

NVAO accredits first transatlantic joint degree in Flanders

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 — The NVAO gives the College of Europe a green light to organize a new two-year joint degree 'Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs ' in cooperation with The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University (US). This joint programme allows students to specialize in Transatlantic Affairs and to gain international experience. After graduation they receive a joint degree from both institutions. It is the first time that the NVAO accredits a joint degree between a Flemish and an American institution. The accreditation is now submitted to the Flemish Government.

Each new degree programme in Flanders and the Netherlands must be accredited by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO). The assessment is based on three questions: Does the manner in which the curriculum is implemented enable students to attain the educational qualification? How does the programme intend to safeguard quality? How does the programme intend to assess whether the educational qualification has been attained?

The College of Europe applied to accredit the 'Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs' in cooperation with The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University (US). The NVAO now gives a green light to this joint degree. By doing so, the NVAO accredits for the first time a joint programme leading to the award of a joint degree between a Flemish and an American institution.

A joint degree involves a programme provided by a Flemish institution in conjunction with one or more Flemish or foreign higher education institutions, which leads to the conferral of a joint diploma. The collaborating institutions are jointly responsible for the programme and each collaborating institution provides a part of the programme. Students who enrol in the 'Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs ' will therefore join courses in Flanders as well as in the United States.



CONTACT US

Jasper Delanoy
communication Flanders
NVAO

Caroline Vandenbussche
communications officer
College of Europe

ABOUT NEDERLANDS-VLAAMSE ACCREDITATIEORGANISATIE (NVAO)

The Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders NVAO was established by the Dutch and Flemish governments as an independent accreditation organisation tasked with providing an expert and objective assessment of the quality of higher education in the Netherlands and Flanders.

The main tasks of NVAO are:

1. to assess and assure the quality of Dutch and Flemish higher education
2. promoting a culture of quality in higher education.

NVAO fulfills these tasks in an international perspective and in the context of the European Bologna process.

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+31 (0)70 312 2300