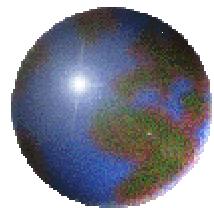




EHMA Annual Conference

Barcelona, 2005

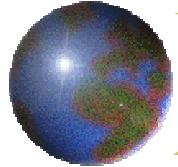
Reforms in Nursing Education across Western Europe



Trends, Difficulties and Challenges

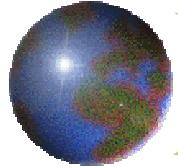
Perrenoud, B., FORESO

Spitzer, A, University of Haifa, University of Lausanne, FORESO



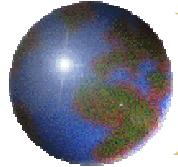
Plan of the presentation

- Challenges for the profession
- Objectives
- Methods and materials
- Reforms: two phases
- Actual situation of the reforms
- Problems and challenges



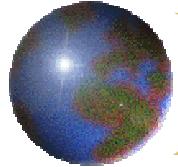
Challenges for the profession

- Promoting quality of care
- Providing a higher level of teaching
- Development of research based scientific knowledge on much needed issues in health and illness domains



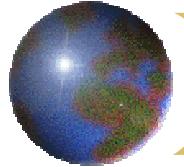
Objectives of the European Study

- Analyze the tendencies
- Examine the actual problems
- Identify new directions



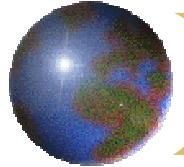
Methods and material

- Literature Search (45 articles)
 - Medline and CINAHL for 1994 – 2002
- Consulting Web Sites:
 - European Observatory of Health Care Systems
 - European Union
 - European Group of Nurse Researchers (WENR)



The reforms in the nursing education system

- ❖ Two phases were identified aiming at:
 - ❖ Creating a unified European nursing program (EU Directives)
 - ❖ Integrating the nursing programs within the higher education system



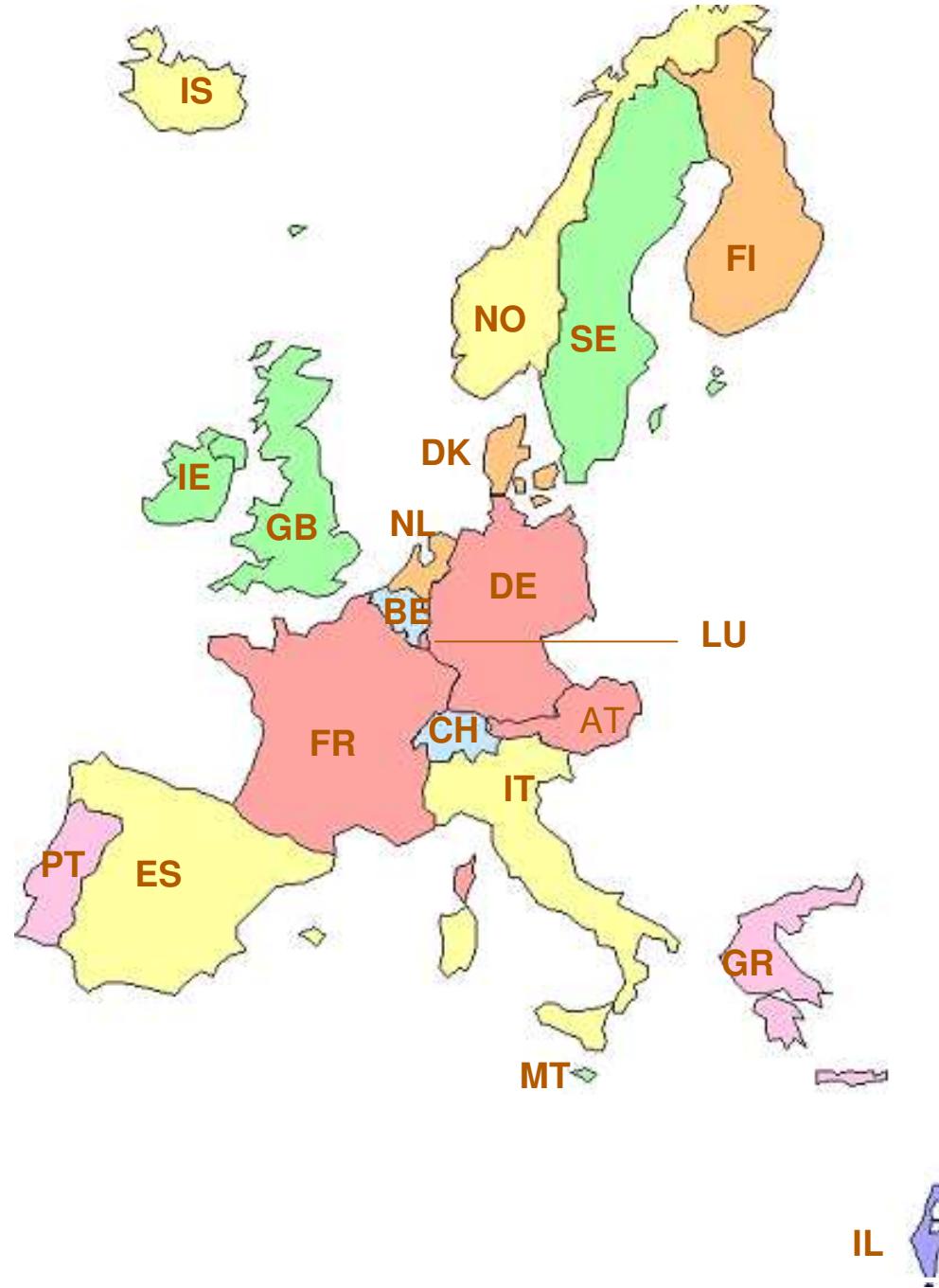
The current situation of the nursing education system in the different countries

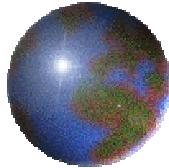
- Geographical representation of:
 - Structures and levels of education
 - Certificates/Degrees awarded



Structures and Levels of Education

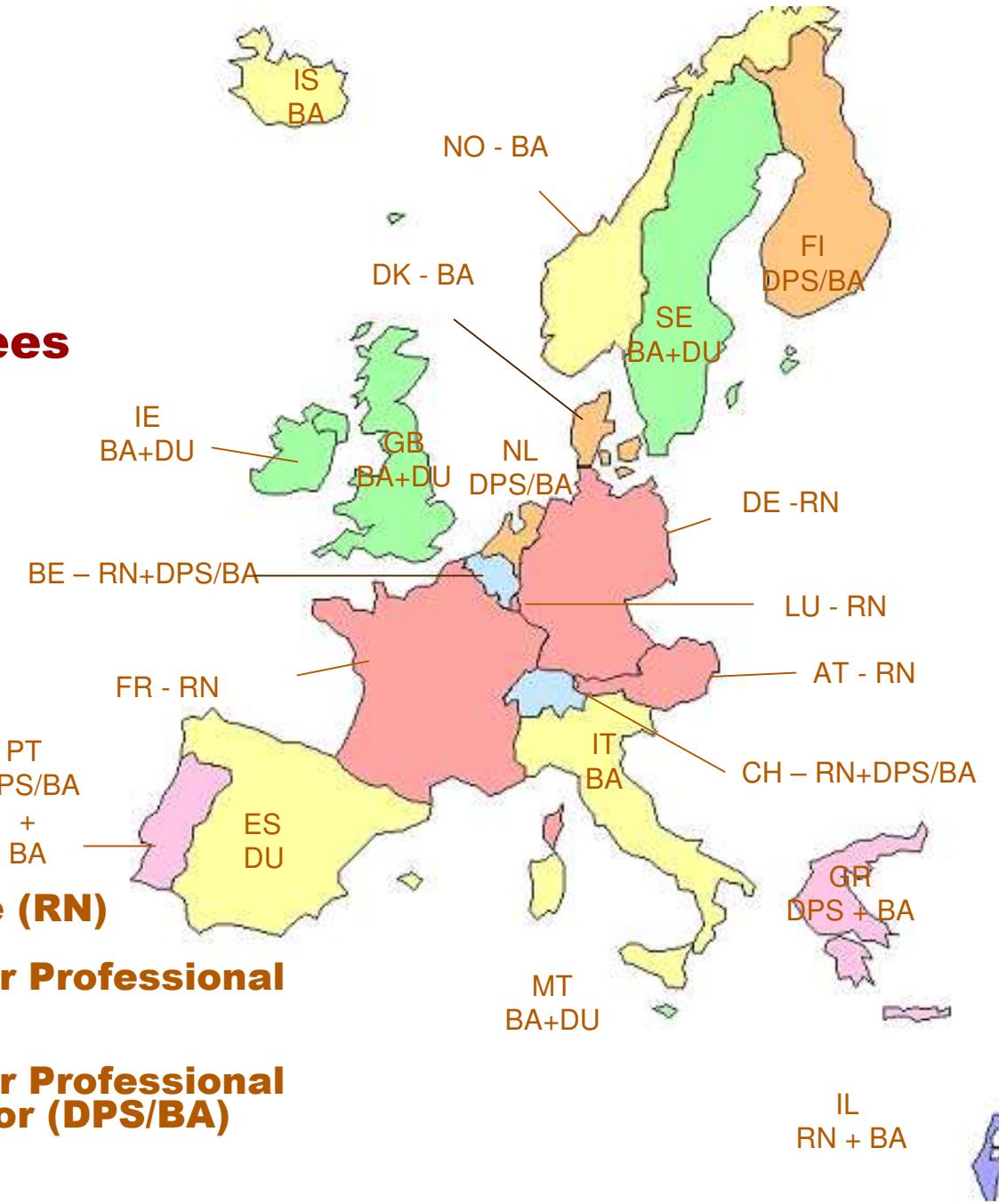
- **Traditional School of nursing**
- **Higher Professional School**
- **University**
- **University at 2 levels**
- **Traditional School and Higher Professional School**
- **Traditional School and University**
- **Higher Professional School and University**

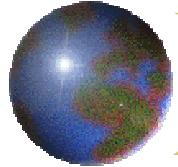




Certificates/Degrees Awarded

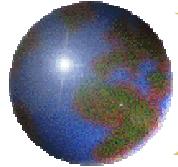
- **Registered Nurse (RN)**
- **Diploma of Higher Professional School (DPS)**
- **Diploma of Higher Professional School = Bachelor (DPS/BA)**
- **Bachelor (BA)**
- **Diploma of University (DU)**





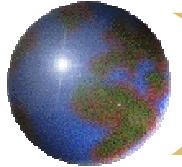
Duration of studies

- No correlation between the duration of studies and:
 - The structure of the education system
 - The level of the program
 - The certificate/degree delivered



Concerns and problems generated by the reforms

- The socialization of nursing faculty members into the higher education settings and to their new roles
- The competencies required from a graduate of a basic nursing program
- The nursing curriculum: content and structure of theoretical and clinical domains



Concerns and Problems

A . Socialization

Into the higher education settings

→ Limited experience

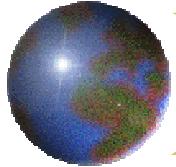
→ Inept working conditions

→ Insufficient critical mass of
nurse researchers

To the new role

→ Role
conflict

→ Insufficient
academic
background



Concerns and Problems

A . Socialization B . Competencies

Desired professional

It is predominantly an employer concern relating to whether newly graduates are able to function completely in clinical practice

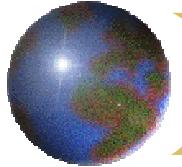
Type and level of competencies

Whether the student can register as practitioner taking into consideration that professional updating is an ongoing process

Concerns

Fitness for practice

Fitness for purpose



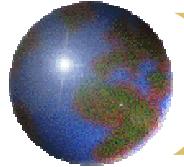
Concerns and problems

- A . Socialization**
- B . Competencies**
- C . Curriculum**

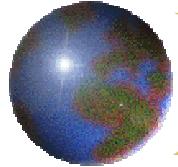
**A theory
practice gap**

**The fit of existing contents
and the need to integrate
new themes and domains**

**Orientation:
general
or specific**

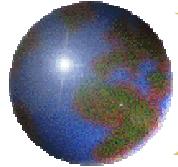


Conclusion: summary and challenges



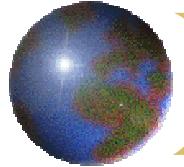
Summary

- The majority of basic nursing programs are integrated within the higher education system
- Half of nursing programs are awarding a Bachelor degree



Challenges

- ➊ To adjust problems between:
 - Teachers and the culture of research in the institutions of higher education
 - The new graduates and the places of practice
 - The curriculums and the evolution of the needs of the society and the health systems



Thank you