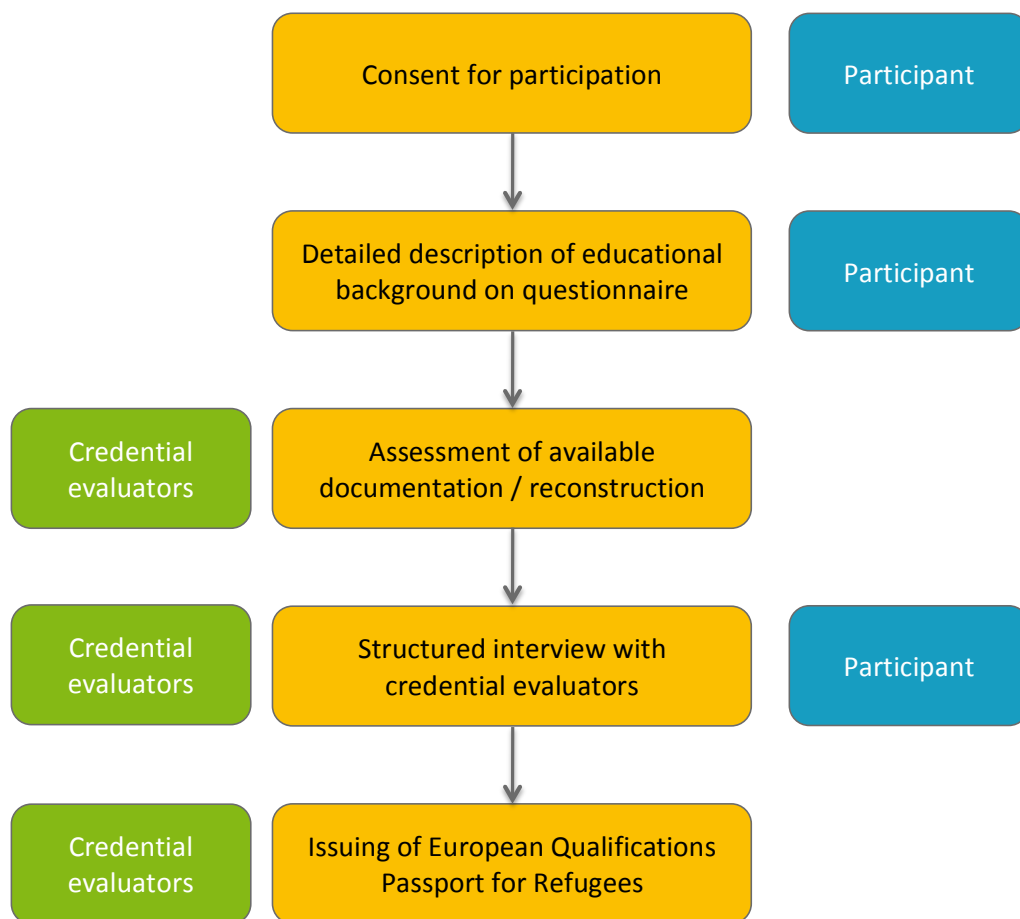


The Process:

Selection of the participants by the Italian universities with the support of CIMEA – NARIC Italia



The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees

What is the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees?

The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is a special document issued to refugees with secondary school leaving or higher education qualifications, even in situations when they are not able to provide supporting documentation such as their university diploma, transcript or school leaving certificate.

It also contains information about work experience and language proficiency that the refugee may have.

How does the procedure work?

The procedure for obtaining this document has two steps:

1. The candidate needs to complete a questionnaire which contains information about his/her education, language proficiency and work experience;
2. Once the questionnaire is accepted, the candidate is called to take an interview with a team of evaluators.

When does this process start?

92 candidates were interviewed in 2017 in Greece. From 2018 the project is also taking place in Italy. The project brings together credential evaluators and admission officers from Italian universities with credential evaluators from Armenia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom to evaluate refugees' qualifications in different parts of Italy, their first host country.

Can any refugee apply?

The participating Italian universities together with CIMEA – NARIC Italia will contact refugees who claim to have fully or partially completed their studies at the level of upper secondary school and above (even with insufficient or missing documentation) and who wish to enter this process.

The refugees will then go through the assessment process in one of the participating universities. The idea is to gradually establish a system, which can be used by other countries in the future.

How long does this procedure take?

The questionnaire is sent to the refugee candidate three weeks before the evaluation. She/he has two weeks to fill it in. Afterwards, the questionnaire is sent to the evaluators who review the received documentation.

Following the review, the candidate is called for an interview, which takes between 45-60 minutes after which a decision on whether or not to issue the document is made. If the decision is positive, the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is issued to the candidate in the following week and is valid for five years from the date of issue.

So, it is not really a passport?

No, not in a conventional sense. It does not replace identification or educational documentation. It does not guarantee admission to studies or employment. It is not a formal recognition act.

The European Qualifications Passport holds reliable information and is a first step towards employment and admission to further studies. It is designed to help refugees integrate into their host societies.

But why is it only for refugees?

Because refugees are fleeing persecution, terror and war. As such, they need support. This concept is reflected in international law, including the Council of Europe/UNESCO Lisbon Recognition Convention, which foresees “procedures designed to assess fairly and expeditiously whether refugees, displaced persons and persons in a refugee-like situation fulfill the relevant requirements for access to higher education”.

Interesting, but has this worked in other countries?

Yes, Greece, Norway and the UK have successfully started introducing this methodology.

So, this could potentially be used in more countries?

Yes. The idea is that this information should be accepted and easily interpreted in any European country. In the long term, this methodology can save costs for host countries by facilitating and accelerating the assessment of refugees’ qualifications.

Once the decision is made, who will be aware of it?

The National Information Centre in Italy, CIMEA, which has a central information role among the network of qualifications network centers in Europe, will store this information electronically.

How can the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees be used?

Once relocated or granted stay in a European country, the refugee is strongly encouraged to contact the National Academic Recognition Information Centre of that European country (www.enic-naric-net) in order to receive further information on university requirements and other possibilities.

For more information on the project, please visit:

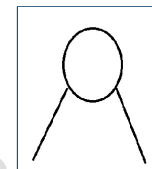
<http://www.coe.int/eqpr>

European Qualifications Passport for Refugees No 0123¹

Assessment Part

Issued:

Valid through:



Personal information

Last name:

First and middle names:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Nationality:

Assessed qualifications

Highest achieved qualification: ²

Other achieved qualifications: ³

Additional relevant information from the applicant

Languages:

Work experience: ⁴

Membership in professional organizations: ⁵

Interview and documentation assessment is conducted by credential evaluators from DOATAP, CIMEA, NOKUT and UK NARIC.

On behalf of the project

Evaluation Coordinator

For more information about the status of this document:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/education/recognition-of-refugees-qualifications>

¹ European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is neither a legal document nor replacement for the national recognition schemes, but a statement intended to be of help in connection with applications for employment/internships and studies. The evaluation is based on available documentation and a structured interview with a professional credential evaluator. **This document is only valid together with the explanatory part.**

² Available documentation: 07/2016

³ Available documentation: 07/2013

⁴ Available documentation: 06/2004

⁵ No available documentation