

**Republic of Serbia**

**NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR RECOGNITION OF  
QUALIFICATIONS**

**- Draft -**

**1.** Lisbon Recognition Convention has been ratified by the Republic of Serbia in 2003 and the ratification instruments have been deposited in 2004.

**1.2.A.** Law on Higher Education contains provisions compatible with those of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

**1.2.B.** We have disseminated translations of supplementary documents to the Lisbon Convention among all Serbian universities together with our recommendation to incorporate them into their statutes and in this way to directly implement them.

**1.3** Republic of Serbia has so far concluded bilateral agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Srpska (*Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Education Documents and Regulation of Statutory Issues of Pupils and Students*). The Agreement has entered into force on May 5 2005.

**2.1.** All recommendations the Commission is currently discussing will be submitted to the Agency which is to be established by the National Council for Higher Education. The recommendations, related procedures and deadlines will be in full compliance with those of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

**2.2.** The subject of Joint Degrees is regulated by the Law on Higher Education in a way that allows universities to precisely define, by their statutes, the conditions for acquiring of joint degrees. A large number of universities and faculties is already awarding Joint Degrees together with European higher education institutions (University in Belgrade, School of Medicine, Law School, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering, Faculty of Organizational Sciences, Faculty of Security Sciences, Faculty of Forestry, University in Kragujevac, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering with Technical University in Brunswig, University in Novi Sad...).

**2.3.A.** Until the Agency for Recognition of Qualifications is established, higher education institutions may obtain all required information from Serbian ENIC Center which is operating within the Ministry of Education and Sports.

**2.3.B.** It is necessary to regularly provide information to all higher education institutions and to remind them of their obligation to adhere to the Lisbon Convention provisions in procedures involving assessment and recognition of foreign qualifications.

**2.4.A.** All higher education institutions in Serbia have introduced ECTS system by the academic year 2006/07.

**2.4.B.** Beginning with academic year 2006/07. the Diploma Supplement in Serbian and English is issued automatically and free of charge to all students who have obtained a higher education degree (any cycle).

**2.5** The Code of Good Practice in Providing Transnational Education has been and will be consulted during preparation of National Action Plan for Recognition.

**3.1** The ENIC Centre of Serbia, formed within the Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Serbia in 2001, as a member of the ENIC/NARIC network, participates actively in providing electronic information to all the stakeholders in the network, as well as to the students (during and after their studies), to the university teachers, administrative departments of higher education institutions, ministries and other administrative authorities, international organizations, employers and other interested parties.

The ENIC Centre of Serbia provides information about:

- Validation of diplomas, titles and other qualifications obtained abroad;
- The education systems of the member states of the ENIC/NARIC network;
- The system of higher education in the Republic of Serbia;
- Enrolment of students to the higher education institutions;
- The procedure for validation of the diplomas obtained abroad; and
- The status of the higher education institutions and study programmes.

The ENIC Centre of Serbia posts and maintains its Internet pages with the links toward the Internet page of the ENIC/NARIC network and other relevant Internet pages.

Seminars, open forums and information days are scheduled, with the view to improving the system of information about the national education system and criteria and procedures for validation. The rectorates of all the universities in the

Republic of Serbia should implement, in collaboration with the ENIC Centre of Serbia, the mentioned activities that would be accompanied by respective publications.

Efficient cooperation at the regional and international levels has been established with the other ENIC/NARIC centres via exchange of documents, experts, experience and information by way of networking, in the aim of advancement of the mobility and recognition in the field of higher education.

**3.2** A brochure is currently under preparation that will contain all needed information for students, from the stage of applying for recognition, to the finalization of the recognition procedure.

**4.1.A.** Serbian ENIC Center is functional since 2001, and operates within the Ministry of Education and Sports.

**4.1.B.** The role of Serbian ENIC is consultory. In future, the Center will closely cooperate with the independent recognition agency, or perhaps even the Agency itself will emerge from the present ENIC center. Possibilities for producing a separate recognition law are also currently being considered.

**4.1.C.** Serbian ENIC employs specialized staff that will be enlarged in accordance with increasing demands and recommendations. The Center does not have a separate budget as it is operating as a service within the Ministry.

**4.1.D.** Together with the increase in the number of ENIC employees, their training is considered to be of immense importance and is continuously performed. This includes participation in relevant seminars and training visits organized by the Council of Europe.

**4.1.E.** ENIC Center successfully cooperates on regional and international levels.

**4.2.** In view of the fact that the Commission for Accreditation had become a full member of INQAAHE, and that membership in ENQA is expected, a full cooperation between ENIC Centre and the Commission for Accreditation will be established, and therefore also the cooperation between Serbian ENIC and the most important international Quality Assurance organizations.