

A Bachelor is a Bachelor is a Bachelor ?

Qualifications evaluated by six different countries

Moscow, 14 October 2016

CIMEA

Luca Lantero

**Practice of recognition bridging
continents**

Background

The **Pathfinder Group on Automatic Recognition** was established upon recommendation of the Ministers of Education in the **European Higher Education Area (EHEA)**, as communicated in the Bucharest Ministerial Communique (2012): their slogan is ‘**a Bachelor is a Bachelor is a Bachelor**’, to illustrate that **automatic recognition** of degrees makes the degree holder eligible for a follow-up study programme in any EHEA country.

Please see the following exercise* where six countries (Australia, Canada, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and USA) evaluated different qualifications...

*Results presented during the first general meeting of The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals ([TAICEP](#))

PHILIPPINES BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Represents 4 years post-secondary study (High School Diploma in Philippines represents 10 years of education)

COMPARABILITY:

AUSTRALIA: AQF Bachelor degree

CANADA: Combined with the high school diploma is comparable to bachelor's degree (three years)

ITALY: 2 years of undergraduate study

NETHERLANDS: 2 years HBO; HBO

bachelor's degree if completed at a Center of Excellence

NORWAY: 2 years of undergraduate study

USA: Bachelor's degree



Alinsunod sa awtoridad na iginawad ng Republika ng Pilipinas at batay sa rekomendasyon ng Konseho ng Unibersidad, ipinagkaloob ng Lupon ng mga Rehente kay

na nakatupad sa mga pangangailangan ng itinakdang kurso, ang titulong

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

kasama ang lahat ng mga karapatan, karangalan at pribilehiyo, gayundin ang mga obligasyon at pananagutang kaugnay nito.

Bilang Pagpapatunay naririto ang sagisag ng Unibersidad at ang mga lagda ng Pangulo, ng Tsanselor, ng Dekano at ng Kalihim ng Unibersidad. Ipinagkaloob sa Lungsod ng Maynila, Pilipinas, sa ika-19 ng Abril ng taong dalawang libo't labing tatlo.

Tsanselor ng U.P. Manila

Pangulo ng Unibersidad

Dekano ng Kolehiyo ng Sining at Agham

Kalihim ng Unibersidad



CAMEROON DIPLOME DE LICENCE

Represents 3 years post-secondary study

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie



UNIVERSITE DE YAOUNDE I

CAB/D/VPAC/VDSCOL/CSS/CI

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE I

ATTESTATION DE REUSSITE AU DIPLOME DE LICENCE BACHELOR'S DEGREE SUCCESS TESTIMONIAL

N° *28477* UY/FALSH/VD/PAC/CSD/1 *Je*

Le Doyen de la Faculté des Arts, Lettres et sciences Humaines de l'Université de Yaoundé I, atteste que:
The Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, University of Yaoundé I, certifies that:

M/Mlle: *COLLINS KUKWA AYEAH*
Mr /Miss:

Matricule: 07G369
Registration Number

Né(e) le *13 March 1980* à *NJINIKOM GENERALHOSPITAL*
Born on at

a subi avec succès les épreuves sanctionnant l'examen de fin de troisième année et a capitalisé un total
has successfully fulfilled the requirements for the award of the Bachelor's Degree having earned a total
de 180 crédits pour le cycle de LICENCE
of 180 credits

Filière: *Anthropologie*
In:

Session de: *Septembre 2010* Cote: *B-*
Session Grade

Spécialité: *Anthropologie de Développement*
Specialisation

Moyenne Générale Pondérée (MG/P): *2.78/4*
General point Average

En foi de quoi la présente attestation lui est établie et délivrée pour servir et valoir ce que de droit
In witness whereof the present Testimonial is given with all the privileges thereto pertaining.

Section de signature pendant, selon:	
1.2.1.1	Le Collège
1.2.1.2	Le Doyen
1.2.1.3	Le Vice-Doyen
1.2.1.4	Le Secrétaire Général
1.2.1.5	Le Secrétaire Adjoint
1.2.1.6	Le Secrétaire Général Adjoint
1.2.1.7	Le Secrétaire Général Adjoint Adjoint
1.2.1.8	Le Secrétaire Général Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint
1.2.1.9	Le Secrétaire Général Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint
1.2.1.10	Le Secrétaire Général Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint Adjoint

17 JUL 2014
Yaounde, le
Yaounde, the



Le Doyen
The Dean

Prof Omba
Richard Saurant

NB: Il s'est délivré qu'un seul Attestation de réussite. Le titulaire pourra faire établir autant de copies certifiées conformes qu'il
voit. Le diplôme lui sera délivré ultérieurement.
Only one success testimonial is issued. It is in the interest of the owner to make as many certified true copies as he/she may desire. The
certificate will be issued later.

COMPARABILITY:

AUSTRALIA: AQF Associate degree

CANADA: Bachelor's degree (three years)

ITALY: Bachelor's degree

NETHERLANDS: HBO bachelor's degree or 2
years of a WO bachelor's degree

NORWAY: Bachelor's degree

USA: 3 years of undergraduate study (90
semester credits)

RESULTS

A Bachelor is a Bachelor is a Bachelor ?

It seems that:

**“All Bachelors are equal, but some Bachelors
are more equal than others”**

(quote by Luca Lantero with the support of George Orwell - Animal Farm)

WHY?

- different HE systems and rules;
- no mutual trust in quality assurance systems;
- lack of pertinent and focused information;
- considering only certain elements of a qualification (i.e. duration) without the relation to the purpose of recognition;
- asking different documents to respect formal procedures without considering that those are needed to give us details on the qualification's elements.

CRITICAL POINTS

AUTOMATIC: Acting or operating in a manner essentially independent of external influence or / Acting or done without volition or conscious control; **involuntary**.

“Automatic” is a misleading term in recognition procedures: each recognition procedure needs at least an administrative control (also when there are bilateral agreements between countries).

1. A qualification - or an institution - that is officially recognised “internationally” does not exist.
2. An official supranational quality assurance system does not exist.
3. Within EU countries an automatic recognition procedure does not exist (EU does not have competencies in Education).

Therefore we have to be very clear with our graduates in order to not give wrong expectations.

Measures for HEIs:

- Increase the quality to be credible internationally and provide clear and accessible details on those mechanisms;
- Increase international competencies of administrative staff (not only within International Relations Offices) focused on different HE systems (a system equal to another does not exist);
- Be clear on the elements of qualifications awarded providing all the details for each qualification;
- Be consciousness that other systems have the same rules, procedures and documents;
- Draft official guidelines and regulations on recognition procedures.

Does any chance exist?

YES

Group of experts (credential evaluators)

Official national bodies (ENIC-NARIC centres)

Official documents and legal instruments (LRC – Global Convention)

Tools, training possibilities and databases (www.enic-naric.net)

Challenges and topics for HEIs related to recognition issues:

- Recognition of refugees' qualifications or without documentation
- TNE institutions and non traditional qualifications
- Diploma mills phenomenon
- Joint programmes and joint degrees

Grazie!!!

Luca Lantero
Director

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CREDENTIAL EVALUATION SINCE 1984

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