Establishment of the FGU

- The FGU is a network of 213 affiliated member universities from Germany, France and third party countries.
- Founded in 1997 by means of an intergouvernamental agreement (Weimar Agreement)
- Administrative seat Saarbrücken
Establishment of the FGU

- The FGU provides expert guidance on Franco-German university relations with the aim of enhancing university and research cooperation between the two countries.

- The FGU’s main tasks include initiating, coordinating and funding structured academic degree programmes for each of the three Bologna cycles.

- The degree programmes are subject to external academic evaluation by French and German experts.
A strong network

- **213** universities in Germany and France as well as in other countries (e.g. Switzerland, Luxembourg, Belgium, Poland)

- **Over 6 300** students

- **189** binational and trinational study courses

- **Over 1 300** graduates each year
Study fields

- Engineering
- Natural and computer sciences
- Economics
- Law
- Humanities and social sciences
- Teacher training programmes
Quality criteria

- **Quality assurance**: a regular, multistage and independent evaluation process guarantees excellent binational training and career opportunities.

- The partner universities provide a **jointly approved, balanced and complementary curriculum** with joint study and examination regulations.

- The duration of study and academic achievement are **equally divided** between the partner universities:
  - mixed groups of German, French and international students
  - a „dual degree“ as a reward for the extra work required from students to achieve intercultural, thematic and linguistic proficiency in their subjects.
Quality criteria

• Universities prepare students for the academic, language and organisational-practical challenges of studying in the partner country

• Students also receive assistance during their stay in the partner country

To conclude:

1 Study programme in 2 or 3 places and 2 degrees

… and fully prepared, interculturally experienced and trilingual young professionals for the international labour market
Professional prospects

Both students and graduates are given assistance with entering the French, German and international labour markets.

The FGU actively helps to improve the professional perspectives of its graduates:

- Partnerships with companies
- Participation to career events
- „Excellence Prize“: graduates are rewarded with company-sponsored prizes
- the FGU offers intercultural application trainings
- and supports its graduates by supporting financially alumni associations
Advantages of an integrated degree programme

- awarding of two (or three) nationally recognised degrees of equal value or of a joint degree within the nationally required standard programme duration
- acquisition of key qualifications for a professional career – particularly communication skills, teamwork skills, flexibility and international mobility – as integral components of the degree programme
- training courses in intercultural competence (the experience of studying in France and Germany serving as a first-hand example of “internationalisation” in general)
- acquisition of both general and specialised language skills in the two partner languages (French and German) and consolidation of multilingual skills
- insight knowledge of at least two countries
- greater insight into different European work structures and cultures
- a mobility grant to assist students during their stay abroad (currently €300 per month)
Survey among FGU graduates: 2019

72% of the FGU graduates see a real advantage in their French-German double degree for the application procedure.

68% of the graduates needed less than three months to find a suitable employment.

93% would recommend an integrated degree programme to potential students.
Thank you for your attention!

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