

The 4rd BTC Annual International Conference  
**Ranking and Benchmarking in Higher Education-  
Understanding and Exploring New Perspectives**

June 15<sup>th</sup> 2015, Djanogly Hall, Konrad Adenauer Conference Center,  
Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Jerusalem

- 14:00-14:30** Gathering and Greetings  
**Dr. Michael Borchard**, Director, Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung, Israel  
**Prof. Zvi Hacohen**, Rector, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
**Mr. Moshe Amir**, Director, Bologna Training Center
- 14:30-15:30** Academic Ranking and International and National Ranking Systems  
**Prof. Jan Sadlak** President, IREG Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence
- 15:30-15:45** Times Higher Education Ranking – an Overview (video presentation)  
**Mr. Phil Baty**, Editor, Times Higher Education Magazine
- 15:45-16:30** Divergent Methodologies and Implications of Rankings  
**Mr. Christian Hemmestad Bjerke**, Simula Research Laboratory
- 16:30-17:00** Coffee Break
- 17:00-17:45** The Social Dimension in Academic Ranking and Benchmarking:  
The Tempus ESPRIT- Social Benchmarking Tool  
**Mr. Dima Kortukov** , National Union of Israeli Students
- 17:45-18:30** Open Discussion and Conclusions
- 19:00** Dinner with the speakers

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# Ranking and Benchmarking in Higher Education- Understanding and Exploring New Perspectives

The Bologna Training Center (BTC), in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Israel Office, is hosting the BTC's fourth annual international conference, on Monday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Jerusalem.

Ranking and benchmarking mechanisms are taking an increasingly prominent place in the international higher education scene. They drive competition between universities as well as between national systems of higher education and have become a focal point for policy making in this sphere. Against the backdrop of the ever-growing prominence of rankings and their implications for internationalization of higher education, the Bologna Training Center will devote its upcoming international conference to examining the context and implications of higher education rankings.

The conference will examine the importance of rankings and benchmarking in the higher education sphere, discuss methodological issues, as well as explore implications for both university and national policy making. The conference will also set out to ask: What is the place of social responsibility in university benchmarking? This question will be explored by representatives of the National Union of Israeli Students who will present an alternative vision to benchmarking, offering a student perspective to the issue of academic ranking.

