

Seeking for Quality Assurance of HE Internationalization in the Asia-Pacific Region

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ABSTRACT

Boundaries separate but also connect themselves. *"The world is flat"* said Thomas Friedman in his international best-selling book. In this fast-changing era, with increasing mobility of students and providers to meet their different needs, each university has to face up to global competition and higher education (HE) internationalization. HE internationalization is a fact, and we have to move into this new and global quality stage of HE internationalization.

At this internationalization era, in most countries in the Asia-Pacific region, HE has entered the stage of rapid expansion and leapfrog development. However, too often we hear people say *"teaching is bad and quality is low"* *"HE Internationalization lacks information and cooperation and trust."* *"Quality Crisis"* is no longer a shocking statement to attract peoples' attention.

Today HE internationalization has surpassed the traditional era of passive concept of "quality control" but entered a new era of "quality autonomy" and "quality jointnomy". Five best practices of quality assurance(QA) in Asia-Pacific Region are: 1) Teacher performance evaluation guarantees excellent teaching quality; 2) Program accreditation guarantees the complete PDCA cycle of teaching-learning process; 3) Accreditation of HE Internationalization guarantees HE first-class quality; 4) Assessment of Student learning outcomes guarantees learning result quality; 5) Graduates' quality Evaluation guarantees teaching-learning output quality.

In order to reach APQN's goal of *"Dissolve Boundaries for a Quality Region"*, the presentation puts forwards the proposal of APQN-Iran Quality Assurance of Internationalization: Internationalization Accreditation of Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL). By this joint-accreditation, the international mobility of students, faculty, programs, researchers, projects, exchanges of HEIs might be promoted in Iran, in the Asia-Pacific Region.