Intercultural Competence for International Academic Cooperation in Legal Education

Dr. Juan J. Garcia Blesa
Senior Research Associate
EDELNet Graduate School Coordinator
FernUniversität in Hagen
EDELNet Partnership Goal

MAIN GOAL: “to further cultural exchange & best practices in legal education”

LLB, LLM, PhD → common teaching, training, research activities

TWO TRANSVERSAL PRINCIPLES

1. Cross-cultural awareness
2. Blended student-centred teaching
EDELNet Internationalization Concept

- “... internationalization cannot be based on mobility only. It must also promote the comprehensive and purposeful competence to deal with cultural diversity.”
  
  E. Bosse (2010)

- Management of impact of cultural differences on organization and implementation of activities → combat stereotypes (!)
EDELNet as a target group

- Special type of mobility
- Law learning group
- Students and staff (academic and not academic)
EDELNet ICC Training Model

- SC Blended learning – online and f2f trainings
- Fluid model of culture
- Method – No inductions for lawyers + simulations (!!)
- Self-culture awareness
- ICC as COMPETENCE requiring permanent training
Relevant dimensions of the experience for the EDELNet Partnership

- Central dichotomy in academic cooperation
  - What is the main goal of the cooperation?
  - Orientation towards result vs. collective relation (face-keeping, etc.)

- Other relevant dimensions for team-work:
  - Communication styles
  - Hierarchical vs. horizontal participation
  - Time perception