# Changing Paradigms in Master´s education in Europe and the World

Changing patterns of
- Master´s programmes
- Master's students
- Labour market demands

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# Introducing Kees Kouwenaar

- 37 years in international education

- Lisbon Recognition Convention

- Legal Capacity Development

- Secretary General Aurora Universities Network

- Director Mastermind Europe project

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# Key messages

1.  Master's education is getting too diverse
    to define <u>one</u> set of research competencies

2.  Research competencies are not restricted to subject-specific knowledge & skills;
    they also encompass General Academic, Personal and Linguistic competencies

3.  High quality Master's programmes need a coherent framework of research competencies and related <u>learning outcomes</u>

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# 1. Master's education more diverse

- Changes to Master's Education
- Global changes in universities
- Global changes in society

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# 1. Master's education more diverse

- Changes to Master's Education
  - Multidisciplinary research & Master's
  - Knowledge → broad Learning Outcomes (KM2)
  - Students from various disciplines, countries
  - Graduates → not only research and profession (KM2)
  - Mature students, life long learning

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# 1. Master's education more diverse

- Global changes to universities
  - Bologna: B – M – D structure; Quality Assurance; Qualification Frameworks (Autonomy ←→ Quality); Dublin Descriptors
  - Flagship universities
  - Global Rankings – global, national, regional competition
  - International mobility of students …. and staff

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# 1. Master's education more diverse

- Global changes in society
  - Globalisation
  - Knowledge economy; soft skills (KM2)
  - Recalibration of social fabric – social contract
  - Digitisation (KM2)

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# 2. A broad set of competencies

- Knowledge economy
  - High skill jobs ↗
  - Low skill jobs ～
  - Mid-level jobs ↘
  - Life time employment ↘

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# 2. A broad set of competencies

- Digitisation
  - Ever new & changing digital skills → learn to learn (KM2)
  - Increasing complexity → general academic skills
  - Pervasive digitisation → no escape
  - Digital skills
    - To simply live
    - To find and keep a job
    - To get a good job & salary

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# 2. A broad set of competencies

- (Self-)Employability of Master's graduates
  - In research, 'their' profession, elsewhere
  - Immediately, after 5 – 10 – 15 – 25 years
- Competencies for life and society
  - Ability to create social value
- Is that the responsibility of University?

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# 2. A broad set of competencies

- Subject-related knowledge & skills
professional-technical

- General academic competencies
meta-cognitive

- Personal competencies & traits
socio-emotional

- Linguistic competencies

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# 2. Coherent Framework
## of competencies & Learning Outcomes

- Preview for Presentation 2
  - Subject-related knowledge & skills
  - General academic competencies
  - Personal competencies & traits
  - Linguistic competencies

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