



Erasmus+



Funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

# DiEPSAm:

## An ERASMUS+ funded Project on University Modules for Public Sector Accounting in Europe

The project in a nutshell – May 2018

Peter Lorson / Ellen Haustein

# ACRONYM

**DiEPSAm** means

**D**eveloping and  
**i**mplementing

To do's

**E**uropean

Regional reference

**P**ublic

**S**ector

Object

**A**ccounting

**m**odules [and a complementary textbook]

Intellectual outputs



*Misunderstanding: PSA in Europe ≠ EPSAS*  
*BUT: State of the Art and Recent Developments*

# Outline

- 1 • Key facts
- 2 • Details on the modules
- 3 • Timeline & Dissemination
- 4 • Status Quo
- 5 • Future events

# 1 Key facts: Funding



- Funding body:
- Project duration:
- Maximum grant:
- Project coordination:
- Consortium of

**EU Erasmus+**

**35 months** (ending in August 2019)

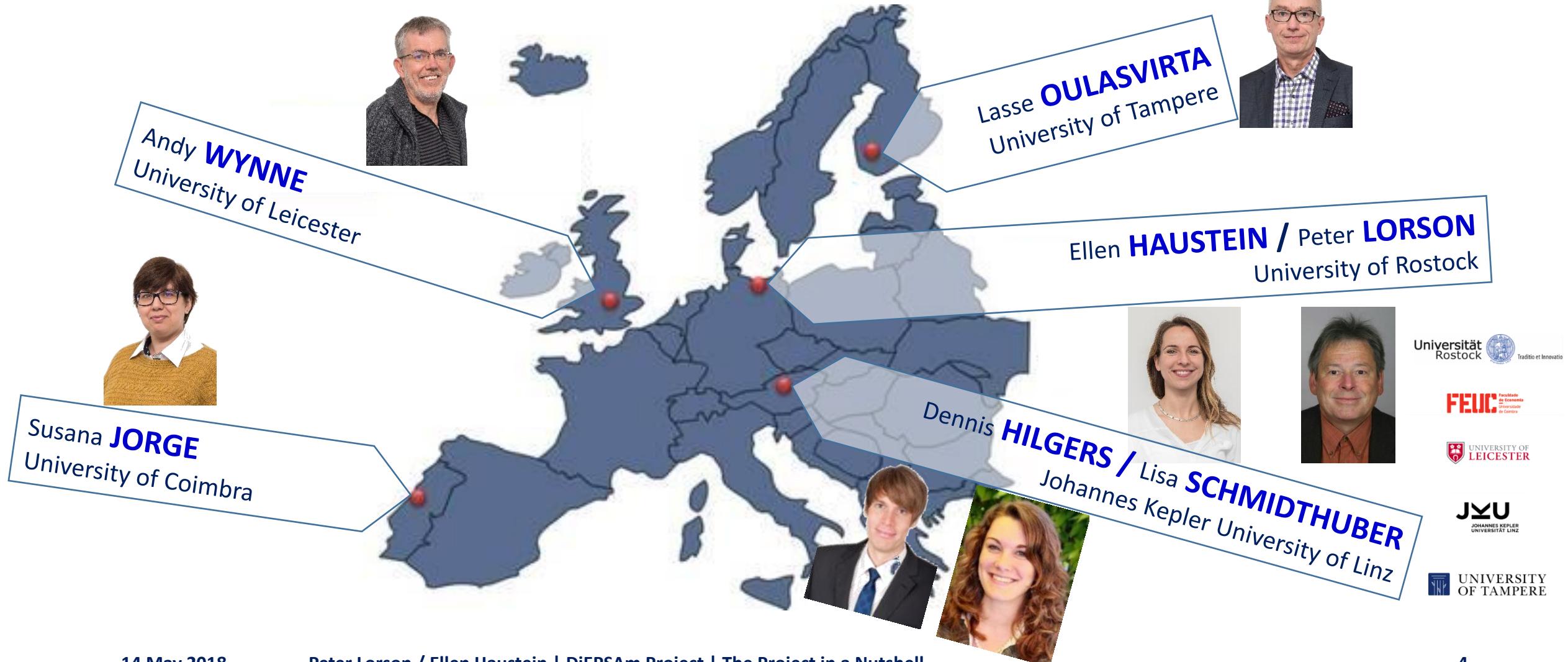
**375,430 EUR**

University of Rostock / Germany

**Five European universities**

# 1 Key facts: 5 Partners

## Different PSA traditions



# 1 Key facts: 5 Partners...

## 5 different PSA traditions

Approaches to financial accounting in the partner countries

Level	UK	Austria	Portugal	Finland	Germany
Central government	Accrual	Accrual	Accrual	Accrual	Modified cash, option for accrual
Regional / state government	n/a	Diverse	n/a	n/a	Mainly cash, few accrual
Local government	Accrual	Diverse	Accrual	Accrual	Mainly accrual, few (modified) cash



Brusca et al. 2015, pp. 238 ff.



# 1 Key facts: Support letters



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT

Directorate C: National accounts, prices  
and key indicators  
Task Force EPSAS

**EGPA/IIAS**  
European Group  
for Public Administration



**GEAP/IISA**  
Groupe Européen  
pour l'Administration Publique

 **grudis**  
REDE PORTUGUESA DE  
INVESTIGAÇÃO EM CONTABILIDADE  
PORTUGUESE NETWORK OF  
ACCOUNTING RESEARCH



STÄDTE- UND GEMEINDETAG  
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN e.V.  
KOMMUNALER SPITZENVERBAND ALLER STÄDTE UND GEMEINDEN



 **CIGAR**  
NETWORK  
Comparative International Governmental Accounting Research



# 1 Key facts: Advisory Board

EU Improvement Goals	Advisory Board Members
<b>Foreign language</b> competences	<b>Jürgen HANDKE</b> Philipps University Marburg, Germany e.g. Anglistics & Digital Learning
<b>Digital</b> competences	<b>Rui LOURENÇO</b> University Coimbra, Portugal e.g. E-Government
Understanding and responsiveness to social, political, <b>cultural diversity</b> within the EU	<b>Eugenio CAPERCHIONE</b> University of Modena, Italy; CIGAR e.g. Comparative International Governmental Accounting Research
Positive attitude towards the <b>EU</b> and its <b>values</b>	<b>Hanna SILVOLA</b> Aalto University, Finland; EAA e.g. European Accounting Association
Opportunities for <b>professional development</b>	<b>Thomas MÜLLER MARQUES-BERGER</b> E&Y, Germany; ACE e.g. Accountancy Europe
	<b>Alison SCOTT</b> CIPFA, UK e.g. Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

# 1 Key facts: Project outputs

## Intellectual Outputs

	<b>University modules</b>	
<b>No. 1:</b>	<b>Scalable:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intermediate (Bachelor's) and advanced (Master's) level</li><li>• Ranging from 75 min. up to 6 ECTS (= 3 hours per week)</li></ul>	<b>Comprehensive materials</b> <b>- Ready to use:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lesson plan</li><li>• Slides, videos/podcasts,</li><li>• Instructions, case study, exercises, essay subjects</li></ul>
<b>No. 2:</b>	<b>Textbook „European Public Sector Accounting“</b> Comparative views of the partners' diverse national PSA traditions	

# Outline

- 1 • Key facts
- 2 • Details on the modules
- 3 • Timeline & Dissemination
- 4 • Status Quo
- 5 • Future events

# 2 Details on the modules: Structure

Topic Public Sector Accounting	No.	Module structure
<b>Motivation</b>	1	Approaches to public sector accounting and reporting in Europe
<b>Development of PSA</b>	2	History of PSA & alternatives
	3	Differences between private and public sector accounting
<b>Accounting theory</b>	4	Budgets and budgetary accounting
	5	Accounting principles and alternative frameworks in the public sector
<b>Harmonisation challenges</b>	6	Challenge for harmonisation
<b>IPSAS</b>	7	IPSAS CF and views on selected national frameworks
	8	History, spread & use
	9	Introduction to IPSAS financial reporting and presentation
	10	Case study
<b>Accounting cycle</b>	11	Process of public sector reporting and auditing
<b>Consolidated accounts</b>	12	Consolidated financial statements
	13	Consolidation methods & reporting
<b>Harmonisation perspectives</b>	14	EPSAS: Outlook and challenges

# 2 Details on the modules: Level

## BACHELOR → video-based

## MASTER → inverted classroom

PILOTs WINTER TERM 2017 (6 ECTS): University of Rostock: Learning and Qualification Objectives (Competences) –

### PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Characteristics of Public Sector and PSA</li><li>• Understanding and assessment of <b>different regimes</b> (Cash- vs. Accrual; MSs vs. IPSAS; ...)</li><li>• Reasons/need for <b>PSA harmonisation</b></li><li>• Knowledge on <b>EPSAS</b> (resp. Status quo)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need for <b>specific PSA regimes</b></li><li>• <b>Specific regimes' basics:</b> understanding, application, PROs/CONs</li><li>• <b>Critical reflections on</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Selected regimes</li><li>• EPSAS project from different perspectives (EC, MS, etc.)</li></ul></li></ul> |
|--|---|

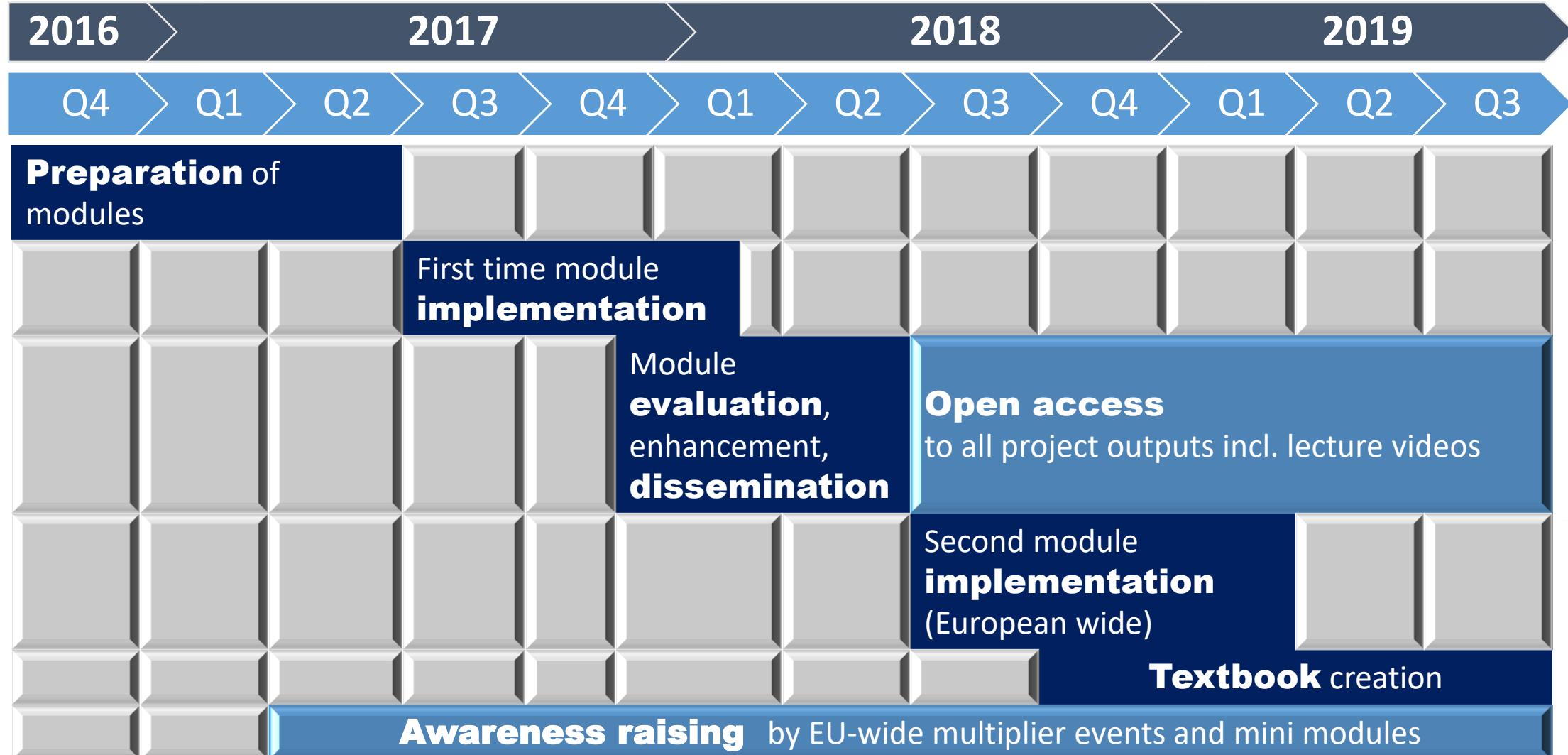
### SOFT SKILLS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digital, media, language</li><li>• Presentation</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digital, media, language</li><li>• Presentation, moderation</li><li>• Scientific discourse</li></ul> |
|---|--|

# Outline

- 1 • Key facts
- 2 • Details on the modules
- 3 • Timeline & Dissemination
- 4 • Status Quo
- 5 • Future events

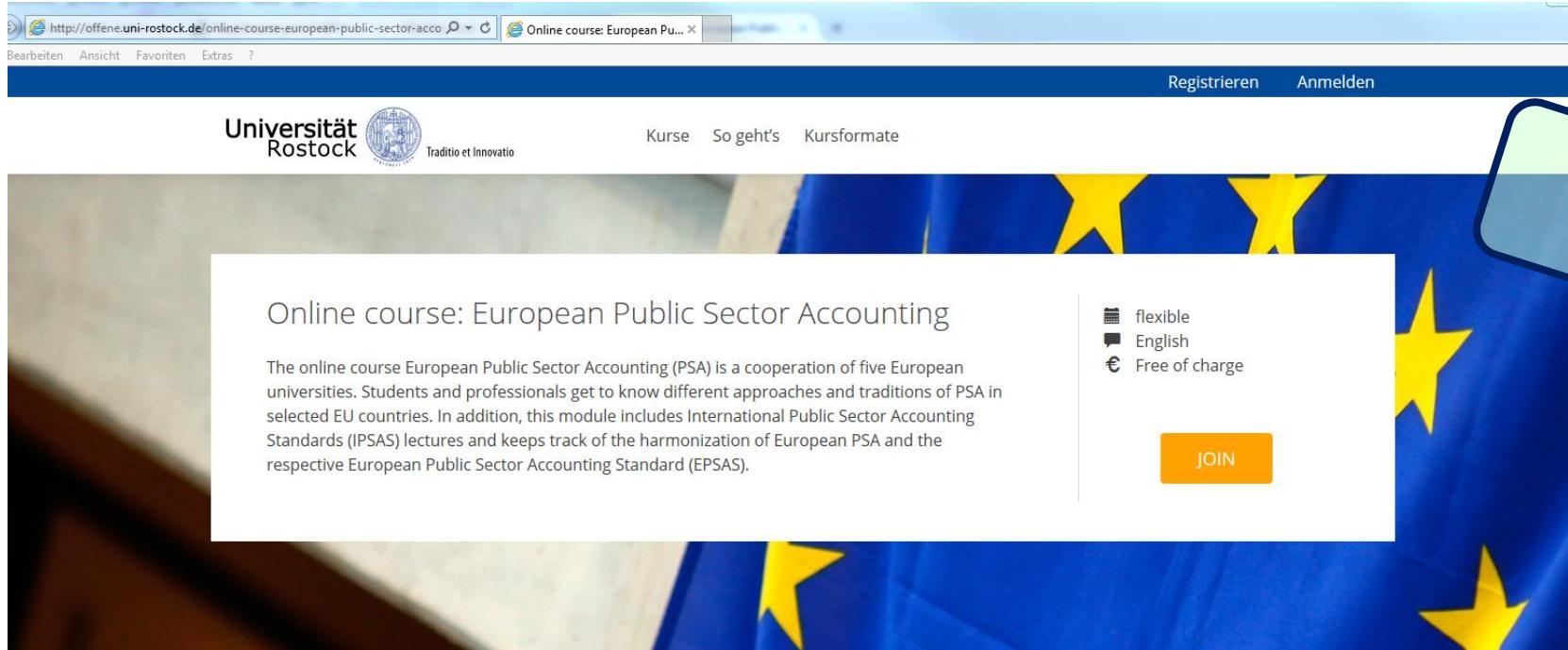
# 3 Timeline & Dissemination



# Outline

- 1 • Key facts
- 2 • Details on the modules
- 3 • Timeline & Dissemination
- 4 • Status Quo
- 5 • Future events

# 4 Status Quo: Online platform



The screenshot shows a web browser window for the University of Rostock's online course. The URL is <http://offene.uni-rostock.de/online-course-european-public-sector-acco>. The page title is "Online course: European Pu...". The header includes the University of Rostock logo and links for "Registrieren" and "Anmelden". Below the header, there are navigation links for "Kurse", "So geht's", and "Kursformate". The main content area features a large image of the European Union flag. A white box contains the title "Online course: European Public Sector Accounting" and a description of the course. To the right of the description is a box listing "flexible", "English", and "Free of charge" with a "JOIN" button. A green callout bubble in the top right corner states "Open access as of October 2018".

## Module contents

This online course has a broad target audience of students and professionals who want to gain an understanding of: main terms and overview of PSA; historical perspectives on approaches to PSA; characteristics of PSA in comparison to private sector accounting; theory and purposes of PSA; Challenges of harmonizing PSA in the EU and synoptical comparison of conceptual frameworks; in-depth views of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) as a reference model the development of EPSAS (framework, standards for separate financial statements and consolidated financial statements); accounting cycle and the status quo of EPSAS development.  
This module is a component of the EU Erasmus+ project DiEPSAm.

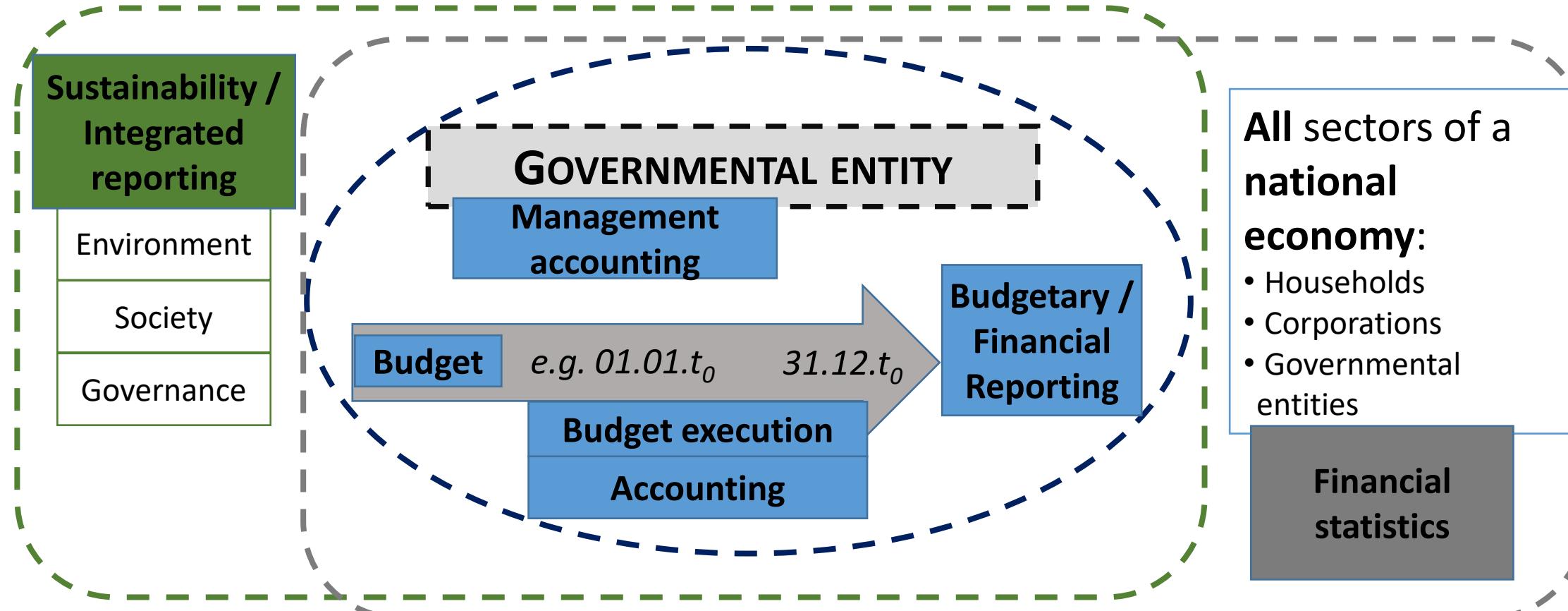
## Learning objectives



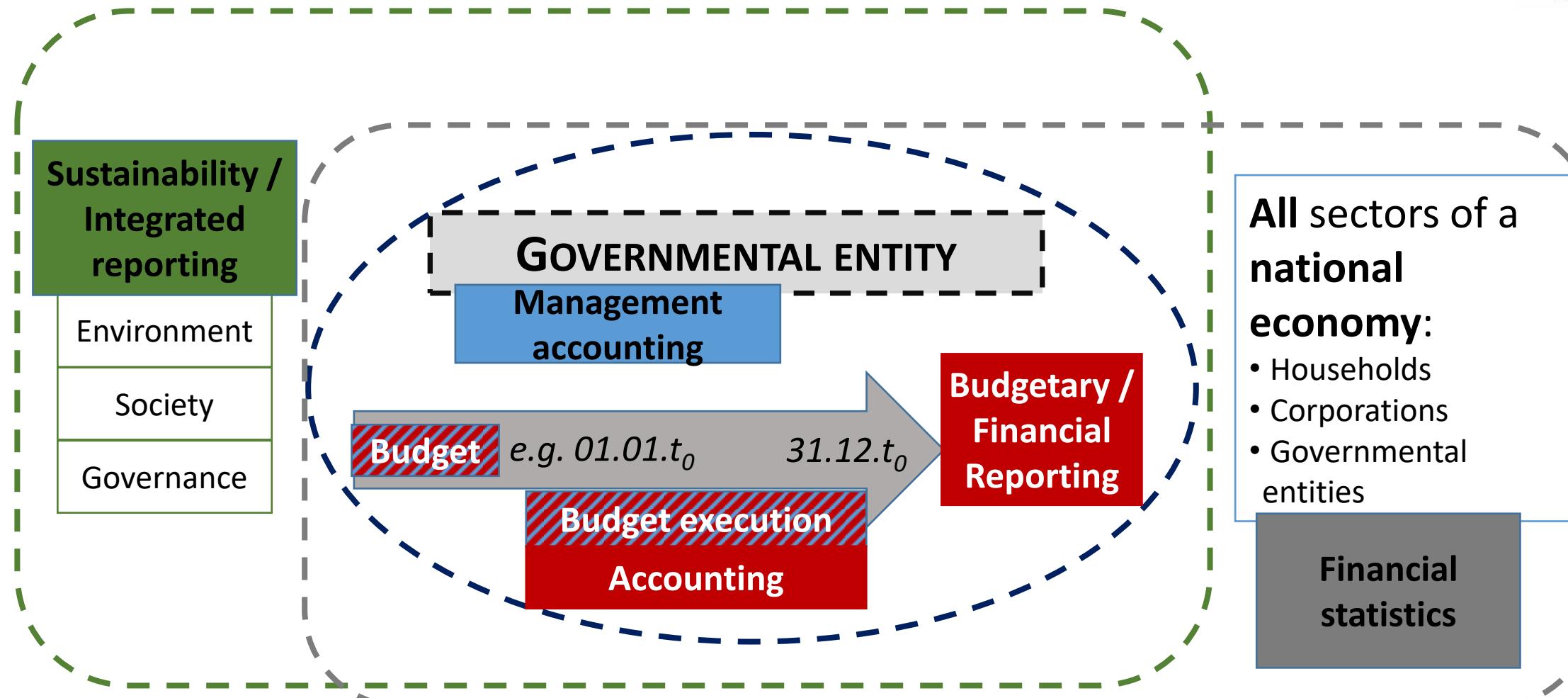
# 4 Status Quo: PSA information (1/2)



Funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



# 4 Status Quo: PSA information (2/2)



# 4 Status Quo: Module roadmap (1/2)

Scope	Public sector			Private sector				
Sources of PSA information	General government	Public corporations						
Types of accounting	Budgeting	Budgetary accounting and reporting	Financial accounting and reporting	Management accounting	Sustainability / Integrated reporting	Government financial statistics		
Geographic focus	Bookkeeping system			Timing of recognition				
Accounting regime	Single entry	Double entry		Cash accounting	Accrual accounting			
Reporting unit	International	Europe	EU	Selected EU countries				
				Austria	Finland	Germany	Portugal	UK
Accounting regime	International standards		EU standards	National standards				
	IFRS	IPSAS	EPSAS	IFRS-based	IPSAS-based	Own regime		
	Separate financial statements			Consolidated financial statements				

# 4 Status Quo: Module roadmap (2/2)

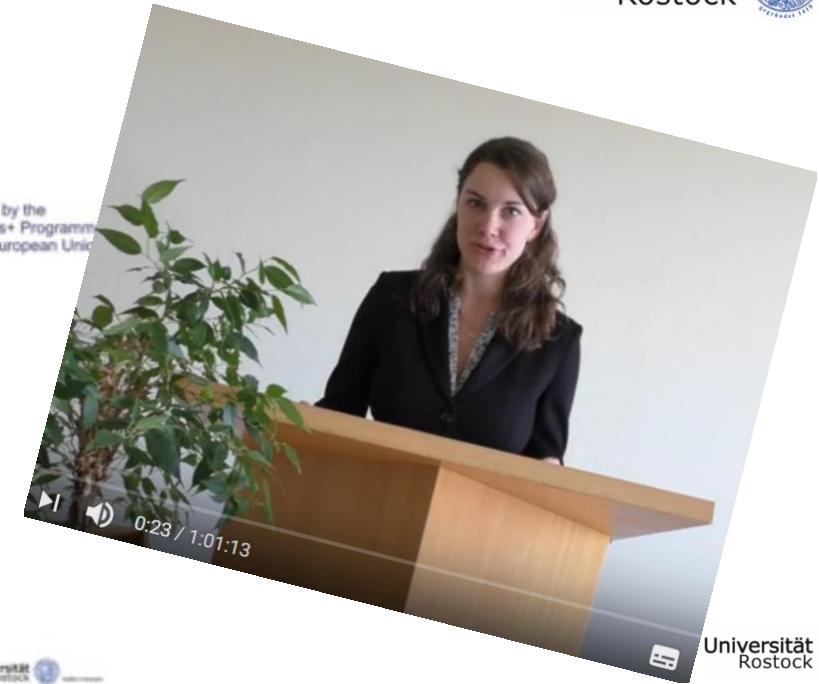
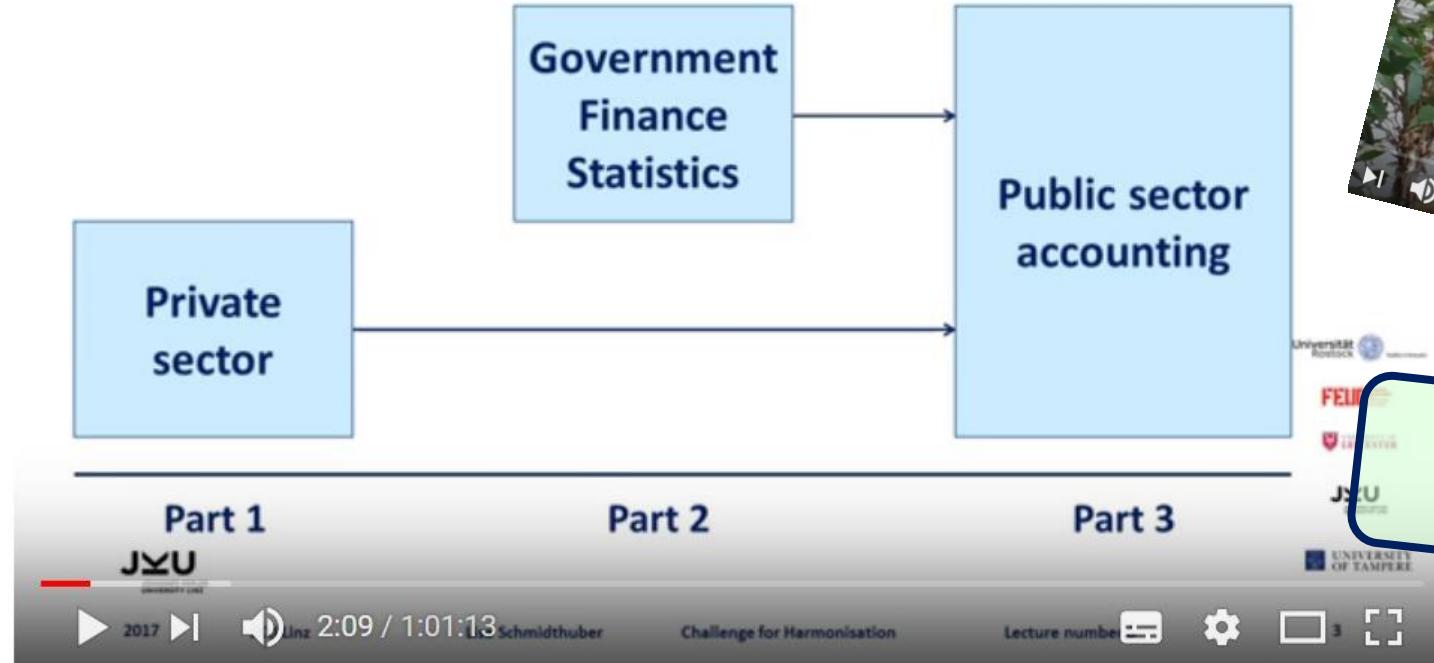
Scope	Public sector			Private sector			
	General government	Public corporations					
Sources of PSA information	Budgeting	Budgetary accounting and reporting	Financial accounting and reporting	Management accounting	Sustainability / Integrated reporting	Government financial statistics	
Types of accounting		Bookkeeping system				Timing of recognition	
Geographic focus	Single entry		Double entry		Cash accounting		Accrual accounting
	International	Europe	EU	Selected EU countries			
Accounting regime	International standards		EU standards		National standards		
	IFRS	IPSAS	EPSAS	IFRS-based	IPSAS-based	Own regime	
Reporting unit	Separate financial statements			Consolidated financial statements			

# 4 Status Quo: Lecture videos

The screenshot shows a video player interface. At the top, it says "European Public Sector Accounting - Lecture number 4". On the left, there are two "Erasmus+" logos and a "Funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union" logo. The main content area has a blue header with the text "European Public Sector Accounting", "Lecture 4", "Budgets and budgetary accounting", and "Lasse Oulassvirta/University of Tampere". Below this, there are logos for "Universität Rostock", "FEUC", "UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER", "JKU", and "UNIVERSITY OF TAMPERE". The video player controls at the bottom include a play button, volume control, time indicator (0:00 / 1:17:04), and a YouTube logo. A green diagonal banner on the right side of the video frame contains the text "Open access as of October 2018".

# 4 Status Quo: Lecture videos

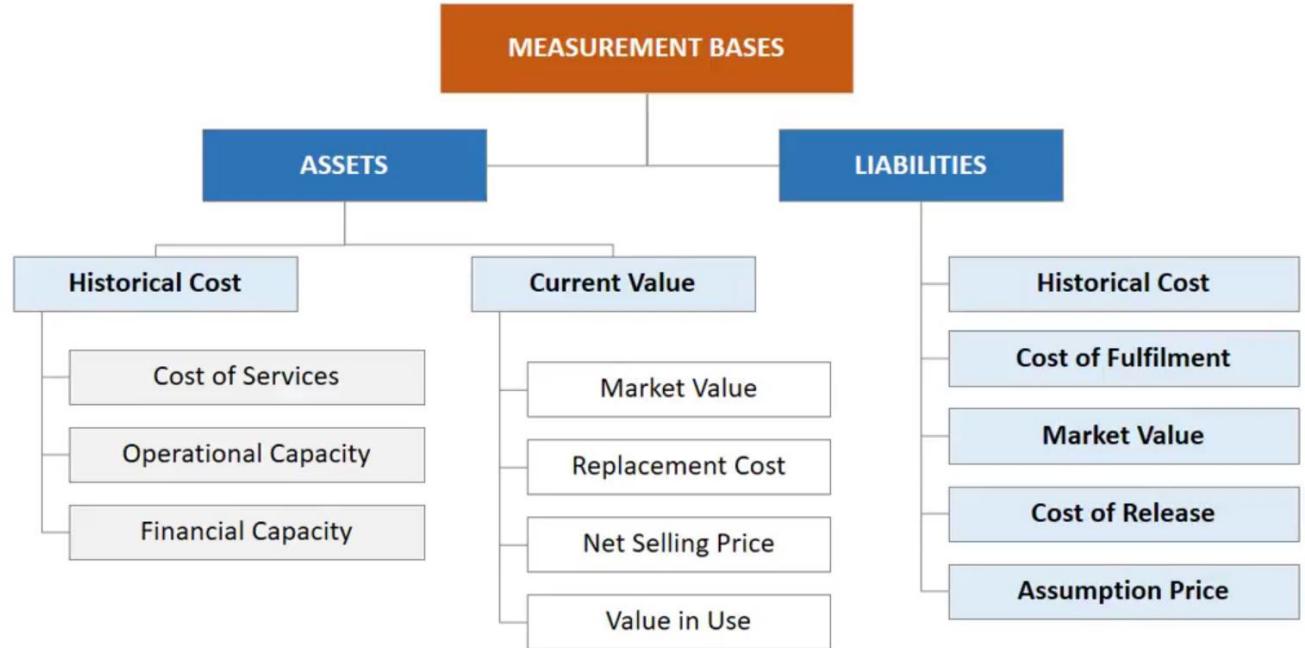
## Structure Lecture 6



# 4 Status Quo: Lecture videos

European Public Sector Accounting - lecture number 7

## Measurement criteria (IPSASB, CF, Ch7)



```

graph TD
    MB[MEASUREMENT BASES] --> A[ASSETS]
    MB --> L[LIABILITIES]
    A --> HC[Historical Cost]
    A --> CV[Current Value]
    L --> HC_L[Historical Cost]
    L --> CFF[Cost of Fulfilment]
    L --> MV[Market Value]
    L --> RC[Replacement Cost]
    L --> NSP[Net Selling Price]
    L --> VU[Value in Use]
    HC --- COS[Cost of Services]
    HC --- OC[Operational Capacity]
    HC --- FC[Financial Capacity]
    CV --- MV_C[Market Value]
    CV --- RC_C[Replacement Cost]
    CV --- NSP_C[Net Selling Price]
    CV --- VU_C[Value in Use]
    
```

**Open access as of October 2018**

FEUC 

©2017

FE Universidade de Coimbra | Susana Jorge | IPSASB CF and national frameworks  
Lecture 7

137:45 / 2:06:51

  YouTube 

# Outline

- 1 • Key facts
- 2 • Details on the modules
- 3 • Timeline & Dissemination
- 4 • Status Quo
- 5 • Future events

# 5 Future events: Safe the date!



[Annual Conference Portuguese Network of Accounting research \(Grudis\)](#) in PORTUGUESE  
Date: **2-3 February 2018, Porto / Portugal**

[Pre-Conference PhD Workshop on “Public Sector Financial Management and Accounting”](#)  
in GERMAN  
Date: **15 March 2018, Rostock / Germany**

[Harmonisierung des öffentlichen Rechnungswesens in Europa](#) in GERMAN  
Date: **16 March 2018, Rostock / Germany**

[European Group of Public Administration \(EGPA\) PSG XII Spring Workshop](#) in ENGLISH  
Date: **3-4 May 2018, Rostock / Germany**  
Call for Papers: [Users, use, usefulness and user needs: The challenges faced by public sector financial management](#)

# Contact



Project coordination

**Dr. Ellen Haustein**

**Prof. Dr. Peter Christoph Lorson**

Chair of Accounting, Management Control and Auditing

Ulmenstr. 69 | 18057 Rostock | Germany

Fon +49(0)381 498-4421 | Fon +49(0) 498 4419

[Ellen.haustein@uni-rostock.de](mailto:Ellen.haustein@uni-rostock.de) | [www.uni-rostock.de/bwl/rewe/](http://www.uni-rostock.de/bwl/rewe/)



<https://www.wiwi.uni-rostock.de/en/diepsam/home/>