

2004: Seminar in Riga, 21-22 June 2004

Towards a Transparency of Qualifications

First Announcement

The European Network of Education Councils is organised a seminar on the transparency of qualifications in vocational and technical education and training (formation).

General outline of the theme

The subject of this seminar is situated in the wider theme of the Copenhagen process. With this policy the Commission strives for increased cooperation in vocational education and training (VET) between the Member States.

Each Member State has its particular system of vocational and technical education and training. These systems are hardly known to the other states, and neither are the qualifications they lead to. This is an obstacle for the (professional) mobility of European citizens.

The Commission and the Parliament are developing instruments that should enable citizens to describe their qualifications transparently and use them on the labour market in any country of the enlarged Union. EUNEC wants to contribute to the implementation of such a framework of transparency.

Purpose and Range

The EUNEC seminar is meant to prepare a conference on this theme from 25 to 27 October in Brussels.

Four questions were on the agenda of the seminar in Riga:

- What are the instruments the Commission is developing in the context of the Copenhagen process to improve transparency of qualifications?
- What do the various systems of vocational qualifications and the learning pathways (VET) towards these qualifications look like?
- What is the point of view of the new Member States on the transparency of qualifications, and what do they expect from the Copenhagen process?
- How can more transparency in the field of qualifications contribute to social cohesion, equality and a European citizenship?

Place and time

The conference took place on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 June in Riga. The Higher Education Council of Latvia hosted this conference, providing venue and lunches.

The address: **Meistaru iela 21, LV-1050 RIGA, Latvia**

Information on this organisation can be found on www.aip.lv