

# EUROPEAN QUALIFICATIONS PASSPORT FOR REFUGEES



[www.coe.int/eqpr](http://www.coe.int/eqpr)

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## WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN QUALIFICATIONS PASSPORT FOR REFUGEES (EQPR)?

- ▶ The EQPR is a tool that facilitates recognition of refugees' qualifications in the absence of full documentation.
- ▶ The EQPR is a document listing a refugee's highest education qualification, work experience and language skills.
- ▶ The EQPR is used by refugees when they wish to enter further studies or when they seek employment.
- ▶ The EQPR supports the implementation of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.



## WHO CAN APPLY?

- ▶ Persons with refugee status.
- ▶ Persons with asylum seeker status.
- ▶ Persons with the right to temporary protection (as per Temporary Protection Directive, Council Directive 2001/55/EC).



## WHY IS IT USEFUL?

- ▶ Many refugees might not be able to bring all their relevant documents with them. The EQPR provides an opportunity for fair assessment of qualifications even in cases when the documentation is missing.
- ▶ The EQPR can be used in other European countries, if and when the EQPR holder moves from the country where the EQPR was issued.



## BENEFITS OF THE EQPR

- ▶ Credible evaluation of refugee's qualifications.
- ▶ Evaluation costs to host countries are reduced as refugees do not need to repeat the assessment procedure.
- ▶ The evaluation of a refugee's qualification(s) is provided for free and is easily accessible.
- ▶ Both host societies and refugees benefit from a faster integration.



## PROJECT FUNDED BY

- ▶ Voluntary contributions from Italy and Norway
- ▶ Action Plan on protecting vulnerable persons in the context of migration and asylum in Europe (2021-2025)
- ▶ Council of Europe Ordinary budget



## PARTNERS

- ▶ Over 20 National Recognition Centres (ENICs-NARICs)
- ▶ Ministries of Education of Greece, Italy and Norway
- ▶ Ministry of Interior of France
- ▶ Conference of University Rectors of Italy
- ▶ UNHCR



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- ▶ Individual application to participate in the EQPR
- ▶ Selection of participants
- ▶ Detailed description of educational background / Questionnaire
- ▶ Consent for participation
- ▶ Assessment of available documentation/reconstruction
- ▶ Structured interview with the credential evaluators
- ▶ Issuing of the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)



## THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- ▶ Refugees apply for the EQPR by creating an account on the EQPR IT platform and filling out a questionnaire. Then if selected, they meet with a team of credential evaluators for an interview (approx. 45 min) during which their qualifications are assessed. Credential evaluators are qualification experts. They have experience in foreign qualifications and knowledge of the education system of the countries of the refugees. The interview is conducted in the native language or in the language of instruction.
- ▶ After the interview, the decision whether to issue the EQPR will be taken.



## QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSED

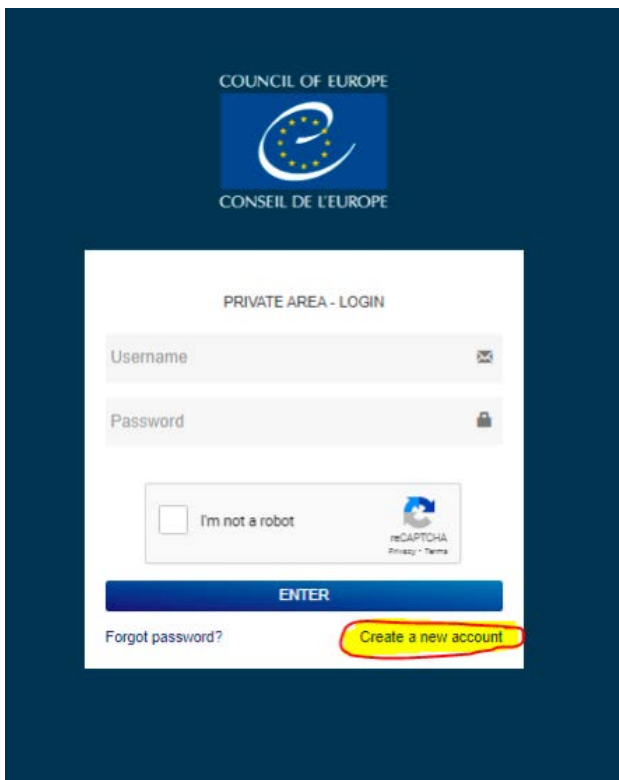
- ▶ Higher education
- ▶ Technical vocational education and training
- ▶ Upper secondary education

**For more information on the project, please visit: <http://www.coe.int/eqpr>**

# How to apply for the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees?

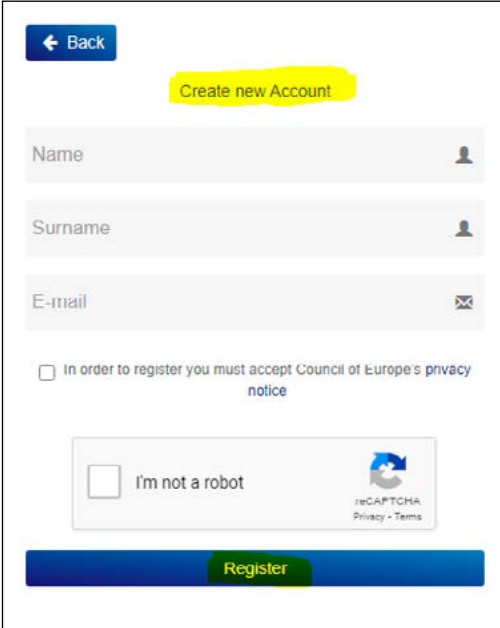
## STEP 1: Please create your EQPR account

- Go to the **WEBSITE**: <https://coe.diplo-me.eu>
- Click on "Create a new account"



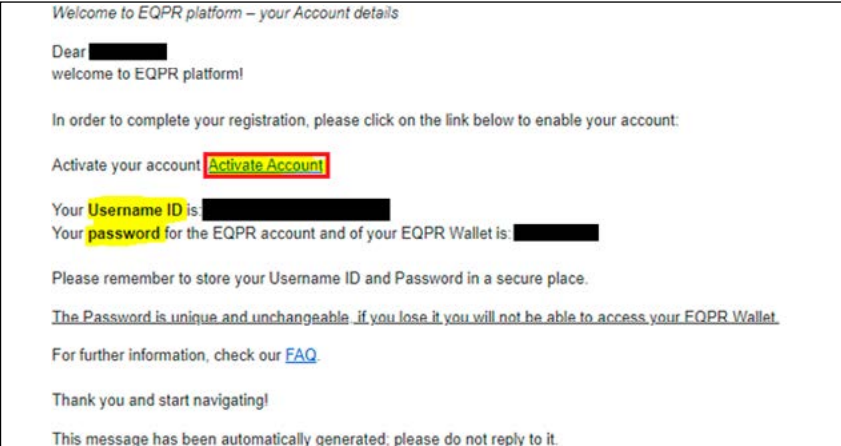
The image shows a screenshot of the Council of Europe's login page. At the top, the Council of Europe logo is displayed, featuring the text "COUNCIL OF EUROPE" and "CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE" around a blue circle with yellow stars. Below the logo, the text "PRIVATE AREA - LOGIN" is centered. The login form consists of two input fields: "Username" and "Password", each with a small icon to its right. Below these fields is a reCAPTCHA widget with the text "I'm not a robot" and a checkbox. To the right of the reCAPTCHA is the reCAPTCHA logo and the text "reCAPTCHA Privacy - Terms". Below the reCAPTCHA is a blue button labeled "ENTER". At the bottom left of the form is a link "Forgot password?". At the bottom right, the link "Create a new account" is highlighted with a yellow oval.

■ Please insert your name, surname and email address and REGISTER



The screenshot shows a registration form with a blue header containing a 'Back' button and a yellow 'Create new Account' button. Below are three input fields for 'Name', 'Surname', and 'E-mail', each with a person icon. A checkbox is present with the text 'In order to register you must accept Council of Europe's privacy notice'. Below this is a reCAPTCHA widget with the text 'I'm not a robot' and a 'reCAPTCHA Privacy - Terms' link. At the bottom is a large blue 'Register' button.

■ An email with the **activation link** will be sent to your inbox. Below is an example. Please also check the spam folder.



The screenshot shows an email with the following content:

Welcome to EQPR platform – your Account details

Dear [REDACTED]  
welcome to EQPR platform!

In order to complete your registration, please click on the link below to enable your account:

Activate your account [Activate Account](#)

Your Username ID is: [REDACTED]  
Your password for the EQPR account and of your EQPR Wallet is: [REDACTED]

Please remember to store your Username ID and Password in a secure place.

The Password is unique and unchangeable. if you lose it you will not be able to access your EQPR Wallet.

For further information, check our [FAQ](#).

Thank you and start navigating!

This message has been automatically generated, please do not reply to it.

■ In the email, please click on **“Activate Account”**. The link will take you to the login website.

■ Please insert your **username** (your email address) and **password** (please copy/paste the password you received in the email). Click **“ENTER”** to log into your EQPR account.

The screenshot shows the user interface of the Council of Europe's My EQPR Wallet. On the left is a dark blue navigation menu with the following items: HOME PAGE, MY EQPR WALLET, PROFILE (with a dropdown arrow), Account, My Procedure, Documents, Questionnaire, MY APPLICATION (with a dropdown arrow), EQPR, INFO (with a dropdown arrow), Contact Us, FAQ, Consent Form, and Privacy Notice. Below the menu, it says "© 2016 - All rights reserved".

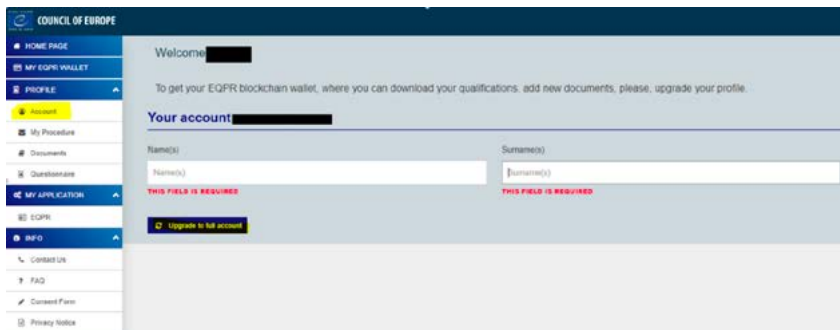
The main content area has a header with the Council of Europe logo and the text "Welcome [redacted]". Below this is the section "My EQPR Wallet" with a sub-header "With the «EQPR wallet» , you can create your own digital "Wallet" where you can find and storage your European Qualifications Passport for Refugee (EQPR)". There are two buttons: "LEARN MORE" and "ACCESS TO MY EQPR WALLET".

Below this is a section titled "European Qualification Passport for Refugees". The text reads: "The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is a standardized document that explains the qualifications a refugee is likely to have based on the available evidence. Although this document does not constitute a formal recognition act, it summarizes and presents available information on the applicant's educational level, work experience and language proficiency. The European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is issued to refugees who claim to have completed or partially completed studies at the level of upper secondary school and above, including qualifications for which there is insufficient or missing documentation. The aim is to help applicants continue further studies, improve their language proficiency, apply for formal recognition or authorization or find employment." There is a "LEARN MORE" button below this text.

At the bottom of the page is a dark blue banner with the text "How to apply" and three icons: a blue arrow pointing right, a white pencil icon, and a white document icon. Below the icons are the labels "Fill in the" and "Add any document".

## STEP 2 : Please complete your EQPR profile

Please fill in the requested information in the **"PROFILE - Account"** section. You can also fill in or upload the **questionnaire** and add the **documents** (refugee status certificate, identity documents, consent form, photograph, other documents etc.)



The screenshot shows the 'Your account' section of the Council of Europe EQPR portal. The page has a dark blue header with the Council of Europe logo and a navigation menu on the left. The main content area is light blue and contains a 'Welcome' message, a brief description of the EQPR blockchain wallet, and a 'Your account' section. The 'Your account' section has two input fields: 'Name(s)' and 'Surname(s)'. Both fields are empty and have a red error message below them that says 'THIS FIELD IS REQUIRED'. There is a yellow button labeled 'Upgrade to full account' below the input fields.

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- HOME PAGE
- MY EQPR WALLET
- PROFILE
- Account
- My Procedure
- Documents
- Questionnaire
- MY APPLICATION
- EQPR
- INFO
- Contact Us
- FAQ
- Consent Form
- Privacy Notice

Welcome [REDACTED]

To get your EQPR blockchain wallet, where you can download your qualifications, add new documents, please, upgrade your profile.

**Your account** [REDACTED]

Name(s) Surname(s)

THIS FIELD IS REQUIRED THIS FIELD IS REQUIRED

[Upgrade to full account](#)

## STEP 3 : Please submit your EQPR application

■ Please start your EQPR application and upload the required documentation as described under the "MY APPLICATION - EQPR" section:

The screenshot shows the user interface of the EQPR application platform. At the top, the Council of Europe logo and name are visible. The main navigation menu on the left includes: HOME PAGE, MY EQPR WALLET, PROFILE (with a dropdown arrow), MY APPLICATION (highlighted in yellow), and INFO (with a dropdown arrow). The 'MY APPLICATION' dropdown menu is open, showing options for Account, My Procedure, Documents, Questionnaire, EQPR, and INFO. The main content area is titled 'EQPR' and 'EQPR's Procedure'. It contains three sections: 'How are the qualifications held by refugees assessed?', 'How long does this process take?', and 'Which steps of the application procedure can be completed on the EQPR Platform?'. Each section provides detailed information about the assessment process, interview duration, and application steps.

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EQPR

My Application / EQPR

### EQPR's Procedure

**How are the qualifications held by refugees assessed?**

The assessment of qualifications held by refugees is based on a **self-assessment questionnaire**, **available documentation** and a **structured interview** conducted by a team of two credentials evaluators from different ENICs (national information centre on recognition), at least one of whom has expert knowledge of the language and education system of the country from which the applicant claims to have his/her qualification.

**How long does this process take?**

The interviews themselves take between 45 minutes to one hour, after which a decision on whether or not to issue the document is made. If the decision is positive, the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees is issued and **valid for five years** from the date of issue.

**Which steps of the application procedure can be completed on the EQPR Platform?**

Refugees can directly apply on the Platform by **filling in the self-assessment questionnaire** and **uploading any relevant document** related to their qualifications or personal identity. The self-assessment questionnaire can also be downloaded, filled in and uploaded on the platform.

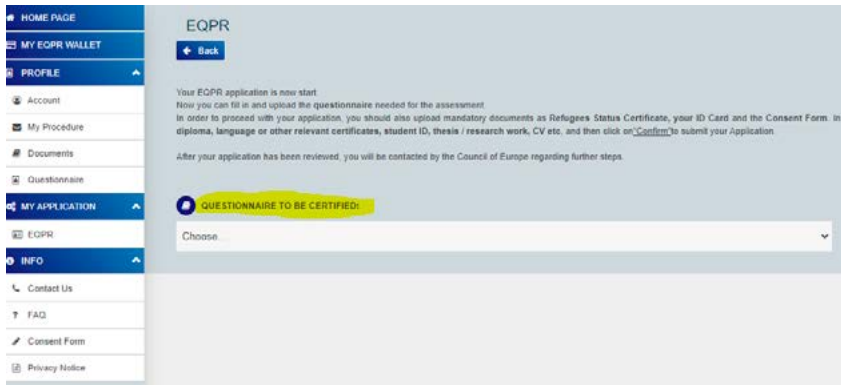
The online self-assessment questionnaire will be used as a basis for the assessment interview and in order to facilitate the applications for refugees.

**The EQPR issued will be stored** on this online platform, which will enable EQPR holders to share their document with whomever they want and that shall allow higher education institutions, employers, etc., to check the validity of the document.

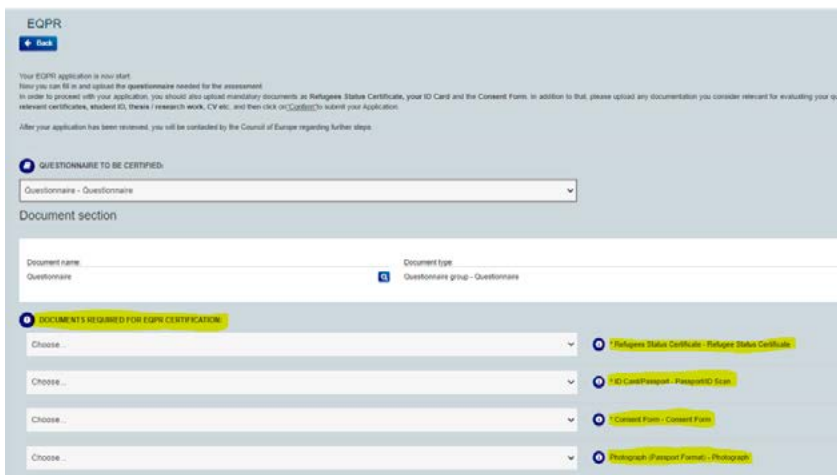


A) First, you should add or upload the completed **questionnaire** required for the assessment.

The questionnaire is the main document for the evaluation process. Please make sure to include it in your application. It should be the first document in your application.



B) In order to proceed with your application, you should upload mandatory documents such as your **Refugee Status Certificate**, your **ID Card** and the **signed Consent Form**. Please also add your **photograph** in passport format.



**IMPORTANT:** You should upload a **signed** copy of the consent form. The template can be found under the section **"INFO – Consent form"**.

C) If and where possible, under "OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS" please upload any documentation you consider relevant for evaluating your qualification such as: **degree certificate, transcript of records, graduation diploma, language or other relevant certificates, student ID, thesis / research work, CV etc**, and then click on "CONFIRM".

The screenshot shows the EQPR application interface. At the top, there is a 'Back' button. Below it, a message states: 'Your EQPR application is now start. Now you can fill in and upload the questionnaire needed for the assessment. In order to proceed with your application, you should also upload mandatory documents as Refugee Status Certificate, your ID Card and the Consent Form. In addition to that, please upload any documentation you consider relevant for evaluating your relevant certificates, student ID, thesis / research work, CV etc, and then click on "Confirm" to submit your Application. After your application has been reviewed, you will be contacted by the Council of Europe regarding further steps.'

The 'QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE CERTIFIED:' section has a dropdown menu set to 'Questionnaire - Questionnaire'.

The 'Document section' contains a table with columns for 'Document name' and 'Document type'. The table lists 'Questionnaire' with a document type of 'Questionnaire group - Questionnaire'.

The 'DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR EQPR CERTIFICATION:' section has five rows, each with a dropdown menu for the document name and a radio button for the document type. The items are: 'Refugee Status Certificate - REFUGEE STATUS CERTIFICATE', 'ID Card/Passport - ID CARD', 'Consent form - CONSENT FORM', and 'Photograph (passport format) - PHOTO'. The 'Refugee Status Certificate' and 'ID Card/Passport' items have their respective radio buttons selected.

The 'OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS:' section has a dropdown menu set to 'Choose...'.

Finally, when all the necessary documents have been added, please click on "SEND REQUEST".

Your application has now been submitted.

The status of the application can be viewed in the section "MY PROCEDURE" on the home page. You will receive a notification by email when a change is made.

After your application has been reviewed, you will be contacted by the Council of Europe regarding further steps. For any further information you can contact us at: [refugees.qualifications@coe.int](mailto:refugees.qualifications@coe.int).

THANK YOU!



Implemented by the Council of Europe since 2017, the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees enables refugees and asylum seekers to have their qualifications assessed even in the absence of full documentation.

The EQPR helps refugees and asylum seekers to enter further studies or to seek employment. It eliminates unnecessary and repeated further assessments of the same qualifications in other European countries if and when the EQPR holder moves.

### **European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)**

**[refugees.qualifications@coe.int](mailto:refugees.qualifications@coe.int)**

**[www.coe.int/eqpr](http://www.coe.int/eqpr)**

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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