

# National framework of regional qualifications (QNQR)

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 ITALY

## Timeline

2015 **Approved/Agreed** 2021 **Implementation** 2022 **Implementation**  
2023 **Implementation** 2024 **Implementation** 2025 **Implementation**

ID number 28678

## Background

The National repertory of education and training qualifications and professional qualifications has been developed since 2013. The Italian context is characterised by the presence of multiple institutional players at national and regional levels. This situation has accentuated problems in national recognition of the regional qualifications, reducing intra-national mobility of workers.

## Objectives

The objective of the National framework of regional qualifications (QNQR) is the national recognition of the regional qualifications and their referencing to EQF. The QNQR is the mutual reference for identification, validation and certification of regional qualification and competences in terms of training credits, also in a European respect.

## Description

In June 2015, an inter-ministerial Decree (signed by the education and labour ministries) introduced an operational framework for the recognition of regional qualifications and related skills competences at a national level (National framework of regional qualifications, QNQR). The agreement was endorsed by an inter-ministerial decree signed in June by the education and labour ministries. Mutual recognition of regional qualifications and standard procedures (including the issuing of final certificates) are established by the operational framework. The rules are already being applied. The QNQR establishes the mutual recognition of regional qualifications and standard procedures (including the issuing of final certificates); the Decree also contains measures relating to the functions required for providing validation and certification of competences, however acquired.

The QNQR is based on the model of the Atlas of work and qualifications; it provides a reference device for repertories of regional qualifications.

### 2015 **Approved/Agreed**

In 2015, the legislative framework for the recognition of regional qualifications and

related skills and competences was approved.

### **2021 Implementation**

The Decree of 5 January 2021, that makes operational the guidelines for the interoperability of awarding bodies of the national system of certification of competences, reaffirmed the importance of the Atlas of work and qualifications as a tool for the management of the national repertory, which also includes the QNQR.

### **2022 Implementation**

The Regions continued the implementation of their repertories of qualifications and their uploading in the National repertory of educational and training qualifications and vocational qualifications, in the specific section of the National framework of regional qualifications, QNQR.

### **2023 Implementation**

The Regions have been continuing the implementation of their repertories of qualifications and their upload in the National repertory of educational and training qualifications and vocational qualifications, in the specific section of the National framework of regional qualifications, QNQR.

### **2024 Implementation**

The Regions have been continuing the implementation of their repertories of qualifications and their upload in the National repertory of educational and training qualifications and vocational qualifications, in the specific section of the National framework of regional qualifications, QNQR.

The QNQR was mentioned in the update of the Italian referencing report of the qualifications to the European Qualifications Framework as a key component of Italy's qualifications framework since it plays a crucial role in aligning regional qualifications with the EQF, thereby enhancing the portability and recognition of these qualifications within the European context.

### **2025 Implementation**

In 2025, the Regions continued to implement their qualification repertoires and to upload them to the National Repertoire of Educational, Training and Vocational Qualifications, specifically within the QNQR section, in order to ensure their relevance to labour market needs and lifelong learning policies.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Ministry of Labour and Social Policies
- Regions and autonomous provinces
- Ministry of Education (until 2022)
- Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (until 2019)
- Ministry of Education and Merit

## **Target group**

### **Entities providing VET**

Companies

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

VET providers (all kinds)

## Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

## Thematic categories

### Transparency and portability of VET skills and qualifications

Comprehensive national qualification frameworks

Learners' possibilities of accumulation, validation and recognition of learning outcomes acquired non-formally and informally

### Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Lifelong guidance

## European priorities in VET

### VET Recommendation

Flexibility and progression opportunities at the core of VET

## Subsystem

IVET

## Further reading

[The Atlas of work and qualifications](#)

[Decree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies of 5 January 2021 - Provisions for the adoption of the Guidelines for the interoperability of awarding bodies of the National system of certification of competences](#)

## Related policy developments

2021 **Discontinued**

### ECVET-related developments

The Italian context has been characterised in recent years by reform processes aimed at building an Italian lifelong learning system and a national system of skills certification.

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#### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

2025 **Implementation**

## Validation arrangements

The Law 92/2012 on the reform of the labour market defines for the first time in Italy the validation of non-formal and informal learning, as one of the key elements to ensure and implement lifelong learning in a comprehensive and systematic manner, establishing rules and regulatory requirements

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### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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2025 Implementation

## The Atlas of work and qualifications

In 2013, the Legislative Decree No 13 article 8 sets up the National repertory of education and training and professional qualifications.

 ITALY

### Type of development

Practical  
measure/Initiative

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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2025 Implementation

## The Italian national qualifications framework (QNQ)

A national strategy on lifelong learning has been defined, together with the implementation of legislative norms on the identification and validation of competences acquired in different contexts, through which the National system for the certification of competences has been launched.

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### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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qualifications (QNQR): Italy. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28678>