



bringing neighbours closer

LATVIA-LITHUANIA
CROSS BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME
Under European Territorial Cooperation Objective
2007-2013

Project
„ENHANCE OF LIFELONG LEARNING CROSS BORDER CAPACITY”/5L
Project No. LLII-102

Recommendations for the Legislation in the Republic of Latvia

Under Work Package 2

Prepared by:
Ventspils University College (PP2)



2011

Recommendations for the Legislation in the Republic of Latvia

Representatives of Ventspils University College took active part in formation of the package of laws and regulations on the recognition of the results acquired during the previous education or professional experience in the system of higher education in Latvia.

This package of laws and regulations includes: amendments in the Law on Institutions of Higher Education of the Republic of Latvia and connected to that Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers

Amendments in the Law:

In June 2011 the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia accepted the mentioned amendments in **the Law on Institutions of Higher Education** of the Republic of Latvia including Article 59.2 (Studies beside Study Programs) in the following edition:

Article 59.2. of the Law on Institutions of Higher Education (Studies beside Study Programs)

- (1) The person has rights to register at the university college or the college for mastering separate study modules or study courses. The registration procedure is defined by respective university college or college.
- (2) The person who has registered at the university college or the college for mastering separate study module or study course is the listener of the respective university college or college.
- (3) For the mastered study module or study course at the university college or the college the course listener is given the certificate which includes information about its holder, indicates the name of the university college or college, the name of the study course or study module and size in credits, the name, surname and qualifications of the lecturer of the study course or study module, amount of work performed, the evaluation of the study results. The university college or the college keeps record of the register of the handed out certificates.
- (4) The listener has the rights to accumulate the study work amount confirmed by certificates and, if he/ she has appropriate previous education, require the university college or the college to evaluate the conformity of the amount of work to study programs or their stages, awarding for that respective credits.
- (5) The university college or the college assesses the study results acquired during previous education or professional experience and if they correspond to the demands of respective study program, recognize them and award respective credits as well. Study results acquired during professional experience may be recognized in professional or academic study programs, besides only 30 per cent from credits of professional or academic study programs may be awarded recognizing study results achieved by professional experience. The procedure of recognition and the criteria of the study results acquired during previous education or professional experience are defined by the Ministry Cabinet. The individual decision is taken to recognize or to reject the study results. The decision and its supporting documents are attached to the individual file of the respective person. The decision taken by the university college or the college may be disputed with its rector or director."

Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers

According to the Article 59.2. Part 5 of **the Law on Institutions of Higher Education** the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia in cooperation with project partners from Ventspils University College has submitted for confirmation in the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia the corresponding regulations:

“The Regulations on the Recognition of the Study Results Achieved during Previous Education and Professional Experience”

The project *partners from Ventspils University College* have developed their proposals based on the experience accumulated during the project in the field of Lifelong Learning recognition in the Republic of Estonia and the experience of the Republic of Lithuania in Klaipėdas University in recognition and assessment of Lifelong Learning.

The Cabinet of Ministers Regulations defines the procedure and the criteria on how to assess and recognize the study results acquired during the previous education and professional experience.

The Regulations foresee that when recognizing the study results acquired during previous education or professional experience they are awarded with credits. Such situation will ease for people the possibility to acquire knowledge, skills and competence existing within the study program framework as well as acquire the document of higher education for the successful completion of the respective study program. In the case of recognition of the study results acquired during previous education or professional experience the person can have the possibility to acquire higher education for less charge than paying the study fees for the studies in the study program.

According to the developed project of regulations previous education is knowledge, skills and competence corresponding to the level of higher education acquired in the accredited professional further education program the acquisition of which gives the possibility to acquire the fourth level of professional qualification, in the part of the accredited study program or in the separate study course or study module which the person has acquired as listener.

The Regulations refer to the persons which want their acquired during the previous education or professional experience study results to be recognized and which would like to continue their education in the study programs. It is planned that the decisions about the recognition of study results acquired during the previous education or professional experience will be resolved by the university colleges or the colleges.

References:

‘Memorandum of Lifelong Learning’, European Council, October 30, 2000

Regulation No.111 of the Cabinet of Ministry of the Republic of Latvia from February 23, 2007, ‘Guidelines of Lifelong Learning Policy for 2007-2013’

Regulation No.254 of the Cabinet of Ministry of the Republic of Latvia from May 9, 2008, “On the Program of Lifelong Learning Policy Guidelines for 2007-2013 Implementation in 2008-2010”