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The Pathway to Automatic recognition

A Bachelor is a Bachelor is a Bachelor

GROWTH

Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Home > Growth > The European Single Market > Single Market for Services > Free movement of professionals > Recognition of professional qualifications > Automatic recognition

We will not discuss Automatic Professional Recognition in this presentation...



Single Market and
Start-ups

Industry

Entrepreneurship
and SMEs

Access to finance
and capital

Sectors

Automatic recognition

In the EU, there is a system of automatic recognition of professional qualifications for seven so-called sectoral professions: nurses, midwives, doctors, dentists, pharmacists, architects and veterinary surgeons.

How automatic recognition works

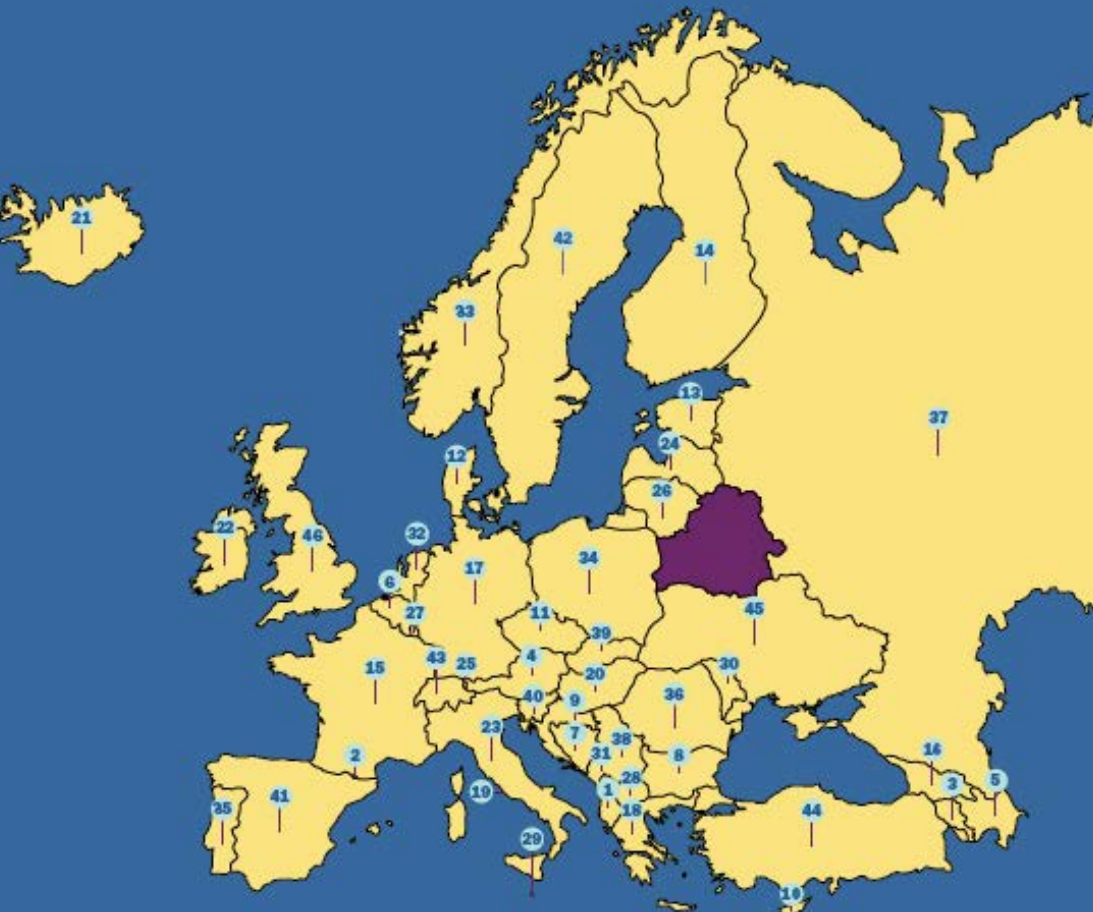
To work in another EU country, professionals must apply to the authority that oversees the profession in that country, providing proof of their qualifications.

The authority must:

- acknowledge your application **within 1 month** of receiving it and ask you for missing but necessary documents to process the application

Countries Engaged in the Bologna Process

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Albania | 15. France | 28. Macedonia | 38. Serbia and Montenegro |
| 2. Andorra | 16. Georgia | 29. Malta | 39. Slovak Republic |
| 3. Armenia | 17. Germany | 30. Moldova | 40. Slovenia |
| 4. Austria | 18. Greece | 31. Montenegro | 41. Spain |
| 5. Azerbaijan | 19. Holy See | 32. Netherlands | 42. Sweden |
| 6. Belgium | 20. Hungary | 33. Norway | 43. Switzerland |
| 7. Bosnia and Herzegovina | 21. Iceland | 34. Poland | 44. Turkey |
| 8. Bulgaria | 22. Ireland | 35. Portugal | 45. Ukraine |
| 9. Croatia | 23. Italy | 36. Romania | 46. United Kingdom |
| 10. Cyprus | 24. Latvia | 37. Russian Federation | |
| 11. Czech Republic | 25. Liechtenstein | | |
| 12. Denmark | 26. Lithuania | | |
| 13. Estonia | 27. Luxembourg | | |
- Total 46
■ = Bologna Process Country



The Bologna Process – European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

- Overarching aim is to facilitate:
 - Student and staff mobility
 - Employability
- Comparable degree structure in three cycles
- Common principles for Quality Assurance – European Standards and Guidelines
- Implementation of the LRC
- 48 members + EC



Swedish Council for
Higher Education



Lisbon Recognition Convention (LRC) and the European Area of Recognition (EAR) Manual

- LRC: Only juridically binding agreement within the Bologna Process
- The EAR manual: a practical tool for implementing LRC principles and procedures in a recognition process
- The manual provides guidelines, recommendations and examples in all aspects of recognition
- www.eurorecognition.eu and [EAR-HEI](#)
- All recommendations, guidelines and examples are entirely based on the LRC + recommendation on criteria and procedures for the assessment of foreign qualifications
- EAR manual endorsed in the 2012 Bucharest Communique





The Automatic Recognition timeline

1999	Bolo degr	<p><i>Bucharest:</i></p> <p><i>"We are determined to remove outstanding obstacles hindering effective and proper recognition and are willing to work together towards the automatic recognition of comparable academic degrees, building on the tools of the Bologna framework, as a long-term goal of the EHEA."</i></p>
2010	Euro	
2012	Buch auto	
2012-14	EHEA	
2015	Yere othe	
	the same level as relevant domestic qualifications"	
2018	Paris	



EHEA Pathfinder group on Automatic Recognition

Definition of AR:

Automatic recognition of a degree leads to the automatic right of an applicant holding a qualification of a certain level to be considered for entry to a programme of further study in the next level in any other EHEA-country (access).

Conclusion: All tools and formal structures are already in place, but needs proper implementation.

With a trust-based approach, moving from individual to system-level recognition is AR indeed an option
- a Bachelor is a Bachelor is a Bachelor!





PfG Recommendations:

- Review national legislation which violates principles of the LRC
- use and spread the EAR-HEI - involve HEIs/admission officers
- reform the DS
- more focus on learning outcomes and qualitative criteria + Qualifications Frameworks
- shift from recognition of individual's credentials to systematic recognition
- explore the potential for system level automatic recognition on a regional basis





Automatic Recognition projects & developments

- **Regional initiatives**

- Benelux
- Nordic-Baltic

- **Projects**

- **STREAM** – ‘Streamlining Institutional Recognition: a Training Platform for Admissions Officers’ for HEIs to use the EAR-manual (2015-16)
- **FAIR** - Focus on Automatic Institutional Recognition (Finalized 2017)
- New **Paradigms** in Recognition (until 2018)





Automatic Recognition projects & developments, cont.

Four categories of Automatic recognition:

1. Legal bilateral and multilateral agreements (Benelux)
2. A legally implemented unilateral list of degrees (Portugal)
3. Non-legal multilateral agreements (Baltic-Nordic manual)
4. De facto automatic recognition, i.e. systematic acceptance of level, quality and workload = a holder of a quality assured EHEA Bachelor is treated in the same way as a holder of a comparable degree in the domestic system.



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Thank you for your attention!

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