

DiEPSAm:

An ERASMUS+ funded Project on University Modules for

Public Sector Accounting in Europe

Dr. Ellen Haustein

PULSAR Meeting, Vienna / Austria, 12 December 2017

ACRONYM

DiEPSAm means

Misunderstanding: PSA in Europe ≠ EPSAS
BUT: State of the Art and Recent Developments

D eveloping and i mplementing	To do's
E uropean	Regional reference
P ublic S ector A ccounting	Object
m odules [and a complementary textbook]	Intellectual outputs

Outline

1

- Key facts

2

- Details on the modules

3

- Timeline & Dissemination

4

- Status Quo

5

- Future events

1 Key facts: Funding

- Funding body: **EU Erasmus+**
- Project duration: **35 months** (ending in August 2019)
- Maximum grant: **375,430 EUR**
- Project coordination: University of Rostock / Germany
- Consortium of **Five European universities**

1 Key facts: 5 Partners

Different PSA traditions



Lasse **OULASVIRTA**
University of Tampere



Andy **WYNNE**
University of Leicester

Ellen **HAUSTEIN** / Peter **LORSON**
University of Rostock



Susana **JORGE**
University of Coimbra

Dennis **HILGERS** / Lisa **SCHMIDTHUBER**
Johannes Kepler University of Linz



1 Key facts: 5 Partners...

5 different PSA traditions

Approaches to financial accounting in the partner countries

Level	UK	Austria	Portugal	Finland	Germany
Central government	Accrual	Accrual	Accrual	Accrual	Modified cash, option for accrual
Regional / state government	n/a	Diverse	n/a	n/a	Mainly cash, few accrual
Local government	Accrual	Diverse	Accrual	Accrual	Mainly accrual, few (modified) cash

1 Key facts: Support letters



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Directorate C: National accounts, prices
and key indicators

Task Force EPSAS

EGPA/IIAS
European Group
for Public Administration



GEAP/IISA
Groupe Européen
pour l'Administration Publique



STÄDTE- UND GEMEINDETAG
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN e.V.
KOMMUNALER SPITZENVERBAND ALLER STÄDTE UND GEMEINDEN



1 Key facts: Advisory Board

EU Improvement Goals	Advisory Board Members
Foreign language competences	Jürgen HANDKE Philipps University Marburg, Germany <div>e.g. Anglistics & Digital Learning</div>
Digital competences	Rui LOURENÇO University Coimbra, Portugal <div>e.g. E-Government</div>
Understanding and responsiveness to social, political, cultural diversity within the EU	Eugenio CAPERCHIONE University of Modena, Italy; CIGAR <div>e.g. Comparative International Governmental Accounting Research</div>
Positive attitude towards the EU and its values	Hanna SILVOLA Aalto University, Finland; EAA <div>e.g. European Accounting Association</div>
Opportunities for professional development	Thomas MÜLLER MARQUES-BERGER E&Y, Germany; ACE <div>e.g. Accountancy Europe</div>
	Alison SCOTT CIPFA, UK <div>e.g. Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy</div>

1 Key facts: Project outputs

Intellectual Outputs

No. 1:	University modules	
	Scalable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate (Bachelor's) and advanced (Master's) level • Ranging from 75 min. up to 6 ECTS (= 3 hours per week) 	Comprehensive materials - Ready to use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson plan • Slides, videos/podcasts, • Instructions, case study, exercises, essay subjects
No. 2:	Textbook „European Public Sector Accounting“	
	Comparative views of the partners' diverse national PSA traditions	

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2 Details on the modules: Structure

Topic Public Sector Accounting	No.	Preliminary module structure
Motivation	1	Introduction & glossary / outline
Development of PSA	2	History of PSA & alternatives
	3	Reasons for differences to the private sector
Accounting theory	4	Budgets and budgetary accounting
	5	Accounting principles and alternative frameworks in the PS
Harmonisation challenges	6	Challenge for harmonisation
IPSAS	7	IPSAS CF and view on selected national frameworks
	8	History, spread & use
	9	Introduction to IPSAS financial reporting and presentation
	10	Case study
Accounting cycle	11	Process of public sector reporting and auditing
Consolidated accounts	12	Consolidated financial statements
	13	Consolidation methods & reporting
Harmonisation perspectives	14	EPSAS: Outlook and challenges

2 Details on the modules: Level

BACHELOR → video-based

MASTER → inverted classroom

PILOTs WINTER TERM 2017 (6 ECTS): University of Rostock: Learning and Qualification Objectives (Competences) –

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCES

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of Public Sector and PSA• Understanding and assessment of different regimes (Cash- vs. Accrual; MSs vs. IPSAS; ...)• Reasons/need for PSA harmonisation• Knowledge on EPSAS (resp. Status quo) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for specific PSA regimes• Specific regimes' basics: understanding, application, PROs/CONs• Critical reflections on<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selected regimes• EPSAS project from different perspectives (EC, MS, etc.) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

SOFT SKILLS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital, media, language• Presentation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital, media, language• Presentation, moderation• Scientific discourse |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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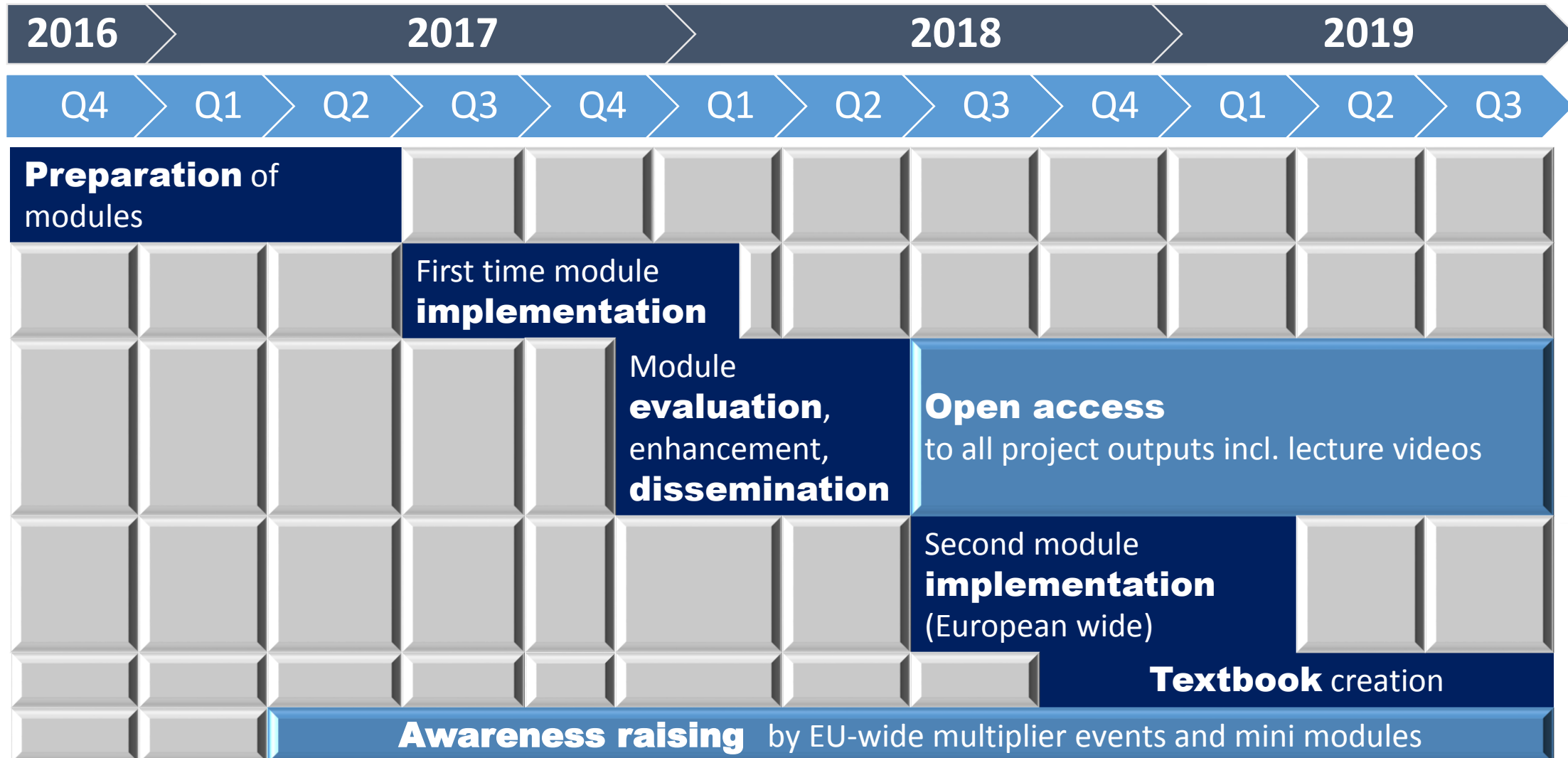
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3 Timeline & Dissemination



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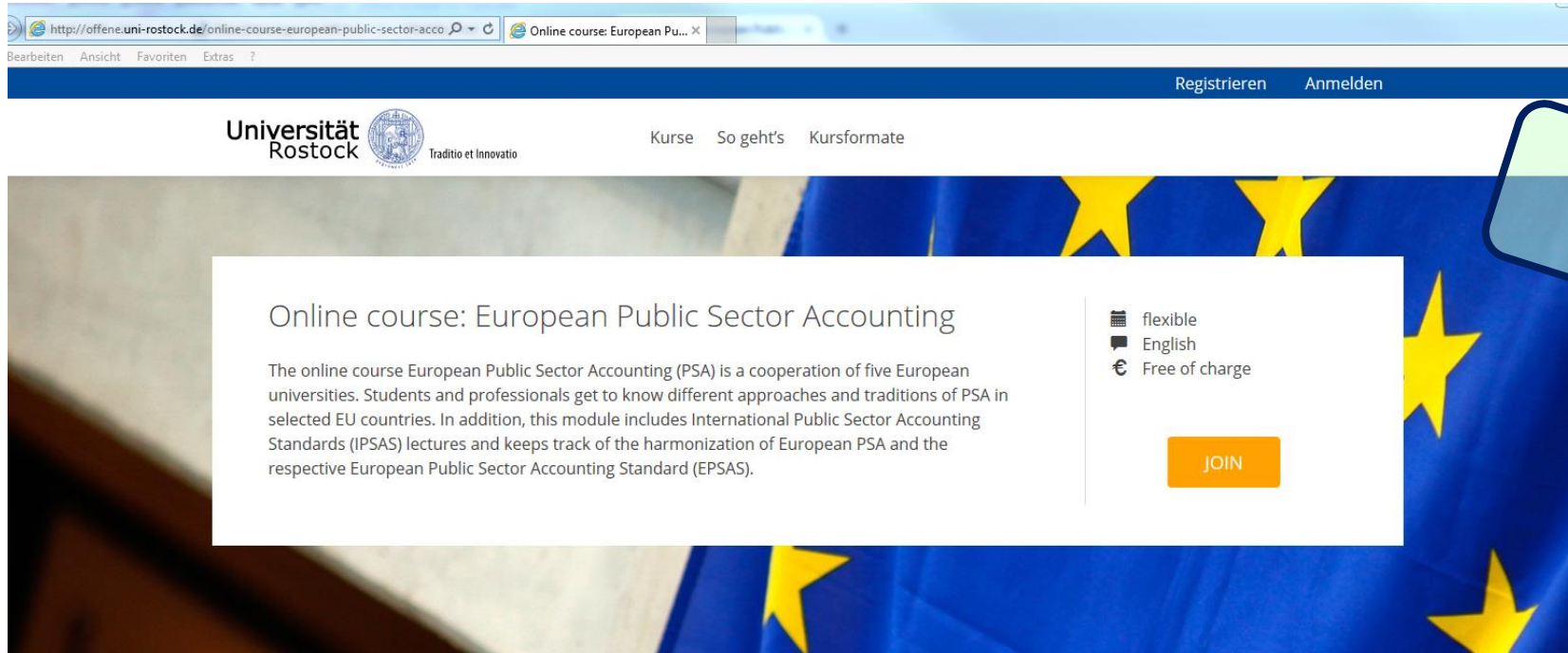
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- Status Quo

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- Future events

4 Status Quo: Online platform



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://offene.uni-rostock.de/online-course-european-public-sector-acco>. The page header includes the University of Rostock logo and navigation links: 'Kurse', 'So geht's', and 'Kursformate'. The main content area features a banner with a European Union flag background. On the left, the title 'Online course: European Public Sector Accounting' is displayed, followed by a description: 'The online course European Public Sector Accounting (PSA) is a cooperation of five European universities. Students and professionals get to know different approaches and traditions of PSA in selected EU countries. In addition, this module includes International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) lectures and keeps track of the harmonization of European PSA and the respective European Public Sector Accounting Standard (EPSAS)'. On the right, there are three icons with labels: a calendar for 'flexible', a speech bubble for 'English', and a Euro symbol for 'Free of charge'. Below these is an orange 'JOIN' button.

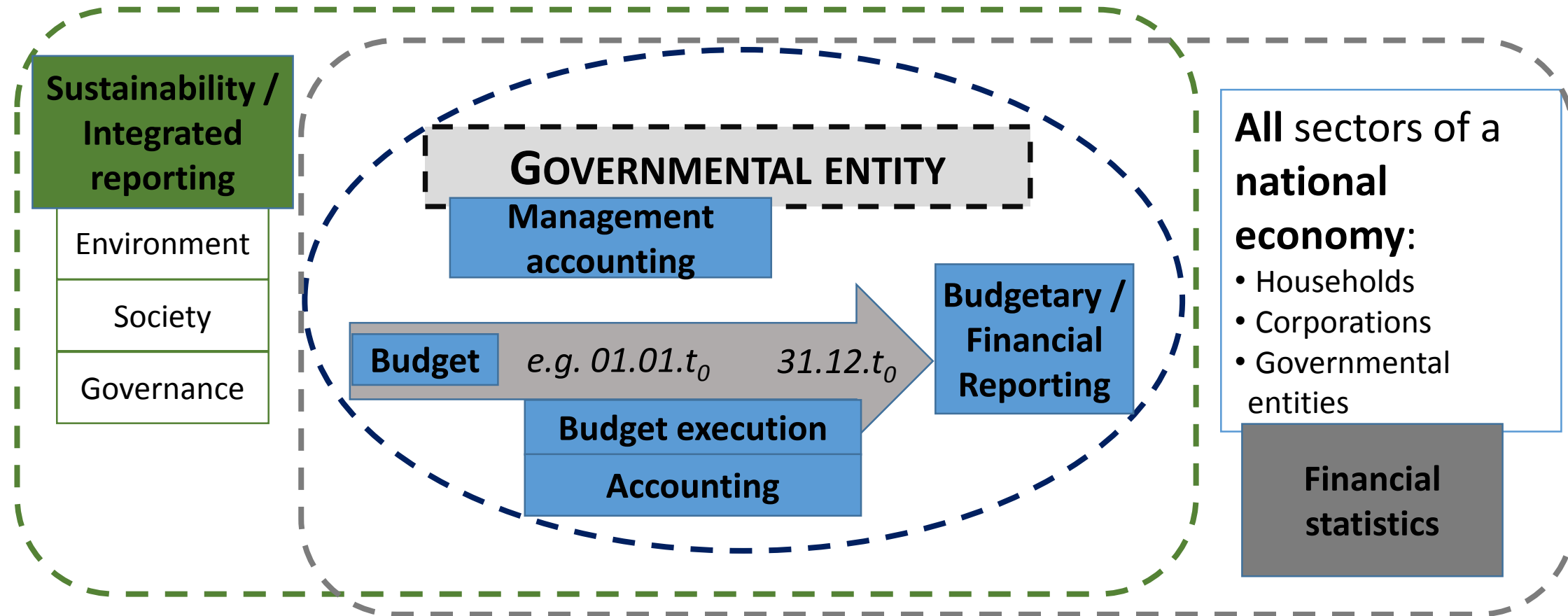
**Open access as of
October 2018**

Module contents

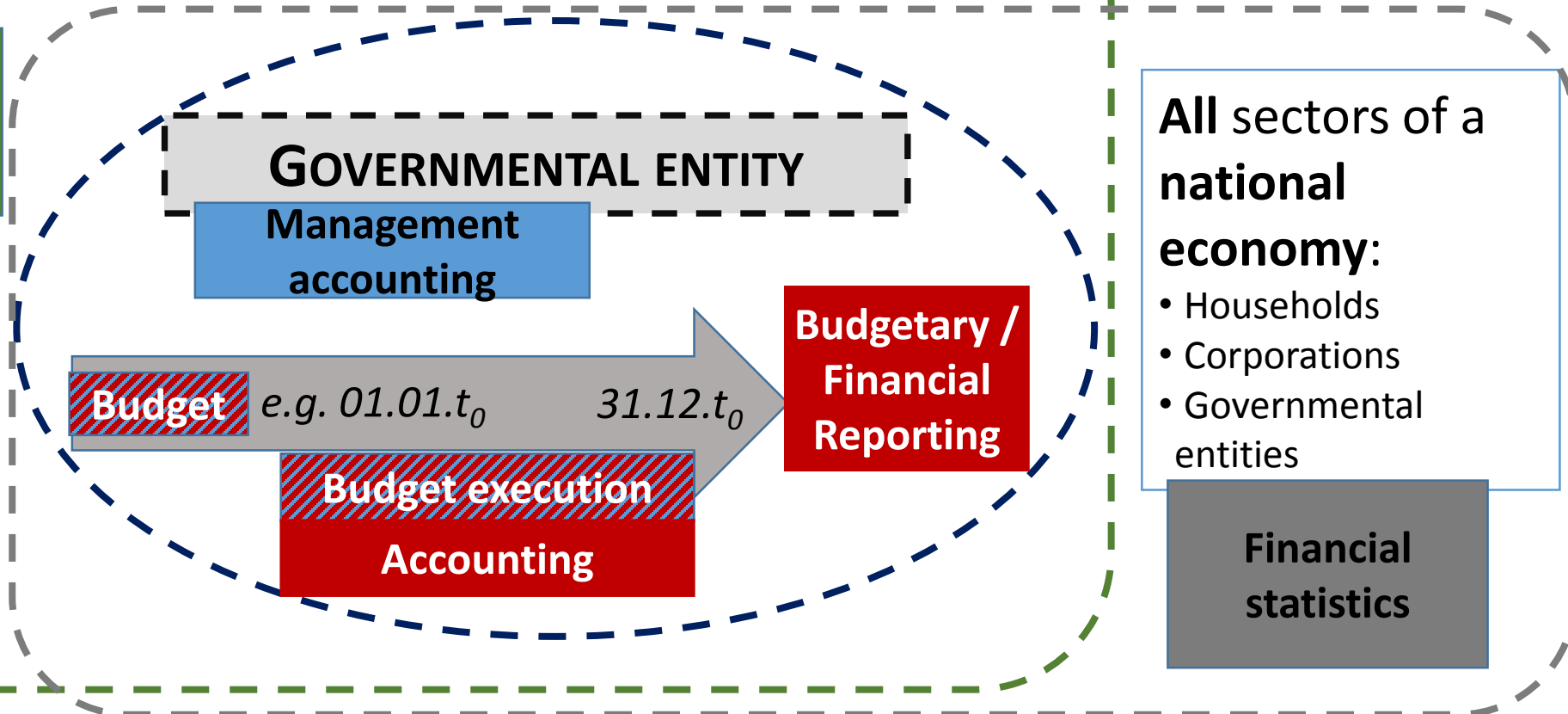
This online course has a broad target audience of students and professionals who want to gain an understanding of: main terms and overview of PSA; historical perspectives on approaches to PSA; characteristics of PSA in comparison to private sector accounting; theory and purposes of PSA; Challenges of harmonizing PSA in the EU und synoptical comparison of conceptual frameworks; in-depth views of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) as a reference model the development of EPSAS (framework, standards for separate financial statements and consolidated financial statements); accounting cycle and the status quo of EPSAS development. This module is a component of the EU Erasmus+ project DiEPSAm.

Learning objectives

4 Status Quo: PSA information (1/2)



4 Status Quo: PSA information (2/2)



4 Status Quo: Module roadmap (1/2)

Scope	Public sector				Private sector					
	General government		Public corporations							
Sources of PSA information	Budgeting	Budgetary accounting and reporting	Financial accounting and reporting		Management accounting	Sustainability / Integrated reporting		Government financial statistics		
Types of accounting	Bookkeeping system				Timing of recognition					
	Single entry		Double entry		Cash accounting		Accrual accounting			
Geographic focus	International		Europe		EU		Selected EU countries			
							Austria	Finland	Germany	Portugal
Accounting regime	International standards		EU standards		National standards					
	IFRS	IPSAS	EPSAS		IFRS-based	IPSAS-based		Own regime		
Reporting unit	Separate financial statements				Consolidated financial statements					

4 Status Quo: Module roadmap (2/2)

Scope	Public sector			Private sector		
	General government		Public corporations			
Sources of PSA information	Budgeting	Budgetary accounting and reporting	Financial accounting and reporting	Management accounting	Sustainability / Integrated reporting	Government financial statistics
Types of accounting	Bookkeeping system			Timing of recognition		
	Single entry		Double entry	Cash accounting		Accrual accounting
Geographic focus	International	Europe	EU	Selected EU countries		
				Austria	Finland	Germany
Accounting regime	International standards		EU standards EPSAS	National standards		
	IFRS	IPSAS		IFRS-based	IPSAS-based	Own regime
Reporting unit	Separate financial statements			Consolidated financial statements		

4 Status Quo: Lecture videos

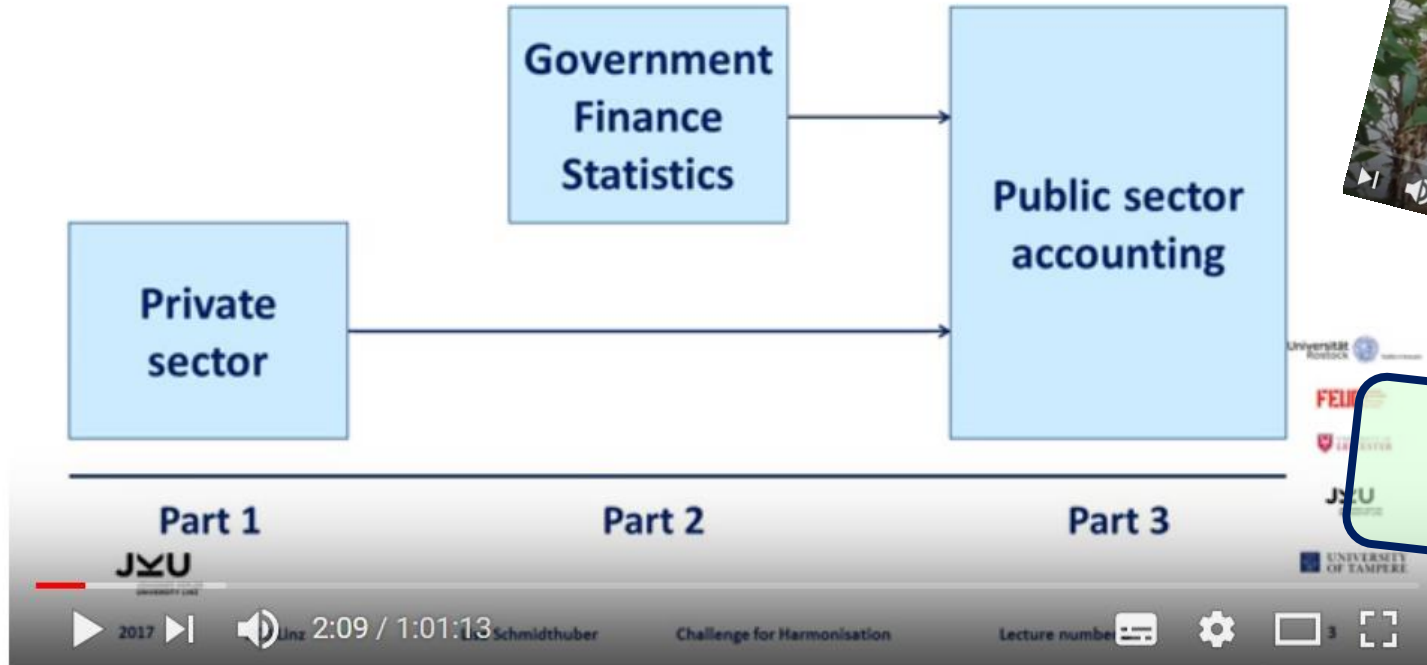


**Open access as of
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4 Status Quo: Lecture videos



Structure Lecture 6



**Open access as of
October 2018**



4 Status Quo: Lecture videos

European Public Sector Accounting - lecture number 7

Measurement criteria (IPSASB, CF, Ch7)

MEASUREMENT BASES

- ASSETS
 - Historical Cost
 - Cost of Services
 - Operational Capacity
 - Financial Capacity
 - Current Value
 - Market Value
 - Replacement Cost
 - Net Selling Price
 - Value in Use
- LIABILITIES
 - Historical Cost
 - Cost of Fulfilment
 - Market Value
 - Cost of Release
 - Assumption Price

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FE Universidade de Coimbra | Susana Jorge IPSASB CF and national frameworks Lecture 7

1:37:45 / 2:06:51

YouTube

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5 Future events: Safe the date!

[Annual Conference Portuguese Network of Accounting research \(Grudis\)](#) in PORTUGUESE

Date: **2-3 February 2018, Porto / Portugal**

[Pre-Conference PhD Workshop on “Public Sector Financial Management and Accounting”](#)

in GERMAN

Date: **15 March 2018, Rostock / Germany**

[Harmonisierung des öffentlichen Rechnungswesens in Europa](#) in GERMAN

Date: **16 March 2018, Rostock / Germany**

[European Group of Public Administration \(EGPA\) PSG XII Spring Workshop](#) in ENGLISH

Date: **3-4 May 2018, Rostock / Germany**

Call for Papers: [Users, use, usefulness and user needs: The challenges faced by public sector financial management](#)

Contact



Project coordination

Dr. Ellen Haustein

Prof. Dr. Peter Christoph Lorson

Chair of Accounting, Management Control and Auditing

Ulmenstr. 69 | 18057 Rostock | Germany

Fon +49(0)381 498-4421 | Fon +49(0) 498 4419

Ellen.haustein@uni-rostock.de | www.uni-rostock.de/bwl/rewe/

<https://www.wiwi.uni-rostock.de/en/diepsam/home/>

