Double Degree Programs in Law: Chances and Challenges

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Overview

Legal Education in Germany

Internationalisation of German Law Faculties

Chances & Challenges
Legal Education in Germany

- Two-tier system: first cycle at universities (approx. 4 years), second cycle bar exam (2 years)
- Both cycles conclude with a state exam
- No bachelor/master-degree
Internationalisation of German Law Faculties

- Legal studies are very national
- Courses have to be offered in German due to the State Exam
- Law & Language Programs at different faculties
- Students should go abroad for gaining different insights
  - Numbers are usually not terribly high
  - Cooperation programs with foreign faculties, e.g. Erasmus+, university partnerships
Chances for Double-Degree Programs

- Closer cooperation between universities/faculties
- Cross-border teaching, adaptation to different cultures
- Creating specially trained lawyers
Challenges for Double Degree-Programs

- Different languages (shall the program be taught in two languages or in a common foreign language)
- Different examination & grading styles
- Different teaching styles
- State examination: No need/time for German students to attend a double degree-program
Conclusions

• Very mixed picture
• Internationalisation is imminent for German and Ukrainian universities
• A number of obstacles, most notably the language of instruction and the State exam
Thank you very much for your attention