

# ARENA

Enabling access to higher education  
for refugees, displaced persons and  
persons in a refugee-like situation.

**A joint cooperation between National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARICs),  
international organisations and higher education institutions (HEIs)  
2020-2022.**

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



**ARENA (Refugees and Recognition – Toolkit 3) is an Erasmus+ supported project, which aims to contribute towards more transparent and professional procedures for the recognition of refugees’ qualifications in Europe. The project builds on the completed Refugees and Recognition – Toolkit project, where a common methodological approach to the recognition of refugees’ qualifications was developed with the Toolkit for Recognition of Refugees’ Qualifications.**

## GOAL

The overall goal of the ARENA project is to enhance the mobility, employability and access to further studies for refugees, displaced persons and persons in a refugee-like situation, including those without official documentation of their educational background.

## ORGANISATION

The ARENA-project is a joint cooperation between NARICs, international organisations and higher education institutions (HEIs) working closely with refugees and their educational qualifications. The consortium consists of experts with extensive experience related to recognition, admission and the inclusion of refugees into higher education.

## PARTICIPANTS

Project team	Steering group	Higher Education Institutions
NOKUT – Coordinator (NO)	European University Association (EUA)	Higher education institutions from Greece, Italy, Malta and the Netherlands will be recruited to take part in the project as subcontractors.
NUFFIC (NL)	European Students Union (ESU)	
CIMEA (IT)	Council of Europe (CoE)	
MQRIC (MT)	European Association for International Education (EAIE)	
D.O.A.T.A.P. (GR)		
NARIC-Vlaanderen (BE)		

## ACTIVITIES

The activities are structured around three main focus areas concerning the further testing of the Toolkit in major refugee receiving countries, managing sustainability of identified best practice procedures and assessment schemes, and addressing the need for updated and relevant information resources.

### Main project activities

- Further testing of the Toolkit in cooperation with NARICs and HEIs from Greece and Malta
- Mapping of how HEIs in Italy view the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR) as a supplementary document for admission to further studies
- Managing sustainability of best practice procedure identified in the REACT project concerning the admission of refugee students to further studies
- National seminars for stakeholders presenting the results from the testing of the Toolkit
- Development of five new refugee country briefings on the educational systems of Yemen, Burundi, Rwanda, Sudan and Palestine
- Development of e-learning modules for the refugee country briefings
- Development of e-learning modules on identified best practice cases of recognition and admission of refugee students

### DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

The outcomes of the project will be published and updated on the project website. Information about the project and the achieved results will be disseminated throughout the whole project period, with publication of updates in relevant newsletters, articles in international media and presentations at national and international conferences and seminars.

### Timeline



### PREVIOUS PROJECTS

The ARENA project builds on the results achieved in the first and second cycle Toolkit projects, where the main outcomes were the Toolkit for Recognition of Refugees' Qualifications and the REACT Q-Card for Admission Officers. In addition, ten refugee country briefings were developed for Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Iran, Ethiopia, Venezuela, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

**Toolkit:** [www.nokut.no/en/Refugees-and-Recognition/toolkit](http://www.nokut.no/en/Refugees-and-Recognition/toolkit)

**Toolkit 2 (REACT):** [www.nokut.no/en/react/refugees-and-recognition](http://www.nokut.no/en/react/refugees-and-recognition)

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

To enable the accessibility and transparency of the project's work, the results will be made available on the project's website on a continuous basis.

### Website:

<https://www.nokut.no/en/arena-toolkit-3>

### Email:

[project-arena@nokut.no](mailto:project-arena@nokut.no)



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NARIC-Vlaanderen

