# Procedure of recognition of foreign higher education and qualification in Hungary in accordance with Higher Education Act and Recognition Act

The recognition of foreign higher education is decided on by public higher education institutions (private higher education institutions do not have such an authority), in particular case by public higher education institution providing a degree programme that has similar content. The summary of accredited degree programmes on public higher education institutions in Hungary is available on the web site of the Ministry of of National Resources (hereinafter "the Ministry"). In cases of doubt the Ministry will decide on whether a public higher education institution has the required authority or will take the decision concerning recognition of the higher education itself.

**Information on the Recognition of Foreign Qualifications**

**I. What is recognition?**

The Act on Recognition regulates the recognition of degrees obtained at foreign higher education institutions.

On the basis of Section 3 of the Act, during the recognition process the authority declares the legal force of the foreign degree equivalent to the legal force of a degree obtainable in Hungary.

The recognition of the level of the qualification and the professional qualification testified by it belongs to the sphere of competence of the Hungarian Equivalence and Information Centre (Hungarian ENIC) within the Educational Authority, while the nostrification of scientific degrees is done by the Hungarian higher education institutions. The only exception is the recognition of the foreign Candidate of Science and Doctor of Science degrees under international agreements. For further information see Point II. 6.

The resolution on the recognition of the level of qualification determines which Hungarian qualification is equivalent to the foreign degree, thus, whether the foreign degree is equivalent to a Hungarian *alapfokozat* (Bachelor degree) or *mesterfokozat* (Master degree), or to a qualification obtainable at postgraduate specialist training.

The resolution on the recognition of professional qualification declares the professional qualification testified by the foreign degree identical to a professional qualification testified by a HungarianBachelor or Master degree, or to professional qualification obtainable at postgraduate specialist training (for example: lawyer, general practitioner, civil engineer, etc.).

## Procedure of recognition at the ELU (ELTE)

**Procedure shall be initiated upon a written application of a graduate of a foreign university (the applicant) submitted to the Registry of Elte, University Dean’s Office.. Application shall be made solely on the form which is available in [Annex 1](http://www.vse.cz/download/stahni.php?soubor=./download/cz/dokumenty/Nostrifikace_zadost_vse_cj_aj.pdf&ID=354&cat=0&lang=en).**

**The mandatory attachments are:**

1. **legally attested copy of a diploma** or similar document about graduation,
2. **Diploma Supplement** or list of completed exams,
3. **supplementary information confirming that the degree programme was carried out by an institution authorised to provide education comparable to higher education pursuant to Act.**

Provided that international treaty does not state otherwise, the University of ELTE(hereinafter "ELU") requires legalisation of submitted diplomas, i.e. the authenticity of signatures and stamps on the original of diploma must be certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country where the issuing school has its seat and the Hungarian embassy in/for the country where the issuing school has its seat. As for a diploma issued in a country with which Hungary has an agreement on legal assistance, it is not necessary to authenticate the diploma. According to the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents (the Hague Convention No. 45/1999 Coll. I. A.), the verification can be required in the form of the Apostille issued by a competent authority of the state in which the diploma was issued.

If documents attached to the application are not in Hungarian or English language, the applicant must enclose their **certified translation into Hungarian language**.

In the application the applicant shall state the **name of degree programme** with which his/her completed education has to be compared and recognized. List of accredited degree programs at the ELU is available on the ELU website .

In the procedure of recognition of foreign higher education, content and extent of foreign study are compared with study in accredited degree programme provided by a public higher education institution in Hungary. In case of discovering substantial differences in the degree programmes being compared or in case that the diploma was issued by foreign institution that is not authorised to provide higher education in the state where it has its seat, the request for recognition will be refused. If a foreign higher education is recognized, the applicant will receive a decision on recognition of foreign higher education enclosing a certificate confirming the equivalence to education obtained by completing the appropriate type of degree program at a public higher education institution inHungary or also a certificate of right to use obtained foreign academic title.

The procedure of recognition is an administrative procedure pursuant to Act Elismerési törvény ,ELU as an administrative authority shall decide on the application within 30 days. In more complex cases the period may be extended for another 30 days. Applicants have the right to appeal within 15 days from receipt of the decision. The appeal must be submitted to the authority that issued the contested decision. The appeal may be decided upon by public higher institution (in case that it meets the appeal) or it is passed on to the [Ministry](http://www.msmt.cz/) as an appeal body. Ministry then decides on the appeal - either meets the appeal or confirms the decision of public higher education institution. Decision on the appeal is final.