

## **The Evaluation Philosophy in Europe and the US: Which Way to Go?**

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Quality Assessment in Universities as an organized process is relatively new in Europe (about 30 years old). As many other aspects in education, it is centrally controlled, either by a state agency, or by an independent agency.

In the US on the other hand, the top institutions themselves understand the need to organize the evaluation process, mainly at the Institution level.

Lately, some international comparisons have generated an interest in the media and the public in general.

I will discuss my experiences from the early developments of quality assessment at a European level and the corresponding ones in some of the top US institutions, like Berkeley and Stanford. I will point out the strengths and weaknesses of the two approaches and I will present my thoughts as to which way is best for a country without a tradition in quality assessment like Greece.