

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.





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, Greece, Italy and Norway.
- CoE Action Plan on Building Inclusive Societies
- CoE Action Plan on Protecting Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe
- CoE Ordinary budget

WELL RECEIVED

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

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

Selection of participants



Consent for participation

Participant



Detailed description of educational background/ Questionnaire

Participant



Assessment of available documentation/ reconstruction

Credential Evaluators



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Issuing of the European Qualifications
Passport for Refugees (EQPR)

Credential Evaluators



Structured interview with the credential evaluators

Credential Evaluators
Participant

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, 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.

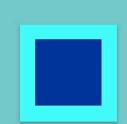
Watch it here: www.coe.int/eqpr





The 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.



Contact:

Co-operation and Capacity Building Division Education Department Council of Europe Agora Building F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

refugees.qualifications@coe.int www.coe.int/eqpr

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are 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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