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Abstract

Path dependence in the sense of governmental and institutional path development sheds light on evolutionary matters focused from the **past** perspective. Since economical and social matters cannot be judged in the **presence** concerning their potential of increasing path dependence, we just consider some peculiar governmental and institutional developments as risky non ergodic processes.

The Sorbonne and Bologna Declarations as well as the consequent next Conferences at Prag, Berlin, Bergen, London and Leuven introduced a path-trajectory in the educational system which turns out to be more or less irreversible. The costs which all the 29 States of the European Union (EU) afforded are in a way irreparably lost. There is no pay back possible in case that the implications of the Sorbonne and Bologna Declaration will not be realizable and viable.

Lecturers are chosen by the university management, but are not assigned to form an organizational structure. They are responsible for ‚Lehre and Forschung‘ - teaching and research - which means that organizational structures can be implemented by external executives and/or some specialists of the management board.

The view in the past - in the sense of historical matters - shows that after eleven years (from 1999 to 2010) two kinds of path dependences have arised:

- 1-- path of secretaries of education
- 2-- path of institutions of higher education: universities

Path 1 is dominant, path 2 subdominant or dependent. Or. 2 follows 1.

The evaluation and accreditation quality-system is in the hands of the secretaries of education. At least what concerns essential features (indicators) like duration of the study, modularity (credit points), comparability and equality. Execution and implementation is to be done by institutions like universities and universities of applied sciences. Path stabilisation is observed on level 1: secretaries of education and on level 2: universities. History matters - prove mandatory issues of the Conferences Bologna-Prag-Berlin-Bergen-London-Leuven. Critical juncture is evident, since accreditations are decreed by governmental instances. As long as academic freedom could be guaranteed, there was no risk of a **strong** path dependence. From the moment of decreed accreditations a critical juncture came up and inhibited sensefull bifurcations. Reinforcement behaviour on the level of secretaries of education has such a heavy weight that there is no chance of reversing the process. So we assume that there could emerge a lock-in after a couple of years. The results are a stabilisation of the decreed issues and hence hypereducation and a lack of innovative and exploratory attitude.