Achieving Automatic recognition in the EHEA.

The I-AR project

23 April 2024

EUROPEAN
Higher Education Area

bologna process

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meet the world

IN·GLOBAL
Enhancing Knowledge of the
EHEA and Global Dialogue

Co-funded by
the European Union

Automatic Recognition

The I-AR Project

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Today

- About I-AR
- 3 main outcomes

I-AR

1. About I-AR

- What is I-AR?
- Goals
- Outcomes

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About

- I-AR: "Implementing Automatic Recognition in the ENIC-NARIC Networks"
- Erasmus+ Key Action NARIC project
- 2020 - 2023

European Commission

I-AR TEAM

Steering Group

- EUA
- ESU
- ECA
- ENIC – NARIC Denmark

Project team

ENIC – NARIC:
- Estonia
- Flanders (Belgium)
- France
- Ireland
- Italy
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- ENIC Ukraine

Coordinator

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Goal

Support implementation fair automatic recognition

Offer guidance on institutional, national and European level:

- An EHEA qualifications table
- Implement AR in ENIC-NARIC centres
- Support higher education institutions (build capacity)

- Analysis LRC & Global recognition convention
- EAR manual (2nd edition)

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I-AR builds on previous work

FAIR	2015 – 2017	• Focus on automatic institutional recognition • Shows infrastructure is key
Paradigms	2016 – 2018	• 4 models of automatic recognition
AR-Net	2018 - 2020	• Triangle de facto automatic recognition (practical) • Portability of recognition decisions (context)
I-Comply	2019 - 2021	• 5 countries, towards practical implementation • National infrastructures, principles
I-AR	2020 -2023	• AR: ENIC-NARICs providing national guidance • AR Building institutional capacity in the ENIC-NARIC Networks
AR25	Now	

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2. EHEA qualifications table

- Goal
- Look
- Test results

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Goal EHEA table

Support implementation of fair automatic recognition

- Provide an easy overview of qualifications in a cycle/ or EQF level;
- Overview of which qualifications be automatically considered for general access to the next level.

Short cycle
EQF level 5

First cycle
EQF level 6

Second cycle
and integrated
(longcycle) studies
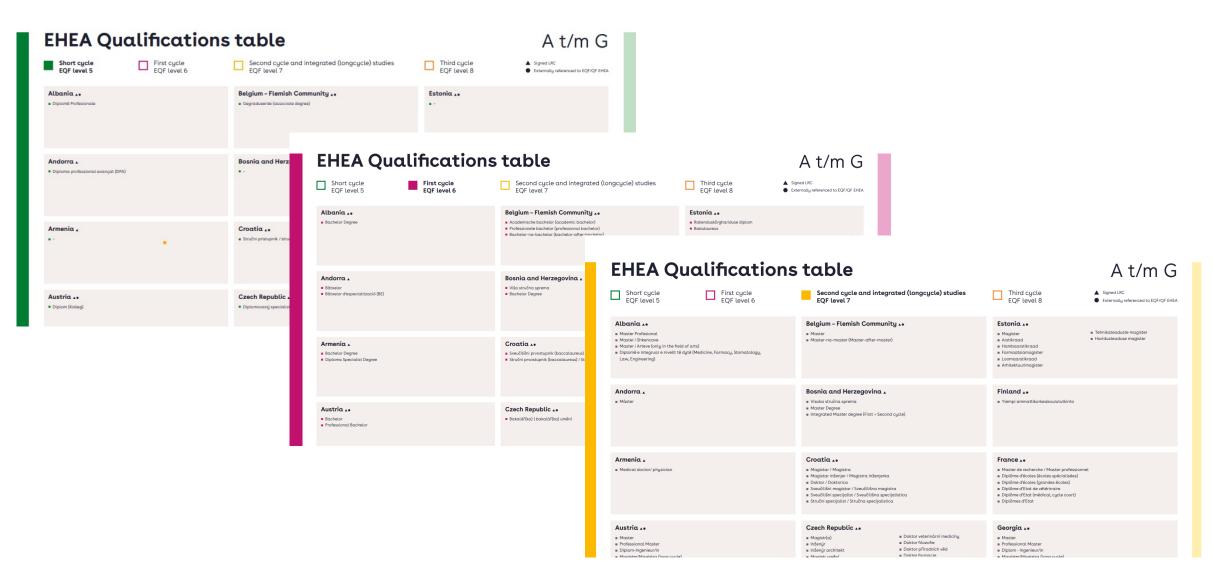EQF level 7

Third cycle
EQF level 8

EHEA table

Criteria included:

- the Lisbon Recognition Convention is signed;
- the national qualification framework is referenced to the EQF and/or QF European Higher Education Area.

Clickable per level

Example clickable

Use EHEA table

Support implementation fair automatic recognition

De facto

Use the table in an admissions and/or ENIC-NARIC office to make recognition decisions.

Legally binding

Use table to prepare entering into legally binding agreements on AR

For instance: Benelux Baltic treaty

EHEA survey – some observations

- All (!) 14 partners use de facto Automatic Recognition
- Even for some countries that do not comply with all 3 criteria, AR (based on de facto office regulations);
- No:
  - rights to next level;
  - not enough experience in recognizing qualifications from that EHEA country;
  - do not evaluate the type of qualification (ie medical);
  - do not meet criteria.
- In some cases, less de facto yes, more legal yes.

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Testing EHEA table

Q3. Which model(s) of automatic recognition (AR) do you use in your ENIC-NARIC office? Multiple answers possible:

Answer Choices	Responses	
AR on basis of legal bilateral and multilateral agreements	57.14%	8
AR on basis of legally binding unilateral list of qualifications	14.29%	2
AR on basis of non-legal bilateral and multilateral agreements	28.57%	4
De facto automatic recognition	92.86%	13
Our office does not make any evaluations	0.00%	0
Other models of AR (if so please explain below)	0.00%	0
We do not use any form of automatic recognition in the office (please explain below)	7.14%	1
Comment:	28.57%	4
	Answered	14
	Skipped	2

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Testing EHEA table

Q4. How do you organize and support automatic recognition practices in your ENIC-NARIC office? Please choose what is applicable (multiple answers possible). Via:

Answer Choices	Responses	
Information management which countries and qualifications qualify for automatic recognition;	71.43%	10
Periodically review the automatic recognition procedures in place;	64.29%	9
Databases with recognition decisions;	85.71%	12
Other (please specify):	35.71%	5
	Answered	14
	Skipped	2

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Testing EHEA table

Q5. How do you support the implementation of automatic recognition in your country? Please choose what is applicable (multiple answers possible). Via:

How do you support the implementation of automatic recognition in your country? Please choose what is applicable (multiple answers possible). Via:		
Answer Choices	Responses	
Our website (information what is automatic recognition);	42.86%	6
Providing general information to the general public on how foreign qualifications compare on system level to our national qualifications on system level;	64.29%	9
Automated recognition assessments available on your website;	35.71%	5
Country handbooks/modules with information on recognition standard encompassed by AR on the centre's website;	35.71%	5
Our databases (ie information to higher education institutions);	57.14%	8
Webinars for higher education institutions;	71.43%	10
Training of admissions officers;	71.43%	10
Close dialogue with the main stakeholders involved;	64.29%	9
Our admissions officers networks;	57.14%	8
Use of a chatbot for frequently asked questions;	0.00%	0
Other, please specify:	14.29%	2
	Answered	14
	Skipped	2

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Testing EHEA table

Q6. Do higher education institutions in general follow your advise on (automatic) recognition of foreign qualifications?NB: this question is for centres that evaluate foreign qualifications as part of their mandate:

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes (we provide legally binding advise to higher education institutions);	7.14%	1
Yes (we provide non legally binding advise to our higher education institutions);	85.71%	12
No (we provide legally binding advise to higher education institutions);	0.00%	0
No (we provide non legally binding advise to our higher education institutions);	0.00%	0
Not applicable as we do not make evaluations;	0.00%	0
We do not know whether our advise is followed because (please specify):	7.14%	1
	Answered	14
	Skipped	2

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3. Implementation AR in ENIC NARIC centres

- Goal
- Outcomes

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Goal

- Improve automatic recognition regimes in ENIC-NARIC centres

Method:
- Analyse current regimes
- Implement improvements

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Outcomes

- All ENIC-NARIC centres already applied AR to a wide range of qualifications
- Various models can be applied by a centre simultaneously
- Periodically review the AR procedures in place
- ENIC NARIC should continue to share information on best practices in implementing AR

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Outcomes (2)

- AR can only be fully implemented in:
  - a well-functioning national recognition infrastructure
  - in the context of the Lisbon Recognition Convention
- AR is embedded in services of ENIC-NARICs

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4. Capacity building in HEIs

- Goal
- Outcomes

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Goal

Build capacity on institutional level
- Strengthen the link between ENIC-NARIC and HEIs
- Improve information provision on fair and automatic recognition
- Organize national seminars for higher education institutions to promote a common understanding of automatic recognition

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Outcomes

All ENIC-NARIC centres of the project team promote and support fair (automatic) recognition through a wide set of services and channels, including:
- the website of the ENIC-NARIC centre
- databases
- country information modules
- training courses for admissions officers
- targeted webinars to admissions officers,
- admissions officers network meetings,
- ad hoc consultation moments,
- quality assurance (reviews)
- newsletters

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Outcomes (2)

- Observation: a substantial number of admissions officers are already familiar with the concept of AR
- AR should be promoted in the context of the LRC, to ensure understanding and embeddedness in fair recognition practices
- Continuous information provision and staff training to higher education institutions is needed
- ENIC-NARICs should receive sufficient resources to support HEIs and other stakeholders (considered a core activity to implement the LRC)

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Contact

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Thank you!