

HCÉRES SERVICES WORLDWIDE



THE FRENCH NATIONAL AGENCY FOR EVALUATION

The High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (Hcéres) is the independent public administration responsible for evaluating higher education institutions, their study programmes and research units as well as national research organisations in France.

Hcéres shares its expertise abroad and responds to requests from foreign institutions while adapting to their local context and expectations.

In France and abroad, Hcéres carries out its missions in a rigorous and impartial manner to provide objective results aimed at continuous enhancement.

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Hcéres complies with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).

It is a full member of ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) and is listed on EQAR (European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education). Hcéres is also a full member of IN-QAAHE (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education).

WORLDWIDE COOPERATION

Through the Department for European and International Affairs (DEI), Hcéres plays an active role in debates on quality assurance in higher education and research through its participation in strategic initiatives and their dissemination, including the European level (European label/diploma, European Universities Alliances) and contributes to the discussions on best practices to develop a quality culture.



VALUES

Independence, impartiality, transparency
and fairness

Hcéres has signed cooperation agreements with about fifteen agencies around the world and works regularly with international partners (World Bank, European Commission...) to develop a culture of quality assurance, exchange methodological experiences and carry out joint projects.

EVERY FIVE YEARS IN FRANCE, HCÉRES EVALUATES

310 higher education institutions

2500 research units

5700 study programmes

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

10 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE PROVISION OF A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES WORLDWIDE

Hcéres has established partnerships with counterpart agencies and organisations around the world (in Africa, in the Americas, in Asia, in Europe and in the Middle East) and draws on the diplomatic networks of embassies to provide services worldwide. Hcéres has developed extensive experience in designing and delivering fit-for-purpose services to institutions, agencies or national bodies that request its support.

EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION

Based on robust methodologies and international standards, Hcéres carries out the evaluation and accreditation of:

- Higher Education Institutions: evaluation of all the activities of the institution (education, research and link with the society);
- Study programmes: all disciplines and study levels (Bachelor, Master, PhD).

Hcéres is the only international accreditation agency with a methodology to externally evaluate:

- Research units within universities;
- Research organisations.

Hcéres has endorsed several commitments (San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment - DORA, Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment - CoARA) for the qualitative evaluation of research.

Evaluations are conducted in English, French and Spanish.

CEQUINT LABEL

The European label CeQuint (Certificate for the Quality of Internationalisation) recognises excellence in internationalisation at the programme and institutional levels. The methodology was developed by the European network ECA. It can be included in the procedure carried out by Hcéres in combination with an institutional or programme evaluation.

EVALUATION OF JOINT PROGRAMMES WITH THE EUROPEAN APPROACH

The European Approach for quality assurance of joint programmes is a single procedure to evaluate an integrated curriculum coordinated and offered jointly by different higher education institutions from the European Higher Education Area, and leading to double/multiple degrees or a joint degree.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

Hcéres provides support for foreign national bodies, agencies and higher education institutions in defining or clarifying their quality assurance policies through:

- the participation in European projects, including twinnings;
- the organisation of tailor-made training courses and workshops on various topics (governance, quality assurance of research, quality of internationalisation...);
- the evaluation of national higher education and research policies.

THE HCÉRES LABEL

This accreditation corresponds to the issue of the Hcéres label attesting the quality of a study programme, higher education institution, research unit or national research organisation. It is not an equivalent of a French diploma. Recognition of the equivalence of foreign diplomas can be granted only by the ENIC-NARIC France.





FOCUS ON EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION

Hcéres carries out evaluations and accreditations of foreign higher education institutions, their study programmes (Bachelor, Master, PhD), research units as well as national research organisations.

The selection of French experts for a peer evaluation process with Hcéres is in line with the discipline of the study programmes and research units or the profile of the higher education institution and research organisation.

Whether the process concerns an institution or a study programme, Hcéres offers a service to the foreign institutions that request it, which consists of three main phases: an exploratory mission, a peer evaluation phase including a site visit, and an accreditation phase. The whole process takes 8 to 12 months.

PRELIMINARY MISSION

Definition of the expectations of the evaluated entity and familiarisation with its context

1. The Hcéres representatives carry out an on-site visit to meet the stakeholders who may be involved in the evaluation process.
2. A bilateral agreement is drawn up and finalised between Hcéres and the evaluated entity.



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EVALUATION PHASE

Evaluation of the evaluated entity: strengths, weaknesses and recommendations

1. Drafting of a self-evaluation report by the evaluated entity using the Hcéres tools and evaluation standards.
2. Formation of a panel of 4 to 6 experts to evaluate the entity, based on criteria of professionalism, independence and ethics.
3. On-site visit of 2 to 4 days to meet all stakeholders.
4. Drafting of the first version of the evaluation report and a proposal for accreditation by the expert panel.
5. Correction of any factual errors and observations by the entity.

ACCREDITATION PHASE

Issue of the Hcéres label

1. The Accreditation Commission examines the final evaluation report and the accreditation proposal.
2. The Accreditation Commission then takes a decision:
 - a five-year accreditation decision;
 - a three-year accreditation decision with conditions: the recommendations must be taken into account by the entity which can be granted an extension of the accreditation for two additional years;
 - an accreditation refusal.
3. Drafting and publication of the final accreditation decision on the Hcéres website and on the European Register for Quality Assurance (EQAR).

THEY HAVE TRUSTED US



INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION

+ 30 higher education institutions evaluated/ accredited

+ 200 study programmes accredited

WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF THE HCÉRES LABEL ?

It contributes to the internationalisation of higher education institutions and to facilitates new academic and scientific collaborations.

It builds trust among partners and stakeholders (ministry, embassy, companies...).

It supports the continuous improvement of higher education institutions through a diagnosis and recommendations made by experts.

It complies with the Standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area.

enqa.

eqar
European Quality Assurance
Register for Higher Education

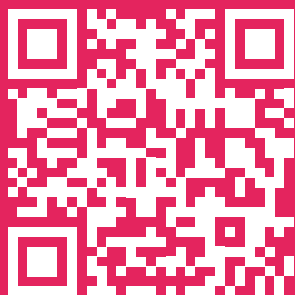


SOME EXAMPLES



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