

NATIONAL ACTIONS PLANS FOR RECOGNITION

Andorran recognition's system has not been changed at the moment. It is based on a law issued in 1977 (Decret de Professions Liberals del 1977). This law says that only the French or Spanish qualifications are recognized in Andorra. Any other qualification must be recognized by Spain or France.

These laws are being modified, but not already done. They are being discussed at the Parliament (Consell General d'Andorra). We guess, they are going to be approved at the end of this summer. However, we are working on the new Qualification Framework as well as the Homologation and Recognition protocols to be adapted to the Lisboa Convention. Thus, as far as the laws are approved by our Parliament and the Lisboa Convention is ratified, our recognition set of rules will be immediately established.

Our university was started in 1997 with 2 attendance studies (Bachelor in Nursery and Computer Engineering). Nowadays, University of Andorra (UdA) offers three attendance studies, and provides up to 20 virtual-degrees in cooperation with an on-line Spanish University (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya - UOC).

These degrees offered by UdA are official and they are provided by the Andorran State recognition, held on Minister in charge of Higher Education and Research. In order to compare and recognize with other EHEA official degrees, we are only capable to do it with these three attendance studies. The other virtual degrees are not being comparable since UOC is in Spain and offers official degrees in Spain. In that point, we are not able to adapt these qualifications to the EHEA until Spain implements its Qualification Framework.

The Andorran Government has started plans to join the principles of the Bologna process. The working plan schedule is as follows:

- Modification of Decret de Professions Liberals del 1977 (expected at end of March 2007)
- New law regarding the Higher Education and Research (expected at end of March 2007)
- Ratification of the Lisboa Convention (as soon as the previous legal framework is adopted)
- Implementation of the Homologation and Recognition rules (as soon as the legal framework lets us put in practice)