



JOB PLACEMENTS ABROAD: Added Value or Added Work –Load

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Main Facts

- Higher education institution since year 2000
- About 8000 students and 600 teachers at present
- 42 study programmes organized in 8 academic divisions in the areas of social sciences, biomedicine, technologies, humanities and arts.
- Studies oriented towards PRACTICAL ACTIVITY
- Studies last from 3 to 4 years (120 national credits, 180 ECTS)
- Graduates obtain PROFESSIONAL BACHELOR degree
- Department of International Relations – 3 persons, project coordinators at the faculties

- Erasmus
- Nordplus
- Bilateral agreements
- Comenius (for future educators)

- 258 outgoing students (5.3% of full-time students)
- 141 outgoing Erasmus students
- 112 work placements abroad
- around 40 Erasmus placements (in 2009 -55, in 2010 -24)

- 177 incoming students
- 64 incoming Erasmus students

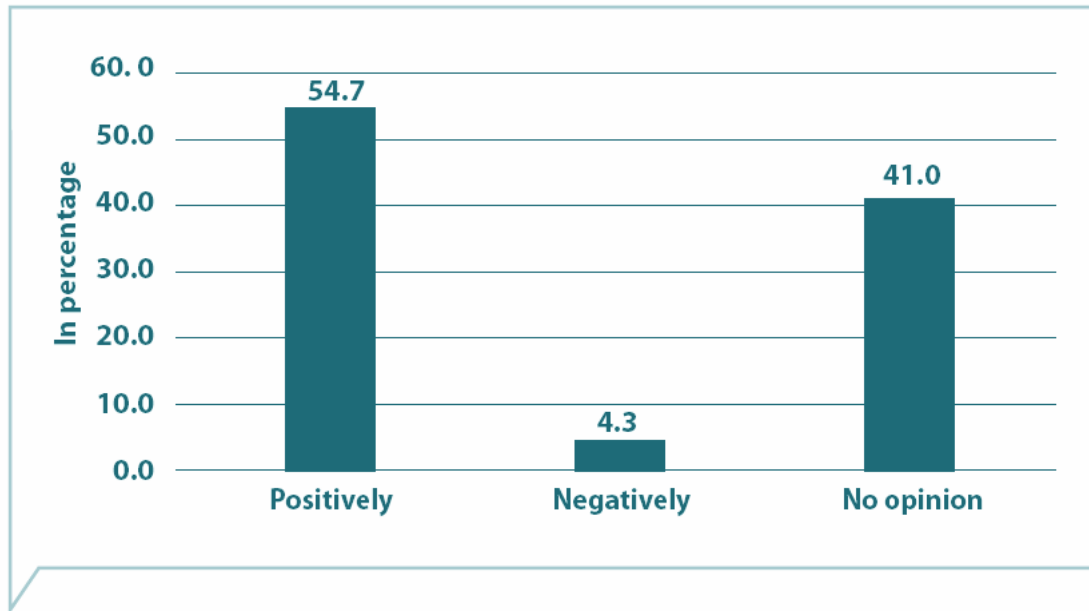
Challenges Met:

- Difficult to find the company
- Lack of motivation from students (www.eurostudent.lt)
- Timing (schedule of the study programmes, 3 months period)
- Finances
- Evaluation and documentation of the results
- **Is Erasmus placement really valued by the employer and how to measure it?** (when applying for the job, finding placements for incoming students, etc.)



Employer View on Student Mobility (1)

Assessing the mobility of higher education students and graduates

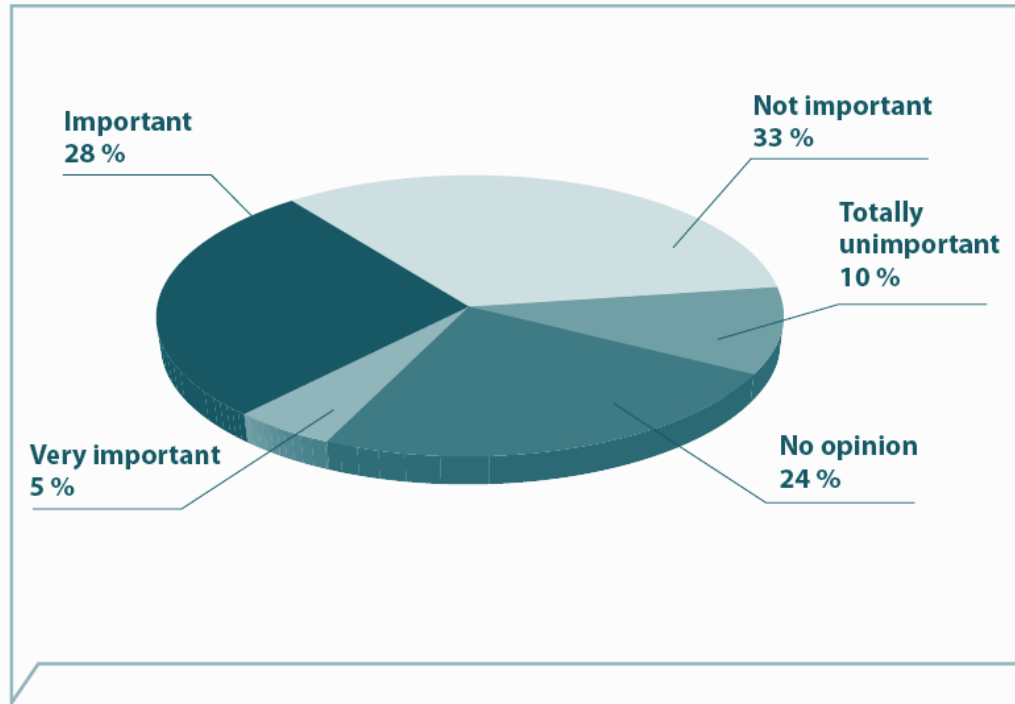


Employers' approach to changes in higher education taking place in Lithuania and Europe, ŠMPF, 2010



Employer View on Student Mobility (2)

Upon employing a person, it is important for the candidate to have experience in the professional field gained in foreign companies

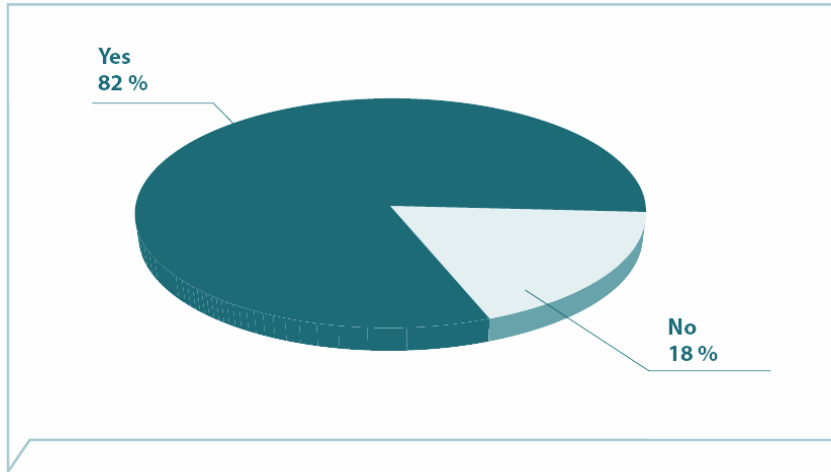


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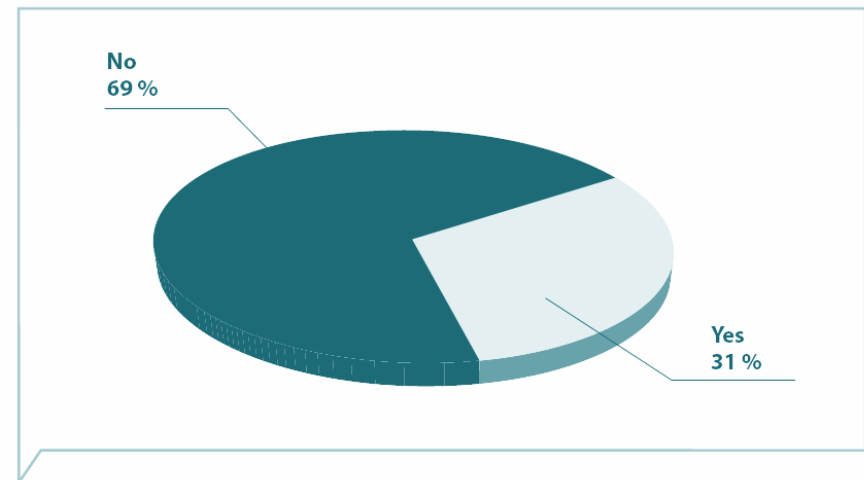


Arrangement of Practice Placements

Do employers arrange practice placements for students?



Do employers arrange practice placement for students from other EU member states?



Employers' approach to changes in higher education taking place in Lithuania and Europe, ŠMPF, 2010

What Are We Doing?

- Revision of the study programmes
- Partnership (Committees of study programmes; professional associations; employers; alumni)
- Evaluation and documentation
- Diaries of practical training (Health Care and Social Work study programmes)

Funded by Structural funds

- Development of Students Practical Skills in Hospitality Sector (coordinated by the Lithuanian Association of Hotels and Restaurants)
- Improvement of Practice for the Students of Printing and Publishing (coordinated by the Lithuanian Printers' association)
- Creation of the National System for International Students and Teachers Placements at Lithuanian Higher Education Institutions

Nordplus/Higher Education

- Industry Related Collaboration In Ekoteknord Network

Leonardo da Vinci Innovation Transfer Project (2008-2010)

- Compass: Occupation Oriented Definition and Documentation of Intercultural Skills Acquired In Job Placements Abroad

What is Compass?

The Compass Method is:

- to present and document the professional skills and competences acquired within the scope of a work placement abroad in a well structured manner;
- Is based on Compass Competence Chart;
- E-portfolio is created for the mobility participants , visualised in the “competence Radar”

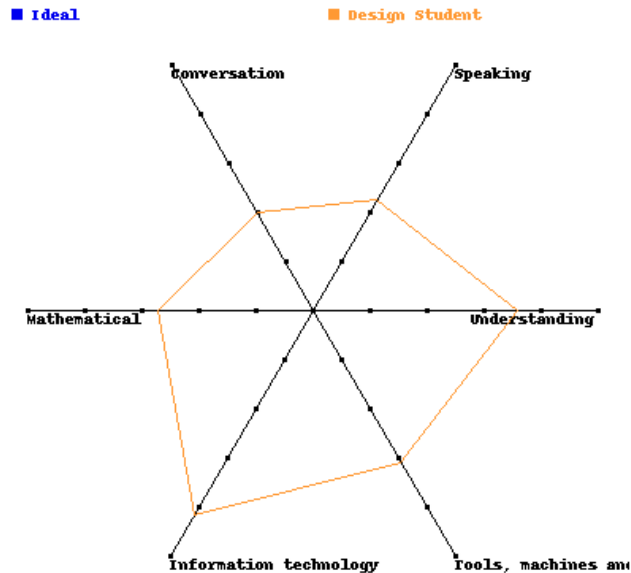
The Compass Tool (1)

A virtual meeting (website) between three parties: employer, participant and the institution which enables:

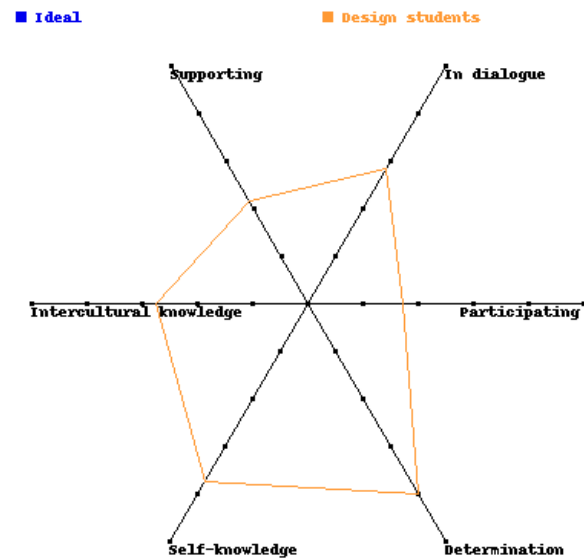
- *Initial contact* between participant and sending organisation – through the tool
- *Contact to the company* (or receiving organisation) – showing the portfolio
- *Agreement* showing initial competence level
- *Work placement- web log* during the placement
- *Certificate* showing achieved competences, learning outcomes, and statement from company

- Participants answer a questionnaire based on the can-do-descriptors (Competence radar)

Language and professional competences



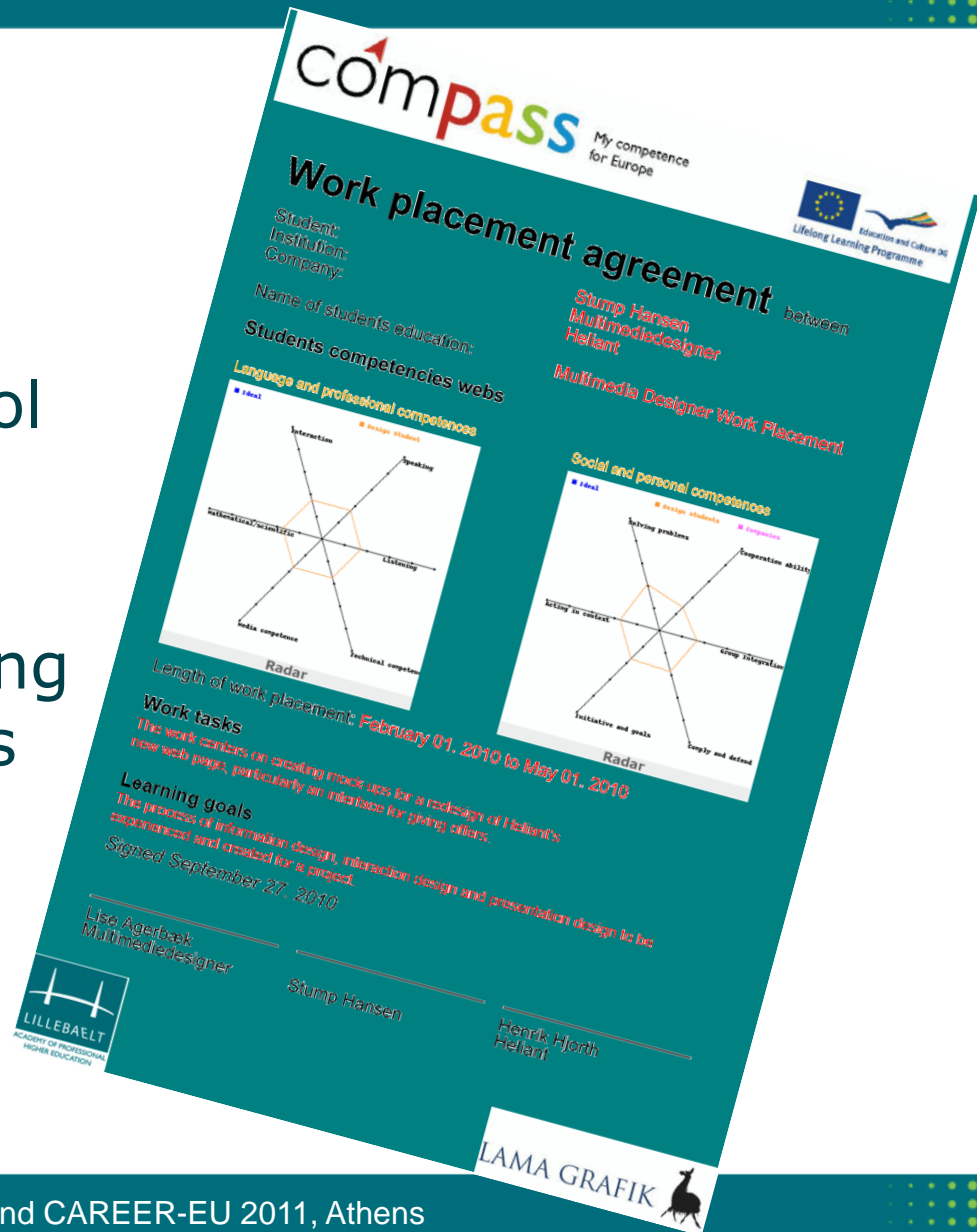
Social and personal competences



The Compass Tool (3)

Agreement at the start of placement

- Generated by the tool
- Shows the initial competence level
- describes the learning goals and work tasks



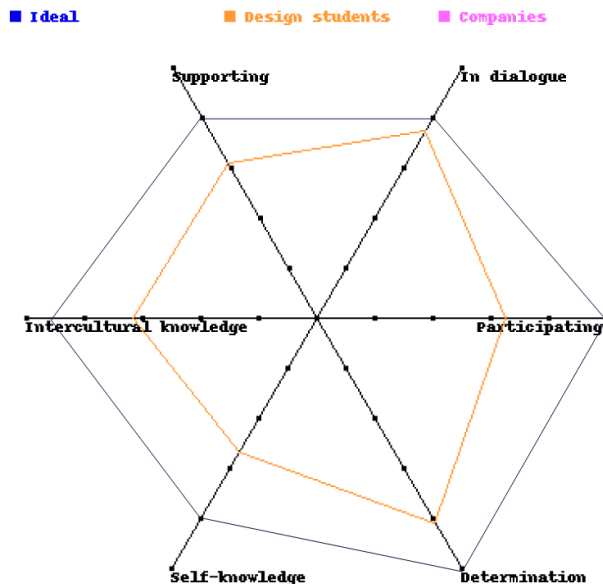
Weblog during internship

- The portfolio page allows for the student to write down his and her experiences in the work placement as it takes place.
- This gives the possibility of creating a diary
- Another way of documenting achieved competences.

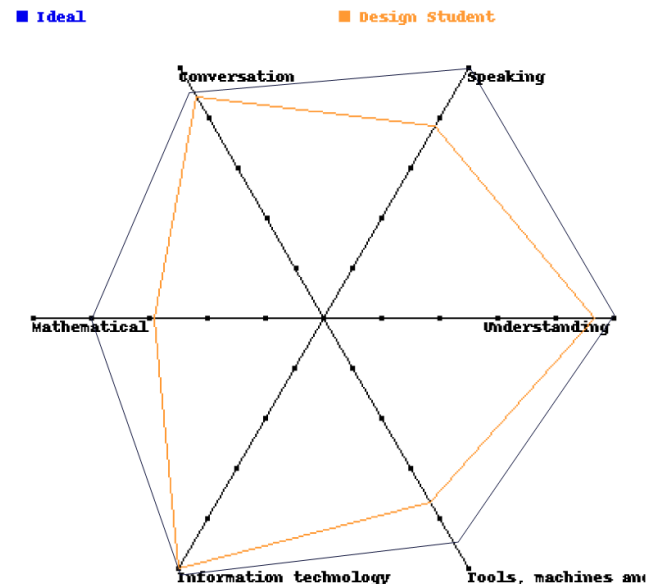
A second questionnaire at the end of the placement

- This enables a double radar

Social and personal competences



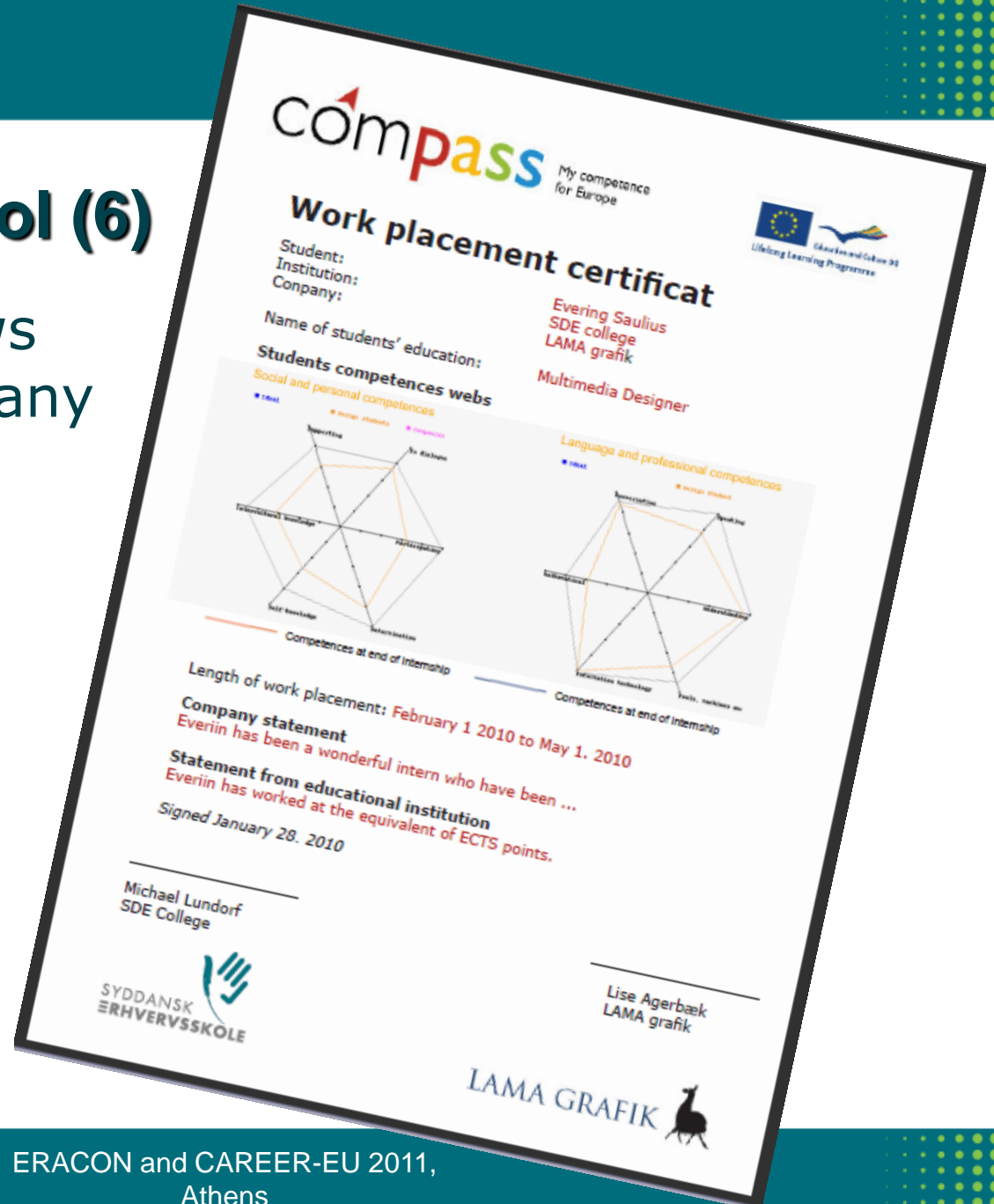
Language and professional competences



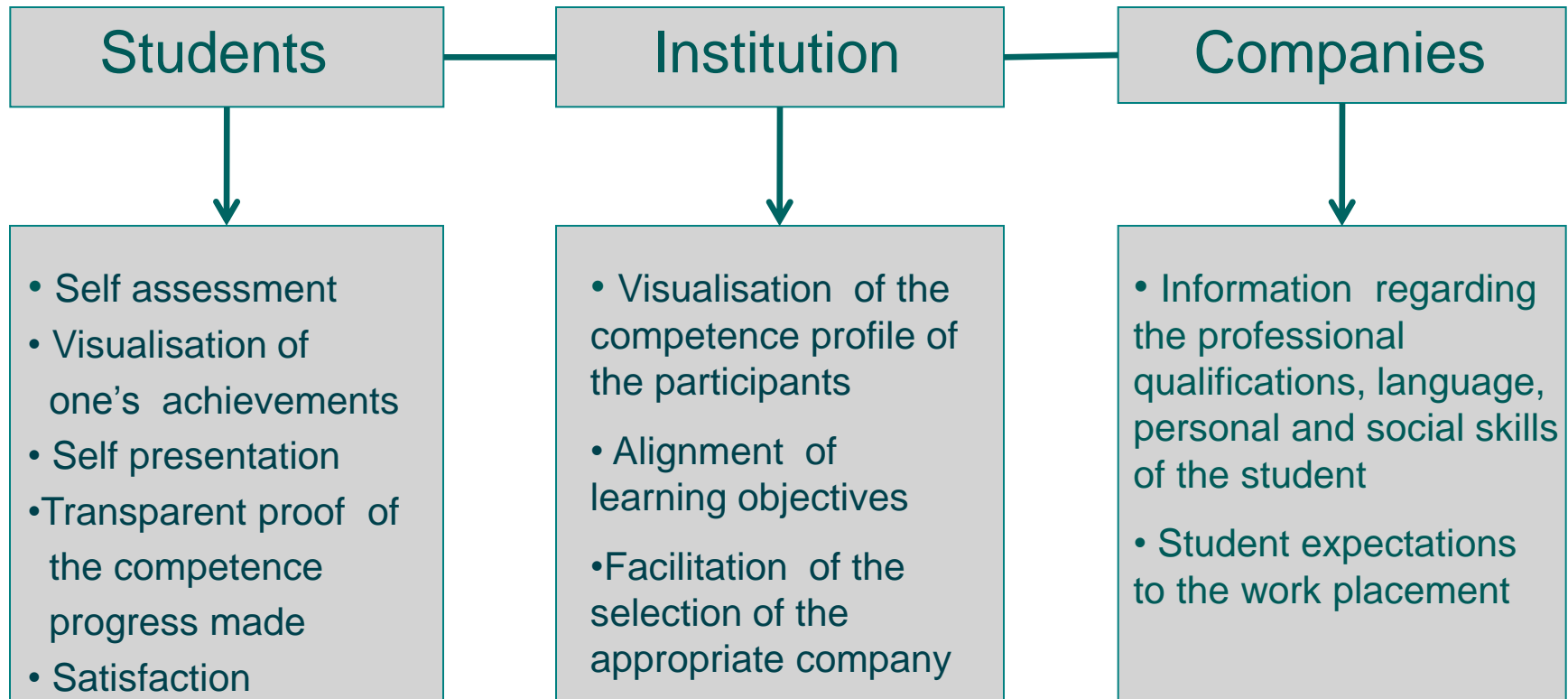
- Clear visual representation of achieved competences

The Compass Tool (6)

The Certificate shows radars, and company statement



Findings: Importance of Compass





„The more we share the more we have“
(Mohamed Mounir, Egyptian singer, author and actor (2007))



**sharing
diversity**
DEPARTMENT OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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