



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

## EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE



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## CONTENTS

1. ... *Commission*
  - *Qualifications Framework*
  - *Promotion of Mental Health in Youths*
  - *Thesaurus for education systems*



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## **... Commission**

### **Malta moves to create Europe-wide transparency on its qualifications**

Malta has formally joined a European transparency scheme on national qualifications that by 2010 will function as a Europe-wide tool helping both employers and employees to better understand the qualifications obtained in another country.

Malta has now linked its national qualifications to two common European reference schemes, the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and the Qualifications Framework for the European Higher Education Area, which is part of the Bologna process for university reform in Europe. Both frameworks have been developed to make qualifications more transparent and comparable, in order to make it easier to work or study abroad in Europe, with a minimum of bureaucratic constraints and regardless of one's age.

The idea behind the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) is to create a translation device between different qualifications systems and their levels that covers all sectors of education, including higher education and vocational training. Qualifications obtained in higher education – such as Masters or Bachelors – are addressed in detail by a separate framework that has been developed under the Bologna process. At the same time, however, they are an integral part of the overarching EQF, in which they correspond to the four highest of its eight levels.

EU Member States are invited to reference their national qualifications levels to the EQF by 2010. The referencing is done based on a set of common criteria and procedures, which is compatible with the criteria for self-referencing within the Bologna framework and is agreed within an advisory group that co-ordinates the implementation of the EQF at European level.

Malta is the first country to link its National Qualifications Framework simultaneously to both reference schemes. This process – marked by the publication of a referencing report – is the result of widespread consultations with national stakeholders and international partners.

#### **To know more**

- **Malta Qualifications Council:** [Referencing of the Malta Qualifications Framework \(MQF\) to the European Qualifications Framework \(EQF\) and the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area \(QF/EHEA\)](#)
- **European Commission:** [The European Qualifications Framework](#) [with background information and the text of the EQF Recommendation]

Tel. 2200 3300 Fax 2122 7580 Email: [consult.meusac@gov.mt](mailto:consult.meusac@gov.mt)



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## Promotion of Mental Health and Well-being of Children and Young People

On 29 and 30 September, a thematic conference on Mental health in Youth and Education was organised by the European Commission and the Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs under the auspices of the Swedish Presidency.

### Reports

#### Thesaurus for education systems in Europe

The thesaurus for education systems in Europe (TESE) is a carefully selected list of keywords from the field of education – a so called multilingual controlled vocabulary – that serves as a reliable tool to retrieve information on education systems in Europe. It is designed by the Eurydice Network as an indexing tool for all European providers of education information.

The 2009 edition of TESE is available on the Eurydice website in 15 language versions: Czech, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish and Turkish. The Latvian version is currently being prepared.

You can consult and download the thesaurus for free in three formats (xml, pdf and csv) and three displays (alphabetic, systematic and rotated). You can choose your preferred language version in the drop down menu in the left hand screen.

#### To know more

- Eurydice: [Consult or download](#) the Thesaurus
- Eurydice: [Information brochure](#) on the Thesaurus