Publication date: 28.06.2022

Promotion of the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees project in Romania

The Ministry of Education through the National Center for Recognition and Equivalence of Diplomas organized, on June 27, 2022, together with the Council of Europe, a meeting to promote the *European Qualifications Passport for Refugees - EQPR* within the international project with the same name that follows the implementation of this tool for recognition in the European states.

In the opening of the meeting, Sorin-Mihai Cîmpeanu, the Minister of Education presented the measures implemented by the Romanian Government in favor of refugees, pupils and students from Ukraine, highlighting the important role of cooperation at European level and exchange of good practices.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Council of Europe, UNHCR, as well as the recognition centers from France, Poland, Republic of Moldova, together with the specialized directions within the Ministry of Education, the National Authority for Qualifications and the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education; at the same time, the representatives of the higher education institutions in Romania and the Greek recognition center attended online.

The interventions have emphasized the important role of the EQPR to facilitate the access to studies and to labor market for the benefit of the holder and the host state, with examples of good practices for the implementation of EQPR in France, Poland and Greece.

EQPR is an instrument that facilitates the recognition of the refugee qualifications even in the absence of their full documentation, based on a transparent and credible evaluation and it is used by refugees when they want to attend further studies or when they are looking for a job.

In the context of the current refugee crisis, higher education institutions have a double role, respectively to facilitate the access to studies of these persons, including by taking into account the EQPR, but also to participate in the assessment of qualifications that do not can be proved by documents in order to issue EQPR.

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On the occasion of the World Refugee Day, the Council of Europe launched the new video on the EQPR: https://www.coe.int/en/web/education/-/refugees-share-their-experiences-of-using-the-european-qualifications-passport-for-refugees

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