

Regulation of Master Degrees in Spain: University Diplomas and State Diplomas.

A Spanish and a regional view

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Pre-EHEA (until 2005)

Global view

- Spain is different!
- Europe recognizes Universities. Spain has a given list of state diplomas.
- Two levels of state diplomas: "Licenciado" and "Doctor".
- Spanish law allows other diplomas with names different enough as not to create confusion.

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Pre-EHEA (until 2005)

Global view

- Which is the difference between state and university diplomas?
- State diplomas are economically "sponsored" by the Ministry (students pay about 15-20% of total costs), while university diplomas have to be 100% financed by students.

Details on the pre-EHEA #1/3

State diplomas

- "Licenciado": usually 5 years (4 in Catalonia)
- "Doctor": organized in Doctoral programs
- Doctoral program: 3 periods (courses with a minimum length of 200 h + research work, 1 year + doctoral thesis, 3-4 years)

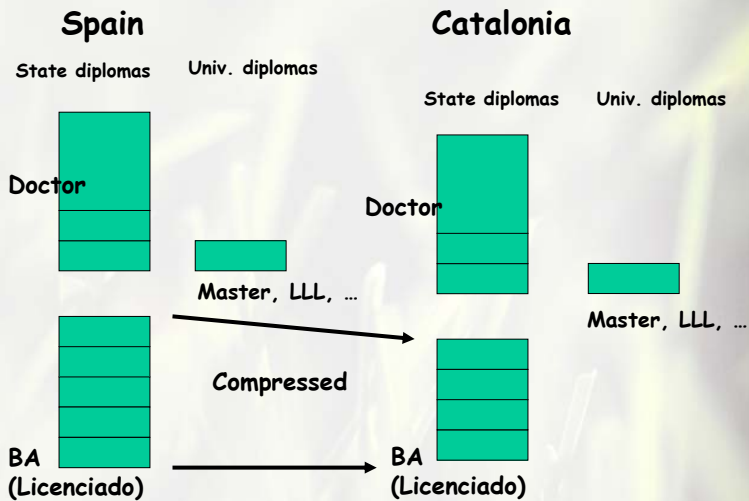
Details on the pre-EHEA #2/3 Spanish university diplomas

- Universities created their own Master degrees, as well as others (Expert, "Diploma de postgrado" - shorter- or others)
- Master: usually professionally oriented and compete with doctoral programs. Length and requirements should be thus similar, but... differences exist, they are much longer (>500 h).
- Expert: Definitely professionally oriented. Much shorter than the Master degree (<200 h).

Details on the pre-EHEA #3/3 Regional view on university diplomas

- Catalan universities created: Master, "Diploma de postgrado" and other degrees
- Master: Minimum 32 credits (1 cr. = 10 h lectures).
- "Diploma de postgrado": Minimum 20 credits.
- Others: much shorter in length.

Schematic situation pre-EHEA



Post-EHEA (from 2005)

Global view

- Three levels of official diplomas: "Grado", "Máster Universitario" and "Doctor".
- Spanish law also allows other diplomas with names different enough as not to create confusion.
- Spain is still different! The "Grado" is 4 years (in most European countries is 3 years).

Details on the post-EHEA #1/2

State diplomas

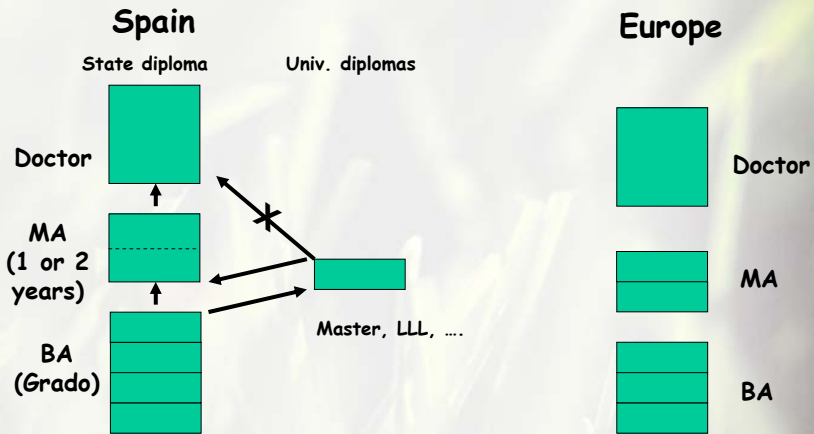
- "Grado": 4 years
- "Máster Universitario": 1 or 2 years
- "Doctor": very flexible
- No given list of state diplomas, neither for "Grado" nor for "Master Universitario" (universities will become different!)

Details on the post-EHEA #2/2

University diplomas

- Universities continue with their own Diplomas: Master, Expert, "Diploma de postgrado" and others)
- Problem! Spanish law forbids the use of university diplomas to enter into Doctor level
- Problem: Lifelong learning, "in and out" from academia.

Schematic situation post-EHEA



Thank you very much for your attention