

# Post 16<sup>th</sup> EURASHE Roadmap for Croatia

Žarko Nožica, Ph. D.

The Council of Croatian Institutions of  
Higher Professional Education



# The roadmap

- Croatia and The Region needs to reform its own higher education systems in order to create overall convergence at European level.
- To ensure meeting the Bologna and Lisabon recommendations and guaranteeing the quality of implementation of the relevant declaration, the reforms should be regulated by legislation and/or governmental action in relevant areas of their higher education systems.

# The Roadmap

- The action programme set out in declarations is based on a clearly defined common goal for Croatia: To create a European space for higher education by the year 2010, defined by a set of specified objectives.

# Recommendations for the implementation of objectives

- Bachelor's and master's degrees can be obtained at **Universities, Universities of Applied Sciences, as well as other higher education institutions.**
- Programs leading to a degree may, and indeed should, have different orientations and various profiles based on competencies in order to accommodate a diversity of individual, academic and labour market needs.

- For Croatia that has already declared binary (dual) system is a viable option.
- Independence and autonomy should be equally granted to all higher education institutions.
- Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences establishments should have the freedom to profile their own curricula, in accordance with the emerging post-Bologna environment and to independently decide in all strategic matters.

- Higher education should be offered in various separate but distinct types of institutions – Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences establishments.
- Both types of institutions, although different, should be considered equal in every aspect.
- Europe is targeting the approach “equal but different” hence no second class citizens.


- Traditional (academic) universities and Universities of Applied Sciences (like polytechnics) should have the same status in the educational system, both offering distinguished two-tier study programs with undergraduate and postgraduate levels and with an ECTS-compatible credit systems.
- Establishment of a system of credits - such as in the ECTS system - as a proper means of promoting the most widespread student mobility.

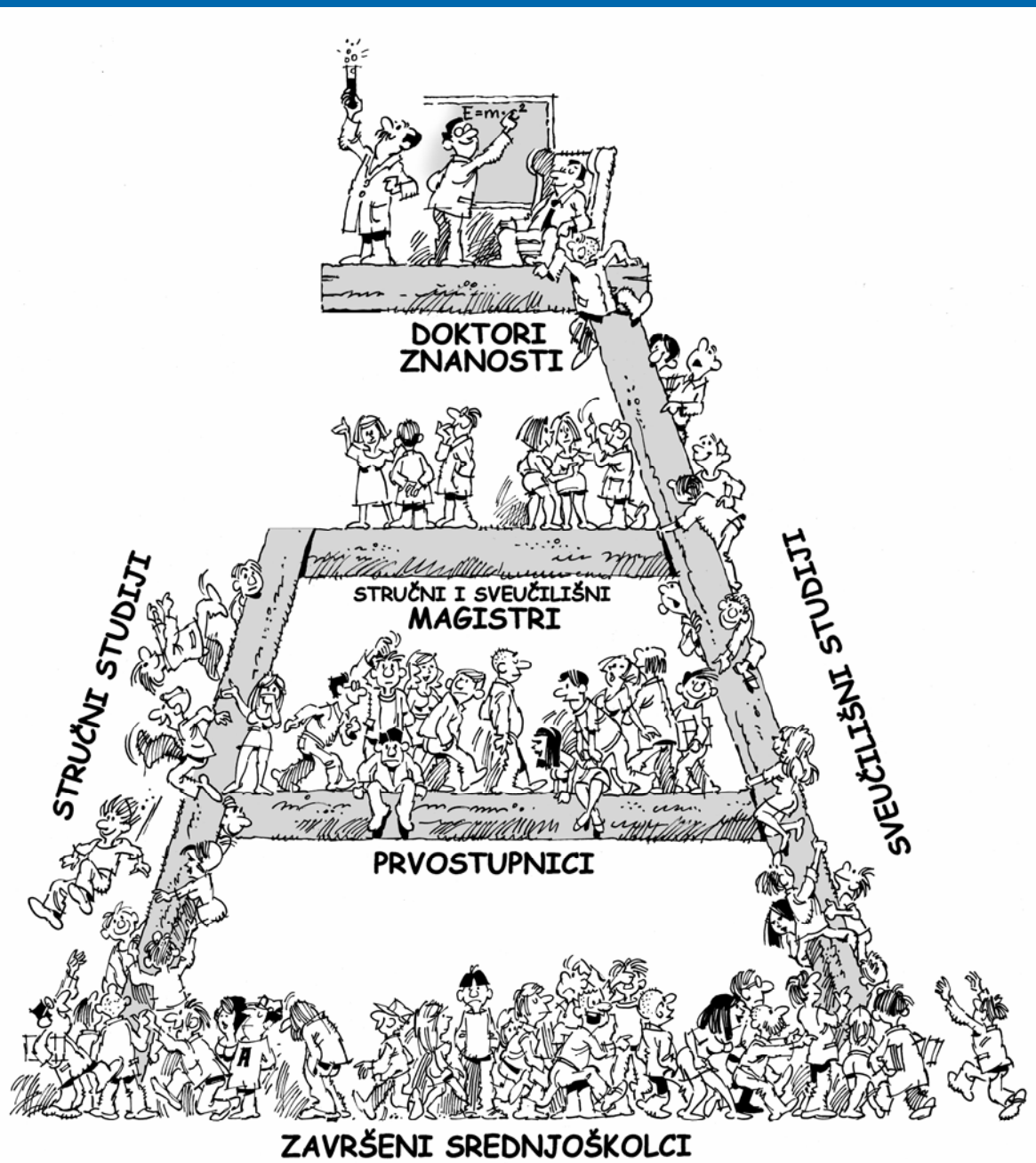
- Adoption of a common system of easily readable and comparable degrees in all higher education institutions, based on accumulated ECTS points, in order to promote European citizens employability and the international competitiveness of the European higher education system.
- Government support for Universities of Applied Sciences in: employment of new lecturers, in capital investments, and financial support of students.



- “Architects of the society to define for job processes a ratio of “conceptuals” vs “professionals”.
- Enrolments and the ratio of students graduating from Universities of Applied Sciences should be increased in order to invert the pyramid back to its base.

# Bologna Process Influenced Changes are for Good!

- Changes are good for us hence the optimistic tone of this presentation
  - It should help us rotate an inverted pyramid back from top to the base
  - It should increase the quality of our basic profile- a specialist and market value acceptance of our profiles.
  - So here is the concept ...
- 



➤ Thank you for coming to Croatia and sharing the best practices with us.