

Diversity of external contexts and legal frameworks/quality culture

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Culture and History

- the Norwegian context

- Norwegian culture:
 - Autonomy and trust
 - Balanced with order and control



External QA by NOKUT

- Initial accreditation of institutions and (some) study programs
- External Quality Assurance
 - All institutions are audited by NOKUT every 4-8th year
- Supervision of all study program accreditations (and institutional accreditation)
 - Strategic priorities and knowledge based (risk based) approach





How is NOKUT involved in setting the framework for the external QA?



Making a renewed framework for external QA in Norway

Some important milestones

Year	
2012 - 2013	NOKUT requests the Ministry to change the framework for external QA - suggests that a white paper on quality in education be prepared
2013 - 2014	Ministry follows up (NOKUT is consulted)
2014 - 2016	NOKUT prepares the Document: <i>Quality Areas for study programmes</i> – Policy-document for all NOKUTs processes (and for the whitepaper)
2015 - 2016	New law and ministerial regulation is adopted by the parliament and by the government – NOKUT is involved in the process.
2015 - 2017	NOKUT adopts the regulation with requirements for all external QA
2016 - 2017	Whitepaper: Culture for Quality in Higher Education
2017 - 2018	NOKUT prepares all guidelines for all the QA processes



How does NOKUT involve its stakeholders in the design and implementation of the QA system?



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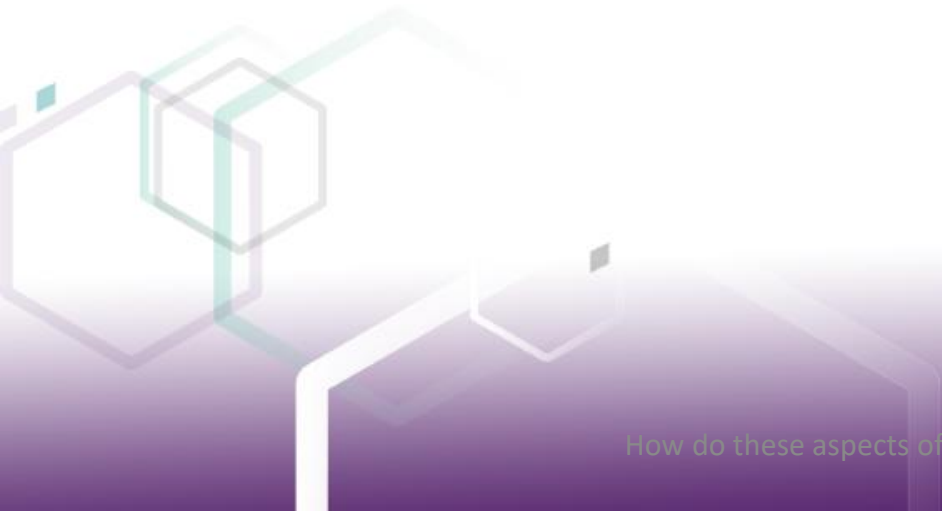
NOKUT's involvement of its stakeholders

Processes	Involvement
Ministerial activities	Parliament, public consultation process International and national stakeholders NOKUT
NOKUT's <i>Quality Areas for study programmes</i> (Policy document)	Rector's conference, students, unions, employers' organizations, professors in educational research <i>NOKUT's annual educational conference</i>
The requirements for external QA (by-law)	Reference group with representatives from stakeholders, Consultation Conference, Public consultation process
Guidelines for external QA-processes	Work-shop's with the institutions
Implementation through Pilot-projects	Reference groups
A renewed student engagement initiative is to be launched	Student organisations and students at program level

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How do these aspects of stakeholder involvement contribute to creating a quality culture in Norway?



Quality Culture

- HE-institutions are responsible for Quality in all academic activity
- Very good relationship between Universities and NOKUT
 - Quality assurance and Quality enhancement
 - Focus on actual quality work – not only procedures
- Whitepaper (with heavily involvement of stakeholders) were quite important
- Transparency

Documents:

NOKUT: Quality Areas for study programmes

- https://www.nokut.no/siteassets/akkreditering-hu/quality_areas_for_study_programmes_2016.pdf

Whitepaper: Culture for Quality in Higher Education

- <https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/aee30e4b7d3241d5bd89db69fe38f7ba/en-gb/pdfs/stm201620170016000engpdfs.pdf>

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