The floor was later given to [José Ángel Domínguez Pérez](#), director of ACSUCYL, who went over the changes experiences since the implementation of Bologna, and the steps that yet need to be taken, highlighting milestones such as student-centred learning, but at the same time, he remarked that bureaucracy has increased excessively. Domínguez concluded saying that the rigidity of the closed degree catalogue has been broken finally, boosting innovation in teaching and seeking that the degrees offered respond to the demands of the present day society.

[Antonio Serrano](#), director of the Agency for Quality Assurance and University Prospective in Aragon, explained the system in Aragon, and underlined the task of Quality Assurance Agencies in building communication bridges and harmonising, gaining simplicity and balance in the processes.

Paolo Comanducci offered an insight on the Italian experience and explained that there are no equivalences in the functioning of the universities. His final thought was that Bologna will continue, but needs to be profoundly revised.

In the following block, representatives of the three universities of the Basque University System presented their three different approaches to the Bologna Process, and shared their experiences.

Idoia Fernández, Vice-rector of Innovation, Social Compromise and Cultural Action of UPV/EHU, said it is not easy to combine internationalisation and the re-implantation of the Basque language, and highlighted the progress achieved in the diversification of the degree offer, attending active, practical learning, based on experience and mobility.



José Arnáez Vadillo, director of ANECA, Elena Auzmendi, Vice-Rector of Academic Organisation, Teaching Innovation and Quality of University of Deusto, Eva Ferreira, director of Unibasq, Idoia Fernández, Vice-Rector of Innovation, Social Compromise and Cultural Action of UPV/EHU, José Ángel Domínguez, director of ACSUCYL and Christoph Grollmund President of ENQA.

Elena Auzmendi, Vice-Rector of Academic Organisation, Teaching Innovation and Quality of University of Deusto brought attention to the changes experienced in pedagogy, teaching focus, methodologies and learning processes, as well as in the re-structuring of the necessities that Bologna brought along, and the toll this all took both personally and economically.

Jon Altuna, Vice- Rector of Mondragon Unibertsitatea highlighted the creation of a new university culture that sprang from the re-assortment of the university degrees, and that was initially marked by the consolidation of their model as an autonomous, self-managing, and cooperative. He concluded his presentation saying that Bologna has implied a process of modernisation, but has not implemented the adaptation of the universities to life-long-learning processes that have caused a qualitative leap before the traditional approach, based on personal and professional development.

After the presentations, a round table gave the audience the opportunity to voice their belief that universities face the challenge of generating citizens who are able to meet the demands of the society of today at several levels, and since each country has a different approach to these demands, universities should remain close to the pulse of society.



María Vallet-Regí, Director of the Department of Inorganic Chemistry and Non-organic Biology of the Complutense University of Madrid, and Guy Haug, Expert on Evaluation and University Development of the European Union.

On the second day of the course, [María Vallet-Regí](#), summarised the origins of Bologna and the reticence it met, in spite of offering the chance to focus on the learning process to meet the new expectations of society.

The second speaker of the day was [Guy Haug](#), who presented the singularities found in Spain in the implementation of the Bologna process and the benefits it brought, concluding that we are currently in the post-Bologna era and still the EHEA needs to be built.



Javier Torraella, Engineering Chief Manager of Soralue, Asier Aloria Sánchez, Chair of the Training Department of Confebask, Pilar Oronoz Amunarriz, Coordinator of the Education for Social Transformation Area of the NGO Zabalketa and Eva Caballero Domínguez journalist at EITB.

Eva Caballero Domínguez, journalist at EITB, conducted a round table after the exposition of Guy Haug, in which [Javier Torraella](#), Engineering Chief Manager of Soralue, [Asier Aloria](#) Sánchez Chair of the Training Department of Confebask, and [Pilar Oronoz](#) Amunarriz, Coordinator of the Education for Social Transformation Area of the NGO Zabalketa, presented their points of view on the benefits of the presence of companies, and their cooperation with universities, focusing on the personal and professional development of students. Speakers said that this cooperation is boosting knowledge transference and innovation, creating new contains, supporting creativity, increasing enthusiasm and motivation and facilitating the promotion of people in very diverse areas. All this, contributes to further associations, as companies may offer their experience to train teachers and students in new fields offering active and participative methodologies, educational resources, knowledge and contact with new realities, cultures, multi-tasking and values.



Ainara Lagüera Castillero, student at Univeristy of Deusto, Laura Peiró Márquez, student at University of Zaragoza and Alma Navarro Sanmamed, studenat at UPV/EHU.

Having listened to the voice of companies, the floor was given to the [students](#), represented by Alma Navarro Sanmamed from UPV/EHU, Ainara Lagüera Castillero from University of Deusto and Laura Peiró Márquez from University of Zaragoza, who translated their impressions that in spite of having made advances in mutual recognition of degrees, there is still no thorough agreements for Doctorate Studies and little for Master's Degrees. Mobility, both at national and international levels is yet in need of simplification, and student-centred learning is still to be developed, in addition to expressing their discomfort with accesibility for all social and economic extracts, and low student participation.



Aitor Zurimendi, associate director of Unibasq, Gidor Bilbao, doctor in Classic Philology and Professor at the Faculty of Letters of UPV/EHU and Eva Ferreira, director of Unibasq

Putting an end to the summer course, Gidor Bilbao presented the book Hitz-mitz 27 hitz, sponsored by Unibasq and introduced the video of [Xabier Paya Ruiz](#), where the words of Nelson Mandela are transformed into verses in three languages; Basque, Spanish and English, showing the impact we may cause in others when we address them in their mother tongue.