



# **Integration of Refugees into Higher Education: DG EAC Initiatives**

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**Education  
and  
Training**

# Summary of Activities

- Information sharing
- Funding: Erasmus+ and MSCA
- Academic Recognition
- Cooperation with other DGs

# Information Sharing

- **Dedicated website:**

**[http://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/migration/higher-education-refugees\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/migration/higher-education-refugees_en.htm)**

**[EAC-HIGHER-EDUCATION-FOR-REFUGEES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EAC-HIGHER-EDUCATION-FOR-REFUGEES@ec.europa.eu)**



# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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Erasmus+ programme

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## Erasmus+ helping refugees through

### Higher Education

Supporting the efforts of EU countries to integrate refugees in Europe's education systems and ensure their skills development is an urgent task in the light of the current migration crisis.

Many initiatives are already taking place in EU countries. The European Commission can bring added value by sharing these initiatives and by offering support through its programmes.

#### Ongoing Erasmus+ and higher education initiatives

#### ▼ Inspiring practices: how are European Higher Education Institutions helping?

Following the results from an EU survey that the European Commission is conducting (see next point), as well as the conclusions from a workshop held in October that gathered 30 partners (Erasmus+ National Agencies, universities and student associations...), the Commission has published lists of existing initiatives to provide inspiration to individuals and institutions interested in facilitating the integration of refugees in European universities.

The lists groups such initiatives under three themes:

- [Access to higher education and awareness in society](#) (478 kB)
- [Meet basic needs and ease social integration](#) (504 kB)
- [Recognition of skills, access to higher education and the integration of researchers](#) (505 kB)

► [EU survey: European Commission is conducting an EU survey to collect](#)

CALLS

DOCUMENT LIBRARY

KEY DOCUMENTS

MEDIA GALLERY

#### NEWS

29/04/2016  
Migrant week on EPALE

◀ 1 2 3 ▶

view all news

#### EVENTS

29/09/2016  
Register now for the MEET Film Festival and show the world your videos on education and youth

◀ 1 2 3 ▶

view all events

#### HOW CAN WE HELP?

Questions





European  
Commission



## Erasmus+

- €400m for social inclusion: strategic partnerships, key action 2
- €13 million to upscale existing initiatives promoting social inclusion, key action 3
- International capacity-building: transversal priority on integration, key action 2

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# Online linguistic support

100,000 licences for language assessments and language courses (€4m budget) over 3 years

Home Language assessment Language courses Media Contact us FAQ

**READY TO EXPERIENCE SOMETHING NEW WITH ERASMUS+?**

### What is the Online Linguistic Support?

Erasmus+ is the new EU programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ offers opportunities to study, train, gain work experience or volunteer abroad and one of its strategic objectives is to strengthen linguistic skills and support language learning.

[More information on Erasmus+](#)

The Online Linguistic Support (OLS) supports language learning for Erasmus+ mobility participants. The OLS offers participants in Erasmus+ long-term mobility activities (Key Action 1) the opportunity to assess their skills in the foreign language(s) they will use to study, work or volunteer abroad. In addition, selected participants may follow an online language course to improve their competence.



## Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

- Aim: provide high-quality research training
- Bottom-up approach – supporting excellent researchers:
  - any nationality
  - any field
  - either towards or beyond PhD level
- Equal opportunities for researchers whose careers have been interrupted, including refugees

- [Career Restart Panel](#) (CAR) supporting post-doctoral researchers resuming their research careers in Europe
- Time spent applying for refugee status does not affect eligibility for MSCA
- Organisations providing MSCA-funded pre- or post-doctoral training can also include activities that integrate displaced researchers



- MSCA also support non-academic organisations e.g. participating through the [Society & Enterprise panel](#)
- MSCA promoted to displaced researchers through [national contact points](#), [information material](#) (also in Arabic), and [social media](#)
- 62 MSCA-funded research projects related to migration

# Academic Recognition

- Support the national recognition centres (NARIC network) to support procedures for recognition of academic qualifications for refugees (article 28, 2011/95/EU)
- Support the Erasmus+ programme countries in commitments under the Lisbon Recognition Convention (Council of Europe and UNESCO)



**Toolkit project  
(funded under  
Erasmus+ NARIC call)  
2016-2018  
Guidelines  
E-learning modules  
Background documents  
Information on  
education systems  
Poss. tools**

**Annual  
meeting,  
June 2016**

Accessibility [A-](#) [A](#) [A+](#) [A](#)

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

[Contact details - Restricted Area](#)

Search in the site:  
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## Recognise qualifications held by refugees – guide for credential evaluators

Large numbers of individuals of all ages are fleeing conflict zones, and relocating in other bordering countries in search of a better future. Many bring with them competencies and skills acquired through studies and work experience in their country of origin and intend to seek opportunities to commence higher education, continue further studies and join the labour market.

Institutions responsible for the recognition of qualifications may face key challenges in the evaluation and recognition process. These are often associated with the lack of established recognition procedures and policy for undocumented qualifications, documentary evidence of academic credentials and qualifications from the applicant and information on legal obligations.

What do you do if you should receive an application from a refugee with or without documentation of the qualifications obtained? Below you will find advice on how to determine whether the person – and potential student – meets the main requirements to enter a programme, how to communicate to potential students arriving as refugees and where to find more information on your legal obligations.

### 1. Set up a fair and transparent recognition procedure and policy within your institution

Most applicants appear to bring documentation on previously obtained qualifications. Applicants holding valid diplomas might contact the admission officers at the higher education institution they wish to seek admission to for more information on requirements and the regular application procedure. The institution might deem it necessary to contact the national ENIC-NARIC centre as part of the credential evaluation process.

In some cases, applicants are unable to provide documentary evidence to support the evaluation process when seeking recognition of their qualifications. The standard

# Thank you!

# Questions?