

# CIMEA

## The Art of Connecting Academia

CREDENTIAL EVALUATION SINCE 1984

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29th May, Rome

# CIMEA

## THE ART OF CONNECTING ACADEMIA

- ✧ **CIMEA – Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence** has performed since 1984 its specific **activity of information and advising on the procedures of qualifications recognition** and on themes linked to Italian and international higher education and training.
- ✧ The principal objective of CIMEA is to **further academic mobility** in all aspects, facilitating the understanding of the elements of the **Italian system** and of **foreign superior education and training systems** and **sponsor the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention on qualifications recognition**.
- ✧ CIMEA is the official Italian centre within the **NARIC** - National Academic Recognition Information Centres – network of the European Union and the **ENIC** - European National Information Centres – network of the European Council and of UNESCO.

✧ [www.cimea.it](http://www.cimea.it)

# ENIC-NARIC networks at a glance

## ENIC-European Network of Information Centres

- **WHO:** the centre is set up by the national authorities. The network was established by UNESCO and CoE;
- **WHAT:** provide information on recognition of qualifications and HE systems;
- **WHERE:** Parties to Lisbon Recognition Convention;
- **WHEN:** 1994;
- **WHY:** To implement the Lisbon Recognition Convention and, in general, to develop policy and practice for the recognition of qualifications.

**More info:** [enic-naric.net](http://enic-naric.net)

## NARIC-National Academic Recognition Information Centres

- **WHO:** the centre is set up by the national authorities. The network was established by EU Commission;
- **WHAT:** provide information on recognition of qualifications and HE systems;
- **WHERE:** Member States of the EU countries, the European Economic Area (EEA) countries and Turkey;
- **WHEN:** 1984;
- **WHY:** improving academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study in the EU Member States.

# History of the profession

IT WAS IN 1984...  
**ORIGINS OF THE NARIC NETWORK**



Fondazione Rui

Ente Morale, eretto, su proposta del Ministro della Pubblica Istruzione, con D.P.R. del 15-9-1959, n. 332

THE NATIONAL MOBILITY AND EQUIVALENCE  
INFORMATION CENTRE

Rome, November 1984

00185 Roma Via Crocenzia, 76 Telefono: 06/63.484.11/30 Cod. fax n.º 06/153020531

# CIMEA's Birth

## 1 - Origin

The process which led to the establishment of the Italian Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA) was rather a complex and laborious one.

The most relevant stages in that process can be summed up as follows:

A - Resolution N° 2 voted by the European Ministers of Education on the occasion of the 7th Conference organized by the Council of Europe in Bruxelles on June 8-10, 1971. According to the above resolution all Member States of the Council for Cultural Cooperation engaged themselves in the establishment of national information centres on mobility and equivalence.

The Italian representatives in the Council for Cultural Cooperation and in the Standing Conference on University Problems assured that such a centre would be set up also in Italy.

B - A new action program in the educational field was approved by the Ministers of Education on Feb. 9, 1976, its main aim being to intensify and extend academic mobility within the Member States of the European Community.

C - On June 2, 1983 the Ministers of Public Instruction met in Luxemburg for the 849th session of the Council of the European Communities. On that occasion they approved a resolution which engaged each Member State to indicate its own Centre for the problems concerning academic recognition.

D - In the meantime in Italy the Decree of the President

CIMEA

Centro d'Informazione  
sulla Mobilità  
e le Equivalenze  
Accademiche

# CIMEA Database

## LE SYSTEME INFORMATIF DU CIMEA

Rome, 18-19 janvier 1988

## LE SYSTEME INFORMATIF DU CIMEA

Archives ITALIA

Archives CIMEA

ARINT  
Archives  
Internationales

ARLEX  
Archives  
Législatives

BIBLIOTHEQUE

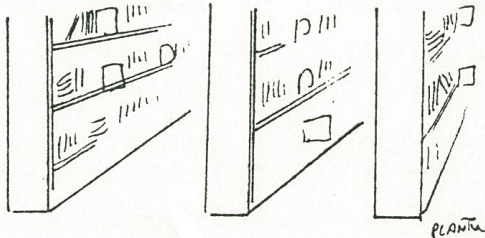
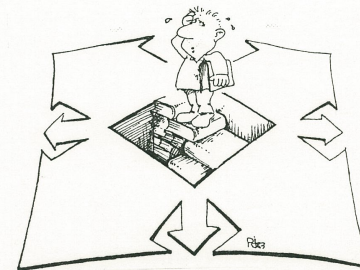
RECAR  
Archives  
Recherches

CD  
Centre de  
Documentation

CED  
Centre  
Traitement  
Données

MICROFICHES

HEMEROTHEQUE



ORDRE DU JOUR

pour la réunion des  
Chefs des centres nationaux d'information  
concernant

La reconnaissance académique des diplômés et des périodes d'études  
18-19 juin 1984  
Centre Borschette, Bruxelles

1. Accueil par le Président - M. Domenico Lenarduzzi (Chef de la Division "Coopération dans le domaine de l'éducation").  
But et objets de la réunion.
2. Présentation par Les Chefs des Centres nationaux d'information de la situation actuelle concernant le développement et les travaux de leurs centres (Document du Conseil N° EDUC 74).
3. Rôle et tâches des Centres nationaux d'information. (Document de la Commission N° V/871/84, §6 et §7).
4. Coordination et collaboration entre Les Centres nationaux ; le rôle de la Commission afin de faciliter celles-ci ; quels genres d'activité à entreprendre au niveau communautaire ?
  - réunion des représentants des Centres nationaux
  - visites d'études de courte durée
  - publicité
  - traitement des demandes d'information
  - gestion et exploitation d'information.(Document de la Commission N° V/871/84, §8).
5. Aperçu général des domaines à problèmes éventuels, et typologies des problèmes dans les domaines de la reconnaissance académique et de l'équivalence.
6. Programme des travaux futurs du groupe des Chefs des Centres nationaux.
7. Date et lieu de la prochaine réunion.

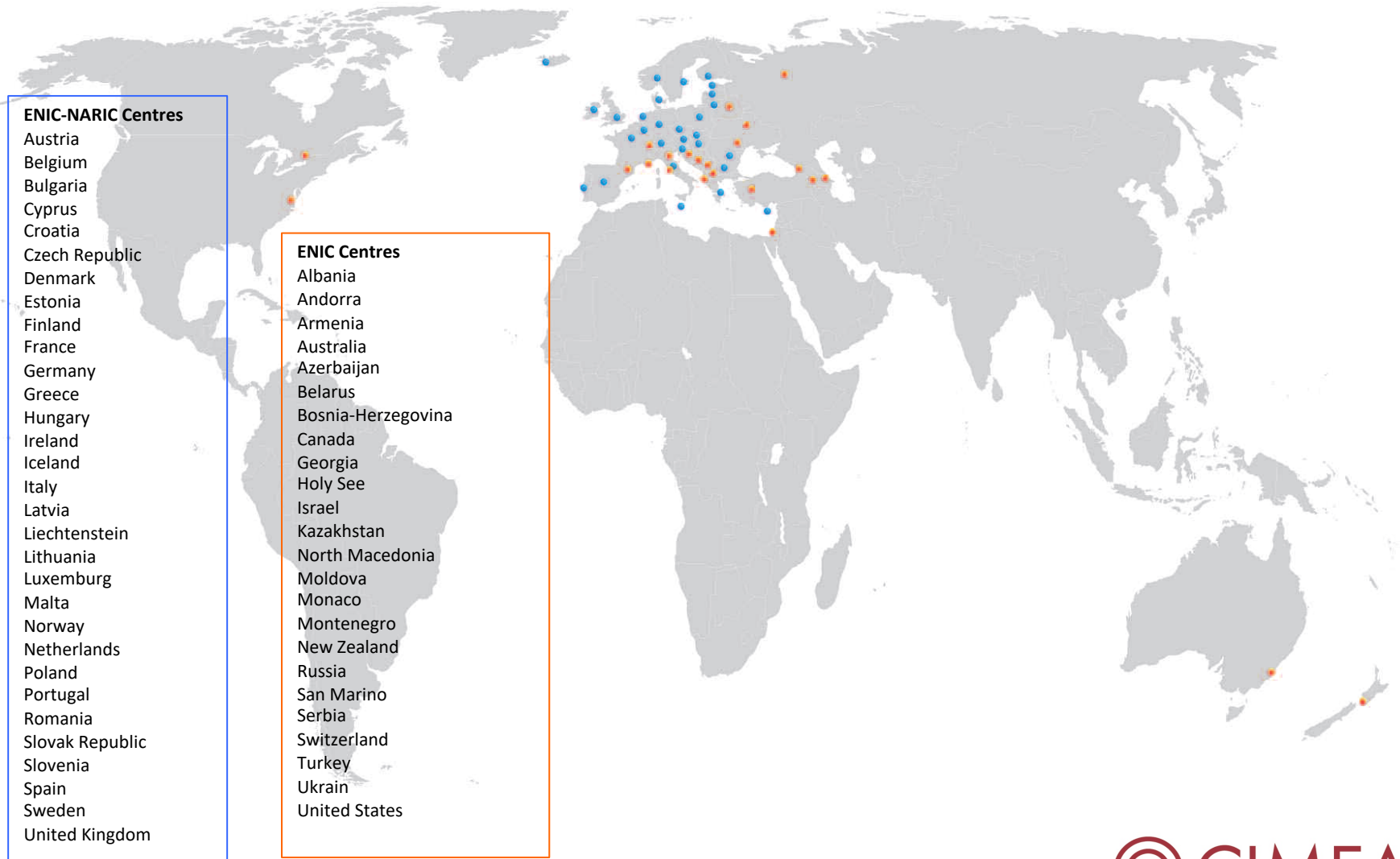


## First meeting of NARIC centres Brussels 18-19 June 1984

Six founders (Italy, France, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) and then the UK, Ireland, Denmark and Greece

Informative guides, study visits, the  
commitment to see each other twice a year

# The ENIC-NARIC networks



## ENIC-NARIC Centres

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Iceland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxemburg
- Malta
- Norway
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom

## ENIC Centres

- Albania
- Andorra
- Armenia
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Canada
- Georgia
- Holy See
- Israel
- Kazakhstan
- North Macedonia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Montenegro
- New Zealand
- Russia
- San Marino
- Serbia
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Ukrain
- United States



It is in 2019...

CREDENTIAL

CIMEA

EVALUATION

# Budget, status and Institutional mandate

Law 148/2002: Ratification and execution of the Convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications in the Europe Region signed in Lisbon on 11 April 1997, and provisions for the adjustment of the internal regulations

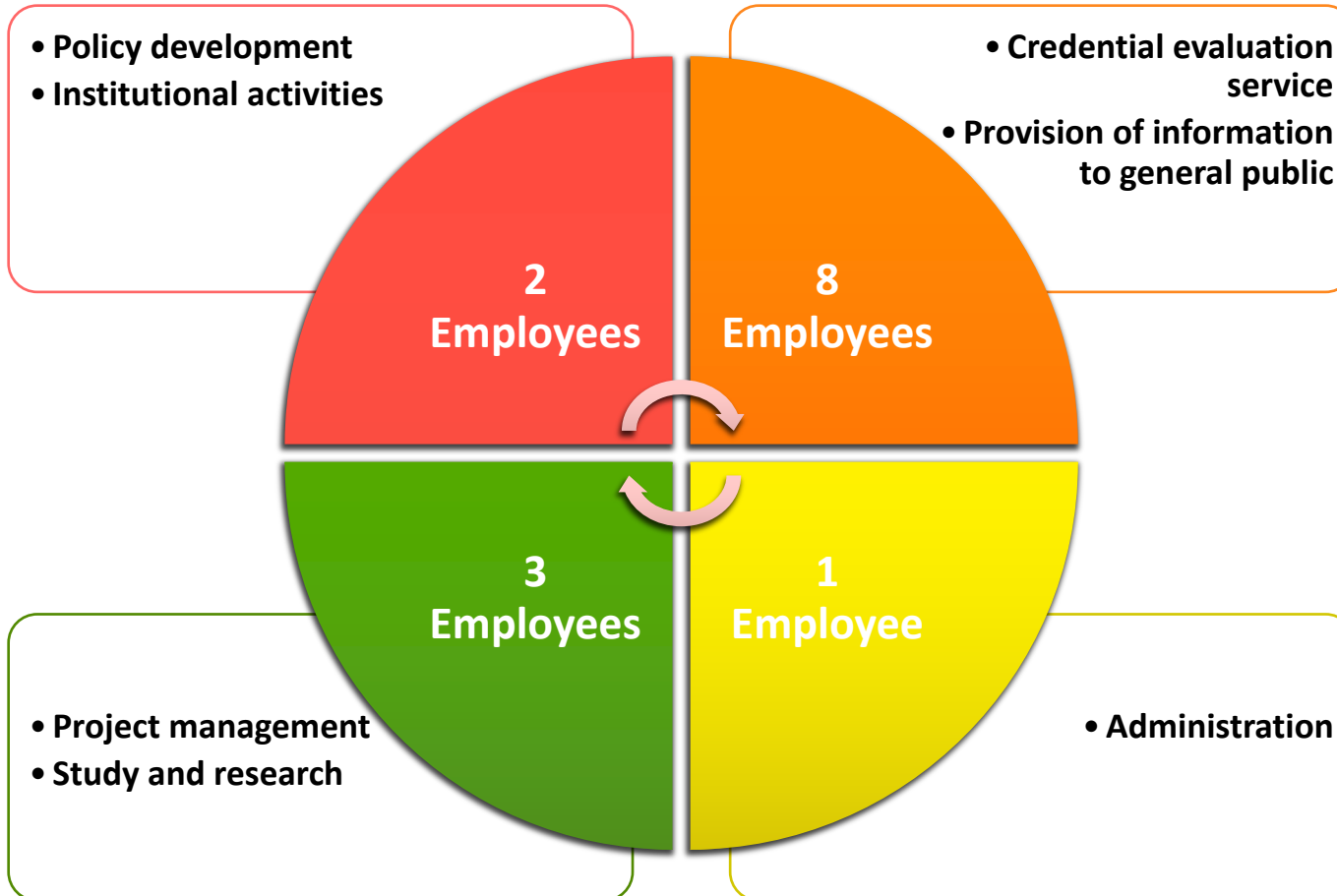
Italian ratification of the Lisbon Convention

**Budget** established by Italian Law: € 230,855.00

**Status:** *private and independent Association* (acting as a public body)

**Institutional mandate:** As deliberated by Article IX.2 of the LRC, the Italian state has entrusted with the task of conducting the **activities of National Information Centre** concerning the **procedures of recognition of qualifications** currently in force in Italy, the **Italian higher education system** and **the qualifications awarded at a national level.**

# Who we are / Structure



**Staff:** 14 people (3 part time – 11 full time employees) plus external consultants

**Languages:** 20

# Who we are / Expertise

**Information service:** *more than 18.000 contacts per year*

**Websites:** *www.cimea.it / www.erasmusmundus.it /  
www.quadrodeititoli.it / www.study-in-italy.it / www.rivistauniversitas.it /  
www.eurostudent-italia.it /www.enic-naric.net*

**Evaluation service:** *more than 15.000 qualifications per year. We give authoritative advice on recognition of qualifications.*

**Publications:** *BRIDGE Handbook: Joint programmes and recognition of joint degrees; Study and work in Italy: How to recognise foreign qualifications in Italy; Guide on Diploma Mills and other dubious institutions; Handbook on document fraud for Credential evaluators; Higher Education systems of Brazil, China, India and Russia etc.*

**Recent projects:** *RecoLatin, @NARIC, SCAN-D, BRIDGE, FRAUDOC, INTER-HED, RecoNow, Meric-NET etc.*

# Activities/1

## Information Centre

Every year CIMEA receive more than 15.000 questions of information about the recognition procedures of foreign academic and professional qualifications. Those questions come from foreign qualification holders who want to use their qualification in Italy to find a job or continue their studies, as well as from Italian citizens who want to go abroad.

## CIS- Credential Information Service

**Credential Information Service - International**: this is a service offered to all foreign higher education qualification holders with a view to their evaluation in Italy. This service answers the need to render foreign qualifications increasingly comprehensible and recognizable within the Italian context.

**Credential Information Service – Italy**: a service offered to all holders of Italian higher education qualifications with a view to their evaluation abroad. This service answers the need to render Italian qualifications increasingly comprehensible and recognizable within an international context.

# Activities/2

## Projects

- Recognition of qualifications
- Qualifications framework
- Joint programmes and joint degrees
- Higher education systems and cooperation with other Regions
- Vocational education and training

<http://www.cimea.it/en/projects/overview-projects.aspx>

## The Italian Qualifications Framework

In 2005, the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) started working on the Italian Qualifications Framework, in compliance with the procedures established at European level. CIMEA was tasked with producing the first prototype model of the National Framework and, after a process of national consultation, the **Italian Qualifications Framework – QTI** was published in 2010:

<http://www.quadrodeititoli.it/Index.aspx?IDL=2>

# Activities/3

## Tools and databases

### ➤ GUIDES AND PUBLICATIONS:

**BRIDGE Handbook:** Joint programmes and recognition of joint degrees

**Study and work in Italy:** How to recognise foreign qualifications in Italy

**Higher Education systems** of Brazil, China, India and Russia etc.

**Guide on Diploma Mills and other dubious institutions**

**Handbook on document fraud for Credential evaluators**

<http://www.cimea.it/en/services/publications-and-databases/guides-and-publications.aspx>

### ➤ DATABASES:

1. Database of the Higher Education System of 50 foreign Countries, in Italian language, aimed at helping and supporting Italian Institutions in the recognition of foreign qualifications;
2. CIMEA MAGNA CUM LAUDE: A worldwide database of University Grading Systems

<http://www.cimea.it/en/services/publications-and-databases/databases.aspx>

### ➤ CIMEA ACADEMY:

CIMEA organises courses and creates personalised training activities in the higher education sector, also in collaboration with other bodies and institutions, with a view to sharing its specific knowledge and competences in the national and international field, for the development of internationalization policies inside higher education

# Activities/4

## Associations and networks

CIMEA participates and collaborates in a national and international environment in the activities of different networks, associations and groups of experts active in the sector of higher education:

- **NARIC:** National Academic Recognition Information Centres
- **ENIC:** European Network of Information Centres
- **MERIC:** Mediterranean Recognition Information Centres
- **CNVQR:** National Coordination on the Evaluation of Refugee Qualifications (CNVQR)
- **TAICEP:** The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals
- **ProDeJIP:** Association for the Promotion and the Development of Joint International Programmes in Higher Education
- **National Correspondents for Qualifications Frameworks (QF-EHEA)**
- **UDUAL:** The Association of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean
- **AARU:** The Association of Arab Universities
- **EUA:** European University Association
- **AACRAO:** The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers



# CIMEA website



ABOUT US • SERVICES • PROJECTS • CONTACTS



New website,  
launched in 2017:  
the main source of  
information about  
CIMEA

## CREDENTIAL EVALUATION SINCE 1984

Since 1984, **CIMEA - Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence** has been engaged in the field of information and consulting services relating to the procedures for the recognition of academic qualifications and to issues relating to Italian and international higher education and training.

CIMEA is the official Italian centre within the NARIC - National Academic Recognition Information Centres – network of the European Union and the ENIC - European National Information Centres – network of the European Council and of UNESCO.

CIMEA supports academic mobility in all its forms and facilitates the understanding of the components of the Italian and foreign higher education and training systems and promotes the principles of the Lisbon Convention in the field of academic qualification recognition.



# Latest developments

- *Development of a full digital workflow and use of blockchain technology for statements of comparability*
- *Recognition of refugees qualifications*
- *Automatic recognition*
- *Research and tools on the field of Diploma Mills and Document Fraud*
- *Development of Qualification framework and capacity building in the field of Higher Education*
- *Development of regional convention*
- *BFUG secretariat*

# Thank you!

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[www.cimea.it](http://www.cimea.it)



[@CIMEA\\_Naric](https://twitter.com/CIMEA_Naric)



<https://youtu.be/020sJzh5uJs>