



The new Code of Good Practice on Transnational Education – DS as a tool

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Why The Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education?

- ✓ To prevent fraudulent practice in relation to TNE
- ✓ To provide a clear and solid foundation for fair recognition of qualifications achieved on the basis of TNE
- ✓ The rise of mobility of learners within the LRC region as well as globally
- ✓ Increased international institutional cooperation among HEIs
- ✓ The enhancement of quality provision within the TNE sector

Revisions of Lisbon Recognition Convention Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education



Riga,
2001(first)

Bucharest,
2007

Paris, 2025

Definitions

2001

All types of higher education study programmes, or sets of courses of study, or educational services(including those of distance education) in which the learners are located in a country different from the one where the awarding institution is based. Such programmes may belong to the education system of a State different from the State in which it operates, or may operate independently of any national education system.

2025

A subset of cross-border education where study programmes, or sets of courses, or educational services borrow or transfer elements of one country's higher education system (or non-country specific education systems) from or to another country. It may **involve the movement of faculty, learners, knowledge, programmes, providers and curricula** across jurisdictional borders. It may encompass a wide range of **mode of delivery (including distance and blended learning)** and may or may not require **learners mobility**. The programme(s) and qualification(s) awarded may belong to the domestic education system of reference of the providing institution, to the education system of a State different from the State in which the providing institution operates, or may be independent of any national education system.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION (Monitoring the implementation of the LRC, 2022)

- an update of the “Revised Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education”, 2007, to address **new challenges** in the TNE sector;
- **quality assurance** aspects of programmes and institutions, considering both the awarding body and the institution administering studies;
- HEI and/or national authorities clearly **provide information** related to quality assurance aspects and all the other elements of the TNE qualification that may differ from the national qualifications
- national authorities are invited to adopt every possible measure to eradicate all forms of mispractice within the TNE sector, such as **Diploma Mills and fraudulent qualifications**;
- national information centres should provide clear and transparent information on the TNE sector, considering both their evaluation practices in this regard and elements concerning their TNE institutions operating abroad
- HEI should provide clear and transparent details regarding the nature and status of both the awarding institution and the institution administering studies, as foreseen in the format of the **Diploma Supplement**

A **diploma mill** or **degree mill** is a business that sells illegitimate diplomas or degrees.



Process of drafting new code

- ✓ The code has been drafted by the LRC Bureau with the assistance of a seconded expert from CIMEA
- ✓ The draft code was sent in consultation to all state parties
- ✓ 15 state parties responded to the consultation, some countries transmitted a number of comments, some of them of more substantial character
- ✓ Online consultations with the some state parties discussing their comments and suggestions for changes
- ✓ The document was finalised by the Bureau and sent for discussion and adoption at the convention meeting

Content of the Code

- Following the structure of other subsidiary documents adopted by the previous convention meeting
- Preamble
- Terminology
- Principles
- Quality Assurance and Recognition
- Information Provision
- Explanatory Memorandum

Content of the Code of TNE

Section 1: Terminology

- Defining the terms used in the text

Section 2: Principles

- Putting the **learner in the centre**
- Follow **recognition principles from the LRC** and its subsidiary texts
- Offer clear and **transparent information** on the nature and status of TNE-programmes including both awarding and providing institutions
- That national authorities should make every effort to **eradicate fraudulent practices**

Content

- **Section 3: Quality Assurance and Recognition**
 - secure **transparent and solid quality assurance systems of TNE in line with the ESGs** or comparable standard
 - provide **transparent information on requirements** of licensing or registration if applicable
 - **provide fair recognition decisions/statements** of TNE-programmes based on the LRC and its subsidiary texts with a strong focus on the quality assurance of the programme/institution of both the awarding and providing institution
 - HEI should **provide TNE-programmes of comparable standard** as the programmes offered within their own domestic territory
 - HEI should provide clear and **transparent information on all parts of the programmes** including status of both awarding and if applicable providing institution in the interests of the learners and to facilitate fair recognition

Information provision

- provision of accurate, reliable and easily **accessible information on the criteria and standards for quality assurance** and accreditation of higher education programmes resulting from transnational arrangements
- provide **clear and transparent information on TNE-activities** offered in their domestic territory as well as domestic institutions operating on foreign territory
- NICs should provide information on the **status of their national institutions** involved in TNE
- HEI/providers are responsible for proving clear and **transparent information to prospective learners** on all aspects of the programme including appeal procedures and rights.
- Issue a **Diploma Supplement or comparable document** in the interest of securing fair recognition of the specific programme

Diploma supplement in LRC

- ✓ LRC (1997) Article IX.3 The Parties shall promote, through the national information centres or otherwise, the use of the UNESCO/Council of Europe Diploma Supplement or any other comparable document by the higher education institutions of the Parties.
- ✓ LRC subsidiary text on recommendation on recognition of joint degrees (2004)
- ✓ LRC subsidiary text on DS 2007: Diploma Supplement follows the model developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES.
https://www.enic-naric.net/fileusers/THE_DIPLOMA_SUPPLEMENT.pdf
- ✓ 4.LRC subsidiary text on revised template on DS (2019)
https://www.enic-naric.net/Upload/Documents/Revised_Template_Diploma_Supplement.pdf

1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

1.1	Last name(s) 	1.2	First name(s)
1.3	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) 	1.4	Student identification number or code (if available)

2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

2.1	Name of qualification and (if applicable) title conferred (in original language) 	2.2	Main field(s) of study for the qualification
2.3	Name and status of awarding institution (in original language) 		
2.4	Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language) 	2.5	Language(s) of instruction/examination

3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL AND DURATION OF THE QUALIFICATION

3.1	Level of the qualification 	3.2	Official duration of programme in credits and/or years
3.3	Access requirements(s) 		

4. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME COMPLETED AND THE RESULTS OBTAINED

Mode of study

4.1

Programme learning outcomes

4.2

Programme details, individual credits gained and grades/marks obtained

4.3

Grading system and, if available, grade distribution table

4.4

Overall classification of the qualification (in original language)

4.5

5. INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

Access to further study

5.1

Access to a regulated profession (if applicable)

5.2

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information

6.1

Further information sources

6.2

7. CERTIFICATION OF THE SUPPLEMENT

Date

7.1

Signature

7.2

Capacity

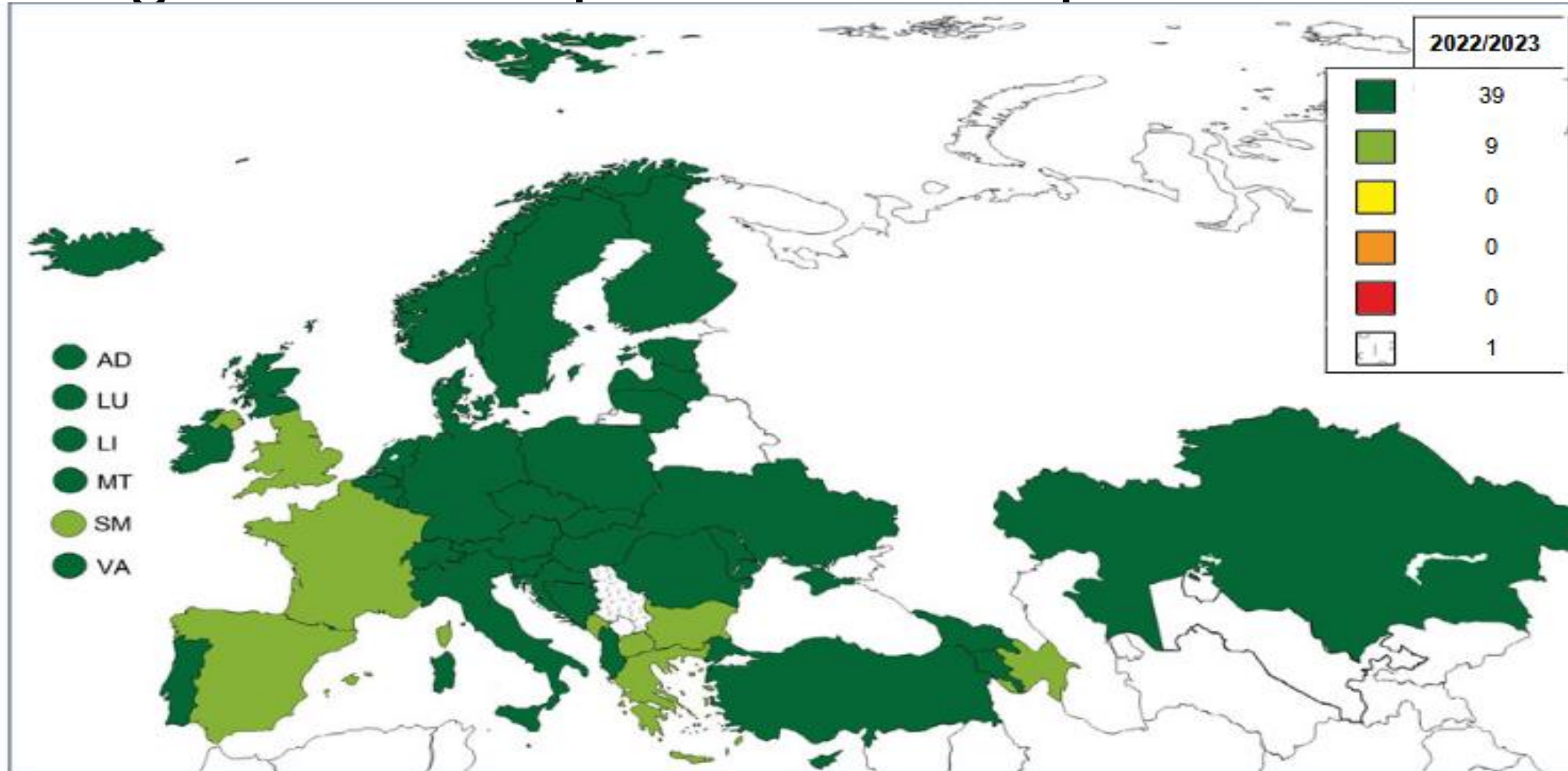
7.3

Official stamp or seal

7.4

The European Higher Education Area in 2024

Bologna Process Implementation Report



Source: BFUG data collection.

Thank you for attention!