

# Automatic Recognition in Flanders

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# 1. NARIC - FLEMISH COMMUNITY OF BELGIUM

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# 1. 1. Figures & Facts

4.300 applications

1.463 applications for higher education

Top 5 HE

1. The Netherlands (141)

2. India (78)

3. Philippines (68)

4. Russia (63)

5. Germany (55)

Team of 17 persons – Situated in Agency for Quality Control



# 1. 2. Recognition Procedures

## Principles of LRC inscribed in Flemish legislation

- Recognition unless substantial difference
- appeal

## Procedures

- Intake
- Check authenticity
- Evaluatory phase (internal or external experts)
- Ministerial Decision (if negative : substantial difference)
- Appeal



## 2. AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION

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## 2. 1. Automatic recognition: General

### Prerequisites:

- Correct, reliable information about the education system and study programs in the “partner” country
- Mutual trust
- Concrete agreements with the “partner” country



## 2. 2. Automatic recognition of Dutch degrees in Flanders

NVAO: Common organism for accreditation of Flemish and Dutch higher education programs since 2005 located at the Hague (NL)

Common register of accredited Flemish and Dutch higher education programs





## 2. 2.1. Automatic recognition of Dutch secondary education diplomas

Legal dispositions (1989) : Some Dutch diplomas at the level of secondary education are automatically recognized:

- Criterium: list (setup by the Flemish inspectorate)
- One way, no reciprocity
- Regularly actualised



## 2. 2. 2. Automatic Recognition of Dutch HE degrees: level recognition (without qualification)

### Law of september 2010

- All Dutch Bachelor, Master and Doctor degrees (with qualification) are automatically recognized in Flanders at the level of Bachelor, Master or Doctor.
- Reciprocity
- Criterium: accreditation. Study programmes concerned must be listed in the respective registers of the accredited higher education study programmes.
- Not applicable for older degrees



## 2. 3. Automatic recognition of degrees of higher education: specific recognition (with qualification)

Law of 2013 : Automatic recognition of each foreign bachelor or master degree.

- **Criterion:** The study programs concerned must be accredited by an accreditation organism listed in the European Quality Assurance Register of Higher Education.
- No reciprocity
- Discussions with EQAR





## 2. 4. Results of automatic recognition

For the applicant

- Faster procedure
- More simple procedure

For the credential evaluator (NARIC)

- Information task, no more examination and procedure
- Workload diminishes



# 3. CONCLUSION

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- The principle of automatic recognition as worked out in Flemish legislation is ambitious.
- At the moment in cooperation with our Department of Education we are trying to translate the legal dispositions into an efficient work instrument.
- At the same time we develop a communication plan to make the principle and procedure of automatic recognition transparent for the diploma holders and for the employers.





# QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

