

Editorial

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Dear Readers

The first issue of a new publication is a remarkable step within an area of knowledge with relevant social and economic utility. Higher Education graduate employability is a subject which has been gaining notoriety in the past years but, considering its relevance to young students, families, companies and for the society in general, it lacks an international publication oriented exclusively for its scientific analysis. The challenge we propose is achievable and stimulating and it intends to alert the scientific community for the need to stimulate and promote these debates and issues which still in a considerable early stage and its presence is very much alive and present in national and European public policies. Its importance to strengthen the European higher education space, to create knowledge networks and to harmonize a common and proper labour market is essential so that the usage of public and private resources in Higher Education are valued and directed to the creation of jobs and networks of excellence and knowledge. Issue zero is focused mainly on the experience gained with the results of the EU financed 2012 project – FOLLOW: Promoting and monitoring graduate employability – this project supplied a set of strong leads and very useful and interesting outcomes. We can find in this issue articles more focused in the experience gained within the project, namely the Belgian point of view about employability promotion and monitoring actions which were identified as best practices by the FOLLOW consortium. It is very interesting to also verify the experience of a set of researchers who participated in the FOLLOW international seminar, held in Lisbon in 2012, and also authors of study financed by the Portuguese Higher Education Regulation Agency (A3ES) which intended to find the main trends in the employability of tertiary education graduates. In a more methodological approach we have the opportunity to take a tour to the 20 years of accumulated experience of IST in defining the best practices for the monitoring the situation and evolution of the professional path of graduates. Finally, and because it is important to have the view of the institutional/public entities, we have the former Portuguese secretary of state for Higher Education and one of the precursors of the bologna

process, Professor Pedro Lourtie, accepted the challenge to elaborate a review about Higher Education institutions and graduates competition, where one can clearly note the importance of keeping up with the evolution and changes of these issues and also the importance of promoting Higher Education graduate employability in a mitigated way between academia and employers. The next issue, to be published in early 2015 will be a very interesting challenge because it will be the first to be published in open access and therefore I call out to everyone who is interested in this domain to join us in this initiative and help us to build an excellence network.

Best regards.