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Abstract

The Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA) is the US specialized accreditor in the field of English language programs and institutions. As worldwide demand for quality assurance in higher education grew, international interest in CEA's accreditation process for English language programs also grew. In 2004, following study, CEA began to conduct accreditation activities outside the United States, primarily in the Middle East. This chapter describes what distinguishes US accreditation and what must be considered when an accreditation system is "exported." CEA's decision to expand its scope to include international accreditation required analysis of the transferability of the principles of peer-review and decision-making, the nature of the accreditor's relationship to the specialized professional field, the need for separate standards for

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international settings, and the agency's capacity to operate internationally. The results of CEA's decisions and resulting international accreditation activities are provided. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)

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