An Expert Network on Recognition of outcomes of learning periods abroad in general secondary education for a European Education Area

*In 2025 all students in Europe will be able to spend a period of studies abroad, thanks to the initiative we launch today.*

Learning mobility is one of the policy priorities promoted by the EU to foster the development of key competences crucial for active participation in society and the labour market.

Mobility is shown to positively impact students’ confidence, independence, social integration and sense of European Identity. One of the main barriers to mobility is lack of recognition of its learning outcomes and unfortunately, in general secondary education, procedures for the mutual recognition are often underdeveloped or non-existent. The EU and the Member States are committed to work toward eliminating this barrier.

In November 2018, EU Member States have agreed to put in action the Council recommendation on promoting automatic mutual recognition of higher education and upper secondary education and training qualifications and the outcomes of learning periods abroad, in view of the creation of an European Education Area by 2025, which Member States will be called to report on in just a few years.

To better apply the recommendation in the field of recognition of the outcomes of learning periods abroad during upper secondary education, the European Commission entrusted a consortium composed by EFIL, EIESP and CESIE to work on the topic.

The consortium has started a process of cooperation with a Network of Experts among relevant stakeholders to prepare the action that will eventually lead to a real automatic recognition Europe-wide.

The Network will be composed by 25 stakeholders from 15 EU countries, aiming at designing together European guidelines for automatic recognition and sharing practices and knowledge bringing together governmental and civil society representatives.
Through an **analysis of the EU Member States country policies and practices** for recognition of outcomes of learning periods abroad in general secondary education, the consortium will **support a mapping of different approaches identifying common challenges and enablers.**

This action will lay the groundwork to **set out the general principles for a proposal of a European Framework to support the recognition** that will be the basis for **future European guidelines to be adopted by all Member States.**

The consortium will develop a session of the **European School Education Gateway** website including information allowing schools, teachers and students to better understand different systems, **procedures and requirements for recognition of outcomes of learning periods abroad.**

A **model training programme** will be produced in order to **support schools and teachers in assessing competences of pupils after a learning period abroad providing them with assessment protocols/tools to assess transversal competences.** The training model will be translated and adapted by potential users at national level.

The consortium implementing this initiative comprises:

- **EFIL**, European Federation for Intercultural Learning (Brussels, Belgium);
- **EIESP**, European Institute of Education and Social Policy (Paris, France);
- **CESIE**, European Centre for Studies and Initiatives (Palermo, Italy).

For further information:

[Register to the newsletter](#) (1st edition planned for September 2020)

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