Peer review of ENIC/NARIC centres and tools for HEIs to improve recognition practices

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Erasmus+ projects: key objectives

- Streamlining recognition in EHEA
- Exploring new developments in recognition
- Starting point: promoting correct implementation of Lisbon Recognition Convention
First step: aligning recognition practice of ENIC/NARIC centres

- Online training for new ENIC/NARIC staff (since 2004);
- Survey on substantial differences;
- EAR manual;
- Online course in applying EAR manual;
European Area of Recognition

Lisbon Recognition Convention 1997

Bologna Declaration 1999

EAR Recognition manual 2012

EAR-HEI manual for admissions officers 2014

QA system for recognition 2015

STREAM platform for admissions officers 2015

FAIR institutional recognition 2017
The EAR Manual

The EAR Manual is a European manual for the recognition of qualifications. EAR stands for the European Area of Recognition.

Information on recognition work in Europe

The EAR-manual (link to the online version)

Last updated: 19 February 2016
Standards and Guidelines for recognition centres

- Starting from Lisbon Recognition Convention
- Good practice of EAR manual
- Joint ENIC/NARIC Charter of Activities and Services
The quality assurance system for the networks is developed to assist centres to systematically review whether they comply with the Lisbon Recognition Convention and the good practice agreed upon by the ENIC-NARIC networks. In doing so it aims to streamline recognition practices.

The review is a voluntary exercise, and consists of a Self-Evaluation against a set of Standards & Guidelines, which can be followed by a Peer-Review. These are all three combined in a Protocol and are complemented by a Typology.

Self evaluation & Standards and Guidelines:
The self-evaluation is developed to enable ENIC-NARICs centres to critically reflect to which extent they comply with good practice, and to improve where necessary and to enhance where possible.

For the review, a set of standards has been developed, based on the LRC and other good practice developed in the ENIC-NARIC networks such as the EAR manuals. These standards are accompanied by guidelines to assist in the review. Centres are only expected to review those standards that apply to their centre.

Peer Review
The peer review can enhance and add value to an ENIC-NARIC's self-evaluation by introducing an external and international perspective. The peer review consists of a site visit by a team of 2 members from an ENIC-NARIC and a third national expert, reviewing a centre on the basis of its self-evaluation. The review results in a report with recommendations for the centre under review.
QA Mechanism

Protocol:

✓ Self evaluation
✓ Peer Review
+ Typology of centres
Self – Evaluation

✓ 6 standards;
✓ Evaluate compliance with the standard;
✓ Determine the priority of standards for your centre;
✓ SWOT analysis of the self-evaluation
## Total of peer reviews

- 25 self-evaluations & peer reviews (of 22 centres)

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Typology of ENIC-NARIC centres

- Survey within the networks: 54 respondents
- Interpretation of the status, setting and tasks of the centre into a few main categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NETHERLANDS</th>
<th>Peer-review report available</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legal Status</strong></td>
<td>Ministry</td>
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<td><strong>Recognition policy</strong></td>
<td>Autonomous</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
<td>Large (&gt;10)</td>
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<td><strong>Status of the evaluation</strong></td>
<td>Advisory</td>
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<td><strong>Purpose of the evaluation</strong></td>
<td>Further study</td>
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<td><strong>Applicants</strong></td>
<td>Individuals</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Services</strong></td>
<td>Online database</td>
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ENIC-NARICs reaching out

Out of 54 centres that sent in their typology:

- 46 have HEI’s as applicants of their services;
- 41 organize conferences and seminars;
- 34 carry out projects and/or research
- 31 provide training in recognition
- 27 offer an online database
Streamlining recognition

2014-2016
STREAM project

2018-2020 AR-net

STREAM project

2 main features:

- 4 training modules:
  - Introduction to recognition
  - Quality & Legitimacy
  - Credential Evaluation and Assessing
  - Information Search

- Real cases forum for admissions officers

www.enic-naric.net
http://onlinecourse.ning.com/profiles/members/
Streamlining recognition 2015-2017 FAIR
Focus on Automatic Institutional Recognition

**Aim:** to improve recognition practice of higher education institutions by implementing elements of automatic recognition.

**Objectives**

- Identify essentials in recognition procedures, develop practical guidelines and provide consultancy in streamlining the procedures;
- Gain commitment at policy level to effectuate the implementation of forms of automatic recognition in each participating country.

FAIR project: policy reform
FAIR project: QA of recognition at HEIs

Quotes from EUA reports:

“Found no evidence that recognition and admission are explicitly covered by internal or external QA procedures.”

“The absence of integrated databases makes it difficult to assert that QA of the recognition process is adequate”

“In some HEI’s, other issues were so pressing that discussion of QA would have been premature”.

“The central administration had little responsibility and limited scope for implementing ESG 2015.”
I–Comply project

✓ Erasmus+ EHEA call 2018;

✓ Kick-off meeting last week!

✓ Supporting the Bologna Peer Support Group 2.
I-Comply: improving national infrastructure of recognition

5 countries (NL, IT, LT, PL and UA):
• Self-evaluation to identify areas of improvement, based on scorecard;
• Establish key performance indicators (in roadmap) to measure progress;
• Implementation of reforms, supported by periodic peer counselling;
• Peer review of progress against KPI’s and general recommendations
Questions?

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