



European Qualifications Passport for Refugees

www.coe.int/eqpr

What is the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)?

- The EQPR is an initiative facilitating the recognition of refugees' qualifications even in the absence of full documentation.
- The EQPR is a document listing refugees' highest education qualifications obtained, work experience and language skills.
- It can be used by refugees when they wish to enter further studies or when they seek employment.

The image shows a sample of a European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR) document. The document is titled "European Qualifications Passport for Refugees No 0123¹ Assessment Part". It includes the following information:

- Issued: 14.03.2017
- Valid through: 14.03.2022
- Personal information:
 - Surname: Nasry
 - Father's name: Alawy
 - Date of birth: 28.08.1983
 - Nationality: Syria
 - Given name: Ahmad
 - Mother's name: Rabaa
 - Place of birth: Deir Ez-Zor, Syria
- Assessed qualifications:
 - Highest achieved qualification: (2011) Bachelor in Electrical Engineering, University of Damascus, Syria²
- Additional relevant information from the applicant:
 - Language: Arabic (native speaker), Arabic (language of instruction), English (language course)
 - Work experience: 5 years of teaching experience in Syria³
 - Interview and documentation assessment is conducted by external evaluators from ENIC/NARIC participating in the project⁴.
- On behalf of the project:
 - Evaluation coordinator: Signature
 - Evaluator 1: Signature
 - Evaluator 2: Signature

Footnotes:
¹ European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is neither a legal document nor requirement for the national recognition schemes, but a certificate used for the purpose of being in compliance with regulations for employment, enrolment and studies. The evaluation is based on available documentation and a structured interview with a professional external evaluator. This document is only valid together with the supporting part.
² No available documentation
³ No available documentation
⁴ The project is funded and led by the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Education, Science and Religious Affairs of Greece, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research of Italy, the Conference of Italian Universities, Sector and the European Network of Information Centres (ENIC/NARIC) of Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom. The Ministry of Education and Research of Norway, the Government of Flanders and JERFEC also support the project.



Why is it useful?

- Many refugees cannot prove their education qualifications. When they flee their countries, they might not be able to bring with them the relevant documents. Some refugees lose their documents in the journey to reach the host country.
- The EQPR can be used in other European countries.

Benefits of the EQPR

- Evaluation costs are reduced as well as efforts as refugees need not to undergo further assessments.
- Both host societies and refugees benefit from a faster integration.

Project funded by:

- Voluntary contributions from Belgium, Georgia, Greece, Italy, Monaco and Norway
- CoE Action Plan on Building Inclusive Societies
- CoE Action Plan on Protecting Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe (2017-2019)
- CoE Ordinary budget

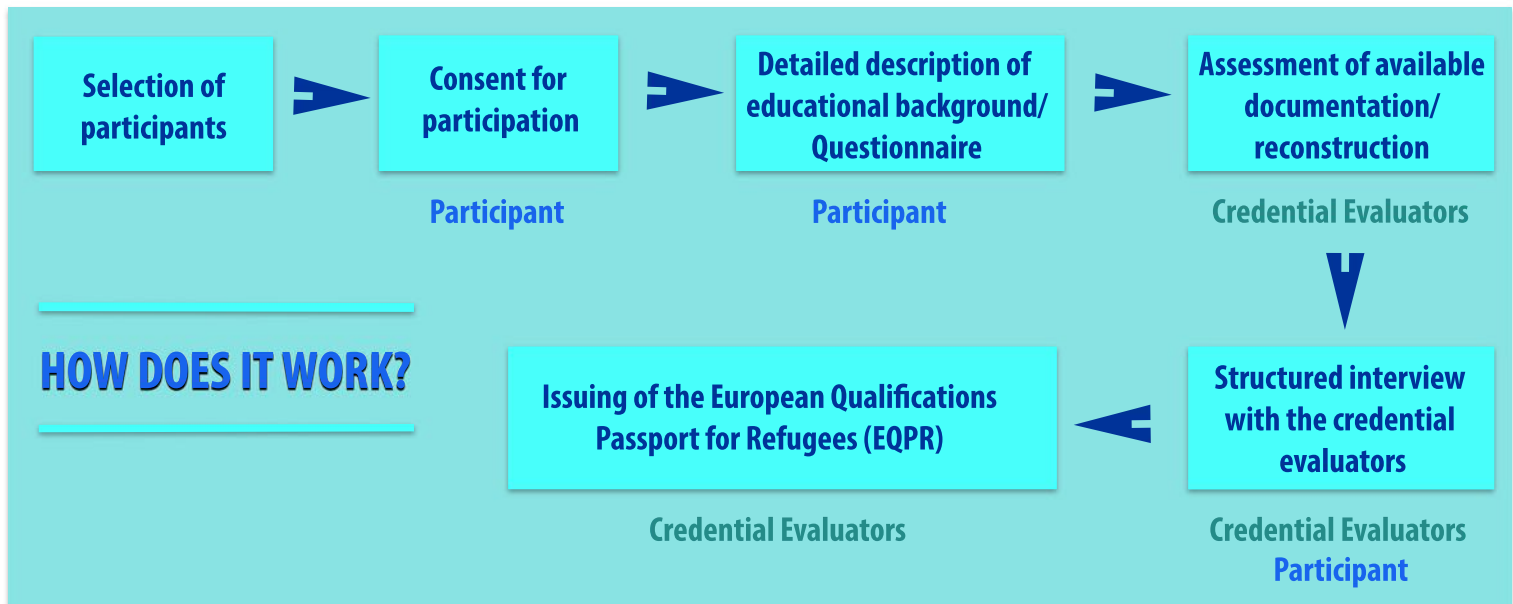
The EQPR supports the implementation of:

THE LISBON RECOGNITION CONVENTION

- Art. 7 - Section VIII of the Convention refers to the recognition of refugees' qualifications in the absence of full documentation
- A Recommendation on the Recognition of Refugees' Qualifications was adopted in 2017

WELL RECEIVED

Universities and also recruitment agencies have accepted the EQPR as a supporting document.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The assessment process

- Credential evaluators are **qualifications experts**. They have experience in foreign qualifications and knowledge of the education system of the countries of the refugees.
- Refugees fill out a questionnaire then if selected, they meet with a team of credential evaluators for an interview (approx. 45 min) during which their qualifications are assessed.
- After the interview, the decision whether to issue the EQPR will be taken.



QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSED

- Higher education
- Upper secondary education

Partners

- ENICs of Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and UK
- Ministries of Education of Greece, Italy and Norway
- Government of Flanders, Belgium
- Conference of University Rectors of Italy
- UNHCR



DOCUMENTARY

A documentary on the EQPR was produced in 2017 presenting the **benefits of the project and its positive impact on refugees' lives.**

Watch it here:
www.coe.int/eqpr

The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR) is an international instrument designed to facilitate the recognition of refugees' qualifications even in the absence of a full documentation.

The EQPR helps refugees to enter the job market and/or further studies. Refugees can use the EQPR in other European countries.

The EQPR contributes to the integration of refugees into their host societies and in more general terms, to the fostering of democratic inclusive societies where diversity is considered as an added value and a resource.

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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