

# **National Action Plan to improve the quality of the process associated with the recognition of foreign qualification**

## **Legislation**

### 1.1. Lisbon Convention on Recognition

The national Quality Assurance Standards on foreign qualifications obtained from different parts of the world are based on provisions of the Lisbon Convention on Recognition which came into force in Ukraine according to the Law of Ukraine “On Ratification of the Convention on Recognition of Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area”(1999)

### 1.2. Overview of the National Legislation Concerning the Recognition

Recognition of qualifications are regulated by Laws of Ukraine “On Education”, “On Higher Education” (2002), Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine decrees № 1260 “On Education and Scientific Degree Documents” and № 1380 “On licensing of education services”, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine order № 563 “On the Provision on Recognition of foreign documents on education”.

At present introduction of amendments to the mentioned normative documents are not planned.

### 1.3. Bilateral or Regional Agreements on Recognition

International Bilateral Agreements of Ukraine on mutual recognition of the documents on education demand special (different from general) rules on recognition. Furthermore, some of them contain equivalency of separate category of documents on education while most of them provide for the comparative analysis which means the regulation of the conditions similar to those mentioned in the Lisbon Convention on Recognition.

## **2. Practice of Recognition**

### 2.1. Criteria and Procedure

The abovementioned normative documents determine the centralisation of the recognition procedure which is covered by the Ministry’s of Education and Science of Ukraine terms of reference or is implemented by means of coordination with the Ministry in case the recognition needs the institutional level.

Access to the professional activity and assessment of foreign qualifications achieved according to the educational programmes of medical and military content, is held with the participation of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine.

According to the joint conclusion of the States Parties to the Lisbon Convention, the case on recognition is considered regarding foreign qualifications only, that have been obtained at the educational institutions and by the programmes which are recognised by the competent bodies of the state where the educational activity took place and of the state which the higher educational institution that gives the qualification is subordinated to.

The existing general practice of foreign education recognition is implemented individually and based on the process of the establishment of equal academic and professional rights, given to the holder of the foreign and domestic qualifications. It should also be based on comparative analysis of the educational foreign and domestic programmes in order to establish the level of correspondence according to the state standards and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine decree “On the List of Directions and Degree Courses in which Specialists Are Prepared at Higher Education Institutions according to Corresponding Education and Qualification Levels”.

National normative documents provide for relative foreign qualification recognition, in case of essential differences, the foreign education level does not correspond to the Ukrainian education level which the qualification holder claims to obtain. In this case special recommendations are defined (additional study, examinations, competency tests, etc.). The implementation of such recommendations will further provide for foreign education documents recognition.

The changes in the content and complexity of those recommendations depend on the aim of the foreign recognition. The academic recognition demands mastering in academic studies which are the basis for continuation of the studying process on the next education level. The recognition regulation system aiming at employment assistance is realised in a framework of correspondence of foreign qualification to the necessary national standards of professional competency. Foreign qualification recognition for the positions that are not supervised by the State is up to the employer's decision.

## 2.2. Joint Degrees

The legislation of Ukraine contributes to Joint (Double, Multiple) Degree recognition.

## 2.3. Institutional Practice Overview

Higher Education Institutions follow the provisions of the Lisbon Convention on Recognition under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. Provided the provisions are not followed the legislative sanctions are applied.

## 2.4. Transparency of the instruments for Recognition

## 2.5. International Education/ Education “without Borders”

Assessment of the International (“without Borders”) Education is implemented in the context of the abovementioned legislation.

# 3. Data Supply

## 3.1. Data Supply regarding the Recognition

The data supply is implemented by the corresponding Departments of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

The web-sites services are maintained which are connected with an ENIC-NARIC web-site.

## 3.2. Set of Materials for Applicants

Sets of Materials for applicants have an individualised and detailed content and are supplied on obligatory bases to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and to Higher Education Institutions.

# 4. The Structure

## 4.1. The National Information Centres

The functions of the National Information Centres execute the Licensing, Accreditation and Nostrification Board of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, data and organisation supplement is executed by the State Accreditation Commission of Ukraine.

Staff – 9 persons.

In 2006 the Ministry reached the decision to establish the separate Department of Nostrification.

The Ministry's of Education and Science of Ukraine authority is concerned with the academic and professional recognition.

## 4.2. The Joint Recognition Bodies/Quality Assurance

The systematic data exchange is carried out by the bodies responsible for the Recognition and Quality Assurance within an ENIC-NARIC framework.