

The EU approach to micro-credentials

Boosting lifelong learning in the EU
and increasing the visibility of all skills under the Union of Skills

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Rationale for the Council Recommendation

Council Recommendation of 16 June 2022 on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability 2022/C 243/02

Quality

Trust

Uptake

To make micro-credentials more **comparable** and **understandable**

Micro-credentials under the Union of Skills

Expand the use of micro-credentials as flexible learning solutions, in line with the European approach, to ensure that they are

trusted

understandable

issued digitally and

comparable across sectors and countries.



Progress report on the implementation of the Council Recommendation on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability



Some key lessons

Strong momentum but uneven implementation

- 42% of countries adopted an official definition
- Many countries still in pilot or development phase

Creation of ecosystems rather than individual courses

- Quality assurance
- Recognition mechanisms
- Funding support
- Integration into National Qualification Frameworks (NQFs)
- Guidance and information systems

Recognition and trust remain key challenges

- Cross-border recognition not yet consistent
- Stackability not automatic
- Employer understanding varies
- Early stakeholder engagement is fundamental

Strategic Role in EU Workforce Transformation

- Lifelong learning, upskilling and reskilling
- Labour-market responsiveness
- Inclusion and flexible learning pathways



Fair Labour Mobility Package

*Wherever in the EU your social rights protected, your talent recognised and your business supported.
If you stay, if you move*

Objectives

-  Simpler, digital procedures for portable social security rights and recognised, understood qualifications
-  Stronger cross-border enforcement, better protection, faster resolution
-  Greater transparency, trust and cooperation between national authorities

Key numbers

14M

EU citizens live or work in another Member State

1.9M

Cross-border (frontier) workers

3.64M

Posted workers

12.8M

Non-EU citizens employed in the Single Market

What is the FLMP proposing?

One Chapeau Communication

Announces two future 2027 initiatives: social security coordination proposal and posting of third-country nationals

European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS)

Updated European Labour Authority (ELA) mandate

Skills Portability Initiative

Skills Portability Act

Revision of the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD)

Directive on the recognition of qualifications of non-EU nationals



Skills Portability Act

PROPOSAL

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on portability of qualifications and skills, amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724

LEGAL BASIS

Article 46 TFEU – Free movement of workers

WHY IT MATTERS

10.1M

EU mobile
workers

2M

cross-border
workers in the EU

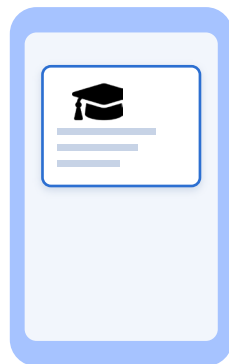
18%

EU citizens open
to working abroad

? What problem does it solve?

- Persistent difficulties in **understanding, comparing and verifying** qualifications obtained in another Member State
- Continued reliance on paper-based qualifications and **fragmented digital systems**

What changes in practice?

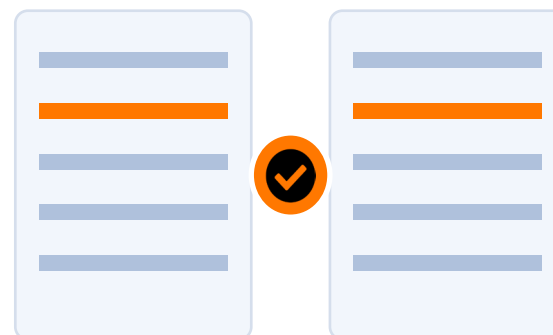


Digital qualifications in the EUDI Wallets

Qualifications securely stored and easy to share and verify across the EU. Default for all new qualifications, from secondary school to doctoral degrees, including Vocational Education and Training; issued within max. 2 weeks upon request for past qualifications, just for employment purposes.

Same format for all qualifications

Same data fields (title, level, learning outcomes, issuer, etc.) wherever the qualification is issued.



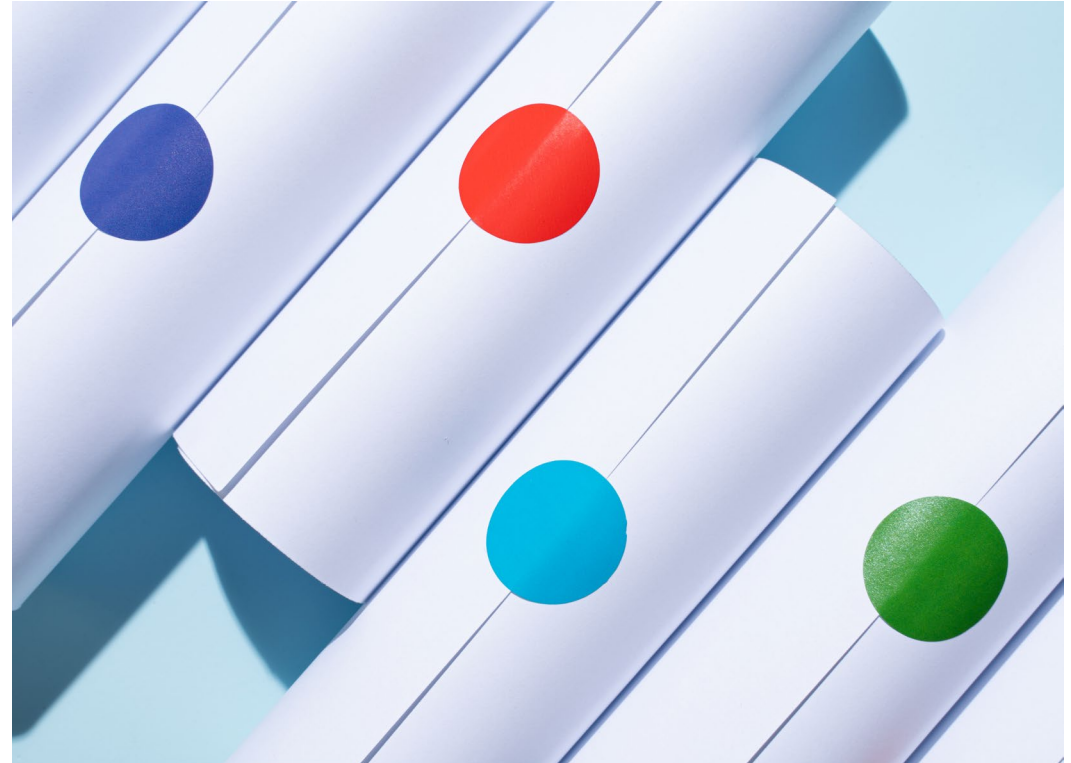
Easy to understand and compare

National registries of qualifications connected to Europass. Europass comparison tool available to all. Up-to-date National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) referenced to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).



Micro-credentials for Skills Portability

*To facilitate their portability, micro-credentials should be **included in national qualifications frameworks** and, to the extent possible, **align with the Council Recommendation** of 16 June 2022 on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability, fostering consistency, transparency and trust in those credentials across the Union.*



Thank you



The EU approach to micro-credentials

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