



Welcome to the December 2017 edition of NARIC News



Over 500 attend UKNARIC17; 2018 dates are 7/8 November, QEII, Westminster

Over 500 delegates attended the UKNARIC17 annual conference in Victoria, London on 20/21 November, our 21st and once again a record-breaking biggest-ever annual conference.

Delegates, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors from more than 30 countries gathered for the two-day event.

Key themes explored included the potential for partnerships and funding in Malaysia and China; the recruitment potential, but also the challenges, in important and growing markets such as Nigeria; addressing the complexities of transnational education, in both FE and HE; opportunities offered by online learning; the latest global developments in digital credentials; the continuing and growing problem of fraud in education, and possible verification and security solutions; and new techniques to engage with applicants, including dealing with the different internet landscape in China.

The dates and venue for the 2018 conference are set: 7 and 8 November, at the QEII Centre, in the heart of London, in Westminster. In the past two years, conference has been over-subscribed; if you wish to pre-register to guarantee your place, email conference@naric.org.uk. Members can obtain information about complimentary places from their account manager.

At UKNARIC17, plenary speaker [Rajay Naik](#), European CEO of Keypath, spoke enthusiastically about new ways to deliver teaching to learners and about new educational ([more...](#))



UK NARIC building capacity in Latin America

UK NARIC's expertise was called upon this month by the *Alianza del Pacífico* in Colombia to deliver capacity building training for this major development initiative between Colombia, Chile, Mexico and Peru.

With mutual recognition of qualifications in place or under development between these countries and the UK, and the implementation of a new system of evaluating qualifications, UK NARIC was asked to present on both strategic and practical considerations to delegates from all 4 countries.

Holiday deadlines

Season's greetings to all our members, colleagues and readers.

48-hour member enquiries made by 19 December 2017 will be completed by Christmas.

Our phone lines will close at 5pm on 19 December and our offices will be closed from 5pm (GMT) 22 December 2017 to 9am 2 January 2018.

Best wishes for 2018, from UK NARIC.

Training Schedule 2018 January-June is live

The [training schedule](#) for the first half of 2018 is available online to book workshops and seminars.

We are adding two new half-day training sessions this year, in response to feedback from members. Covering important emerging markets, we will now offer half-day sessions on [Education in Russia and Central Asia](#), and [Education in Turkey, Iran and Azerbaijan](#).

The workshop in Sheffield on [Advanced Immigration Compliance for Universities](#) will be ([more...](#))

EU VET survey and funded NEETs/skills initiatives

New articles are [available online](#) from UK ReferNet, the portal to the European network for comparable information on vocational education and training (VET).

The first lays out opportunities that may be eligible for EU funding for adult basic skills programmes and the Youth Guarantee for under-25s in the UK, while the second examines the

UK NARIC's Peter Wood and Lee Shotton (*pictured above*) presented four sessions over two days, in Spanish, on strategies and methodologies for evaluating credentials from overseas. They examined the education systems and qualification frameworks in a number of countries including the UK, Spain, the USA, Brazil, and France, and ran a workshop on detecting fraud and establishing the validity of an awarding body in its home country.

The delegates at this British Council-supported event were able to ask case-specific questions and get a clear ([more...](#))

results of a recent Europe-wide survey of public opinions on vocational education and training (VET). Both are of strategic use and interest to marketers and planners in FE and HE institutions. ([more...](#))



European Grade Distributions now in new format

In January, the European Grade Distributions (EGD) database is being converted into an online publication for members to access from the Publications tab in the Members' Hub.

The Grades tab on the Hub page will act solely as the gateway to the much larger, global International Grade Comparisons (IGC) data bank, which will be the main focus in future for updating and developing UK NARIC grade comparison data.

To reflect more globalised recruitment planning in modern institutions, we are expanding and upgrading the IGC database to cover 110 countries and 405 qualifications from January 2018. ([more...](#))



Kazakhstan gives warm welcome to UK NARIC team

Our International Projects Group has been in Kazakhstan, meeting with the Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools (NIS) Autonomous Educational Organisation.

The NIS was established by Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev to create and pilot a new educational programme for high schools.

Head of the UK NARIC International Projects Group, Abigail Jones, and Zara Green were given a warm welcome by their Kazakh hosts, despite minus 17C temperatures, including an orientation tour that took in the impressive Oblastnaya Mechet mosque in Karagandy (*pictured above*).

They were in Kazakhstan to learn more about the ([more...](#))



Brexit implications for professionals under discussion

A *Professions Together* event on 7 December at the Engineering Council in London discussed the implications of Brexit for professional bodies and people with UK professional qualifications.

Zara Green represented UK NARIC's Centre for Professional Qualifications (CPQ) at the first meeting of Professions Together, formerly the UK Inter-Professional Group.

Professional recognition is essential for some people where professional status achieved by experience or qualification, such as Chartered Accountant status or Qualified Teacher Status, entitles them to work at a higher level ([more...](#))

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