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## European Qualification Framework (EQF) – For the lifeguard profession

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The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) acts as a translation device to make national qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning.

The EQF will relate different countries' national qualifications systems to a common European reference framework. The core of the EQF are eight reference levels describing what a learner knows, understands and is able to do – 'learning outcomes'. Levels of national qualifications will be placed at one of the central reference levels, ranging from basic (Level 1) to advanced (Level 8). It will therefore enable much easier comparison between national qualifications and should also mean that people do not have to repeat learning if they move to another country.

Following the level of the EQF and considering the ILS-Certificate-System a European version for the Lifeguard Qualifications has been developed.

Our concept has been submitted to the EU/Directorate-General for Education and Culture. The assessment was positive.

This was an important recognition of the work of the ILSE-Lifesaving-Organisation and gives a chance for a support by the EU Leonardo da Vinci and Grundvig Programmes.

The developed system would be also of great interest for other regions of ILS.

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