

Qualifications Subject to Automatic Recognition

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- Criteria for automatic recognition
- <u>Features</u> of a qualification, which can potentially be subject to automatic recognition
- Outcomes of the <u>study</u>
- <u>List</u> with reservations
- Conclusions and questions for discussion



Steps in Recognition

STEP 1

Information: identification of the level and value in the system of origin

STEP 2

Assessment: identification of the level and value in the receiving system

STEP 3

Decision regarding admission to study or access to employment



Criteria: Information

- Common transparency and information tools:
 - Diploma Supplement
 - National qualifications frameworks
 - ECTS
 - Learning outcomes

STEP 1: Information

STEP 2: Assessment

STEP 3: Decision



Criteria: Assessment

- Common tools and initiatives for assessment:
 - common EHEA degree structure (B+M+D)
 - European Qualifications Framework
 - common standards for quality assurance (ESG)
- Similar interpretation of assessment criteria and procedures
 - LRC and subsidiary texts
 - EAR Manual
- Consistent practice of recognition



Criteria: Decision

- General requirements
 - Common to all qualifications of a certain type
 - No deviation in recognition practice of individual qualifications
- Specific requirements
 - Vary depending on the profile and/or field of a qualification, even for the same type of qualifications
 - Decisions will differ depending on the specific purposes and requirements



Features of Qualification

Features of a qualification, which can be subject to automatic recognition

- Quality assured
- Supported by the Bologna tools
- Consistently recognised
- Recognised on the same level in the other two
 Baltic States



Outcomes of the study I

National systems and implementation of the Bologna tools

- Bologna tools implemented
- Several types of qualifications coexist:
 - Falling under the EHEA degree structure
 - Historical qualifications (long cycle)
 - Single country specific (non-degree studies)



Outcomes of the study II

Assessment criteria and decisions

- Variation in assessment criteria:
 - Focus on function of qualification
 - Focus on learning outcomes
 - Duration/workload considered an important criterion due to national legislation
- A set of qualifications for which recognition decisions are consistent per individual centre



List (shortened version)

EQF	EE	LV	LT
4	Gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus Kutsekeskhariduse lõputunnistus	Atestāts par vispārējo vidējo izglītību Diploms par profesionālo vidējo izglītību	Brandos atestatas
6	Bakalaureus Rakenduskõrghariduse diplom	Bakalaura diploms Profesionālā bakalaura diploms	Bakalauras Profesinis bakalauras
7	Magister Arstikraad Loomaarstikraad	Maģistra diploms Profesionālā maģistra diploms	Magistras
8	Doktor	Doktora diploms	Mokslo daktaras Meno daktaras

Notes: Qualification should provide direct access to the next level In Latvia:

- automatic recognition applies to Profesinis bakalauras (LT) awarded after July 2015
- total duration of higher education should be at least 5 years for Master's degree



Conclusions

- Common historical background provides potential to include a wider array of qualifications
- Difficulty with qualifications that fall outside the EHEA degree structure
- Further harmonisation of criteria and procedures may be necessary for successful agreement



Thank you!

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Questions for discussion

- Is it still automatic if there are restrictions?
- Is it still automatic if it requires certain knowledge and judgment for implementation?
- What should be the scope of automatic recognition in terms of the time of the award of a qualification?
- How to make it comprehensible to the employers and HEI?