

Improving the recognition of qualifications of refugee healthcare professionals in the European Union

European conference, Paris, January 15th 2025

PROGRAMME

09:00 - 09:20

Opening

Welcome and introduction

Guillaume ROSSIGNOL, Directeur JRS France

Jean-Christophe DUMONT, Head of International Migration Division, OECD

Angelo PITTALUGA, Head of JRS Global Advocacy

Paolo ARTINI, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in France and Monaco

09:20 - 10:20

Session 1: The importance of improving recognition of qualifications for refugee healthcare professionals in Europe

Moderated by **Guillaume ROSSIGNOL**

- **Healthcare professionals' shortages and refugees' overqualification: an overview of OECD countries and recommendations**
Ave LAUREN, OECD Migration Policy Analyst
- **What's at stake for the French healthcare system?**
Jean-Luc DUMAS, Special Health Advisor to the Ministry of Higher Education
- **Features, scope, and overview of European practices on the recognition of healthcare qualifications**
Irinda RIQUELME, **Emilie TRANNOY**, organisers of the colloquium, JRS France

10:20 - 10:50

Coffee break

10:50 - 11:45

Session 2: Enhancing information and orientation

Actors, funding, tools, priorities, assessment

Moderated by **NOUR ALLAZKANI**

- **Information and orientation centres and platforms**
Nour ALLAZKANI, cofounder of Réfugiés.info
Presentation of different search engines and platforms in European Countries

Judith HÖRLSBERGER, AST Coordinator in Austria
AST Contact points in Austria and Check-In Plus Programm
- **Orientation programmes**
Maartje VAN VLIET, Recognition consultant at the BIG register, Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

Q&A

11:45 - 12:30

Session 3: Resources sharing for the evaluation of qualifications

Moderated by **Thomas Liebig**, Principal Administrator, OECD Migration Division

- **Exchange of experiences between recognition actors: the role of ENIC/NARIC (Central Office for Foreign Education)**
Dr. Florian MEYER, deputy head of Expert Opinion Center for Health Professions (GfG) at the German ENIC-NARIC (ZAB)
- **A specific tool for healthcare professions: the EPIC (Electronic Portfolio of International Credentials)**
Aisha AWAN, GP and Clinical Lecturer at the University of Manchester and Director of Refugee and Asylum Seekers Centre for Healthcare Professionals Education (REACHE Northwest)

Q&A

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch break

14:00 - 15:00

Session 4: Partial equivalence & adapted training: a key to success

Moderated by **Maria Vincenza DESIDERIO**, Senior independent expert on migration, integration, and qualification recognition policies

- **Partial equivalence and complementary measures to suit different career paths**
Bauke LEIJNAAR, Chairman Commission for Foreign Health Care Graduates, Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
The progress test and training measures

Nathalie SCHÖNBERGER, recognition counselor at Tür an Tür Integrationsprojekte gGmbH
Partial Equivalences and Compensatory Measures: Becoming a Nursing Specialist in Germany
- **The France-Québec experience on mutual recognition**
Yves DUTRIEUX, Health Negotiator for the France-Quebec agreement on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications

Q&A

15:00 - 15:45

Session 5: Current practices to resume studies

Moderated by **Laurent Chambaud**, Former Director of the École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique and currently a member of the Comité Consultatif National d'Éthique (CCNE) for life sciences and health.

- **Resuming unfinished education in medicine/without a diploma**
Mark BULBULIAN, medical student and refugee in France
- **University admission that takes account of personal background**
Joyce BROWNE, Associate Professor of Global Health at UMC Utrecht and Founder of the Newcomer programme and **Eva STORTELDER**, Paediatric Surgeon
The Netherlands' Ukrainian pilot project

Q&A

15:45 - 16:00

Coffee break

16:00 - 17:15

Session 6: Early access to work: best practices

Moderated by **Thomas Liebig**, Principal Administrator, OECD Migration Division

- **A more efficient ecosystem: cooperation between different stakeholders at the national level**
Aisha Awan, GP and Clinical Lecturer at the University of Manchester and Director of Refugee and Asylum Seekers Centre for Healthcare Professionals Education (REACHE Northwest)
The evidenced journey to requalification in the UK, barriers and opportunities?

Anders Barane, Senior Advisor, Employer Policy Division at the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
The fast-track in Sweden
- **Temporary practice authorisations**
Mariusz KLENCKI, Director of the Medical Staff Training Department at the Polish Ministry of Health
The Polish experience with Ukraine
- **Accelerated recognition pathways**
Dr Ray HEALY, Director of Registration, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI)
The programme for nurses in Ireland

Q&A

17:15 - 17:50

Session 7: Support and actions from international bodies

Moderated by **Maria Vincenza DESIDERIO**

- **World Health Organization**
Giorgio COMETTO, Coordinator Human resources for health policies, norms and standards, WHO
- **European Commission**
William O'KEEFFE, Policy Officer at the European Commission
Implementation of the recent recommendation on the recognition of qualifications
- **Roundtable of national representatives on the implications of the recommendations and guidelines of international organizations**

Q&A

17:50 - 18:00

Conclusion

- **OECD**
Jean-Christophe DUMONT, Head of International Migration Division, OECD

18:00 - 18:30

A drink and a chat

With the support of the UNHCR and the European Commission