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Sink or swim? : tips for surviving politically-led mergers from Wales

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**Abstract**

This article has been prepared to assist governing board members considering or indeed undertaking merger negotiations. It presents an overview of the merger processes of the past decade within Wales, undertaken largely in response to a politically-driven agenda. Between 2002/03 and 2012/13 the Welsh HE sector shrunk by 38% with the number of higher education institutions been reduced from 13 to 8. The article provides an insight into the rationale for, and mechanics of, delivering University mergers within Wales. It also provides examples of the key steps and tools available to governing board members focusing upon the establishment of a merged university through the dissolution of one existing legal entity into another. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)