

Summary of the EMN Ad-Hoc Query on the recognition of academic and professional qualification of beneficiaries of international protection

Requested on 13th January 2016

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Estonia launched a query to find out if in other MS there is an alternative procedure for the recognition of the academic and professional qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection.

Responses were received from 23 (member) states: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway.

Questions asked:

- 1) In order to facilitate the assessment and recognition of academic qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection is there an alternative recognition procedure in your Member State? If yes, please describe.**
- 2) In order to facilitate the assessment and recognition of professional qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection is there an alternative recognition procedure in your Member State? If yes, please describe.**

- 10 MS reported not having an alternative method for recognizing the academic and professional qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection and did not refer to having a more favourable system for them.
- About half of the MS who replied reported not having an alternative recognition procedure for assessing the academic and professional qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection, but their system is more flexible for them (e.g. exemptions from fees, applications processed on priority basis, assessment without all relevant documents and certificates, issuing a background paper, possibility to direct an immigrant to demonstrate his or her professional skills in practice etc.).
- Some countries clearly reported having an alternative system for recognizing the academic and/or professional qualifications of beneficiaries of international protection whereby qualifications can be assessed for people holding a qualification without relevant documentation (e.g. possibility to assess the equivalence of a foreign qualification with the aid of so-called “other procedures” (DE), Recognition Procedure for Persons without Verifiable Documentation (UVD-procedure) and possibility to apply for assessment of prior experimental learning (NO)).