

2004 Summary Report on the Co-ordination by the Authority of the Recognition of International Awards in Ireland

Applications Received

Overall, a total of 370 applications for recognition of foreign qualifications were received by the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland during 2004. Of the 370 applications received, 209 of these were processed and closed. The remainder includes applications that require further research to establish comparability and applications that did not contain sufficient information in order to make a determination. The latter group of applications has been set aside as the Authority is awaiting the applicant to revert with additional information.

Origin of Applications

Applications were received from individuals holding awards made by bodies in 56 countries in total. The following table shows the name of the country along with the total number of applications received from each during 2003 and 2004.

Origin of award	Applications received	
	2003	2004
Afghanistan	1	0
Albania	0	3
Algeria	1	0
Argentina	1	3
Australia	5	13
Austria	1	1
Azerbaijan	0	1
Belarus	4	15
Belgium	1	1
Bulgaria	2	9
Cameroon	1	0
Canada	4	4
Chile	1	0
China	1	1
Congo, Dem. Rep	0	2
Croatia	1	4
Cuba	1	0
Czech Republic	0	1
Denmark	1	0
Egypt	2	0
Estonia	2	4
Finland	0	1
France	4	5
Georgia	4	2
Germany	19	8
Ghana	0	1

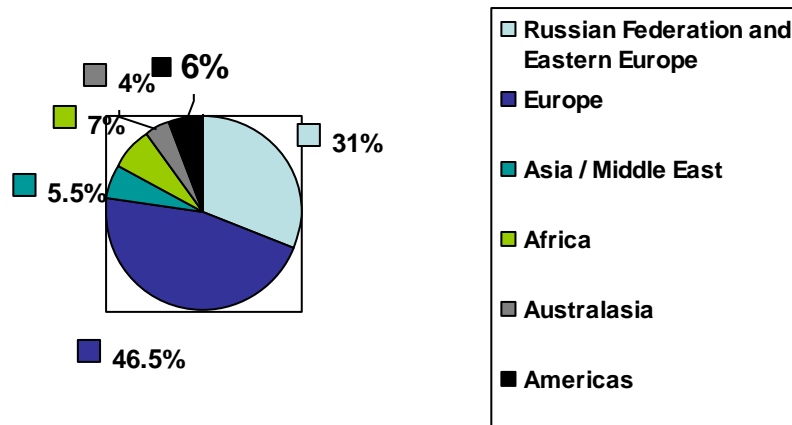
Origin of award	Applications received	
	2003	2004
Lebanon	0	1
Lithuania	4	18
Malta	1	0
Moldova	7	2
Morocco	1	0
Netherlands	1	1
New Zealand	1	2
Nigeria	20	9
Norway	0	1
Pakistan	1	0
Palestine	1	0
Panama	0	1
Philippines	4	0
Poland	3	19
Portugal	1	1
Romania	20	22
Russia	11	21
Saudi Arabia	0	1
Serbia – Montenegro	0	3
Slovakia	0	4
South Africa	5	7
Spain	22	11
Sudan	1	1
Sweden	0	4
Switzerland	1	4
Syria	1	0

Greece	3	0
Hungary	0	4
India	1	12
Iran	2	1
Iraq	1	3
Israel	0	2
Italy	11	13
Kazakstan	0	2
Latvia	1	8

Togo	0	1
Tunisia	1	1
Turkey	0	1
UK	97	61
Ukraine	23	31
USA	13	14
Zaire	1	1
Zimbabwe	7	3
TOTAL	324	370

During 2004, 46.5% of applications originated from Europe, 31% from Russian Federation and Eastern Europe, 7% from Africa, 6% from the Americas, 5.5% from Asia and 4% from Australasia. The following pie chart illustrates the percentage of applications received from each geographical region.

Applications by Region



Awarding bodies consulted

In processing applications for recognition, the Authority checks to see if the award has been processed previously. If the Authority has established the comparability of the award previously, the applicant is informed of the outcome by the Authority. If the award has not been dealt with previously, the Authority endeavours to establish the comparability of the award within the context of the National Framework of Qualifications.

General Queries

In addition to actual applications received, the Authority receives many queries by telephone, post, e-mail, fax and walk in. The queries are generally from individuals although an increase has been seen in the queries which have been received from Local Authorities for employment and grant purposes. Queries can vary from people requesting information regarding EU directives, procedures for registering with regulated professions to procedures for recognition of international awards. In addition government agencies and networks such as ENIC – NARIC and NRP on occasion contact the Authority seeking information and guidance. All queries are

recorded on a database. During 2004 the recognition section recorded 1, 162 such queries on the database.