

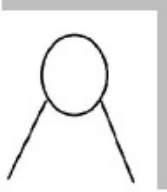







What is the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees?

 <p>HELLENIC REPUBLIC Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs</p>	 <p>COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE</p>
European Qualifications Passport for Refugees No 0123¹ Assessment Part	
Issued: 03/10/2017 Valid through: 03/10/2022	
Personal information	
Last name: NASRY	
First and middle names: Ahmed	
Date of birth: 16/04/1993	
Place of birth: Damascus, Syria	
Nationality: Syrian	
Assessed qualifications	
Highest achieved qualification: Bachelor of Science, Physics, Damascus University, Syria ²	
Other achieved qualifications: Diploma, High School, Damascus, Syria ³	
Additional relevant information from the applicant	
Languages: Arabic (native speaker), Arabic (language of instruction), English (language course), French (other)	
Work experience: 2014-2015 Volunteer Student Tutor, Damascus University, Syria ⁴	
Membership in professional organizations: N/A ⁵	
Interview and documentation assessment is conducted by credential evaluators from DOATAP, CIMEA, NOKUT and UK NARIC.	
On behalf of the project	Evaluation Coordinator 
For more information about the status of this document: http://www.coe.int/en/web/education/recognition-of-refugees-qualifications	
<small>¹ European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is neither a legal document nor replacement for the national recognition schemes, but a statement intended to be of help in connection with applications for employment/internships and studies. The evaluation is based on available documentation and a structured interview with a professional credential evaluator. This document is only valid together with the explanatory part. ² Available documentation: 07/2016 ³ Available documentation: 07/2013 ⁴ Available documentation: 06/2004 ⁵ No available documentation</small>	
   	

The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees

What is the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees?

The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is a document providing an assessment of the higher education qualifications based on available documentation and a structured interview. It also presents information on the applicant's work experience and language proficiency. The document provides reliable information for integration and progression towards employment and admission to further studies.

It is a specially developed assessment scheme for refugees, even for those who cannot fully document their qualifications.

What is included in the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees and how does the evaluation work?

The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees includes three sections – the assessment part, the explanatory part and an advice on the way ahead. The assessment part of the document contains information describing the highest achieved qualification(s), subject field, other relevant qualifications, as well as work experience and language proficiency. The explanatory and advisory sections contain information about the status of the document and a short description of the pilot project.

The evaluation is a combination of an assessment of available documentation, covering a considerable amount of information gained through previous evaluations and a structured interview. As a result, the document provides credible information that is relevant for employment, internships, enrollment to qualification courses and admission to studies.

So it is not really a passport?

No, not in a conventional sense. Nor is it a substitute for identification or educational documentation. It does not guarantee admission to studies or employment. Neither is it a formal recognition act.

The methodology being piloted is intended to help refugees to progress in their studies or employment – to continue with their lives.

But why is it only for refugees?

Because refugees are fleeing persecution, terror and war. As such, they need support. This concept is reflected in international law, including the Council of Europe/UNESCO Lisbon Recognition Convention, which foresees "procedures designed to assess fairly and expeditiously whether refugees, displaced persons and persons in a refugee-like situation fulfil the relevant requirements for access to higher education".

Can any refugee apply?

In this first phase of the pilot project, a selected number of refugees (about 50 in total in 2017) will go through the assessment process in Athens. The idea is to gradually establish a system which can be used by other countries in the future.

The Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs in Greece, which is leading this process, will contact refugees who claim to have completed or partially completed studies at the level of upper secondary school and above, even with insufficient or missing documentation and wish to enter this process.

Interesting, but has this worked in other countries?

Yes, Norway and the UK have started to introduce this methodology and it does work – and has been found to be cost-efficient.

So, this could potentially be used in more countries?

Yes. The idea is that this information should be accepted and easily interpreted in any European country. In the long term, this methodology can save costs for host countries by facilitating and accelerating the assessment of refugees' qualifications.

How long will this process take?

The questionnaire is normally sent to candidates three weeks before the evaluation, with two weeks to fill it in, allowing the evaluators one week to review them. The interviews themselves take between 45 minutes to one hour, after which a decision on whether or not to issue the document is made. If the decision is positive, the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is issued and valid for five years from the date of issue.

That's quick. But will anyone else be aware of it?

Yes. The National Information Centre in Italy, CIMEA, which has a central information role among the network of qualifications network centers in Europe, will store this information electronically.

When does this process start?

The first group of candidates was interviewed from 7 to 9 March 2017 in Athens. The project brings together credentials evaluators from Greece, Italy, Norway and the United Kingdom to facilitate and accelerate the recognition of refugees' qualifications in Greece, their first host country. Two additional sessions will be held in June and September 2017.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/education/recognition-of-refugees-qualifications>

The Process:

