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**Lithuania
and
Republic of Moldova**

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Moldova on the recognition of qualifications concerning higher education (with annex). Vilnius, 28 October 2013

Entry into force: *14 February 2014 by notification, in accordance with article 6*

Authentic texts: *English, Lithuanian and Moldovan*

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**Lituanie
et
République de Moldova**

Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République de Lituanie et le Gouvernement de la République de Moldova sur la reconnaissance des qualifications relatives à l'enseignement supérieur (avec annexe). Vilnius, 28 octobre 2013

Entrée en vigueur : *14 février 2014 par notification, conformément à l'article 6*

Textes authentiques : *anglais, lituanien et moldave*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies : *Lituanie, 9 août 2016*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
ON THE RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS CONCERNING
HIGHER EDUCATION**

THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

and

THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties").

having regard to the provisions of the Council of Europe and UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, signed on 11 April 1997 in Lisbon (hereinafter referred to as the "Lisbon Recognition Convention") (ETS No 165),

aiming to develop and strengthen mutual cooperation in the fields of higher education and science, and to promote academic mobility and mutual exchange.

aware of the value of the mutual recognition of qualifications concerning higher education,

have agreed as follows:

**Article 1
General provisions**

1. This Agreement aims to facilitate the mutual recognition of qualifications concerning higher education, for the purpose of studies, and to promote exchange of information on education systems of the states of the Parties.

2. The provisions of this Agreement shall apply for the recognition of qualifications giving access to higher education, and higher education qualifications, which are part of the education systems of the states of the Parties.

3. Periods of study, completed in higher education institutions of one Party shall be recognized while continuing studies at a higher education institution of the other Party, in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention, and national legal acts of the states of the Parties regulating studies, as well as regulations of individual higher education institutions.

4. This Agreement shall not preclude higher education institutions of the states of the Parties from signing agreements promoting student and academic staff mobility and cooperation between higher education institutions.

5. This Agreement shall not affect the application of national and international legal acts of the states of the Parties governing professional recognition of qualifications, but the provisions of this Agreement may facilitate a decision on recognition, for professional purposes, of qualifications awarded within the education systems of the states of the Parties.

Article 2

Information exchange

1. Authorities of the states of the Parties carrying out functions of the European Network of national information centres on academic mobility and recognition (ENIC) and of the Network of national academic recognition information centres (NARIC), shall provide information regarding comparability of qualifications under this Agreement, as well as education systems of the states of the Parties to interested parties, such as higher education institutions, holders of qualifications, employers, etc.

2. Authorities of the Parties carrying out ENIC/NARIC functions shall exchange, when needed, information on:

- 2.1. education systems of the states of the Parties and any changes in those systems;
- 2.2. samples of credentials issued in the states of the Parties;
- 2.3. national laws of the states of the Parties regulating education;
- 2.4. other issues arising in recognition of periods of studies and qualifications concerning higher education which are part of the education systems of the states of the Parties.

Article 3

Recognition of qualifications

1. Qualifications which are part of the education systems of the states of the Parties shall be recognized in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention and national legislation of the states of the Parties.

2. Qualifications listed in the Annex, which is an integral part of this Agreement, shall be recognised in accordance with the provided table of comparability, unless a substantial difference can be demonstrated.

3. Recognition of qualifications may be subject to fulfillment of additional requirements in accordance with the national legislation of the states of the Parties.

4. Recognition of qualifications shall not mean that their holders, who seek studies and/or employment, will be free from fulfilling other additional requirements provided for by the national legislation of a state of a Party.

Article 4

Implementation of the Agreement

1. The implementation of the present Agreement shall be ensured by the following authorised institutions of the Parties:

In the Republic of Lithuania – the Ministry of Education and Science;

In the Republic of Moldova – the Ministry of Education.

2. In case of disputes regarding the application of this Agreement, the Parties authorized institutions shall set up an Expert Committee consisting of at least three members appointed by the authorized institution of each Party. The list of the Expert Committee shall be communicated through diplomatic channels.

3. Disputes regarding the application of the present Agreement shall be resolved by means of consultations and negotiations.

4. The time and venue for consultations and/or negotiations shall be negotiated directly between authorised institutions of the Parties. The authorised institutions of the Parties shall bear expenses of their own members of the Expert Committee related to travelling to the venue of consultations and/or negotiations.

Article 5

Amendment procedure

The present Agreement may be amended on mutual written agreement of the Parties. The amendments shall be documented in separate protocols, which shall constitute an integral part of this Agreement and shall enter into force in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 6(1) of the present Agreement.

Article 6

Entry into force, validity and termination of the Agreement

1. The present Agreement shall enter into force on the day when both Parties inform each other via diplomatic notes that each Party has fulfilled the internal legal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement. The day of entry into force shall be the date of the receipt of the last note.

2. The present Agreement shall be valid for the period of five years. If the present Agreement is not terminated, it shall be automatically extended for a further period of five years.