

## National Action Plan for Recognition Montenegro

Through recognition, a foreign diploma is equalled with a diploma acquired in the Republic in view of the right to continue education and of the right to employment.

Through equivalence, a foreign diploma is equalled with an adequate diploma obtained in the Republic in view of the right to continue education in an adequate educational programme.

Recognition, i.e. equivalence of a foreign diploma is done by the university authorized to do so by the Ministry.

A decision shall be made on the recognition i.e. equivalence of a foreign diploma.

In the process of recognition i.e. equivalence procedure, educational system of the country in which the foreign diploma was obtained, educational programme, conditions of admission to the educational programme, rights provided by that diploma in the country in which it was obtained and other circumstances important for recognition i.e. equivalence are considered.

If during validation i.e. equivalence it is determined that the educational system of a foreign institution significantly differs from the educational system of the institution in the Republic, it is concluded additional and exams for students not holding adequate diplomas shall be taken.

Undergraduate studies diploma may be replaced either by national or international qualifications or by knowledge assessed as adequate by an institution accredited in Montenegro.

In case a certificate of a foreign higher education institution is submitted for assessment, such an institution must be recognized by the European Universities Association or accredited by a national or nationally recognized body.

Content of the decision on recognition i.e. equivalence is written on the back of the original and on the copy of a translation of a foreign certificate.

Decision on validation i.e. equivalence is definite.

During recognition i.e. equivalence procedure, Law on General Administrative Procedure is applied, unless otherwise stipulated by this law.

A register shall be kept on validation i.e. equivalence of foreign diplomas.

Law on Higher Education precisely defines process of diploma recognition. Based on it this procedure is done by the University of Montenegro in accordance with Guideline of nostrification and equivalence of foreign diplomas. This Guidelines can be found at web site of University [www.ucg.cg.ac.yu](http://www.ucg.cg.ac.yu)

All process is done by expert commission, but the final decision is made by Senate.

The authorized university keep register.

ENIC centre was formally established in the Ministry of Education and Science in June 2003. In 2004, Tempus project "Development of ENIC in Montenegro" was approved by EC. In February 2006 we officially started implementation of activities, which

implied creation of new legislation as regards recognition of diplomas and foreign qualifications, which is currently under way. The first draft version of the “Law on Recognition and Validation of Education”, and “Guidelines on Forms, Documentation, Expenses and Records Procedures in the Process of Recognition and Validation of Education” has been created. It was done by working group, comprising Ministry and University representatives. We expect to have the new law adopted in the Montenegrin Parliament till the end of May 2007. Law will allow transparent system of recognition and evaluation of foreign education in accordance with principles of Lisbon Convention. Changes and amendments on Law on Higher Education are being worked by the working group comprising Ministry and University representatives.