OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK
DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Scope of the framework</th>
<th>Number of levels</th>
<th>Level descriptors</th>
<th>Stage of developments</th>
<th>NQF linked to EQF</th>
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| Albania                 | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • theoretical and factual knowledge  
• cognitive and practical skills  
• autonomy and responsibility       | Formally adopted, under revision         |                                          |
| Austria                 | Designed as comprehensive NQF; currently includes qualifications awarded in higher education, selected 'reference qualifications' from VET and a pre-VET qualification. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence                            | Formally adopted                          | 2012                                     |
| Belgium (FI)            | Comprehensive NQF, including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the professional qualifications system. | Eight            | • knowledge/skills  
• context/autonomy/responsibility     | Operational                              | 2011                                     |
| Belgium (FR)            | Designed as comprehensive framework; will include all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the professional qualifications system. | Eight proposed  | • knowledge/skills  
• context/autonomy/responsibility     | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending               | 2013                                     |
| Belgium (DG)            | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • occupational competence (knowledge and skills)  
• personal competence (social competence and autonomy) | (Early) operational stage                     |                                          |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina  | Designed as comprehensive NQF for lifelong learning; will include all levels and types of qualifications. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence                          | Development stage                         |                                          |
| Bulgaria                | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight plus a preparatory level           | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competences (personal and professional) | Formally adopted                          | 2013                                     |
| Croatia                 | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. It is a qualifications and credit framework. | Eight with sublevels at levels 4 and 6  | • knowledge  
• skills  
• responsibility and autonomy         | (Early) operational stage                   | 2012                                     |
| Cyprus                  | Comprehensive NQF, including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the system of vocational qualifications. | Eight proposed  | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence                            | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending                |                                          |
| Czech Republic          | Partial national frameworks for vocational and higher education qualifications.          | Eight in the QF for VET                  | • competences (including knowledge and skills) | The QF for VET is operational  
QF for tertiary education is partly implemented | 2011                                     |
| Denmark                 | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence                          | Operational                              | 2011                                     |
| Estonia                 | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the system of occupational qualifications. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• scope of responsibility and autonomy | (Early) operational stage                   | 2011                                     |
| Finland                 | Designed as comprehensive NQF; it will include all state recognised qualifications.      | Eight            | • knowledge  
• work method and application (skill)  
• responsibility, management and entrepreneurship  
• evaluation  
• key skills for lifelong learning     | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending                |                                          |

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| former Yugoslav Republic of     | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the professional qualifications system. | Eight with several sublevels | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | Formally adopted                     |                  |
| Macedonia                       |                                                                                        |                  |                                                                                  |                               |                  |
| France                          | NQF covers all levels and types of vocationally or professionally oriented qualifications; general education qualifications are not included. | Five             | Integrated learning outcomes including knowledge, skills, attitudes, autonomy and responsibility | Operational                   | 2010             |
| Germany                         | Designed as comprehensive NQF; currently includes qualifications from VET and higher education; general education qualifications are not yet included. | Eight            | • professional competence (knowledge and skills)  
• personal competence (social competence and autonomy) | (Early) operational stage      | 2012             |
| Greece                          | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | Formally adopted                     |                  |
| Hungary                         | Designed as comprehensive NQF; will include all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and open up to non-formal and informal learning. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• attitudes  
• autonomy/responsibility  | Formally adopted                     | 2015             |
| Iceland                         | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Seven            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | (Early) operational                  | 2013             |
| Ireland                         | Comprehensive NQF including all types and levels of qualifications from formal education and training; is open to those awarded by professional and international organisations. | 10 plus four award types: major, minor, special-purpose and supplemental  | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | Operational                            | 2009             |
| Italy                           | Technical work pointing towards an NQF carried out.                                             | Not yet decided  | EGF level descriptors used                                                        | Development/design stage      | 2013             |
| Latvia                          | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | (Early) operational stage              | 2011             |
| Lithuania                       | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • characteristics of activities  
(complexity, autonomy, changeability)  
• types of competence  
(functional, cognitive and general)  | (Early) operational stage              | 2011             |
| Liechtenstein                   | Comprehensive NQF being developed, QF for HE in place.                                             | Eight            | Not decided yet                                                                  | Development/design stage      |                  |
| Luxembourg                      | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• attitude  | (Early) operational stage              | 2012             |
| Malta                           | Comprehensive NQF, including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight            | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | Operational                            | 2009 and 2012 update |
| Montenegro                      | Comprehensive NQF, including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the professional qualifications system. | Eight with sublevels at levels 1 and 7 | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  | (Early) operational stage              | 2014             |
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| Netherlands      | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training, opens up towards qualifications offered outside formal education system. | Eight levels plus an entry level | • context  
• knowledge  
• skills  
• responsibility and independence | Advanced operational stage | 2011 |
| Norway           | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Seven; no descriptor or qualification at level 1 | • knowledge  
• skills  
• general competence | (Early) operational stage | 2014 |
| Poland           | Designed as comprehensive NQF; will include all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and open up to non-formal and informal learning. | Eight proposed | • knowledge  
• skills  
• social competences  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending | 2013 |
| Portugal         | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from the national system for recognition, validation and certification of competences. | Eight | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | (Early) operational stage | 2011 |
| Romania          | Comprehensive NQF including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Formally adopted | 2012 |
| Serbia           | Comprehensive NQF being designed, aiming to bring together frameworks for higher education and VET. | Eight proposed | QF for VET  
• knowledge  
• skills  
• abilities  
• attitudes  
• autonomy and accountability | Design/development stage | 2014 |
| Slovakia         | Designed as comprehensive NQF; will include all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and open up to non-formal and informal learning. | Eight | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Adopted, set of level descriptors being revised | 2013 |
| Slovenia         | Comprehensive NQF; including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training and from system of national vocational qualifications (NVQ). | 10 proposed | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending | 2013 |
| Spain            | Designed as comprehensive NQF; will include all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training. | Eight proposed | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending | 2014 |
| Sweden           | Comprehensive NQF; including all levels and types of qualifications from formal education and training; long-term aim to integrate certificates awarded outside the public system. | Eight proposed | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending | 2014 |
| Switzerland      | NQF for vocational and professional qualifications and NQF for higher education. | Eight | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Formally adopted | 2014 |
| Turkey           | Designed as comprehensive NQF; will bring together: national vocational qualifications (NVQs); QF for higher education and qualifications awarded by Education Ministry. | Eight proposed | • knowledge  
• skills  
• competence  
• attitude  
• autonomy and accountability | Advanced development stage  
Formal adoption pending | 2014 |
| UK – England and Northern Ireland | Three frameworks:  
• a qualifications and credit framework (QCF) including vocational qualifications;  
• general education qualifications continue to be located in the NQF;  
• a higher education framework (FHEQ). | QCF: nine including entry levels  
SCQF: nine including entry levels  
CQFW: nine including entry levels | • knowledge and understanding  
• application and action  
• autonomy and accountability  
• generic cognitive skills communication numeracy and ICT skills  
• autonomy, accountability and working with others | Operational  
Operational  
Operational | 2010  
2010  
2010 |
| UK – Scotland    | Comprehensive credit and qualifications framework (SCQF) including all level and types of qualifications. | 12 including entry levels | • knowledge and understanding  
• practice: applied knowledge, skills and understanding  
• generic cognitive skills communication numeracy and ICT skills  
• autonomy, accountability and working with others | Operational | 2013 |
| UK – Wales       | Comprehensive credit and qualifications framework (CQFW) including all level and types of qualifications. | CQFW: nine including entry levels | • knowledge and understanding  
• application and action  
• autonomy and accountability | Operational | 2013 |
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DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE

FURTHER INFORMATION
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