

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees: Origins of the project and lessons learned so far

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What kind of solution do we need?



enic-naric.net
gateway to recognition of academic and professional qualifications

Challenges

- Volumes
- Unfinished qualifications
- Access to documentation/confirmation of studies
- Demand for mobility and portability



What kind of solution do we need?

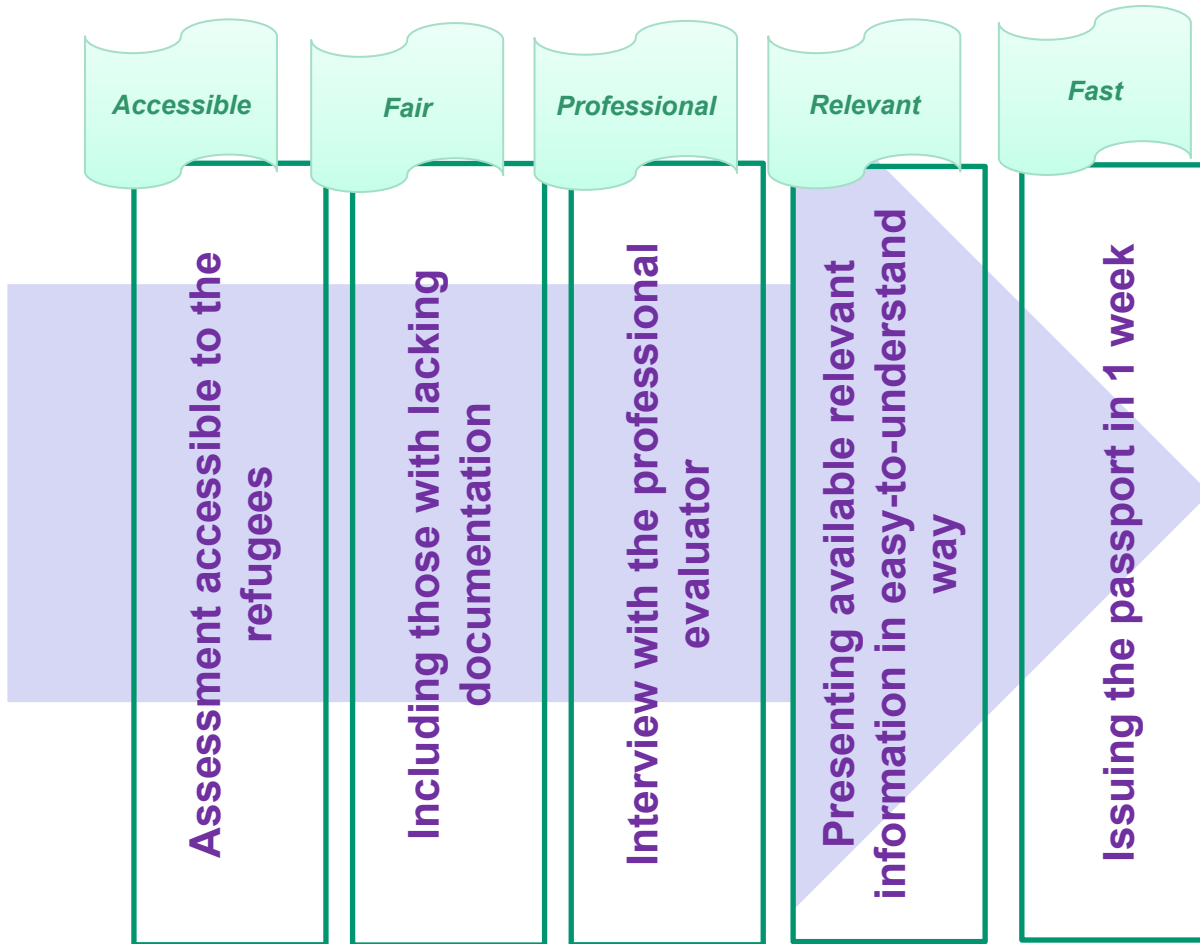
- Accessible
- Fast
- Professional
- Fair (e.g. including cases with lack of documentation)
- Provide relevant information
- Provide feasible system for portability between regions, educational levels and even countries

The path to a multi-national tool to assess refugees' qualifications

- September 2015
 - Norwegian ENIC-NARIC (NOKUT) and UK NARIC proposed the idea of a **European Qualifications Passport for Refugees**
 - Inspiration: The Nansen Passport
- February 2016 – June 2016
 - Successful test in Norway
- March 2016 – March 2018
 - Erasmus+ project Refugees and Recognition (Toolkit)
- March – December 2017
 - Pilot project in Greece by the Council of Europe and Greek authorities in cooperation with UNHCR
 - Assessments, including interviews
 - Recognition experts from Greece, Italy, Norway and UK



European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR) as a possible solution



European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR): methodology

- **Assessment of available documentation** (done by professional evaluator)
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- **Analysis of the qualification** (done by professional evaluator)
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- **Structured interview** (done by professional evaluator)
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- Identify and present refugees' qualifications in a standardized and easy-to-understand manner (**European Qualifications Passport for Refugees**) and provide advice on the way ahead

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION ON THE RECOGNITION OF REFUGEES' QUALIFICATIONS UNDER THE LISBON RECOGNITION CONVENTION

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR): results

- **3** evaluation sessions
- **92** interviews conducted
- **73** EQPRs issued
- **12** educational systems: Syria, Afghanistan, Iran, Palestine, Iraq, India, Cuba, Russia, Ukraine, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Switzerland (joint degrees)
- **Documentation:** fully documented, **partially documented**, non-documented
- **Educational levels:** Master (completed and disrupted), **Bachelor (completed and disrupted)**, TVET, upper secondary
- **Languages of communication:** Arabic, Dari, Farsi, English, Russian, Greek
- **Interview modes:** face-to-face, online

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees: lessons learned

It works!

- Norway – female candidate with the Bachelor’s qualification in Physiotherapy is accepted as a student in the course on International Health at OsloMet – Oslo Metropolitan University and got a part time job in one of Oslo’s districts.
- Germany – male candidate with TVET qualification is admitted to the language course in Hannover, EQPR is of good help in job applications.
- Sweden – female candidate with the Bachelor’s degree in French language got recognition statement from the Swedish ENIC-NARIC, based on the EQPR issued in Athens in September 2017.