



Exploring the Challenges of Permeability: EQF-5 and Higher Levels (Higher Education and Higher VET)

9 –10 December 2019, MCAST, MALTA



In this memo you will find further practical information about the conference. The most recent version of the program is also included, with a list of the workshops and the sessions on Monday afternoon.

The number of participants in the conference is around 65, from 11 countries. With that it can be reassured that it is a widely supported event.

In the past period you have been able to read information about a number of sub-themes in the memos. It is about the possibilities within the system from level 5 to ensure learning paths with the need to ensure a clear 'permeability' from one qualification to another – having all kinds of transitions in mind.

That is why we will focus on both days on a number of relevant examples and best practice during the conference. This is in line with the proposal to establish a system for tertiary education, with a subdivision of qualifications into three sub-sectors: HE, VPE and BPT. See the document attached again.

It is up to you and all other participants to assess their usability and effectiveness, partly on the basis of the key issues and the topics of the workshops and plenary presentations. It certainly promises to be an event with a very interesting exchange of thoughts, experiences and opinions!

Welcome to Malta, at MCAST!

PRACTICAL ISSUES

We will go through a number of practical matters about the conference with you.

Buses to and from MCAST

Based on the inventory of the hotels, apartments and other accommodation options, the organization has concluded that it is not wise to have a separate bus. That would cause too many problems with the boarding points and the route the bus has to take.

We know that there is sufficient public transport in Malta. You can also take taxis to MCAST if you are with a group. In addition, we know that a number of participants have rented a car, so a number of parking spaces have been reserved for us on campus.

If you want to arrange the transfer from your room to MCAST by public transport, you can find information about this at: <https://www.publictransport.com.mt/>

MCAST - Lourdes Bus Stop: 1, 2, 3, 4, 81, 82, 83, 84, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 120, 121, 204, 206, 213, X2, X3

Pedestrian Access to the Campus is through Cooradino Hill.

e-Cabs

Another option is e-Cabs which are very easy to book and economic to use.

https://www.ecabs.com.mt/?gclid=CjwKCAiA8ejuBRAaEiwAn-iJ3uChgDxXu14-AsYVJkPNnMUpCyfn4GBn1t_PNrtfEEHI_lhKMzGJeRoCyW4QAvD_BwE

Buses from MCAST to dinner and back to Valletta and hotels

On Monday there is a bus that takes the participants (if they are not with their own car) from MCAST to the dinner after the afternoon program.

After dinner, the bus goes back to Floriana/Valletta (in front of Phoenicia Hotel) at 22.00

As mentioned, a number of colleagues also have access to a (rental) car, also from Kalkara, among others. We can also use them.

Bus after the conference

After the conference on Tuesday there is a bus to take participants who want to, from MCAST to Valletta at 13.00.

Free wifi available

The details for the Wi-Fi:

Wi-Fi name: MCAST_CONFERENCE

Password: welcometomcast19

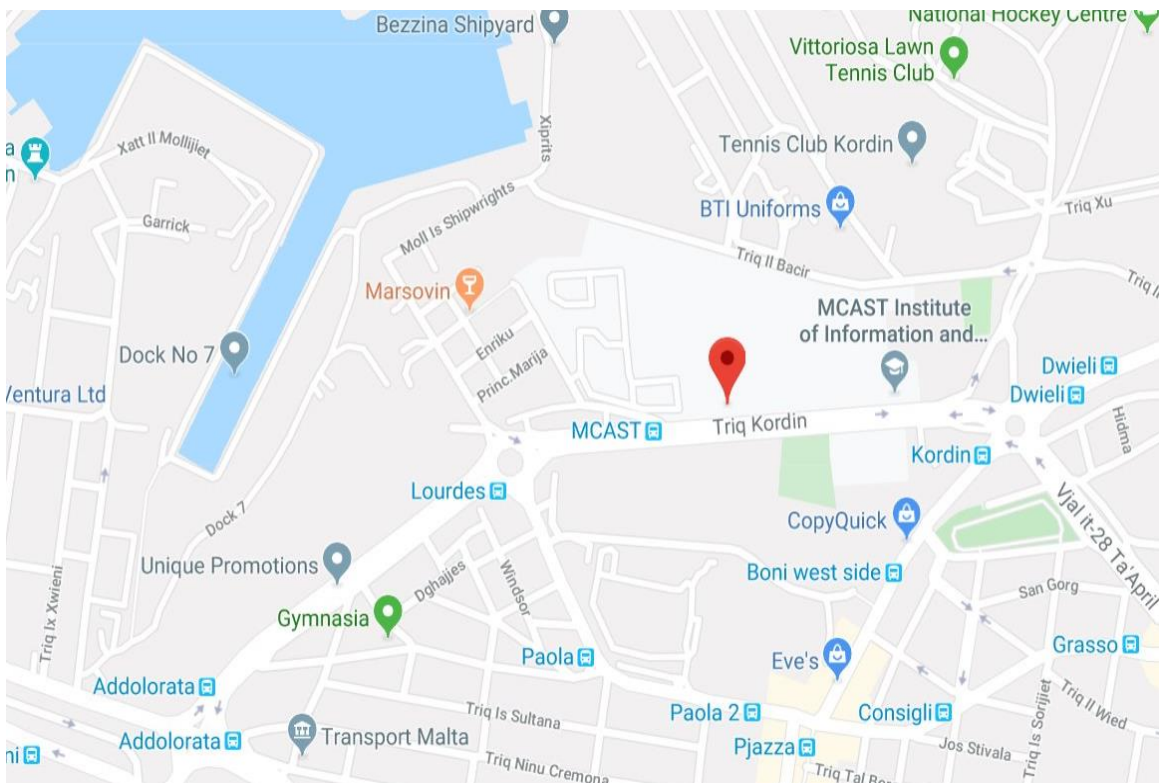
Parking spaces

There are parking spaced for those who are coming by car.

Entrance to the car park is through Triq il-Bacir (Gate 3).

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Triq+il+Bacir,+Ra%C4%A7al+%C4%A0did/@35.8776144,14.5064478,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x130e5adcc1f81b0b:0xd0636a8a80dfb68b!8m2!3d35.8776101!4d14.5086365>

You will need to follow the signs to the Administration Block (Block C).



The MCAST Campus



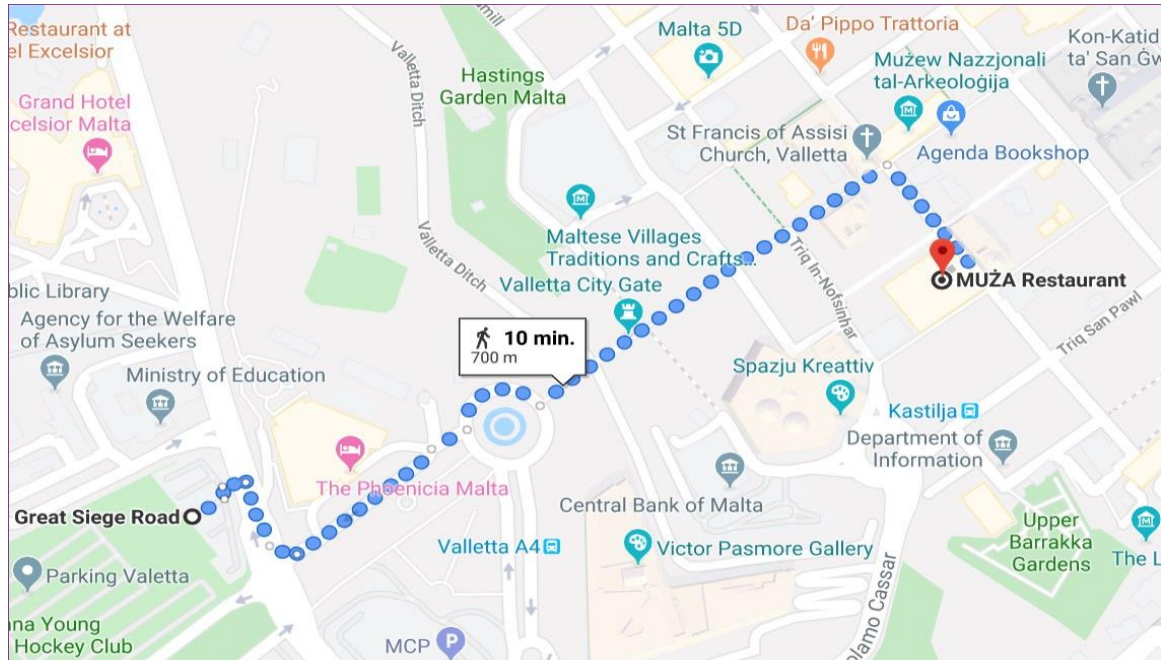
- Block A - Institute of Applied Sciences
- Block B - Institute of Business Management and Commerce
- Block C - Administration Building
- Block D - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Electrical Engineering)
- Block E - Library and Learning Resource Centre
- Block F - Institute of Community Services
- Block G - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Electrical Engineering)
- Block H - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Mechanical Engineering)
- Block I - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Aircraft Maintenance)
- Block J - Lower Gym
- Block K - Institute of Community Services
- Block L - Institute of Information and Communication Technology
- Block M - Institute of Information and Communication Technology
- Block N - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Building and Construction)
- Block U - Magic Wonders Childcare Centre
- Block S - Students' House

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- Block H - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Mechanical Engineering)
- Block I - Institute of Engineering and Transport (Aircraft Maintenance)
- Block J - Lower Gym

DINNER SUNDAY EVENING

If you have signed up for dinner on Sunday evening, you are welcome at the following restaurant between 6:30 am and 7:00 am: MUZA Restaurant, Auberge D'Italie, Valletta, Malta.

If you come by car: You can enter Valletta through St Paul's Street (near Castille) and park on the streets. But it would make more sense to park the car in the public spaces near Phoenicia (Floriana) and have a nice walk into Valletta.



DINNER MONDAY EVENING

The address for the dinner is (if you are going by car...): ITS Block A, Aviation Park, Aviation Avenue, Hal Luqa LQA, 9023, Malta



GUIDED TOUR

There is a bus that takes the participants in the guided tour from MCAST to Valetta. The bus leaves at 1pm and the tour finishes at 4pm.

WORKSHOPS

On Monday afternoon there is first a round with five workshops. It presents examples of flexible learning paths within the proposed system, cooperation between the institutions involved and the role that organizations, networks and platforms can play in shaping 'full permeability'.

The crucial aspects of the subject will be discussed, with the possibility to ask questions about this and to obtain further information. You can register for one of the workshops on Monday morning.

The maximum per workshop is 15 people, in order to guarantee an interactive approach.

#	Topic	Contributor
1	The need for having procedures for permeability between a VET College and a Higher Education Institute: a good practice from Malta	Suzanne Gatt, University of Malta
2	Using professional qualifications for designing level 5 programmes: the procedure that is needed at the national level	Jo Baeyens, Flanders, Belgium
3	Level 5 Colleges to facilitate the learning pathway from level 4 to level 6 – and the role of the world of work in this	Roland van der Poel, Herman den Heeten, AAAd Roosendaal, the Netherlands
4	Higher Vocational Education in Norway: role of the world of work and the need for qualifications at level 5 and also higher	Knut Erik Beyer-Arnesen, Abelia, Norway
5	A bridge to success - sharing of examples and ideas on successful co-creation and harmonisation of education at different levels	Marjolein van der Moolen, Dick Wielenga, Marjolein Bijlsma-Muusse, NHL-Stenden, the Netherlands

SESSIONS

After the workshops there is the possibility to discuss the most important features of the same topic in a session. That means that the participants in the session can give their own examples. They can also indicate what is going on in their own country, in a positive and possibly negative sense.

In this way it can become clear whether the subject as such is a good example to further initiate broad discussion at the international level about a system for tertiary education, that is to say the qualifications at 5 and higher. That could mean that such subjects can find a place in it.

The participants can also indicate whether they want to play a role in the process concerning such a topic.

Two topics have been added for this round of sessions. This also concerns the role that international organizations such as EfVET and CHAIN5 can play. The usability of the proposed tertiary education system with three sectors can also be examined.

You can therefore make a new choice for one of the sessions. But as mentioned, you can also 'stay put in the same group', but if you would like to discuss a second topic, this is possible in this way.

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1	The need for having procedures for permeability between a VET College and a Higher Education Institute: a good practice from Malta	Suzanne Gatt, University of Malta
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6	The need for strong qualifications in Vocational-Professional Education and the role of providers – also in an international context	MCAST representative
7	An international recognised transparent system for the higher levels: what is the importance for the national system?	Hans Daale, CHAIN5

PROGRAMME

Monday 9th December

- 09:00 – 09:30 Registration and coffee
- 09:30 – 10:15 Opening / Welcome addresses
CHAIN5 – Hans Daale
EfVET/ MCAST – Prof James Calleja
Minister of Education and Employment – Hon. Evarist Bartolo
- 10:15 – 10:30 Introduction to the theme and the aims of the conference – based on recent developments
Roland van der Poel, Chain 5
- 10.30 – 11.15 A proposal for a model, including three sectors at the tertiary level – looking at the role of the EQF
Hans Daale, CHAIN5
- 11.15 – 11.40 Coffee break
- 11.40 – 12:15 The role of the EQF in making the system at the tertiary level more transparent
- *General introduction, Hans Daale, CHAIN5*
- *Developments in Norway in HE and VPE, Knut Erik Beyer-Eriksen, Abelia*
- 12:15 – 12:30 Short introductions – concerning the key-issues and the workshops
- 12:30 – 13:45 Lunch
- 13:45 – 14:40 Thematic Workshops – using the key-issues (round 1)
- 14:40 – 14:50 Short break
- 14:50 – 15.45 Roundtable sessions – using the key-issues (round 2)
- 15.45 – 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:00 – 16:20 Plenary: a student's vision of the theme of the conference
Ms Rachel Ann Borg – MCAST Student
Ms Diana Meli – MCAST Student
- 16:20 – 17:00 Plenary: reporting of the workshops and sessions – input for day 2
Moderation: CHAIN5
- 17:30 Transport to the Institute for Tourism Studies
- tour and dinner
- 22:00 Transport back to Valetta

Tuesday 10th December

- 08:30 – 09:00 Registration and coffee
- 09:00 – 09:10 Welcome
- 09:10 – 10:00 The challenges... seen from a Maltese perspective...
Institute of Tourism Studies – Dr Glen Farrugia
MCAST – Ms Edel Cassar
University of Malta – Prof Tanya Sammut Bonnici
- 10:00 – 10:50 Roundtable sessions: The way forward... what's next...
Using the outcomes and recommendations from day 1
- 10:50 – 11:05 Coffee break
- 11:05 – 11:35 Plenary: Reflections from an observer and feedback of the delegates
- 11:35 – 12:15 Plenary: Conclusions, recommendations...
- 12:15 – 12:30 Closing of the conference
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:00 – 16:00 Option: Guided Visit to Valetta

KEY-ISSUES FOR THIS CONFERENCE

- How can qualifications be linked to each other for permeability between the two sectors, at the levels 5 and higher of the EQF (and the national frameworks):
 - Higher Education
 - Vocational Education (Vocational and Professional Education - also known as Higher VET)?
- How can we promote cooperation for learning pathways where institutions from those different sectors are involved, and how can they be filled in correctly?
- What is the role of the business community in promoting flexible learning pathways that are making use of both sectors?
- Is there a strong need for 'international common names' for qualifications in both sectors, to make the whole system for level 5 and higher levels more transparent for the stakeholders?
- Can common guidelines be drawn up for a strong approach to permeability procedures between the two sectors, to the benefit of students and adult learners?
- What can be the role in all this of the international associations and networks for both sectors, to initiate a process for this, and who can contribute to such an initiative?