

*Online event*

# Recognition of Prior Learning in Higher Education

*How to validate and recognize prior informal  
and non-formal learning*

**5 November 2020 | 14:30 - 16:00 CET | Zoom**

## Wellcome!

Anders Ahlstrand  
Analyst,

Swedish Council for  
Higher Education

# How to validate and recognize prior informal and non-formal learning

14:30-14:35	Welcome and summary of the first webinar
14:35-14:45	Presentation of the self-evaluation template <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Anders Ahlstrand</b>, Analyst, Swedish Council for Higher Education</li></ul>
14:45-15:25	How to validate? Best practices from the RPLip project's partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Susanna Boldrino</b>, Head of Academic University Development, FH Campus Wien, Austria</li><li>• <b>Deirdre Goggin</b>, Recognition of Prior Learning and Work Based Learning Company Advisor, Extended Campus CIT, Ireland</li></ul> Q & A
15:25-15:55	Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mislav Balković</b>, Dean, Algebra University College, Croatia</li><li>• <b>Sylvie Bonichon</b>, Associate Expert, EURASHE</li><li>• <b>Pernilla Hultberg</b>, Education Officer, Gothenburg University, Sweden</li><li>• <b>Marjaana Mäkelä</b>, Principal Lecturer, Haaga-Helia UAS, Finland</li></ul>
15:55-16:00	Wrap-up and invitation to the dissemination seminar

## Poll

1. Did you take part in the first webinar “Why validation and recognition of prior informal and non-formal learning”?

- Yes
- No

## The RPL in practice project

- EU funded "Support to the implementation of the EHEA reforms"  
Erasmus + - Key action 3: Support for policy reforms.
- Swedish Ministry of Education and Research contractor
- The Swedish Council for Higher Education, UHR, is designated by the  
ministry to coordinate
- Contract period April 15, 2019 – April 14, 2021

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details/#project/607050-EPP-1-2018-1-SE-EPPKA3-BOLOGNA>

Project website: <https://www.uhr.se/en/rplinpractice>

## The objective of the project

Promote different ways of recognising competences for access to further studies and for credits. The objective is to encourage, through structured peer learning, the participating countries/institutions to develop quality assured and consistent processes to recognise non-formal and informal learning that suit the conditions of the participating countries/institutions.



# Participants: authorities, ministries and HEIs in 5 countries and EURASHE



**QQI**

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann  
Quality and Qualifications Ireland



**IRISH  
UNIVERSITIES  
ASSOCIATION**



**CORK  
INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ



**MIC**  
MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE  
COLÁISTE MUIRE GAN SMÁL



**EURASHE**  
European Association of Institutions in Higher Education



**Government of Iceland**  
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture



**LISTAHÁSKÓLI ÍSLANDS**  
Iceland University of the Arts



**Swedish Council for  
Higher Education**



**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**  
Ministry of Science and  
Education



HÁSKÓLI ÍSLANDS



**rannís**



**GÖTEBORGS  
UNIVERSITET**



**uniri**



UNIVERSITAS STUDIORUM FLUMINENSIS  
UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA



**ALGEBRA  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE**



**FH  
CAMPUS  
WIEN**  
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



die pädagogische  
hochschule  
oberösterreich



**AQ** Agentur für  
Qualitätssicherung  
und Akkreditierung  
Austria



**KTH**  
VETENSKAP  
OCH KONST

# Why validation and recognition of prior informal and non-formal learning? 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2020

## Survey; drivers and challenges for RPL

- Better access to HE and inclusion
- Understanding the RPL procedures and attitudes within the institution

## Overview from the national contexts: Austria and Croatia

- Reduce skills mis-match, flexible learning paths, social dimension etc.

## Panel

- Lifelong learning, learning outcomes-based curricula, recognize the workplace as a center of learning etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6XE32lbgwk&feature=youtu.be>

## Why validation and recognition of prior informal and non-formal learning?

Nobody should be required to study something that they already know



*Validation:  
"a process of confirmation by an  
authorised body that an individual  
has acquired learning outcomes  
measured against a relevant  
standard"*

## Basic documents and background

- The Council recommendation, of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning

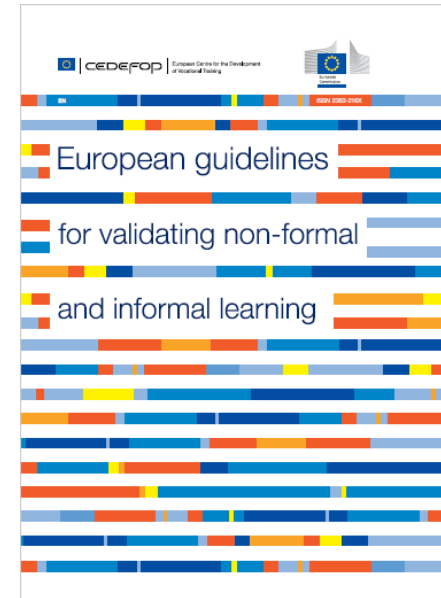
*"The Member states should/.../have in place, no later than 2018,/.../arrangements for the validation of non-formal and informal learning"*

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32012H1222%2801%29>

# Validation of non-formal and informal learning

## - the four phases of validation

The European guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning  
[http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/files/3073\\_en.pdf](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/files/3073_en.pdf)



Identification

Documentation

Assessment

Certification

# Self-assessment template

## Part 2. Self-assessment template – to be filled in parallel to working with an RPL case

<b>1. Identification</b>	Short description	Crucial points in order to achieve success	Challenges	Comments	Links to examples
Has the purpose of the validation been clearly defined and communicated with the candidate?					
Have the different phases of the validation process been clearly defined and communicated to the individual candidate?					
Which procedures support identification?					
Which tools support identification?					
Which identification approaches (e.g. standardised and dialogue-based) are used and how do you mix them?					
How is guidance and mentoring (counselling) supporting and integrated into the identification phase?					
Are academics involved in the identification <u>phase</u> . If so in which way.					

# Self-assessment template

## Part 2. Self-assessment template – to be filled in parallel to working with an RPL case

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1. Identification	Short description	Crucial points in order to achieve success	Challenges	Comments	Links to examples
Has the purpose of the validation been clearly defined and communicated with the candidate?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear information and support to candidates.</li> <li>- Clear role definitions and responsibility</li> <li>- Clear definitions of how validation can be used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Make the candidates understand their responsibility and the effort they have to put into the process.</li> <li>- Reach out to potential candidates</li> </ul>		<a href="https://www.cit.ie/rpl">https://www.cit.ie/rpl</a>  <a href="https://www.kth.se/en/studies/master/recognition-of-prior-learning-1.786469">https://www.kth.se/en/studies/master/recognition-of-prior-learning-1.786469</a>
Have the different phases of the validation process been clearly defined and communicated to the individual candidate?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear information about the process and what kind of information the candidate has to present.</li> <li>- Guidance/mentoring to candidates.</li> </ul>			<a href="https://www.cit.ie/rpl/bookaworkshop">https://www.cit.ie/rpl/bookaworkshop</a>
Which procedures support identification?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Easy access to information on Learning Outcomes on programme and course level linked to a qualification framework.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poorly constructed Learning Outcomes.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>		<a href="https://www.cit.ie/courses/finda-course">https://www.cit.ie/courses/finda-course</a>
Which tools support identification?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Templates and forms</li> <li>- Examples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Know when all the relevant evidence is identified</li> </ul>		

## Poll 2

Which is the most important point in order to implement and develop RPL at your Higher Education Institution?

- Transparent procedures and guidelines
- Support and guidelines for students
- Committed and well-informed staff
- Institutional and program level commitment and policy
- Learning Outcomes oriented curricula which considers RPL in the course development
- Appropriate funding
- Other – I will write in the chat

## Poll 3

Which is the main priority for the systemic implementation and development of RPL in Higher Education at the national level?

- Creating a uniform RPL process with national guidelines
- Creating a national platform (e.g. national centre for RPL)
- Better funding and financial incentives
- Increasing awareness on the RPL process
- Other – I will write it in the chat

## How to validate? Best practices from the RPLip project's partners

- **Susanna Boldrino**, Head of Academic University Development, FH Campus Wien, Austria
- **Deirdre Goggin**, Recognition of Prior Learning and Work Based Learning Company Advisor, Extended Campus CIT, Ireland

Q & A

## Panel

- **Mislav Balković**, Dean, Algebra University College, Croatia
- **Sylvie Bonichon**, Associate Expert, EURASHE
- **Pernilla Hultberg**, Education Officer, Gothenburg University, Sweden
- **Marjaana Mäkelä**, Principal Lecturer, Haaga-Helia UAS, Finland

## Final dissemination conference

- Project dissemination conference, spring 2021, Stockholm (?)
- Keep up-dated: <https://www.uhr.se/en/rplinpractice>