

## ANNEX 2 A

### **Centralised Support to the Network of Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE) Technical Assistance Missions (TAM)**

#### **Finalised programme for TAM in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Name of experts:**

1. *Polonca Miklavc Valenčič*, University of Ljubljana, Assistant Secretary General, University Office for First and Second Cycle Study;
2. *Dženan Omanović*, Head of Department for Information and Cooperation, Centre for Information and Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education

**Date:** 18 December 2020

**Name of contact person in NEO:** Mahira Zonić, National Erasmus+ office in BiH

**Title / Theme of visit:** Recognition of Prior Learning

**Objectives:** Bosnia and Herzegovina signed and ratified Lisbon Recognition Convention in 2003 but 16 years ago this Convention is not fully implemented in BiH. There have been two project dealing with improvement of legislation concerning academic and professional recognition but it is not enough to raise the awareness of different stakeholders especially competent educational authorities and recognition bodies to recognize every kind of learning and education. Moreover, The Committee of the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (Lisbon Recognition Convention) held an Extraordinary Session on 14 November 2017 in Strasbourg, France. After several months of work, the Committee presented Recommendation on Recognition of Qualifications held by Refugees, Displaced Persons and Persons in a Refugee-like Situation. Recommendation was adopted by the Committee in the almost same version as it was drafted, with only few comments. This Recommendation will help States implement Article VII of the Convention, by which parties commit to facilitating the recognition of such qualifications even when they cannot be fully documented. According to all mentioned above Bosnia and Herzegovina is obliged to develop

special procedures for recognition of prior learning especially concerning refugee's qualification. Within the STINT project a joint Model for Academic Recognition was developed and adopted by all public universities including provisions related to recognition of prior learning with obligation of all universities to develop special procedures for recognition of every kind of prior education (non-formal education, informal learning, recognition of qualification with insufficient documentation...). During the project additional trainings of admission officers were done at all public and some private universities but these trainings have shown that additional specialization is needed and especially raising the awareness of academic staff that academic recognition procedures should be in the middle of the educational politics at all higher education institutions in BiH. Additionally, ongoing Twinning Project financed by the EU, dealing with professional recognition procedures also shown a lack of knowledge in this field by competent educational authorities which are creators of legislation changes so that recognition will be an actual topic in the forthcoming period.

Learning outcomes: The desired learning outcomes of the meeting would be understanding of the main provisions of the Lisbon Recognition Convention, especially concerning recognition of prior learning, raising awareness of competent educational authorities and higher education institutions for legislation changes and developing of special procedures for recognition of prior learning, Getting to know about EU approach, getting to know about biographical document, methods of knowledge tests, information tools required for more precise evaluation, accepting the new approach in the recognition procedures concerning recognition of prior learning.

Number and profile of participants targeted (functions, institutions, etc.): academic officers at higher education institutions, representative of the competent educational authorities dealing with recognition matters

Materials to be provided: Presentations of experts

## AGENDA

**09:00- 09:30** Online platform is open for everyone to connect

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**09:30 – 09:45** **Welcome and introduction**

- Dženan Omanović – *the Team of Higher Education Reform Experts of BiH*
  - Polonca Miklavc Valenčič - *Assistant Secretary General, University Office for First and Second Cycle Study, University of Ljubljana*
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**09:45–10:15** **Recognition of prior learning – Academic recognition at the University of Ljubljana**

Polonca Miklavc Valenčič - *Assistant Secretary General, University Office for First and Second Cycle Study, University of Ljubljana*

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**10:15 - 11:00** **Questions for discussion**

- Legislation framework in Slovenia
  - Institutional Approaches at the University of Ljubljana
  - Main challenges for the University of Ljubljana/higher education institutions in Slovenia
  - Recognition of non-formal education and informal learning
  - Recognition of refugees' qualifications
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**11:00–11:15** **Health break**

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**11:15–11:45** **Recognition of prior learning – Professional Recognition in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Dženan Omanović – *the Team of Higher Education Reform Experts of BiH*

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**11:45- 12:30** **Discussion**

**Questions for discussion**

- Lisbon Recognition Convention
  - Legislation framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina
  - Institutional Approaches/Results of STINT project
  - Main challenges for higher education institutions
  - Possibility of an application for EU funds
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**12.30 – 12:45** **Conclusions and final remarks**