



AGENCIA NACIONAL DE EVALUACIÓN
DE LA CALIDAD Y ACREDITACIÓN

Strategic Reformulation of ANECA

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Spanish National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ANECA), a state foundation, was created on 19 July 2002 to comply with Spain's Law of Universities 6/2001 of 21 December 2001, with the mission of contributing to the improvement of the higher education system's quality through the assessment, certification and accreditation of institutions, teaching staff and studies.

Subsequently, with the passing of Law 4/2007 of 12 April 2007 amending Law 6/2001 (LOMLOU), the transformation of ANECA was authorized, in accordance with the provisions of the Law of State Agencies for the improvement of public services, with the functions it has been performing up until now in its legal capacity as a foundation.

To the legal and organizational change brought about by the new Law has to be added the heavy impact of the LOMLOU regulations' application to the activities of ANECA, with the passing of decrees relating to the new organization of studies (Royal Decree 1393/2007 of 29 October 2007) and the accreditation of state-employed lecturers (Royal Decree 1312/2007 of 5 October 2007), which have impinged on the major part of ANECA's new activities in the last year.

All the far-reaching changes being embarked upon by the Agency have led it to reflect on ANECA's strategy for avoiding imbalances between the rapid evolution of external demands and its capacity to adapt. Thus, the Agency has reviewed its Strategic Plan 2010 so as to adapt it to the new functions entrusted to it by the legislation.

2. REFORMULATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The new version of ANECA's Strategic Plan has been drawn up on the basis of the ANECA Strategic Plan for 2010 and the conclusions of the Management Committee after several days of reflection; in addition, an analysis was made of the degree of execution of the previous Plan, the different action plans undertaken by ANECA and the Agency's information and documents.

The Strategic Plan's reformulation starts with a new ANECA **mission and vision**.

MISSION



To provide the university system with an external quality guarantee and to contribute to its constant improvement.

VISION



ANECA's aim is to be recognized as a national and international point of reference for the Higher Education system's quality assurance, generating credibility and confidence in its usefulness, transparency, efficacy and flexibility.

2.1. Strategic and General Objectives

Objective 1

To guarantee and develop study assessment, verification and accreditation processes leading to official qualifications in addition to the assessment and accreditation of university lecturers.

1. To act with autonomous responsibility and transparency in the establishment of assessment criteria and procedures and the notification of results.
2. To establish efficient mechanisms for guaranteeing the assessed agents.

Objective 2

To contribute to the constant improvement of the university system's quality with autonomous responsibility in its working, heeding the action criteria used in similar institutions within the international sphere.

3. To adapt the programmes and services to the needs of the agents involved, in the light of the needs detected during the assessment and accreditation processes.
4. To introduce innovations in programmes and activities, based on an evaluation of their application, observation and participation in the introduction of better international practices, identifying the interest groups' requirements and expectations.

Objective 3

To act as a source of accurate and reliable information on the university system's quality.

5. To provide useful information for decision-taking by the public powers, the universities and society in general.

Objective 4

To generate credibility and trust amongst all the agents involved.

6. To establish and maintain a clear and transparent relationship with regulators and other interest groups.
7. To establish mechanisms for co-operation and mutual recognition with the Spanish Autonomous Regions' assessment bodies created by Law and with the international agencies.
8. To intensify the international scope of ANECA's actions, with the aim of sharing know-how and learning from the best experiences.

9. To guarantee excellent accompanying communications on its programmes and services.

Objective 5

To have at its disposal an adequate organization for responding with quality, flexibility and efficacy to the functions required of it and the challenges posed.

10. To organize ANECA through an agile structure and processes with the support of information and communications technologies.
11. To develop an in-house human team and external collaborators.
12. To maintain compliance with the quality criteria and guidelines of the European Higher Education Area.
13. To be permanently accountable for ANECA's actions, procedures and results.
14. To guarantee that ANECA's actions will facilitate the Agency's adaptation to its future transformation into a State Agency, where applicable.