

Issue 17

July 2022

UK and India sign Mutual Recognition Agreement - 15 years in the making; UK ENIC plays lead role



The UK and India signed an agreement officially recognising each other's higher education qualifications, at a Memorandum of Understanding ceremony in New Delhi on 21 July. The agreement was signed by K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Government of India, and James Bowler, Permanent Secretary, UK Department of International Trade (*pictured above, centre*).

Head of UK ENIC, Paul Norris, says: 'It has been some 15 years in the making, and I am proud of the pivotal role UK ENIC played in technical discussions between the UK and India to reach this landmark mutual recognition agreement on degrees and university entry qualifications. It opens up opportunities for higher education collaboration, and will better enable two-way student mobility, whilst also significantly improving workforce mobility.'

'As lead negotiators within the UK-India Joint Taskforce for mutual recognition, working closely with the British Council India and DfE, UK ENIC now looks forward to working with our Indian counterparts to implement the agreement.'

The mutual recognition of higher education qualifications is a symbolic marker in the UK-India relationship. It supports greater two-way mobility for both students and skilled workers, opening up opportunities for UK and Indian citizens, and strengthening links between the two countries. The new agreement will specifically benefit Indian students wishing to study degrees in the UK and wishing to return home to either work in government, or for additional education at Indian universities.

Added potential benefits of the removal of current barriers to recognition are significant boosts to education exports, exchanges, and partnerships; more research collaborations; and more forms of transnational education where UK degree programmes – in particular through branch campuses – can be delivered in India, and vice versa.

UK ENIC databases are being updated to reflect any changes, and members will receive updates in due course. [READ MORE](#)

Pre-register for UK ENIC 22 - conference sponsors announced



You can pre-register for our UKENIC22 annual conference in November and secure your place: email conference@enic.org.uk

UKENIC22 will be our first Two in Event conference: face-to-face in London; and online, with live conference content accessible globally. The theme for UKENIC22 is 'Shifting Balance, Changing Models', with a lively programme featuring a range of relevant and current topics delivered through panels, presentations, workshops etc.

Monday 7 November: We're back in-person at London's QEII Centre, in the heart of Westminster. The day will offer a choice of 24 sessions, including 2 plenaries.

At a time when English language testing is changing post-pandemic, many providers are turning their attention to digital delivery, where applicants can sit tests in their own time and location. This brings challenges in terms of security and robustness. We are pleased to announce UKENIC22 will be held in partnership with [Skills for English](#), one of the UK Home Office's approved Secure English Language Test (SELT) providers. Skills for English will be presenting on current English language topics at the conference.

The QEII event is also supported by [Gecko Engage](#) and [OMPT](#).

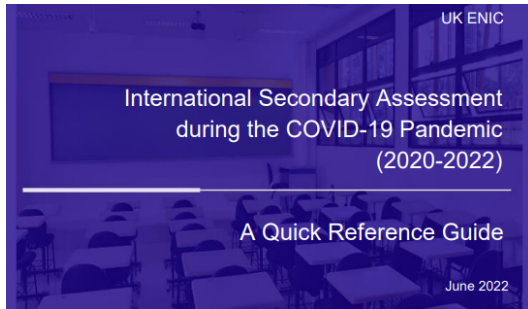
Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 November: We'll host a range of content in a two-day online 'across the time zones' event. This will feature a plenary session followed by a mix of 3 live and recorded sessions in 3 different time-zones. [READ MORE](#)

Internationalisation in the Levant: UK ENIC team shares guidance toolkit

Work on the PELIARQ project (Promoting European-Levantine Internationalisation and Automatic Recognition of Qualifications) has continued in recent weeks, with events in Amman and London at which UK ENIC, with project partners UNIMED and MFHEA in Malta, shared the guidance toolkit on internationalisation activities in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The [guidance toolkit](#) will assist universities in Europe to understand the internationalisation landscape in the region, and explore opportunities for international

A valuable resource: recent research reports and publications online



The 'Our Research' section of the Ecctis website provides a central location for publications, and showcases a number of recent research reports.

All our special reports on the global disruption to education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed in this section, including the most recent resource, [International Secondary Assessment during the COVID-19 Pandemic \(2020-2022\): A Quick Reference Guide](#), published last month. In addition, all three editions of the Guide to Recognition Issues in International Distance Learning are available for easy reference.

A number of Ecctis project reports are also available, including the recent [Indonesia International Branch Campus Feasibility Study and Overview of TNE across ASEAN](#), commissioned by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), which provides detailed, evidence-based, and in-depth insights into the opportunities, requirements, and constraints for a UK International Branch Campus (IBC) in Indonesia. [READ MORE](#)

UK ENIC and The Association of International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP)



The Association of International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP) was established in 2013 and amongst its objectives is to develop and promote common standards across the profession. Volunteers make up the majority of those working on its board and within its committees, all from the field of international education, recognition and qualification assessment.

UK ENIC has proudly been associated with TAICEP for some time. Chris Lyons, Head of External Engagement at UK ENIC, was elected to the position of Chair-Elect for the Standards & Quality Committee in 2022. The committee works on a variety of projects focused on

engagement with partner institutions in the Levant through a variety of activities.

It includes best practice and inspiring examples, as well as guidance on mobility placements, partnerships, joint programmes and distance learning.

A final webinar to share the outcomes of the project will take place on 9 August at 10.30am BST. To register for the webinar, or for any questions on the project, please email: e4@ecctis.com [READ MORE](#)

Now booking: live training webinars in August and September



You can browse and book for upcoming live webinar training sessions coming over the next few weeks. Please use the links below to find out more and to secure your place:

- [FREE WEBINAR Clearing special: using the Ecctis databases and online tools, 3 August](#)
- [European Series: All 3 webinars \(get £40 off\):](#)
- [European Series 1 : Secondary education in Italy and Spain, 7 September](#)
- [European Series 2: Secondary education in France and Romania, 14 September](#)
- [European Series 3: Secondary education in Germany and Portugal, 28 September](#)
- [Latin American education systems, 21 September](#)

[READ MORE](#)

UK ENIC at TAICEP Annual Conference 2022



UK ENIC is looking forward to the eighth TAICEP annual conference, which will be in Glasgow from October 17-20. The theme for TAICEP 2022 is aptly entitled 'Reconnect, re-evaluate and renew', as TAICEP hosts a welcome return to the face-to-face format following two consecutive online events.

As usual, [TAICEP 2022](#) offers a diverse programme with the opportunity to share expertise and learn from the experiences of fellow professionals. The conference provides an ambitious programme covering a range of themes of interest to the credential evaluation professional.

developing information resources. These include a comprehensive qualifications framework database, a growing resource on Francophone Africa education systems, and a qualitative investigation into credential evaluation around the world.

These outputs contribute enormously to the work of TAICEP members, many of whom work in international recruitment or admissions offices at institutions or else in other credential evaluation agencies. [READ MORE](#)

Sustainable presence and practice in international recruitment strategy



A new [Eccdis blog article](#) has been published, focusing on higher education institutions' international recruitment strategies, and how they can address the need for sustainable presence and practice.

The new article considers how institutions can create and maintain consistent recruitment networks, employing sustainable practice in doing so, whilst adapting to the numerous changes in student experience seen in recent years. It also reflects on routes to sustainable presence, including the role of transnational education, regional hubs and university access centres.

This series of blog posts is published as UK universities and higher education institutions are re-examining their recruitment strategies and models, with a focus on long-term sustainability and the need to diversify international student recruitment. Earlier articles remain available. [READ MORE](#)

Chris Lyons, Head of External Engagement at UK ENIC, will deliver a session on higher education readiness and is a panellist as part of a 'global mindset' session. He says: 'This event will be my first TAICEP in person. The association brings together credential evaluation professionals from across the world, and the expertise reflects the diverse international membership. It provides great opportunities to learn about different international perspectives and approaches to institution recognition and the evaluation of qualifications.' [READ MORE](#)

Extremely high customer satisfaction on individual statement services as demand surges



Earlier this year in this newsletter, we reported how satisfaction with our individual statement services had been especially high.

The past three months have seen an exceptional increase in applications across all our individual services, so we are especially pleased to see the very latest data we have received from Net Promoter, a global professional platform which measures customer experience. It shows that, in the face of rising demand, overall satisfaction with our individual services remains extremely high, with over 95 per cent of individual applicants saying they are satisfied or very satisfied with the level of evaluation or assessment they received. [READ MORE](#)

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