

ERASMUS+ PROJECT 2023-1-RS01-KA220-HED-000156660

EPIR | E-Procedure of Institutional Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Documents

The University of Split, both because of the large number of study programs and because of the very pleasant environment for studying, is increasingly interesting for citizens from the EU, as well as outside it, to continue their studies.

Therefore, at the University of Split, it is necessary to make the process of recognition of foreign higher education documents faster and simpler for all participants, both potential future students, professors and administrative staff.

During the internal meeting in Ancona with colleagues responsible for WP3 and as part of the preparation for participation, a SWOT analysis of the existing situation was carried out, as follows:

- Strengths:
 - o Compliance with International Standards,
 - o Transparency and Clear Procedures,
 - o Existence of a Specialized Body and Advisory Board,
- Weaknesses:
 - o Lengthy Process,
 - o Complexity of Documentation,
 - o Dependence on External Evaluations,
 - o Limited Digitalization,
- Opportunities:
 - o Digitalization of the Process,
 - o Strengthening International Cooperation,
 - o Education and Information for Candidates,
 - o Flexibility in Assessment,
- Threats:
 - o Changes in Foreign Educational Systems,
 - o Increased Mobility and Number of Applications,
 - o Economic Uncertainty and Resources,
 - o Lack of Adaptation to Technological Changes.

Furthermore, during the continuation of the meeting in Ancona, the preparation of further steps was presented, namely:

- checking and possible amendments to the existing regulations and forms of the University of Split,

EPIR project partners:



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- the use of new websites of the University of Split in order to facilitate the availability of documentation and the transparency of the approval process,
- use of Office 365 tools for document exchange between participants in the case and for notifications when the status of the case changes.

Cooperation with the legal department is the first and necessary step before placing all the necessary documentation and forms on the website and the O365 platform.

Last but not least, it is necessary to mention the role of University of Zagreb University Computing Centre (SRCE).

The University Computing Centre (SRCE) has a long tradition in the area of information and communication technologies. It was founded in 1971 within the University of Zagreb, the only Croatian university at the time, with the purpose to enhance the implementation of information technologies in the academic community as well as in Croatia in general.

SRCE is a central infrastructure institution that plans, develops, and improves e-infrastructure and digital services for the needs of the academic and scientific community in Croatia and provides support in their usage.

Although SRCE currently does not have an information system for the process of recognizing foreign higher education documents, the increase in the interest of foreign citizens to continue studying at all Croatian universities will necessarily influence SRCE to develop a platform for digital procedure for recognizing foreign higher education documents.