

# **THE CORRELATION ACCREDITATION – BOLOGNA PROCESS – CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT BASED IN PROFESSORS' PERCEPTIONS IN ALBANIAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

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*ABSTRACT: Quality is becoming a very important issue in higher education institutions toward gaining competitive advantage in this changing and dynamic environment. Bologna process seeking to unify or standardize the rules for higher education on the transfer of credits, free mobility of students and pedagogues etc, as well as the accreditation aiming quality assurance in higher education institutions, basically have as the main focus to improve the quality of universities in terms of teaching and on scientific research, which will make universities known. Nowadays, universities in developed and developing countries are using more and more continuous quality improvement methods, combined with the accreditation and implementation of the Bologna process, which constitutes the basis for ensuring the success of these universities in the future. Even in Albania, universities are in a stage of continuous development by using many of the same continuous quality improvement methods like in western universities, are in a stage of accreditation and changing the curricula and the system according to Bologna Process.*

*In this paper, through the use of literature, the questionnaires and interviews directed mainly to the professors / pedagogues working in Albanian public universities, the focus is to show the importance of accreditation and Bologna process for Albanian universities, the continuous quality improvement methods used, and to test the hypothesis: The majority of professors / pedagogues think that the correlation between Accreditation - Bologna process - Continuous Quality Improvement is a strong positive correlation.*

*Key words: Higher education, Continuous Quality Improvement, Bologna Process, Accreditation*

*JEL Codes: A22, A23, I23*