
ABOUT THE NEED FOR RATIFICATION IN UKRAINE OF GLOBAL CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION

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To be valid in Ukraine (for employment or continuing education purposes), a foreign educational document you may need to undergo the recognition procedure. This means establishing the compliance of the academic and professional rights, as well as the educational and qualification levels indicated in foreign educational documents (qualifications) with the national education standards of Ukraine.

Currently, the recognition of educational documents in Ukraine is based on the Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications in the European Region (Lisbon, April 11, 1997) and international agreements on mutual recognition and equivalence of educational documents and scientific titles.

The Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications (the Lisbon Convention) was jointly developed by the Council of Europe and UNESCO in order to promote recognition of qualifications awarded in one country (Party of the Convention) by another country (Party of the Convention).

In 2019, a new tool for the recognition of educational qualifications and degrees has appeared. It is the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education. The convention was adopted at the 40th session of the UNESCO's General Conference in November. It is the first UNESCO document in the field of higher education with a global scope.

The ongoing transformation of international university into the global campus of students, faculty and researchers is undoubtedly the mainstream trend in the modern higher education area nowadays, and the scope and geography of mobility in the sphere of higher education are estimated to grow in the years to come. Hence, there is an urgent need to establish the common principles for the recognition of qualifications and to adapt national procedures to the new global conditions.

Building on and enhancing the coordination, revisions and achievements of the regional recognition conventions, the objectives of the Global Convention are to:

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- Promote and strengthen international cooperation in higher education;
 - Support interregional initiatives, policies and innovations for international cooperation in higher education;
 - Facilitate global mobility and the achievement of merit in higher education for the mutual benefit of qualification holders, higher-education institutions, employers, and any other stakeholders of the States Parties to this Convention while understanding and respecting the diversity of the States Parties' higher-education systems;
 - Provide an inclusive global framework for the fair, transparent, consistent, coherent, timely and reliable recognition of qualifications concerning higher education;
 - Respect, uphold and protect the autonomy and diversity of higher-education institutions and systems;
 - Foster trust and confidence in the quality and reliability of qualifications through, inter alia, the promotion of integrity and ethical practices;
 - Promote a culture of quality assurance in higher-education institutions and systems, and develop the capacities necessary for ensuring reliability, consistency and complementarity in quality assurance, in qualifications frameworks and in the recognition of qualifications in order to support international mobility;
8. Promote the development, collection and sharing of accessible, up-to-date, reliable, transparent and relevant information and the dissemination of best practices among stakeholders, States Parties and regions;
- Promote, through the recognition of qualifications, inclusive and equitable access to quality higher education and support lifelong learning opportunities for all, including refugees and displaced persons;
 - Foster globally the optimal use of human and educational resources with a view to promoting education for sustainable development, and contribute to structural, economic, technological, cultural, democratic and social development for all societies.

Ukraine has supported the urgency and necessity of the Global Convention, since the new document, alongside with the Lisbon Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region and other regional conventions, will facilitate the mobility of more than 220 million students across the world.

References:

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