

Issue 1

March 2021

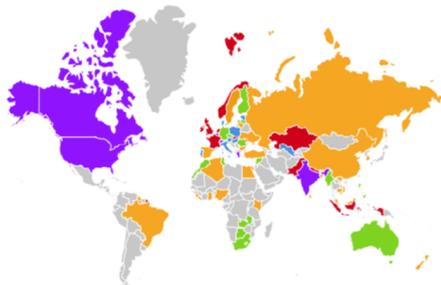
Special Report released - COVID-19: Guide to International Secondary Assessment in 2020



Our recently published *COVID-19: Guide to International Secondary Assessment in 2020* [PDF] brings together all the information we gathered on upper secondary assessment in 2020, covering over 120 different qualifications worldwide, and comes as a result of our ongoing [blog](#) documenting the impact of COVID-19 on education, which publishes regular updates on issues such as school closures and exam cancellations across the world.

COVID-19 has had a significant effect on school examinations and assessment. The aim of our latest report is to give insight into the different responses adopted globally and how changes to exams and assessment criteria have affected student performance and grading. [READ MORE](#)

Charting the impact of COVID-19: blog updates



Upcoming training on credential evaluation



We will be presenting an *Evaluating International Qualifications* live webinar training session on 7 April. This webinar will help attendees understand the criteria and methods behind our qualification assessment processes, and will detail the key considerations when evaluating overseas awards.

Places can be booked through the [training schedule web page](#) with members able to use their pre-paid places for core training; contact your account manager for details. Non-members can email events@ecctis.com to book places. [READ MORE](#)

UK CPQ to advise and guide on recognition of professional qualifications



Following 12 successful years providing information and guidance on recognition of professional qualifications through the UK National Contact Point for professional recognition (UK NCP) and Centre for Professional Qualifications (CPQ), Brexit changes now usher in a new phase of our work. The UK NCP now ends; and we launch the **UK Centre for Professional Qualifications (UK CPQ)**, providing this service on behalf of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

The UK CPQ ensures we maintain a public enquiry service for those wishing to work in the UK, EU/EEA, Switzerland, or countries with which the UK has signed Free Trade [READ MORE](#)

Our research team continues to track announcements on school closures and exam arrangements worldwide, and to publish these as announcements are made on [our blog](#).

At the time of writing this news story - 25 March - the latest figures from UNESCO indicated that 26 countries have closed schools and universities at a national level. At the peak in April 2020, 193 countries were affected by closures.

There have been several significant changes, particularly in regard to exams, across Europe in the last few weeks. [READ MORE](#)

Individual statement applicants say they are very satisfied with service

The most recent survey of our individual applicants for qualification statements demonstrates how we are continuing to offer high levels of service.

Over 97% of applicants said they were satisfied with our service to them. They were particularly impressed by the clear advice our staff offered and by the simple application process, with many customers feeling they did not need extra guidance. [READ MORE](#)

UK ENIC is able to evaluate incomplete school awards

UK ENIC is able to evaluate and assess incomplete international school qualifications, to help applicants access A level education in the UK. [READ MORE](#)



Digitisation of the Diploma Supplement project: please help us with our research

We have commenced work on the Erasmus+ project *Aiding Digital Diploma Supplement Usage and Promotion (ADDS UP)* with National Europass Centre Finland, National Europass Centre Ireland (Quality and Qualifications Ireland) and MFHEA - MQRIC Malta.

The *ADDS UP* project will run over a period of two years and will identify and take stock of current practices regarding the Diploma Supplement in each partner country. To help facilitate the project we kindly ask that higher education institutions take a few minutes to answer the questions in this survey. [READ MORE](#)

UK National Europass Centre closes on 31 March



europass

The UK has now withdrawn from the Europass initiative following the completion of the Brexit transition period procedures and the UK National Europass Centre (UK NEC) will close on 31 March. [READ MORE](#)

Record numbers of member enquiries in March

March saw record numbers of member enquiries, with one week seeing over 700 enquiries received. In the first quarter of 2021, our membership team successfully handled over 7800 member enquiries.

The countries most frequently appearing in enquiries are India, [READ MORE](#)

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