



Introducing the Recognition of Prior Learning to Croatia to Support the Social Dimension

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What?

Recognition of prior learning = recognition of previous formal, **informal and non-formal** learning

- as defined by the COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 20 December 2012

on the validation of non-formal and informal learning and Croatian legislation (HE and CROQF)

2. include, as appropriate, the following elements in arrangements for the validation of non-formal and informal learning, whilst allowing each individual to take advantage of any of these, either separately or in combination, in accordance with his/her needs:
 - (a) IDENTIFICATION of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning;
 - (b) DOCUMENTATION of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning;
 - (c) ASSESSMENT of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning;
 - (d) CERTIFICATION of the results of the assessment of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning in the form of a qualification, or credits leading to a qualification, or in another form, as appropriate;



Why?

- 'Non-traditional' students: mature students and students who volunteer/work
- Opening HE to other under-represented groups
- Making HE more flexible, student-centred and responsive to community needs
- Implementing the EHEA and EU objectives and policies

When?

- In Croatia, first steps by HEIs and NGOs already in 00s
- Legal framework fully developed by amendments in 2013 and 2018
- - Erasmus+ projects, RPLinPractice and SIDERAL, launched in 2018



Who?

- Institutions, autonomously, within their QA systems
- RPL in Practice partner HEIs: University of Rijeka and University College Algebra
- RPL working group: UNIRI, Algebra, University of Zagreb, University of Split, Zagreb Polytechnic
- Additional 30+ HEIs participated in events and drafted ordinances (a new survey to be launched)

How?

- Pilot procedures, existing ordinances and peer-support → draft Guidelines to support HEIs (awaiting completion and publication)
- Workshops and events
- Peer network
- New National Plan; peer support
- From 2024: European Social Fund support for RPL, updating curricula and digitalisation



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