



**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
ON MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS AND
ACADEMIC DEGREES**

The Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

DESIRING to develop relations in education and sciences between the Republic of Malta and the Russian Federation;

WISHING to ensure mutual recognition of education, qualifications and the academic degrees received in the Republic of Malta and in the Russian Federation;

CONSIDERING the provisions of the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European region, signed in Lisbon on April 11th, 1997;

TAKING into account that conditions of access to labour market, and in particular, to the regulated professions, also as well as implementation of professional activity, are regulated by the relevant legislation of each of the States of the Parties,

HAVE JOINTLY AGREED THE FOLLOWING:

Article 1

1. The Agreement is aimed at facilitation of mutual recognition of education, qualifications and the academic degrees received in the Russian Federation and in the

Republic of Malta according to the legislation of each of the States of the Parties and at facilitation of access of holders of documents relating to relevant education, qualifications and the academic degrees to continuation of training and implementation of professional activities in the States of the Parties in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

2. This Agreement shall also apply to education, qualifications and the academic degrees, envisaged by this Agreement, received in the Russian Federation and in the Republic of Malta before the entering into force of this Agreement.

3. This Agreement shall apply to education, qualifications and the academic degrees received in the educational and scientific organisations for the educational programmes accredited in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

Article 2

1. The secondary general education and secondary vocational education, received in the Russian Federation, and the secondary general education and the further higher education received in the Republic of Malta (level rated at European Qualifications Framework (hereinafter referred to as "EQF") level 3 and EQF level 4 respectively) are recognised as comparable.

2. Persons holding the education mentioned in point 1 of the present article, have right of access to continue the training in secondary professional education, higher education of the Bachelor's or the Specialist programmes in the Russian Federation, and higher educational programmes in the Republic of Malta, leading to the awarding of higher education certificates and diplomas.

3. Short-term higher education or vocational education and training, received in the Republic of Malta (level rated at EQF level 5) from institutions licensed by the National Commission for Further and Higher Education and secondary professional education received in the Russian Federation, supported by the relevant diploma, are recognized as comparable and give access to their owners to continue the training in relevant educational programmes of higher education in the Republic of Malta or of the Bachelor's or the Specialist programmes in the Russian Federation.

4. Admission to the programmes mentioned in point 2 of the present article shall be subject to the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

Article 3

1. The higher education, received in the Russian Federation, confirmed with the Bachelor Diploma, and the higher education, received in the Republic of Malta, confirmed with the Bachelor's Degree (level rated EQF level 6), are recognised as comparable.

2. Persons holding the higher education mentioned in point 1 of the present article, have right of access to continuation of training in higher educational programmes – master’s programmes in the Russian Federation and master’s programmes in the Republic of Malta (level rated at EQF level 7).

3. Access to the programmes mentioned in point 2 of the present article shall be subject to the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

4. The higher education mentioned in point 1 of the present article entitles their holders to pursue professional activities in the Russian Federation and in the Republic of Malta in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

Article 4

1. The higher education, received in the Russian Federation, confirmed with the Diploma of Specialist or the Magister Diploma, and the higher education, received in the Republic of Malta, confirmed with the Master’s Degree or Post Graduate qualification (level rated at EQF level 7), are recognised as comparable.

2. Persons holding the higher education mentioned in point 1 of the present article, have right of access to continuation of training in programmes of preparing of scientific and pedagogical staff in aspirantura (adjunctura) and programmes of assistantship training in the Russian Federation or doctorate studies in the Republic of Malta (level rated EQF level 8).

3. Admission to the programmes mentioned in point 2 of the present article shall be subject to the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

4. The higher education mentioned in point 1 of the present article entitles their holders to pursue professional activities in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Malta in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

Article 5

The academic degree of the Candidate of Science (Kandidata Nauk) provided by the state system of scientific certification, received in the Russian Federation, and the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (level rated at EQF level 8), received in the Republic of Malta, are recognised as comparable and entitle their holders to pursue professional activities in the Russian Federation and in the Republic of Malta in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

Article 6

The recognition of education, qualifications and academic degrees, envisaged by this Agreement, does not exempt their holders from the obligation to satisfy requirements necessary for admission to educational and scientific organizations or for pursuing professional activities in accordance with the legislation of the State of the receiving Party.

Article 7

For the implementation of the present Agreement, the Parties shall be responsible for the exchange of information. The exchange of information shall include:

- the description of the levels of education, received in each of the States of the Parties, lists of professions, specialities and directions of preparation with an indication of qualifications by the corresponding professions, specialities and directions of preparation;
- the list and samples of documents relating to education, qualifications and also blanks of academic degrees diplomas mentioned within this Agreement;
- the information about the documents relating to education, qualifications and academic degrees, awarded by the Parties, including in the Russian SFSR or the USSR;
- the information of the educational and scientific organisations which are carrying out educational programmes having state accreditation in the Russian Federation and officially recognised educational organisations of the Republic of Malta.

Article 8

1. The Parties, through their authorities, responsible for management in education, shall establish within 6 (six) months of the date this Agreement enters into force a Committee of Experts to develop recommendations relating to the implementation of this Agreement. The Committee of Experts may also resolve issues relating to the interpretation of this Agreement and formulate proposals for its modification.

2. The Committee of Experts shall be comprised of experts up to four from each Party. The information about the representatives of the Committee of Experts is communicated in writing through official channels.

3. The terms about periodicity, place and date of the meetings of the Committee of Experts are agreed by the authorities of the Parties, responsible for management in education.

Article 9

This Agreement may be amended by the written consent of the Parties.

Article 10

Any disputes between the Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved by consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 11

1. This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period and shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last written notification through diplomatic channels, by which the Parties notify each other that their respective internal procedures for its entry into force have been completed.

2. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of its intention to the other Party through diplomatic channels. The Agreement shall be terminated in 12 (twelve) months after the receipt by the other Party of such notice.

3. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect any decisions on recognition of education, qualifications and the academic degrees adopted prior to the date of termination of this Agreement.

4. Provisions of this Agreement shall also be applicable to education, qualifications and the academic degrees obtained by persons who arrived for the purpose of study to the Russian Federation or to the Republic of Malta prior to the termination of this Agreement.

This Agreement is signed on November 15, 2016 in Moscow in duplicate in the English and Russian languages, all texts being equally authentic.

**FOR
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