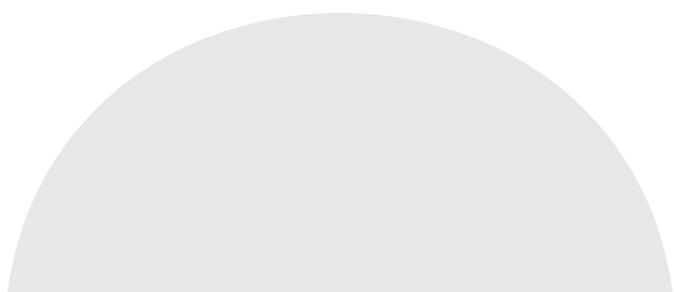
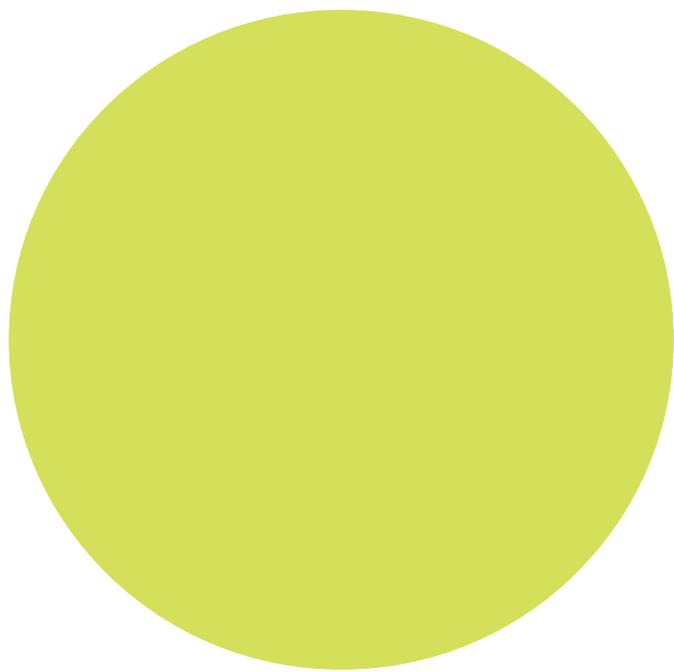


# RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS IN UKRAINE AND WORLDWIDE

## DIGEST ENIC UKRAINE

July-August, 2023







VIKTORIYA SERGIYENKO,  
Head of ENIC Ukraine

## Dear friends!

This summer marks 14 years since our Centre opened its doors to clients. Usually, this is the time for our team to reminisce about the past year and envision the future. We also used to have festive events for clients and employees. But this is the second year when everything is happening completely differently.

February 2022 divided the life of every Ukrainian to "before" and "after". Each of us recollects our pre-war dreams with sadness. We as a team wanted to see the dynamic growth of Ukrainian education, its improving quality, attracting more and more foreign students. We dreamed to see Ukrainian students, graduates and teachers actively involved in academic mobility programs.

As all Ukrainians, we had to leave those dreams and plans in the past and put them off until our Victory. Today, our main task is to maintain stability in life and work every day, we plan anti-crisis events, and all have one dream – Victory! Our main achievement this year is to withstand the hardships of war, providing stability and continue working!

We take pride in reopening our office in mid-March 2022 just after one month after the war started, still when Russian troops were threatening Kyiv. And all this was possible due to the courage and dedication of our team. To provide safety for our customers, the branch office was open and operated for several months in western region of Ukraine. And today almost the whole team works in Kyiv.

We continue to work to help our fellow citizens who went abroad because of the war, to provide all the information and support they need to have their qualifications understood and recognised, and to assist those who come back with the recognition of their foreign education at home.

We are thankful to all Ukrainian teachers who continue working in Ukraine and supporting our education in these hard times! 28 of our ENIC Ukraine colleagues have children of various ages who study in Kyiv schools. Therefore, we understand really well how important and difficult the work of teachers is now!

We dream of the moment when territories currently occupied by Russia will be liberated and Ukrainians from abroad will return home and students will continue their studies in peaceful Ukraine. We believe that together we will restore everything that was so ruthlessly destroyed by the aggressor. We are getting stronger every day, and we will not give up on our dreams!





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## LET'S SAVE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!



NATALIIA NAUMENKO,  
Deputy Head of ENIC Ukraine

We celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Centre in summer of 2019 under the team's chosen slogan "Creating our future together!" When in 2020-2021 the borders of countries were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, offices and educational institutions switched to working remotely online, and this was a serious challenge. However, the ENIC Ukraine continued to work and provide services, creating new ways for remote work with applicants. At that time, we, like all Ukrainians, did not know what a terrible disaster awaited for us in the future – horrifying and ruthless war.

Since February 2022, our country has been fighting for its existence on all fronts and rear. Families, companies, economy suffer significant loss caused by war. We are learning to live and work in new realities.

The role of education during this period is crucially important – to give knowledge and skills to children and youth in Ukraine, to provide an opportunity for education for those who have left Ukraine, and keep their ties with the Motherland. This task, without exaggeration, is vital for survival and foundational for the post-war restoration of the country, therefore, this task is our future! Our Centre works hard on this along with the entire educational community.

We consider our highly professional dedicated team to be our main achievement both during the pandemic

and in the times of war. Together we overcome hardships and work on providing services.

### 1. Our services

We continue to provide stability in services to our customers. Let's compare the results of our activities during the pandemic and war with the pre-crisis 2019.

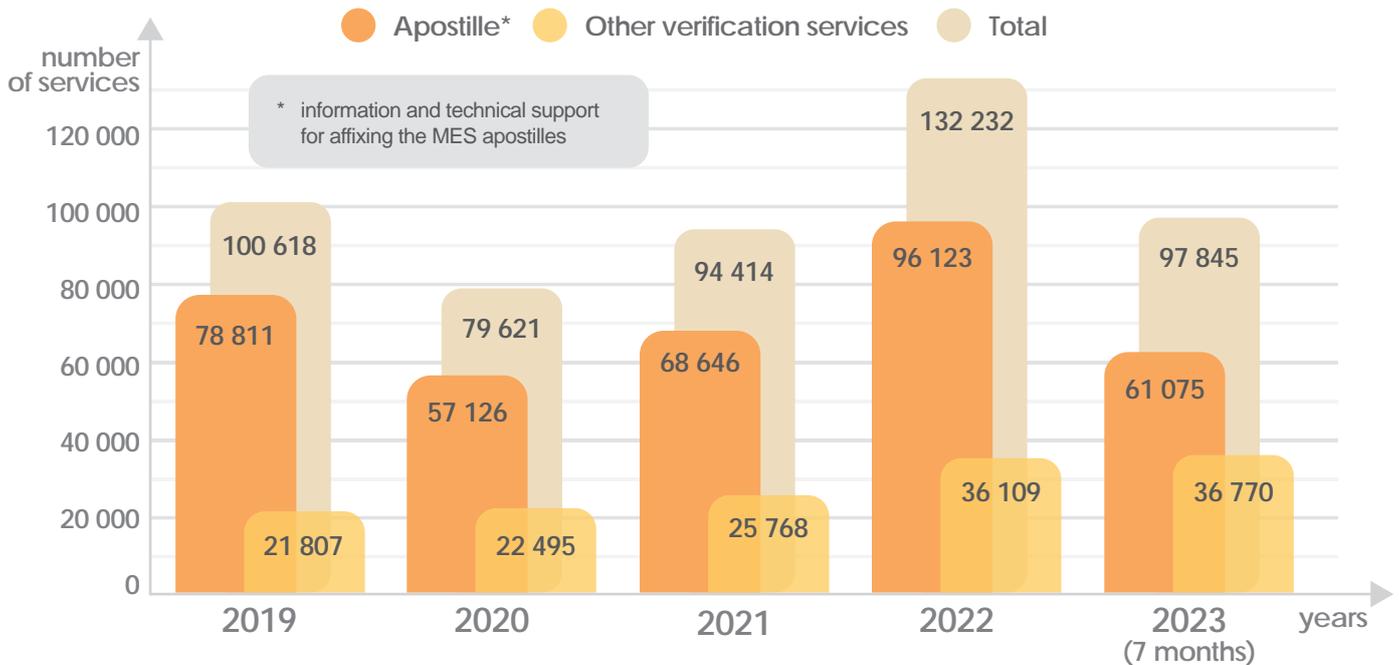
#### **Verification of Ukrainian documents and preparation for the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) apostille stamping**

This field of our work was affected by COVID-19 pandemic. The decrease in demand for the Apostille services went down by 28% in 2020 and 13% in 2021, but the number of other verification services provided by the Centre increased slightly. The large-scale invasion was marked by the migration of Ukrainians abroad, which in 2022 led by 22% increase in the number of documents submitted for apostille, and by 65% increase in other verification services. The numbers have been increasing these past months of 2023 that shows that the numbers of Ukrainians going abroad are increasing.

To overcome crisis, new services were introduced: translations of documents for foreign recognition organisations, new statements for Ukrainian qualifications for those who left Ukraine because of the war and did not always have education documents with them.

## LET'S SAVE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

## NUMBER OF SERVICES OF VERIFICATION DEPARTMENT

**Recognition of foreign qualifications**

The ENIC Ukraine recognition team experienced a decrease in demand because of COVID-19 in 2020 by 16% and other services got down by 9%. But already in 2021, the demand for these services stabilised and exceeded the indicators of 2019. The war year 2022 was marked by a catastrophic drop in demand for the recognition services – compared to 2019, by 46%. 2023 also shows decrease in demand compared to pre-crisis 2019. Unfortunately, these figures mean that there are less international students in Ukraine and less Ukrainians return home after studies abroad.

However, the recognition team continues improving recognition procedure and provides support to

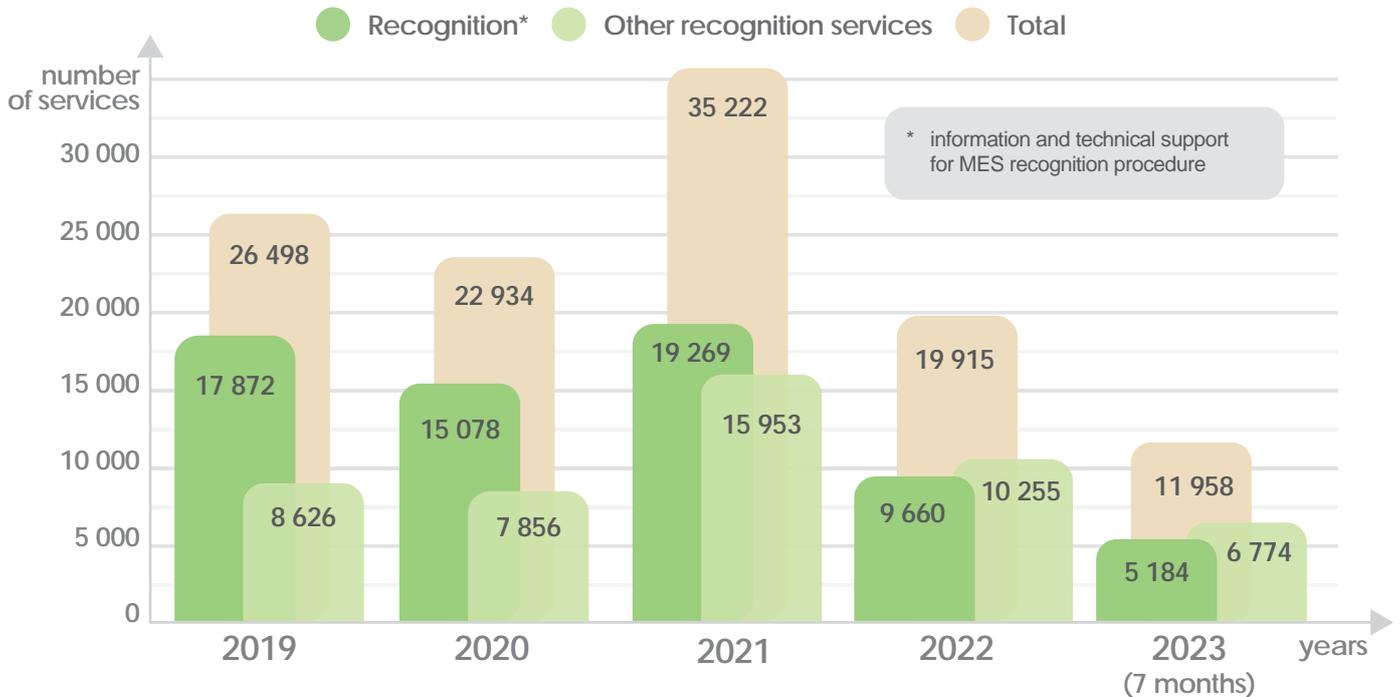
higher education institutions to develop their own recognition processes. A consultation support-line has been introduced to help them. Recognition certificates issued by higher education institutions are registered by ENIC Ukraine and data are transferred to the USEDE (Unified State Electronic Database on Education) register of educational documents.

The recognition team simplified submission of documents for recognition, providing for the electronic submission of copies certified by QES (Qualified Electronic Signature) signature.

Transfer and recalculations of grades from foreign education systems to Ukrainian is currently in great demand. Our team does it for both higher and secondary education for many countries.

## LET'S SAVE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

## NUMBER OF SERVICES OF RECOGNITION DEPARTMENT



## 2. Dissemination of information about Ukrainian education system

Our team continues working on adding reference materials about the education system of Ukraine to our bilingual website – this can be a very useful resource for the recognition of Ukrainian qualifications – [www.enic.in.ua](http://www.enic.in.ua).

Specialists of the Centre participated in the preparation of three international publications on Ukrainian education system:

- "Guidelines on fast-track recognition of Ukrainian qualifications" (by European Commission, CIMEA (ENIC-NARIC of Italy), ENIC Ukraine, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine);

- "European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR). Qualifications from Ukraine" (Council of Europe project)
- "Educational system of Ukraine" from NUFFIC (Netherlands) – editing.

## 3. Development of international agreements and acts of national legislation

The Centre takes an active part in projects of international recognition agreements and legislation documents. Since 2019, our team has participated in 9 international agreements and developed more than 20 legislative acts. We also joined efforts working on text of the Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications, which was

## LET'S SAVE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

adopted at the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the UNESCO General Conference in Paris.

#### 4. Cooperation within the ENIC-NARIC international network and other foreign recognition bodies

The Centre continues to provide information to all participants of the ENIC-NARIC network and other foreign institutions, including employers, educational institutions and management bodies, recognition organisations, embassies and consulates, providing information on Ukrainian qualifications, national legislation, education system, licensing and accreditation status of educational institutions of Ukraine. During 2022, the Centre received and processed 939 inquiries about Ukrainian educational qualifications.

#### 5. Participation in international events

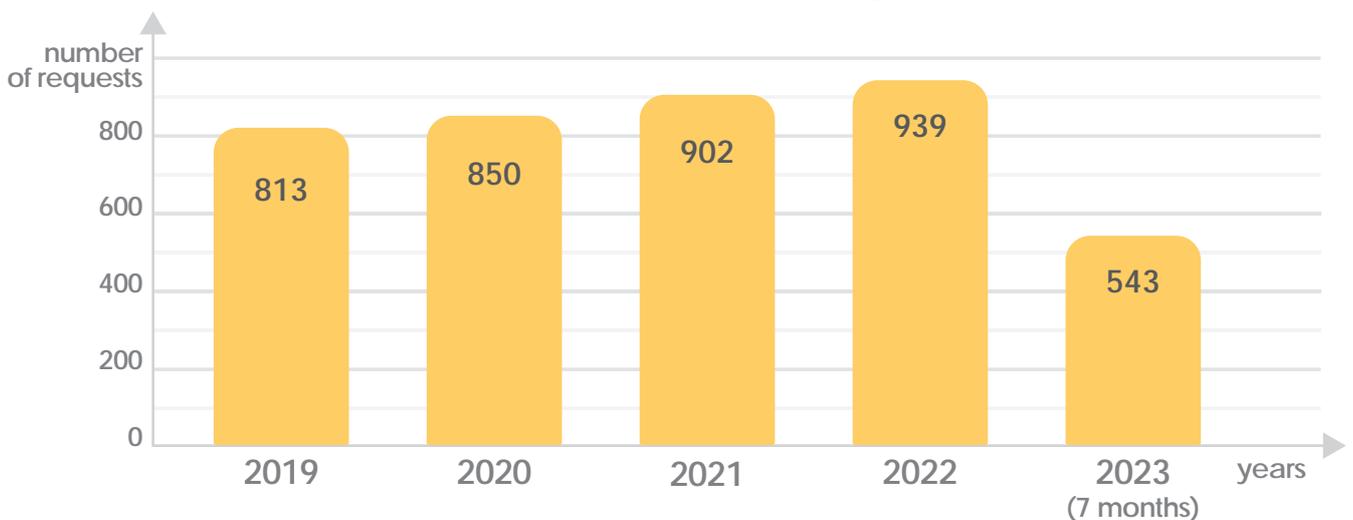
The Centre participates in many international recognition events, including annual meetings of the ENIC-NARIC network and thematic conferences and seminars.

#### 6. International projects

Since 2019, the Centre has participated in five international projects. We maintain this pace even during the war: during 2023, work continues on two international recognition projects.

This is only a small part of our work for five incomplete years, two of which were connected with quarantine restrictions and war. We continue to support students and graduates of Ukrainian education institutions, building the future of our country! Our team believes in this future!

### NUMBER OF FOREIGN INQUIRIES



## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND PROJECTS



TETIANA VAHINA,  
Senior Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

ENIC Ukraine continues working in the international recognition community and actively participates in many international events and projects.

### Focus on Ukraine

"Focus on Ukraine" conference, which took place on 3&4 April in Gdańsk (Republic of Poland), gathered more than 300 participants and 60 recognition experts. The event was organised by Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA) and the University of Gdańsk. Director of ENIC Ukraine, Viktoriya Sergiyenko, joined the event online to share about situation in Ukraine with the audience.

The participants of the conference discussed a number of issues related to the current problems of academic and scientific community of Ukraine, among which: supporting education in times of war, continuing education for schoolchildren and students, digital technologies in restoration of free Ukraine, assistance of local Polish governments to Ukrainian refugees, academic initiatives to support Ukrainian students and researchers etc.

More details – on [NAWA website](#).

### EDU Talks webinars from the Council of Europe

European education experts stressed the importance of digitisation in education and recognition of qualifications during EDU Talk – a webinar devoted to the use of artificial intelligence in the sphere of

educational academic integrity and importance of academic integrity in educational activities at all levels and for all participants. EDU Talks is a series of study webinars on different topics launched by the Council of Europe to support educational community.

### Workshops on the Diploma Supplement

ENIC Ukraine team participated in workshops organised within the framework of TPG LRC CoRE project that aims at supporting further implementation of the Bologna process, and managed by the Italian information centre CIMEA. The purpose of the workshops was to promote issuance of European Diploma Supplements (DSs) at national level, as well as to formulate data criteria to be included in the DSs and to make proposals for standardising the information contained in the DSs. Standardisation of information in DSs will help to have more accurate recognition of qualifications by both national information centres and institutions of higher education, as it will promote the same understanding of the information itself, sources of verification of information and status of education institutions, etc. Also, standardisation of information will help to form digital versions of applications in a more convenient way. The participants of the workshops were also able to try to create digital DSs in the EuroPass platform.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND PROJECTS

### 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ENIC-NARIC Network

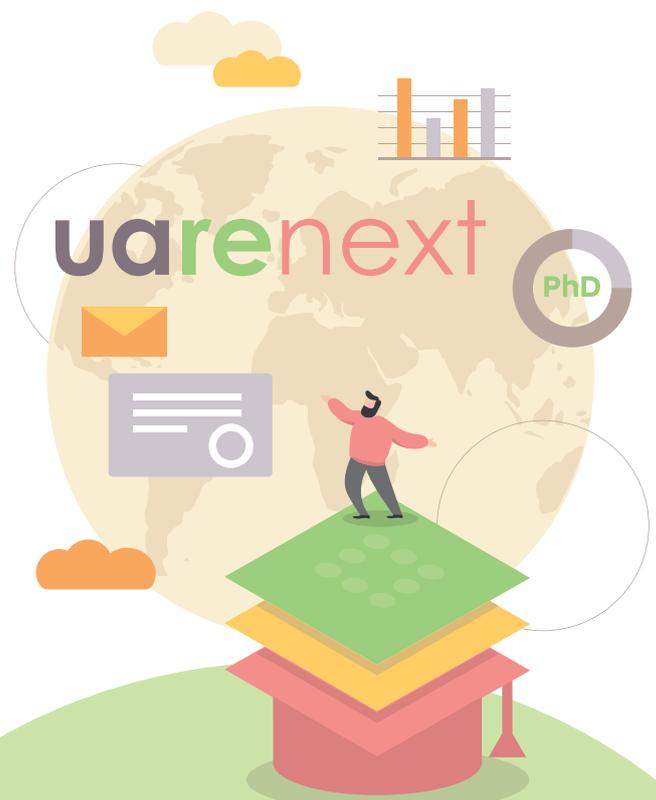
The issue of digital technologies for the recognition agenda and educational documents was also raised at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the ENIC-NARIC networks. The need for digital technology is growing every day with the growing number of refugees and displaced persons who, due to force majeure, lost their educational documents (or they were damaged) and currently cannot confirm their qualifications. The digitisation of educational documents could make the process easier for both refugees and credential evaluators around the world.

### UaReNext project

ENIC Ukraine is implementing the UaReNext project in the framework of Council of Europe initiative "Lisbon Recognition Convention Implementation – supporting ENIC Centres". By supporting ENIC network, it aims to promote the implementation of the Lisbon Recognition Convention, which is central to ensuring the effective and fair recognition of qualifications in the European Higher Education Area.

The project call was designed for ENIC centres from 14 countries that are involved in the education program of the Council of Europe and the Supervisory Committee on Education, but are not members of the EU.

ENIC Ukraine, along with other centres, is implementing the project, dedicated to the development of the UaReNet national recognition network, which was founded in 2020 at the initiative of ENIC Ukraine. Currently, 95 higher education institutions have joined the network aiming to improve and develop the recognition procedure in Ukraine. As part of the UaReNext project, a separate web page will be created for the recognition network on the ENIC Ukraine website [www.enic.in.ua](http://www.enic.in.ua). We will have some webinars and trainings on the recognition of foreign qualifications, and add new profiles of education systems of other countries and information materials about the education system of Ukraine to the ENIC Ukraine website.



## 30<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ENIC-NARIC NETWORKS



TETIANA VAHINA,  
Senior Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

On June 11-13, the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ENIC-NARIC networks took place in Stockholm (Kingdom of Sweden). This event annually gathers a large number of recognition experts from many countries of the world and various organisations. This year was no exception.

Representatives of 45 countries gathered at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, including ENIC and NARIC centres, national Ministries of education, representatives of UNESCO, Council of Europe, European Association of Universities, International Association of Universities, and many universities. The Council of Higher Education of Sweden hosted the event.

This meeting is always a good opportunity to exchange good and modern recognition practices, to spend time with like-minded people and friends. The meeting covered a wide range of topics, reports from the network secretariats, reports on the implementation of the Lisbon Recognition Convention and Global Recognition Convention, automatic recognition progress and many workshops.

Workshops helped to find common grounds for such challenging issues like digital technologies and transformation of the educational sector, implementing projects, building national recognition infrastructure, regional and global

recognition conventions, spotting and fighting fraudulent documents, etc.

Sessions devoted to the automatic recognition of qualifications and digital technologies were the most popular among the recognition experts as we all hope that digital solutions will contribute to transparent and timely recognition procedures, increase efficiency and rationalise the processing. The issuance of digital credentials will facilitate the recognition of qualifications, and it is critical during the recent challenges, like COVID-2019, war, massive general migration processes, during which educational documents may be lost or damaged, or not accessible. This will help refugees and people in similar positions provide credentials, get jobs or continue studies in new places. Some countries and universities have already started issuing digital credentials. For example, Armenia issues school certificates in digital format from 2022.

Several countries presented their developments in the field of digitisation. In particular, Ukraine presented the Diia project that will allow displaying digital educational documents in the Diia app, and the Italian centre presented CIMEA Wiki project, which will collect all the necessary information about qualifications of different countries in one place.

## 30<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ENIC-NARIC NETWORKS

The participants discussed existing national and international databases, that help to use digital technologies for the recognition processes, and exchanged opinions on the challenges they face in the recognition of qualifications. Countries have many common issues in the digitalisation of the recognition processes, like transferring data between databases at the national and international levels, protection personal data, updating databases, etc.

Much attention was devoted to the development of national and international recognition networks. Italian CIMEA has conducted a separate study on the skills that a credential evaluator should possess. A total of 52 skills were discussed. The following ones were selected as the most important: the digital skills, communicative, research and analytical skills, and critical thinking. Also, credential evaluators should have a wide range of knowledge about national and international legislation, education systems of other countries, assessment systems, recognition procedures and practices, good knowledge of foreign languages is always a plus.

At the meeting, representatives of various organisations provided reports on the development of a new version of the charter of the ENIC and NARIC networks, recommendations on automatic

recognition and fighting fraud, updating the recognition instructions for ENIC-NARIC networks.

One of the central events of the network meeting was the election of the new president and vice-presidents of the ENIC network and the Advisory Council of the NARIC network. Mrs. Chiara Finocetti from the Italian CIMEA centre was elected to be the president of the ENIC network.

Much was also said about the help the countries provide to Ukrainian refugees who seek temporary protection in their countries, helping with the recognition of qualifications so that they can get jobs or continue their studies in educational institutions of host countries. The representatives of the ENIC-NARIC networks expressed their sincere support for Ukraine and national information centre ENIC Ukraine, and sincerely wished the Ukrainians peace and victory.

## ALL-UKRAINIAN RECOGNITION NETWORK – UaReNet



TETIANA YEVDOKYMENKO,  
Senior Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

Creation of all-Ukrainian recognition network by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MES) and ENIC Ukraine was inspired by great desire to develop a transparent and fair recognition procedures in Ukraine, as well as the keen interest of higher education institutions. The need to create a national recognition platform was also high, when the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" was adopted in 2014 and granted higher education institutions the authority to make decisions on recognition for the first time in history.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, HEIs and ENIC Ukraine joined their efforts to exchange experience, training, monitoring, development and implementation of good recognition practices in Ukraine.

The idea of creating a national recognition network in Ukraine was supported by the Lisbon Recognition Convention Committee, the ENIC Bureau of the ENIC-NARIC networks, the European Register of Quality Assurance in Education (EQAR), the European Student Council (ESC), the National Organisation for the Internationalisation in Education (NUFFIC) of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, other partners and friends of MES and ENIC Ukraine.

Previously, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United States united their recognition bodies at national level.

Thus, on February 18, 2020, Ukraine became the 10th country to create the national recognition network, among 55 countries of the world whose centres are part of the ENIC-NARIC networks. By signing the Memorandum on the Creation and Development of the All-Ukrainian Recognition Network, the MES and ENIC Ukraine united all credential evaluators in Ukraine under the UaReNet umbrella!

The memorandum contains not only the guidelines of the Lisbon Recognition Convention (1997), on the basis of which educational qualifications are currently recognised, but also the principles of the Global Recognition Convention, which came into force on March 5, 2023 (in Ukraine – awaiting ratification).

Even during the war, the UaReNet network continues to follow its high goals – development of the national education system, ensuring the quality of recognition, promoting transparent and fair recognition and further integration into the European Higher Education Area, strengthening cooperation, exchange and implementation of good and effective recognition practices.

- Keep current on events of the recognition community!
- Follow the most relevant changes in the recognition field!
- Have access to the trends of Ukrainian and international recognition practices!
- Participate in events and improve recognition skills!

## ALL-UKRAINIAN RECOGNITION NETWORK – UaReNet

The UaReNet members, and there are almost 100 of them now, have these advantages!

The coordinator of the UaReNet network is ENIC Ukraine. All higher education institutions of Ukraine can join the network free of charge by signing the protocol on joining the Memorandum. Network

members receive a certificate and can use the network symbols for informational purposes and current activities.

If your institution is not yet a member of the network, please send an e-mail to [news@enic.in.ua](mailto:news@enic.in.ua) and join!

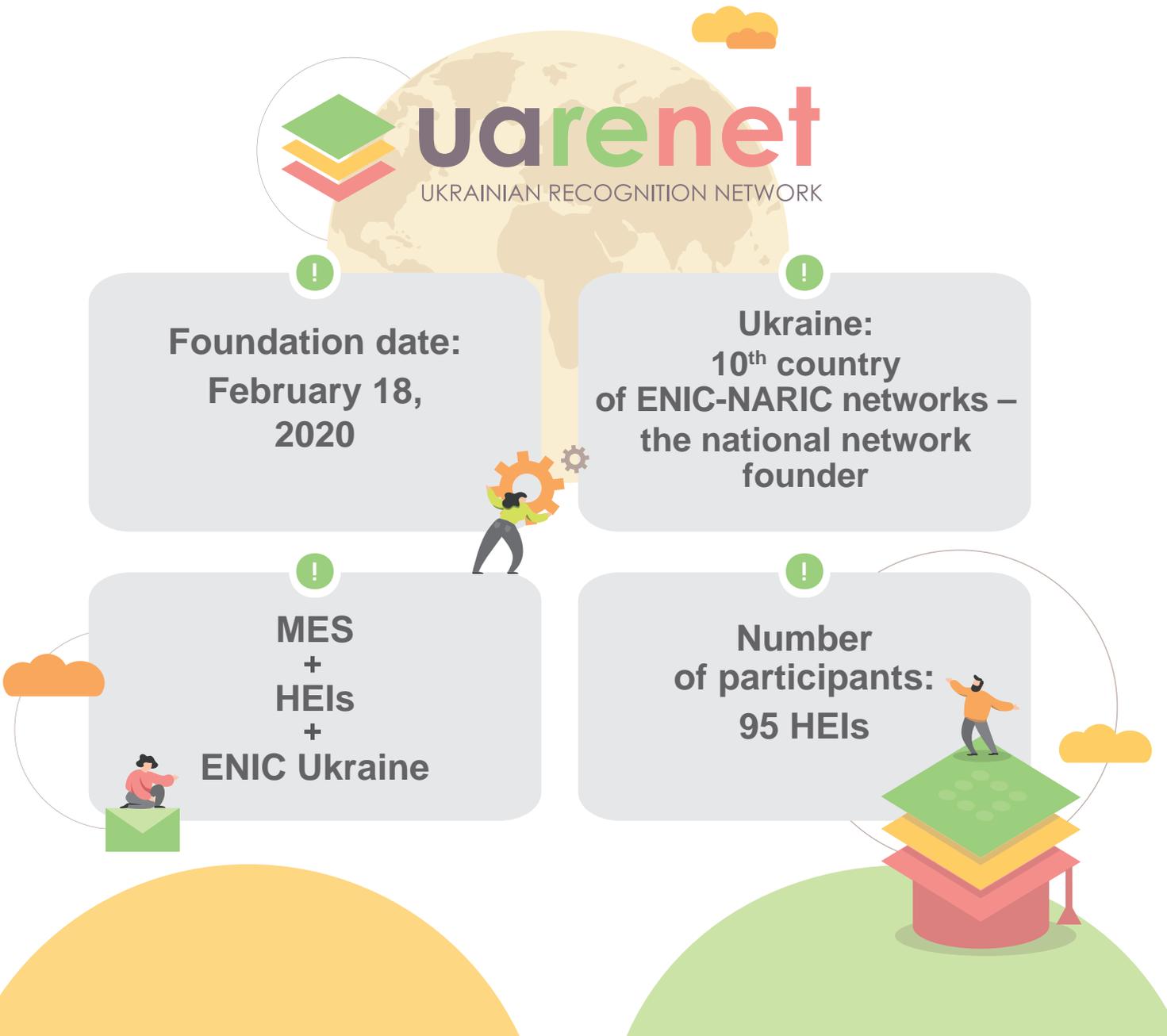


**Foundation date:**  
February 18,  
2020

**Ukraine:**  
10<sup>th</sup> country  
of ENIC-NARIC networks –  
the national network  
founder

**MES  
+  
HEIs  
+  
ENIC Ukraine**

**Number  
of participants:**  
95 HEIs



## PROFESSION OF CREDENTIAL EVALUATOR: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO?



ANNA BAKHLUKOVA,  
Head of Recognition Department of ENIC Ukraine

In recent years, the recognition procedure has developed significantly in Ukraine. The all-Ukrainian recognition network UaReNet was created and is being developed with 95 higher education institutions of Ukraine as members.

In this article credential evaluators from HEIs answer the following questions:

***Who is a credential evaluator?***

***What personal qualities a credential evaluator should have?***

***What challenges does he or she face at work?***

Having collected some thoughts, we have created an almost ideal image of the credential evaluator.

First of all, this role implies massive responsibility as future of applicants depends on the quality of credential evaluators` job, on their correct, well-founded decisions. On the other hand, all my colleagues agree that the work of credential evaluator is very interesting. It is necessary not only know about the education systems of different countries of the world, but also understand the peculiarities of each of them, to find a counterpart for every qualification in the Ukrainian education system, to determine what academic and professional rights are granted to the holder of a foreign qualification in the country of origin, and whether the corresponding rights may be granted in Ukraine. We need to understand the principles underlying international standards of higher education, to be attentive and observant in working with documents, as well as know how to work with people, because behind every

document there are someone's dreams. Any credential evaluator should be stress-resistant and attentive to details, because the process of finding the necessary information can sometimes be very time-consuming and difficult, but we should be persistent and creative in looking for ways to obtain the necessary information.



***Tetiana Yankova*** – Leading Specialist of the Educational and Scientific Centre for International Students of West Ukrainian National University in Ternopil

***What should a credential evaluator know and do?***

There are several key aspects of knowledge and skills that a credential evaluator should possess. First, the credential evaluator should know well national and international legislative regulations for recognition procedure. Such regulations may include national laws, international agreements and conventions, as well as Bologna process recommendations. Also, the credential evaluator must have knowledge about the education systems that exist in the world, details of educational programs, qualification levels and quality assurance mechanisms.



***Yevhen Kozii*** – Director of the Educational and Scientific Centre for Foreign Students of Dnipro University of Technologies

***What inspires you and drives your professional growth?***

## PROFESSION OF CREDENTIAL EVALUATOR: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO?

Recognition of educational documents issued by educational institutions of other countries is very hard and important work. Currently, the international cooperation is considered one of the main indicators of the quality of education and science and one of the main tools for its provision and improvement. Strengthening the international component involves growing numbers of international students, which leads to the development of recognition procedures. Working in the admission team I experience growth of professional competences for the recognition of foreign education documents in communication with other stakeholders, while learning about the education systems of other countries of the world, participation in training recognition events conducted by SC "Information and Image Centre".



**Mykola Hryshkov** – Director  
of the Education Directorate  
of Kyiv Medical University

### **What challenges do you face at work?**

The biggest problem, in my opinion, is the lack of information in the public domain, as some of the important websites are not accessible without the supporting software. The second biggest problem is communication to applicants in cases when his/her qualification cannot be recognised, looking for the right words to explain the reasons for refusal. So-called "soft skills" are needed in this case, clear communication with applicants helps to solve problematic issues.



**Olha Trubetska**, First category  
Recognition Specialist of  
the Department of Recognition  
of Foreign Qualifications of  
ENIC Ukraine

### **What inspires you and serves as a source for professional growth?**

My own development, learning new information and acquiring new skills. Another source of inspiration is the opportunity to help people, especially in difficult, unusual cases. It shows that your work is important and needed.



**Ivan Hrytsai**, Second category  
Specialist of the Department of  
Recognition of Foreign  
Qualifications of ENIC Ukraine

### **What would you advise a person who would like to work as a credential evaluator?**

I would advise to be open to embrace the unknown. And also master the skills of searching for information in various sources.

So, it is easy to become a credential evaluator if you are patient, attentive to details and persistent, organised and precise in your work, able to analyse and compare, if you are open to everything new, move on and do not stop learning! Successful recognition procedures and grateful applicants inspire us to continue our work!

## VALIDATION: WHY AND HOW?



ANNA BAKHLUKOVA,  
Head of Recognition Department  
of ENIC Ukraine



OLHA KHARBOTLI,  
Senior Specialist  
of ENIC Ukraine

Admissions officers are the first to get and analyse foreign education documents of potential students. Over the past year, as many people and many admission officers as well were forced to leave our country, many new credential evaluators joined the Ukrainian recognition community. Therefore, validation of documents is important topic to mention.

Unfortunately, it is often happens that a foreign student, who does not have the right to continue his higher education studies in his home country, decides to study abroad, hoping that the rules will be different in another country. But we all know well that according to the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention, this is not the case: the recognition of a foreign qualification in another country, as a rule, gives its holder the same rights to continue education and work as in his home country.

Validation procedure in Ukraine is a preliminary analysis of a foreign education document, which is carried out by admission officers during admission campaign. The process of validation helps to see at enrolment whether applicants have qualifications and proper documents compliant with the admission requirements to certain educational programs.

During validation we analyse the foreign education document submitted for admission, look at transcripts, check translations of these documents into Ukrainian. The main question that we have

to answer during this procedure is: whether the document is proper for admission to a chosen educational program?

Successful validation indicates that the submitted document meets certain requirements for the program, and most surely it will go through the recognition procedure successfully. The result of validation is the basis for making of an enrolment decision for a foreign student.

During validation admissions officers determine academic rights that are granted to the holder of a foreign educational document in the country of origin and requirements for admission to higher education institutions in the country of origin.

Education systems of other countries are different and constantly changing. Therefore, admissions officers should master research skills and methods of searching for and checking information in official sources, get knowledge about education systems of other countries and monitor changes. Since foreign education documents are different, it is important to be very careful and detailed when working with them.

We recommend analysing education documents according to the following criteria:

1. the document does not come from states and territories that are not recognised by Ukraine;

## VALIDATION: WHY AND HOW?

2. the document certifies the level of education sufficient for enrolment to a chosen educational program (according to a preliminary analysis);
3. the format/template of the document meets the official standard for a certain level of education in the country of origin (if such standard is provided);
4. the transcript of records/diploma supplement contains information about the specialty/field of study, list of subjects, volume of studies, etc;
5. the document contains all proper signatures, seals, etc. (signatures and seals can be electronic);
6. the document does not contain any corrections or alterations, the text of the document is legible and undamaged;
7. the document does not contain information about negative or insufficient exam results;
8. the document is certified by a consular legalisation stamp or an Apostille stamp.

What is the difference between "verification" and "validation" that we as credential evaluators should know?

**Validation** is confirmation that the educational document meets the requirements for enrolment and the requirements for submitting

documents for the recognition procedure later. This is a preliminary analysis, which is carried out at the stage of selection and enrolment of foreign students in institutions of higher education.

**Verification** is an examination of an educational document to ensure that it is valid, not forged, not altered, and reflects the correct information. Verification is one of the three mandatory stages of the recognition procedure. A positive verification result is absolutely necessary to have a positive recognition decision.

The National Information Centre of Academic Mobility ENIC Ukraine offers higher education institutions its assistance in validation procedure of foreign educational documents. We understand that processing a large number of documents during limited time period of admission campaign is quite a difficult task. Therefore, we offer our experience and developments in validation of the documents of an individual entrant or groups of applicants. The Centre issues validation certificates to successfully validated documents.

## "ACCESS" AND "ADMISSION" TO HIGHER EDUCATION: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



OLHA KHARBOTLI,  
Senior Specialist of ENIC Ukraine

The **Convention** on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, adopted in Lisbon in 1997, was ratified by Ukraine on December 3, 1999. It is one of the most important international recognition regulation documents that defines the uniform recognition principles in the countries of the European region. The convention principles cover qualifications of higher education, qualifications that provide access to higher education, periods of study (or partial qualifications) to ensure human rights to continue education in the territory of another country.

The Convention uses the concepts of "access" and "admission" to higher education. What is the difference between them and why is it important for credential evaluators? Let's clarify what those terms mean as they are not defined in the Ukrainian legislation acts.

**Access** (to higher education) is the right of qualified candidates to apply for and have their application considered for admission to higher education. Anyone who meets certain criteria and requirements, which are confirmed by the corresponding documents, has access to higher education.

In order to get access to higher education at a chosen level, there are conditions that must be satisfied by all – these are called **general conditions**, as they always should be met for access to certain level of higher education.

A foreign qualification satisfies the **general conditions** of access to higher education and is recognised for academic purposes in another country, if the general conditions of access in the territory of origin do not differ

significantly from the general conditions of access in the country where the recognition is requested.

**A qualification that provides access to higher education is any diploma or other educational document issued by a competent authority that certifies the successful completion of an educational program and entitles the holder of the qualification to participate in the admission procedure to higher education.**

**Admission** (to institutions of higher education and programs of education) allows candidates who meet the established requirements to attend a course of study in a higher education institution.

To gain admission to a specific chosen program of higher education to obtain a qualification of your choice, you should meet special conditions in addition to the general conditions.

**Special conditions** must be satisfied in addition to the general conditions for a person to be admitted to a specific higher education program.

If, in addition to the general conditions of access, admission to specific higher education programs depends on the fulfilment of special conditions, the competent authorities of the hosting country may also impose additional conditions on holders of foreign qualifications or check whether similar conditions are met by applicants with foreign qualifications.

If school-leaving certificates grant access to higher education in the country of origin only after passing additional qualifying

## "ACCESS" AND "ADMISSION" TO HIGHER EDUCATION: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

examinations, other countries may develop the same conditions or offer an alternative to meet such additional conditions in their educational systems.

Admission to a specific institution of higher education may depend also on the sufficient knowledge of the language or languages of study or on other specific conditions, as well as competitive selection procedures.

Let's try to translate these two concepts into the Ukrainian education system. The right to submit documents for admission to higher education institutions, therefore, access is provided by Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education (and for professional junior bachelor's programs – by documents on basic secondary education).

In accordance with the Conditions of admission to higher education institutions of Ukraine (issued every year by MES), the academic council of every institution approves its institution specific rules of admission (special conditions). Competitive admission procedures are based on the MES Conditions and institution specific rules. It seems to be easy but what about Independent External Evaluation (IEE) and National Multisubject Test (NMT), do they provide access or admission?

In the pre-COVID and pre-war times (2015-2019), the IEE was both a form of state final attestation (but not the only possible one) and a competitive selection procedure for higher education (again, not the only one). Therefore, in our opinion, access to higher education programs in Ukraine in those years was confirmed by

a Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education, which was issued based on the results of annual assessment and state final attestation, including in the form of the IEE. The following will support this point: if the state final attestation was not conducted in the form of the IEE, but in another form, then the Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education still gives the right to apply to higher education institutions, having fulfilled the conditions for admission, valid for that year. The points of the IEE required for admission to a chosen program and defined by the Conditions and rules for admission of a chosen higher education institution would constitute a part of an admission procedure to higher education programs. However, we should note that not all credential evaluators from other countries adhere to such a position regarding the IEE and access to higher education programs in Ukraine.

Since 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the IEE as attestation has become optional, and since 2022, due to the full-scale armed russian aggression against Ukraine, students are exempted from the state final attestation. Therefore, since 2020 the IEE and NMT became exclusively admission procedures.

Why is it important for credential evaluators? Because during the recognition procedure, the credential evaluator usually defines what access is provided by a foreign educational document. And the admission decision to a specific educational program remains at the discretion of a higher education institution during student enrolment.

## SUBMISSION FOR RECOGNITION: HOW TO PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS



YULIIA HAVRYLENKO,  
Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

One of the first and most important steps in the successful and timely recognition of foreign educational documents is a properly prepared package of documents. The action algorithm is quite simple.

**Step 1.** Preparation of a complete package of hard-copies of documents (for electronic submission – save their copies in jpeg format).

**Step 2.** Create your personal account on [www.naric.in.ua](http://www.naric.in.ua) and upload an electronic application with scanned copies. After a preliminary analysis of your application, our officer will provide advice on finalising the package and will send instructions on further steps.

**Step 3.** Submission of the package (electronic format – with the QES (Qualified Electronic Signature) signature; hard-copies – in the Kyiv office, or remotely by using a delivery service).

The general minimum list of documents, required to start the procedure for all cases, is as follows:

- application for recognition procedure;
- application-consent for data verification;
- consent for personal data processing (from the holder and the applicant if these are different people);
- copy and Ukrainian translation of legalised foreign education certificate or diploma certified in accordance with the procedure established by law (if necessary, the originals must be presented);
- certified copy and translation into Ukrainian of the legalised transcript or Diploma Supplement, certified in accordance with the procedure established by law (if necessary, the originals must be presented);
- copies of documents about the previous basic/complete general secondary, professional (vocational-technical), professional pre-higher or higher education (if applicable);
- a document from an official institution (statement, certificate or other) about the academic and/or professional rights granted to the owner in the country of origin (if applicable);
- copies of ID documents of applicant and holder of foreign educational document, if the holder is not the applicant (with Ukrainian translations, if necessary);
- copy of the document on name change (if applicable);
- payment of an administrative service or a copy of a document confirming the right to exemption from payment.

## SUBMISSION FOR RECOGNITION: HOW TO PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS

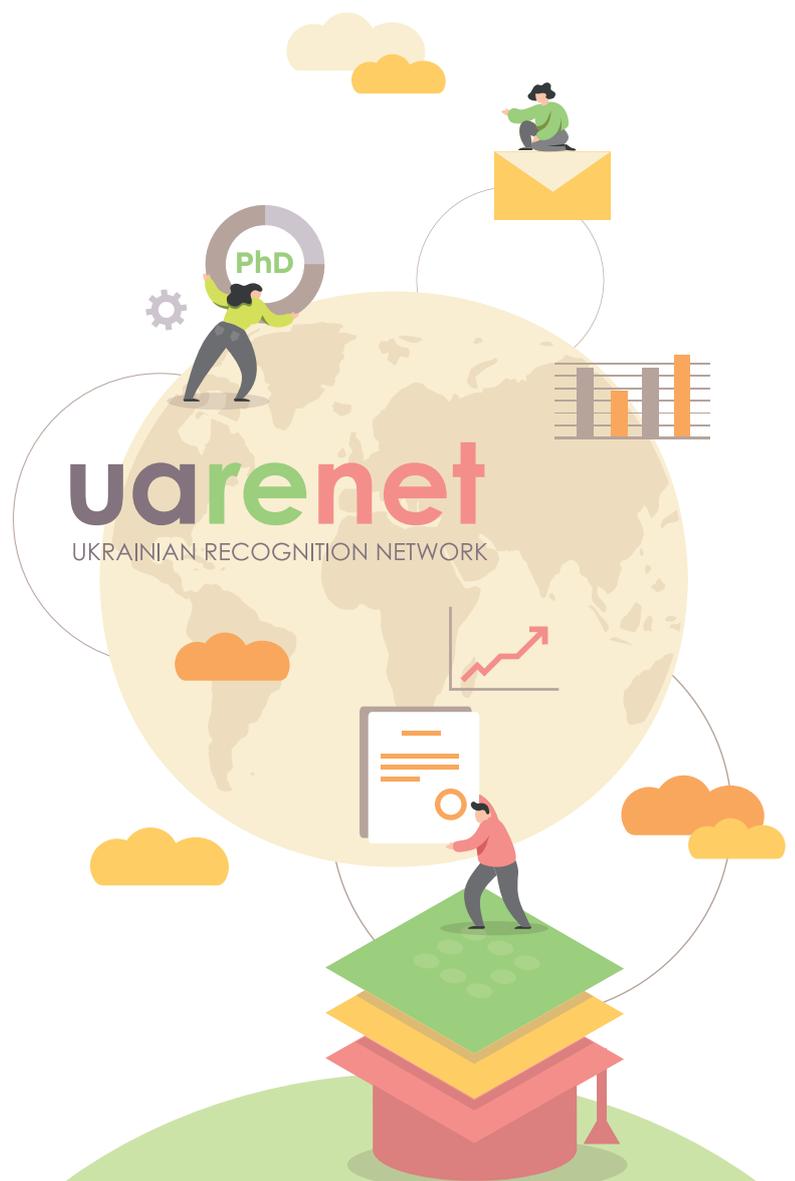
The applicant has the right to provide other documents about the submitted qualification, documents about professional activity, practical experience. Such documents should be provided with certified translations into Ukrainian.

Documents for recognition can be submitted by the holder or another person who represents his/her interests for the procedure. For minors, the applicant can be their legal representative. The applicant is responsible for completing the package of documents.

Properly prepared documents will help to have shorter and timely procedure. If the incomplete package of documents is submitted or not properly prepared one, it will be sent back within 10 working days from the date of registration with additional notification.

ENIC Ukraine provides information for the representatives of Ukrainian higher education institutions on how to work with foreign educational documents during the admission campaign, based on the legislation of Ukraine, admission requirements of other countries; consular legalisation and apostille stamps, etc.

Exchange of experience, training, development and implementation of the best recognition practices will continue to be the main focus of the all-Ukrainian recognition network UaReNet.



## MONITORING OF RECOGNITION DECISIONS



TETIANA YEVDOKYMENKO,  
Senior Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

The recognition of foreign educational qualifications in Ukraine is carried out both by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and by higher education institutions. It's been 8 years since by legislation the higher education institutions in Ukraine obtained the right to conduct the recognition procedure and issue recognition certificates for their students and faculty. A higher education institution may carry out the recognition procedure and issue recognition certificates for enrolling the holder of a foreign educational document to study at this institution or to appoint a scientific or scientific-pedagogical employee at this institution. By the recognition decision, a higher education institution confirms the right of the holder of an education document to apply for admission, continue studies or carry out professional activities at this institution.

Over the years, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and ENIC Ukraine as the National Information Centre of Academic Mobility have been working to create a powerful recognition community in Ukraine. We learn! We teach! We share knowledge! Step by step, we are building a fair and transparent recognition procedure and promoting further development of the education system in our country and its integration into the European Higher Education Area. We are proud of the success of our colleagues at higher education institutions, who continue to improve and develop their recognition skills together with the ENIC Ukraine team.



YULIIA HAVRYLENKO,  
Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

Today, more than 50 higher education institutions of Ukraine carry out the recognition procedure as competent recognition bodies. ENIC Ukraine is working closely with higher education institutions. They may apply to the Centre for expert opinions for the recognition procedure on the following issues:

- providing information, consultations and recommendations on the recognition issues;
- verification of education documents;
- checking the status of educational institutions, educational providers, educational programs;
- establishing the level of education and periods of study;
- assessment of educational qualifications;
- establishing of academic and/or professional rights.

In addition, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine together with the National Information Centre of Academic Mobility ENIC Ukraine carry out monitoring of recognition decisions issued by higher education institutions. The main goal of monitoring is improvement and development of reliable recognition procedure in Ukraine, which is one of the important components of the quality assurance in the countries of the European Higher Education Area.

It is the reliability, transparency and integrity of the recognition procedure that support trust of the international community to Ukrainian higher education qualifications. The purpose of monitoring is to provide methodological support to Ukrainian higher education

## MONITORING OF RECOGNITION DECISIONS

institutions on their way to recognition procedure, fully compliant with international and national recognition legislation.

ENIC Ukraine experts are always ready to provide competent consultations to higher education institutions as for the recognition procedure, possible inaccuracies and errors, as well as ways to correct and avoid them!

The possibility of continuous monitoring of higher education institutions' recognition decisions is also provided by existing unified electronic database of recognition certificates in Ukraine, the functioning of which, in accordance with the legislation, is ensured by ENIC Ukraine.

Let see how the monitoring of recognition decisions happens in the recognition database.

All recognition certificates issued both by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and by higher education institutions are registered in the unified electronic recognition database. Recognition certificates have a unified numbering system, standard format and list of information included.

In order to register a recognition certificate, a higher education institution creates an account on the ENIC Ukraine website and uploads recognition decisions and copies of educational documents on the basis of which the recognition procedure was conducted. Thus, ENIC Ukraine specialists have access to the information contained in the recognition certificate and electronic copies of the documents on the basis of which the recognition procedure was carried out. If ENIC Ukraine specialists see errors in

the certificate or in the result of the recognition procedure, or they see violations during the procedure, they provide recommendations to the higher education institution on their correction.

The recognition certificates can be verified (with the consent of the holder) in the Unified State Electronic Database on Education (USEDE), which is available in open access.

According to the current legislation, ENIC Ukraine, at the request of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, provides information on the compliance of decisions made by higher education institutions with the norms of international and national normative legal acts, as well as on cases of adding incomplete or incorrect information. The Ministry has the right to cancel the recognition decision issued by a higher education institution, if the results of the monitoring show that the decision did not comply with the requirements of the legal acts in force in Ukraine. In this case, the Ministry notifies the higher education institution about the cancellation of the decision and the reasons for it.

The ENIC Ukraine team, together with the Ukrainian recognition community, will continue to grow professionally, strengthening the culture of transparent and fair recognition, enhancing cooperation, promoting exchange of information and good recognition practices.

## GETTING READY TO HELP CHILDREN WHO WILL RETURN TO UKRAINE!



OLHA KHARBOTLI,  
Senior Specialist  
of ENIC Ukraine

Russian invasion of Ukraine forced a large number of Ukrainian children to go abroad and study in foreign educational institutions, mostly in the countries of the European Union. Some students plan to return to Ukraine and continue their further studies here.

The recognition procedure in Ukraine is provided for students who received basic or complete general secondary education abroad and were awarded relevant certificates to give them the opportunity to continue studies in Ukraine.

In Ukraine, the recognition procedure for foreign secondary education documents is conducted according to the **Regulation for recognition in Ukraine of documents on general secondary, professional (vocational-technical), professional pre-higher education, which correspond to levels 2-5 of the National Qualifications Framework issued by educational institutions of foreign countries**. Note that the Regulation does not apply to documents issued in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, periods of study or degrees based on the results of studies in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

At the same time, students who study in secondary schools abroad, can be enrolled for extern secondary programs in Ukraine. Enrolment and assessment for such students can be carried out throughout the academic year. This is



OLHA TRUBETSKA,  
First category Recognition  
Specialist of ENIC Ukraine

stipulated by the **Provision on the individual form of obtaining complete general secondary education**.

Secondary school students who studied abroad but have not completed their studies, should submit an official document with detailed information on their studies (subjects, volume, grades etc.) to schools in Ukraine in order to continue their studies. These documents may be of different format: report cards, transcripts of grades, achievement cards, certificates of achievement, etc.

The receiving education institution defines the level of students' knowledge and make the enrolment decisions. According to the legislation of Ukraine, such documents are not subject to the recognition procedure, as they do not certify a completed certain education or education-qualification level.

If necessary, ENIC Ukraine can issue a statement explaining legislation with information about the education system of the foreign country where studies took place and academic rights that the holder of the documents has in that country. Accordingly, assessments done by schools in these cases and students can have the same academic rights in Ukraine as they had abroad.

When accepting students who studied abroad, in order to determine the level of their knowledge, Ukrainian educational institutions should transfer their grades to the Ukrainian 12-point grading scale,

## GETTING READY TO HELP CHILDREN WHO WILL RETURN TO UKRAINE!

which was introduced by the **Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated September 4, 2000 No. 428/48 "On the introduction of a 12-point assessment scale for educational achievements of general secondary education students"**.

In Ukraine, general approaches to assessing the level of knowledge of schoolchildren are determined on the basis of the Criteria for assessing the educational achievements of students in the general secondary education system, approved by the **Order of the Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sports of Ukraine dated April 13, 2011 No. 329**.

There are 4 (four) levels of educational achievements of students:

- first level – elementary (1-3 points);
- second level – medium (4-6 points);
- third level – sufficient (7-9 points);
- fourth level – high (10-12 points).

There are many different assessment systems in the world, so sometimes it is quite difficult to compare them with the Ukrainian one. In such cases, the Centre offers a service for recalculating or transferring of grades. The Centre has extensive experience in preparing such statements for secondary education documents of many countries in Europe, Asia and even some African countries. Recalculation of secondary

education grades for Poland, Kazakhstan, Slovakia, USA, Turkey and some other countries are in the greatest demand now.

The grade transfer is carried out based on official information sources regarding the evaluation systems in different countries and the comparison with the Ukrainian 12-point scale. Information about the assessment systems of different countries has been collected, studied and systematised by the specialists of our Centre for several years.

The Centre's statement on the grades transfer is informative. Therefore, the final decision regarding the equivalency of educational achievements to the Ukrainian evaluation system remains with the secondary education institution or another competent body to which these educational documents are submitted.



## IF YOU ARE GOING TO STUDY ABROAD...



NATALIIA NAUMENKO,  
Deputy Head of ENIC Ukraine

The following points were put together, based on many years of experience and the most frequently asked questions.

### 1. First check the status of the educational institution and educational program you have chosen.

Regardless of whether you made the choice yourself or it was recommended to you by friends or a company, please check that the college or university is recognised in the country, and the program is of the level or degree you expect (secondary education, vocational education or higher education). The key criteria for checking status is the following.

- Educational institution is accredited in the country where it is located.
- If you have chosen a branch (college or campus, etc.) of a recognised university, then check whether this branch is recognised by both the country of location of the main educational institution and the country of location of the branch.
- The educational program should belong to the formal education system of the country of origin. Recognised universities can offer not only degree programs belonging to the formal education system, but also a variety of courses and other non-degree programs that stay outside of it. Even if these programs are interesting and useful, they do not lead to the award of the relevant qualification and may not

give its holder the right to further study or employment.

- The educational program of your choice should be exactly at the level you expect. The education systems of different countries have different structures and the levels and degrees do not always correspond to Ukrainian degrees and levels. For example, the baccalaureate qualification in France, Romania, Moldova and a number of other countries is the school leaving qualification and does not correspond to the bachelor's degree in Ukraine and other European countries. And some vocational or higher education programs may grant the graduate the right to professional activity, but not grant the right to continue education.

Please find out all the qualification details in advance to avoid unpleasant surprises in the future with the qualification that could not be recognised in Ukraine or other country, or which can be recognised but not at the level that you expected.

For such verification, you can contact our Centre and order a **statement** on the status of a foreign educational institution and (or) program.

### 2. Preparation of documents.

We recommend starting this process in advance. First find the requirements for documents at the embassy of the country you plan to go to and at the educational institution where you plan to study.

## IF YOU ARE GOING TO STUDY ABROAD...

Different countries have different requirements for documents, and even the requirements of different institutions within the same country may vary. This applies to the list of documents (education documents, certificates, etc.), certification of documents (consular legalisation, apostille, double apostille) and translations (notarised translation, official translation, translation by a translator accredited by the embassy), etc.

**Countries** that have joined the **Hague Convention** usually require **apostille** certification of educational documents, with the translation of the documents by a certified translator and certification of the translation by a notary public.

If you submit documents for apostille certification in Ukraine through a third party, we recommend to verify the apostille stamp on your documents in the **electronic catalogue** after receiving it in order to detect cases of their falsification.

For countries, that have not joined the Convention, documents should be certified with consular legalisation stamps. Apostille and **consular legalisation** are designed for international circulation of documents, giving them the legal validity in another country. **Verification** for the legalisation of educational documents of foreign citizens who studied in Ukraine is carried out by our Centre.

However, different countries and educational institutions may have special

requirements for the preparation of documents and translations. Sometimes embassies or educational institutions ask for **additional documents**, some of which can be prepared by our Centre. ENIC Ukraine also works with foreign organisations for the recognition and verification of documents (**WES USA, WES Canada, ICAS Canada, online verification on the DIGIFLOW portal**) and provides translations of educational documents.

### 3. Before returning to Ukraine please certify your documents with apostille stamps!

ENIC Ukraine Centre sincerely wishes you to get the education and diploma you want. The whole country waits for your return home to restore it, rebuild and develop! So, on your way back remember to certify your diploma or certificate with an apostille stamp in the issuing country. This will tremendously help during the recognition procedure of your foreign educational document in Ukraine.

The same requirements for the preparation of documents is put forward by many other countries. So, do it on time, before going abroad to study!

Good luck!

## HOW TO VERIFY UKRAINIAN EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTS IF YOU ARE ABROAD



YULIIA REVENKO,  
First category Verification  
Specialist of ENIC Ukraine



KARINA SOLKOZIAN,  
First category Verification  
Specialist of ENIC Ukraine

The full-scale war in Ukraine has been going on for more than seventeen months, and according to various sources there are between 5.3 and 6.2 million Ukrainian forced migrants abroad. Most Ukrainians who seek temporary protection abroad have high level of education.

To be able to continue the study or get a job abroad in most countries they should go through the recognition procedure for their educational documents. Each country has its own requirements for the preparation of documents, and even in different organisations of the same country, they may vary. Thus, for 124 countries that have signed the Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents (Hague Convention), the common rule would be to certify education documents with an apostille stamp of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. If you are in a country that has not joined The Hague Convention, educational documents must go through the legalisation procedure at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

Also, sometimes additional information may be required by embassies, foreign organisations for the recognition of qualifications and other institutions about the Ukrainian system of education, academic and professional rights, confirmation of pedagogical education,

assessment system in Ukraine, accreditation of higher educational institutions and programs. You may require to have your documents prepared for organisations like WES, ICAS, etc.

If you need to verify educational documents, certify them with an apostille stamp or get a statement, etc., but you are abroad and cannot come to Ukraine, you have the opportunity to submit your documents remotely to our Centre. To do this, please register your account at our website [www.apostille.in.ua](http://www.apostille.in.ua). Specialists of our Centre will analyse the attached documents and send you detailed step-by-step instructions.

Please note that the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine can certify only original documents with the apostille stamp. To get an apostille stamp, documents should be sent to our office by any courier service after all stages of the remote submission in the Personal Cabinet on the Centre's website are completed. We also send the documents back to you by a courier service, which is very convenient, considering the security situation in Ukraine.

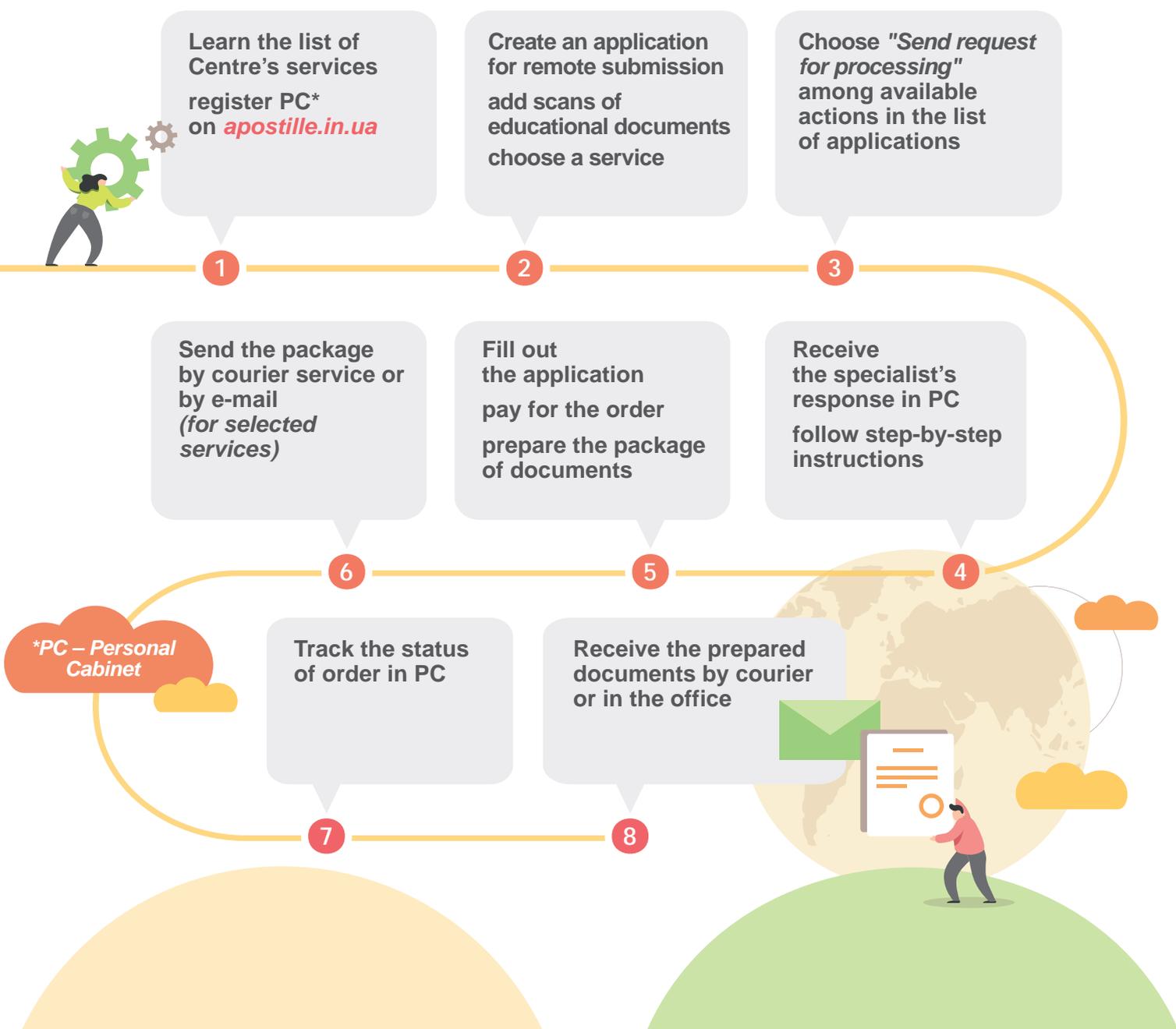
For the convenience of applicants and the safety of documents that may be damaged because of the military actions, all services provided by our Centre, except the apostille stamp and legalisation, are done remotely.

## HOW TO VERIFY UKRAINIAN EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTS IF YOU ARE ABROAD

We try to be considerate of every individual situation and help everyone. If you have additional questions regarding Ukrainian educational documents, please contact the Centre via e-mail:

centre@apostille.in.ua or call:  
+38 044 484 64 45, 484 64 95.

And remember, no matter how far you are from your home, we are always ready to help!



# TYPICAL MISTAKES IN ISSUANCE OF THE UKRAINIAN DOCUMENTS ON HIGHER EDUCATION



HANNA HORDZIL,  
Senior Specialist of ENIC UKRAINE

Because of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, many of our fellow citizens were forced to seek refuge abroad. Therefore, the issue of recognition of Ukrainian qualifications outside its borders has become acute. The Centre receives numerous inquiries on Ukrainian qualifications from holders of educational documents and foreign recognition organisations. The questions show how crucial it is for the Ukrainian institutions to be compliant with the regulations in issuing the educational documents, to include full and correct information about the curriculum and study volume, level of education and accreditation details – this all will simplify the recognition procedures for Ukrainian education documents abroad.

What are the typical mistakes in issuance of education documents?

## 1. NEW FORMATS

All educational documents should be issued in line with the template requirements on the day of issuance. In 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved a list of mandatory information to be included in credentials (degrees), and in 2021, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine developed new templates for diplomas, academic transcripts and updated European Diploma Supplement. Methodological recommendations were as well updated.

## 2. UNIFIED STATE ELECTRONIC DATABASE ON EDUCATION – USEDE

Organisations and credential evaluators abroad use Unified State Electronic Database on Education (USEDE) for verification of education documents issued in Ukraine. Discrepancy between information in the educational document and information added to USEDE, such as the date of start and end of studies, position and name of the person who signed the educational document, incorrectly specified information regarding the accreditation of the educational institution or program and accreditation body, may complicate the check up and as the result slow down the recognition procedure or even stand in the way of a positive recognition decision. It is also worth mentioning about the importance for a relevant officer of a HEI to make a note in the journal of registration of issued documents in the USEDE, which alone makes it possible to check the information about the qualification in the database.

From 2022, it is mandatory for HEIs to register diploma supplements in the USEDE and add the USEDE registration number to the title page of the diploma supplement.

It is also important to create a physical person's card for holders of educational

# TYPICAL MISTAKES IN ISSUANCE OF THE UKRAINIAN DOCUMENTS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

documents with no study history in the USEDE. In cases, when only duplicates of diploma supplements ordered, the registration numbers are assigned by the database.

## 3. PROGRAMS OF SHORTER DURATION

In cases when a student graduated a shortened study program, based on credit transfer from previous studies, this information should be included in the diploma supplement. In this case, the names of all institutions of higher education (including those HEIs where the higher education applicant studied separate subjects in academic mobility programs), where studies took place, period of studies and credits should be indicated.

## 4. DUPLICATES

Nowadays the need for issuance duplicates of education documents to replace lost or destroyed ones, or to help in cases, when verification is not possible due to the inaccessibility of the archives of educational institutions remaining in the occupied territories of Ukraine, is extremely relevant. Please remember that regardless of the issuance date of the document on education, its duplicate should be issued according to the current regulations.

### Attention!

- A duplicate specialist diploma is issued to replace a higher education diploma that was issued before introduction of Bologna degrees in higher education.
- Instead of a diploma of secondary specialised education – a duplicate junior specialist diploma is issued.
- The only valid form of diploma supplement today is the European Diploma Supplement.
- The information that was contained in the original education document should be reproduced in the duplicate document.
- Information about the educational program and its accreditation is not indicated in the duplicate, as it was not stated in the original document.
- The duplicate does not indicate the accreditation and license information valid on the date of issuance of the duplicate.
- In the fields of duplicate documents, which cannot be filled in due to the lack of information in the original document, the following should be added: XXXXXX, or an entry made with the following information: *"Information is missing in the original document"*.

## TYPICAL MISTAKES IN ISSUANCE OF THE UKRAINIAN DOCUMENTS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

In case of impossibility of obtaining information, the entry: *"Information is not available due to..."* is added.

- If the student studied before the introduction of the ECTS, the *"learning hours"* column is added to item 4.3 of the duplicate of the diploma supplement, and in the ECTS column it is noted: *"this information was not included in the original document"*.

Information should be in Ukrainian and English in duplicate documents – it is a mandatory requirement. The translation is carried out by the educational institution that issues the duplicate. If the original document was issued in Russian, the information in the duplicate is also reproduced in Ukrainian and English with the indication that the translation from a foreign language was made by the educational institution issuing the duplicate.

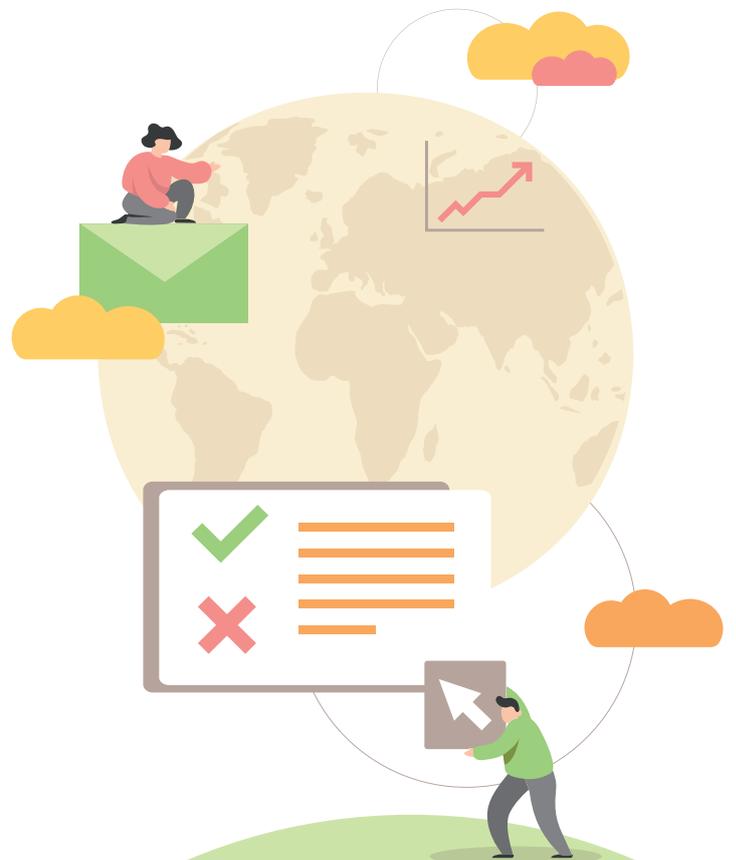
### 5. MULTIPLE-PAGE DOCUMENTS

In cases when the diploma supplement or transcript of records has two or more pages, they should be stapled together and pages numbered in a way that makes it impossible to separate them without

ruining it. The place of stapling is certified by the official signature and seal of an educational institution.

Our team is always ready to provide information support and advice on the preparation of documents on higher education to representatives of higher education institutions.

Let's work together for Victory!



## HOW TO RECOGNISE A UKRAINIAN DIPLOMA ABROAD?



TETIANA BOICHENKO,  
First category Verification Specialist of ENIC Ukraine

If you want to continue studies or get a job abroad with a Ukrainian qualification, you often need to recognise your educational document, and this may surprise you – why?

In fact, the recognition of educational documents is a generally accepted world practice. The recognition procedure is designed to establish whether the level of education, academic and professional rights in the country of origin is comply with the country of further study or employment, giving validity to the foreign education document.

Confirmation of foreign qualifications is carried out on the basis of the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (Lisbon, April 11, 1997), international agreements on mutual recognition and equivalence of documents on education and academic titles, as well as the national legislation of the country in which recognition is requested.

The recognition procedure for qualifications in a foreign country is carried out by competent bodies in accordance with the legislation of the country where the holder of the educational document plans to continue studying or get a job.

It is worth noting that requirements for the documents for submission for the recognition procedure and the procedure itself may vary depending

on the purpose of recognition and the competent authority.

Where can you find out what documents you need to submit for the recognition procedure?

With these questions please contact the national information centre of your host country. Every country that joined the Convention will have such centre, which, together with ENIC Ukraine, form ENIC-NARIC network. National information centres have the authority to do the recognition procedure (NARIC centres) and/or provide information about institutions authorised to carry out this procedure in the country (ENIC centres).

Contacts of national information centres can be found on the official website of the network [www.enic-naric.net](http://www.enic-naric.net) in the section "Countries of the networks". To find the necessary information, please select the country you are interested in and follow the link to the website of the national information centre of that country. Carefully review the information presented on the centre's website, and if you have any questions, please contact them (contact information is listed on the website).

## EVENTS OF ENIC Ukraine



TETIANA YEVDOKYMENKO,  
Senior Advisor of ENIC Ukraine

### 1. Webinar for new credential evaluators

On July 11, 2023, ENIC Ukraine held webinar "Recognition of foreign educational qualifications in Ukraine: validation and preparation of documents for recognition" for admission officers and other staff members of higher education institutions that are new in the recognition field. A total of 224 participants from 111 institutions joined the webinar.

This event was organised with the support of the Council of Europe within the framework of the UaReNext project "Lisbon Recognition Convention Implementation – supporting ENIC Centres".

During the webinar ENIC Ukraine experts explained the recognition procedure and its stages, validation, its purpose and how to prepare documents for recognition. It was important to speak about how to work with credentials issued in Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus and address all their questions during the Q&A session.

Small group sessions gave the seminar participants opportunity to process real recognition cases with the ENIC Ukraine team.

### 2. Webinar: transferring school grades of other countries

Educational community is working hard to prepare for returning students. Many

classrooms have stayed empty for a long time since the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, and wait to get back their students who were forced to go to other countries and continue their studies there.

On August 4, 2023, a webinar about transferring school grades from various education systems to the Ukrainian grading system was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science and ENIC Ukraine. 153 representatives of educational departments and local administrations of education from 20 regions of Ukraine joined the event.

The online event was opened by **Andrii Stashkiv, Deputy Minister of Education and Science**, who noted: *"The webinar was initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science to speak about the recognition of learning results by our Centre and share practical advice with institutions on how to help students returning to Ukraine"*.

**Viktoriya Sergiyenko, director of the ENIC Ukraine Centre**, took the floor next and emphasised in her speech: *"Today we think about how to help Ukrainian children who will return home, how to understand their education documents issued abroad. We expect that many schoolchildren, who were forced to go abroad due to hostilities, will return to their home country. I really want us to be ready to make this process as smooth as possible for them. That's why we want to support you and share our knowledge"*.

## EVENTS OF ENIC Ukraine

### ***How to enrol students with foreign educational documents to Ukrainian schools?***

### ***How to transfer their grades to the Ukrainian grading system?***

ENIC Ukraine experts, who have been doing it for many years, shared their expertise and provided answers on this and other topics during the webinar. Some challenging enrolment cases were discussed and explained, as well as general principles of transferring school grades, grading scales of different countries, and case studies for transferring grades from Germany, Bulgaria, Poland, the United Kingdom and Czech Republic.

ENIC Ukraine is open to provide advice and help to educational institutions and individual applicants with the issue, and they can always address ENIC Ukraine office for help. In addition, the Centre can issue information statements relating to transferring grades or education level received in another country.

### **3. Announcement of the online recognition event in October 2023**

ENIC Ukraine invites you to a webinar to acquire skills working with educational documents of top countries of international students in Ukraine, get to know about their education and knowledge assessment systems, verification methods and sources.

The online event will be held with the support of the Council of Europe within the framework of the UaReNext international project.

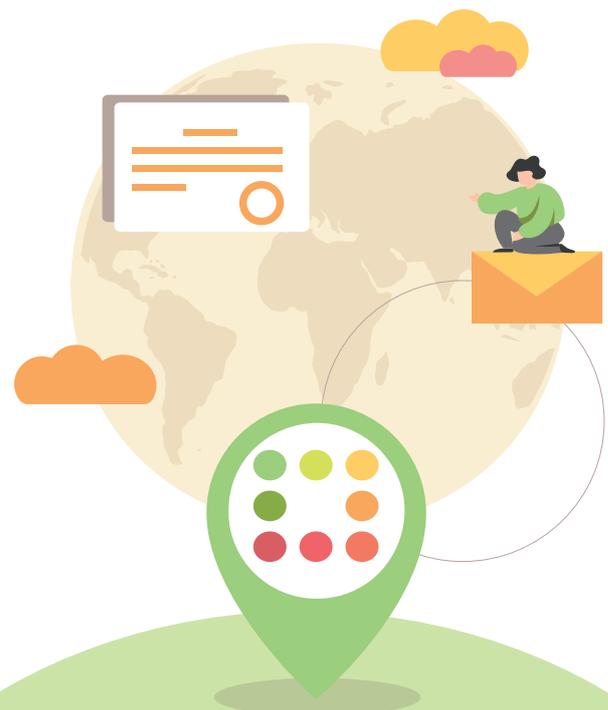
### **Who are invited?**

Admission and recognition officers of higher education institutions, who are competent bodies for recognition and members of UaReNet.

Participation is free! Please send us a letter to register!

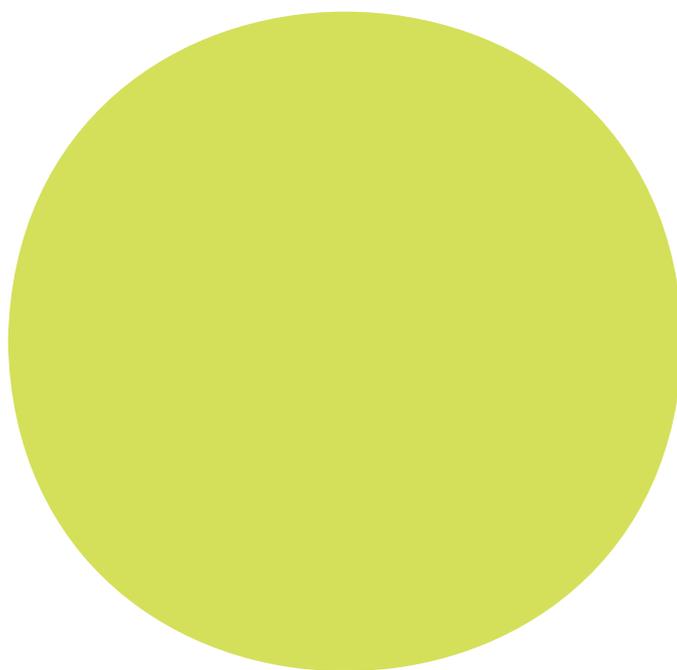
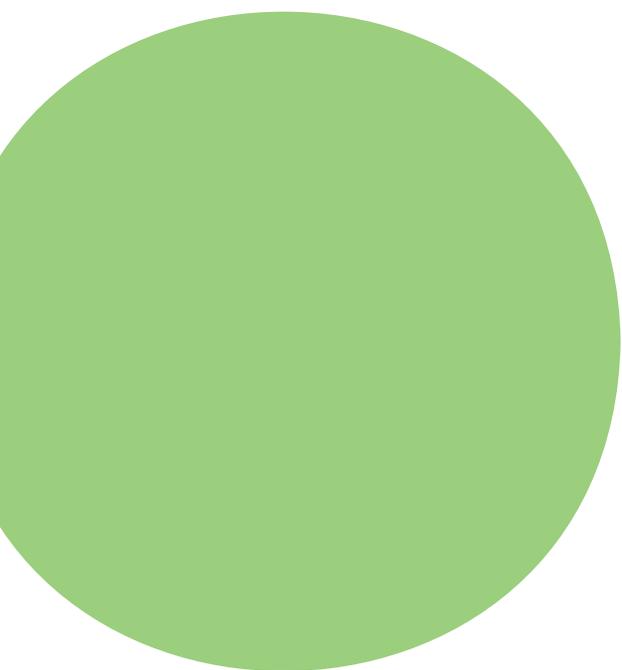
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## National Information Centre of Academic Mobility (ENIC Ukraine)

State-owned company "Information and Image Centre"  
of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

Address: 25, V. Chornovola Street, 01135, Kyiv

Tel./fax: +38 044 484 64 25

E-mail: [news@enic.in.ua](mailto:news@enic.in.ua)

[www.enic.in.ua](http://www.enic.in.ua)

[www.naric.in.ua](http://www.naric.in.ua)

[www.apostille.in.ua](http://www.apostille.in.ua)

### Editorial Board:

**Chief Project Manager:** Viktoriya Sergiyenko

**Editor-in-Chief:** Nataliia Naumenko

**Release Editor:** Tetiana Boichenko

**Editor of the English version:** Valentyna Krasnoshchok

**Contributors:** Viktoriya Sergiyenko, Nataliia Naumenko, Anna Bakhlukova, Tetiana Vahina, Tetiana Yevdokymenko, Olha Kharbotli, Yuliia Havrylenko, Olha Trubetska, Tetiana Boichenko, Hanna Hordzii, Yuliia Revenko, Karina Solkozian.

**Design:** Yevheniia Makarevych

**Dissemination:** Hanna Veselova

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