Linking Academic Recognition and Quality Assurance

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Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA (ESG-2015)

ESG 1.4 Student admission, progression, recognition and certification

Fair recognition of higher education qualifications, periods of study and prior learning, including the recognition of non-formal and informal learning, are essential components for ensuring the students' progress in their studies, while promoting mobility. Appropriate recognition procedures rely on

- institutional practice for recognition being in line with the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention;
- cooperation with other institutions, quality assurance agencies and the national ENIC/NARIC centre with a view to ensuring coherent recognition across the country.

Academic recognition refers to a formal acknowledgment by a competent authority of the value of a foreign educational qualification with a view to access to educational activities. [LRC]

Quality assurance – an all embracing term referring to an ongoing, continuous process of evaluating (assessing, monitoring, guaranteeing, maintaining, and improving) the quality of a higher education system, institutions, or programmes. [UNESCO]

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1

RECOMMENDATIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

1

- Policies and Procedures
- Monitoring, Review, Acting Upon Feedback
- Set criteria and Indicators
- Promotion and Communication
- Consistency within a set infrastructure
- Liaising with ENIC/NARIC
- Sharing and learning

2

RECOMMENDATIONS TO QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCIES

2

- Recognition within EQA
- Criteria for inclusion in IQA
- Capacity of peers and consultation with specialists
- Thematic analysis
- Dialogue

3

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENIC/NARIC CENTRES

3

- Streamlining of procedures and structures
- Information provision, tools, documents and training
- Development of services
- Collaboration with QA agencies

4

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STAKEHOLDERS

4

- Awareness
- Transparency of systems
- Review and amendment of internationalisation codes
- Revision of frameworks
- Support for fair recognition

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