

The Lisbon Recognition Convention and Automatic Recognition: A family reunion

Allan Bruun Pedersen

President of the Lisbon Recognition
Convention Committee Bureau



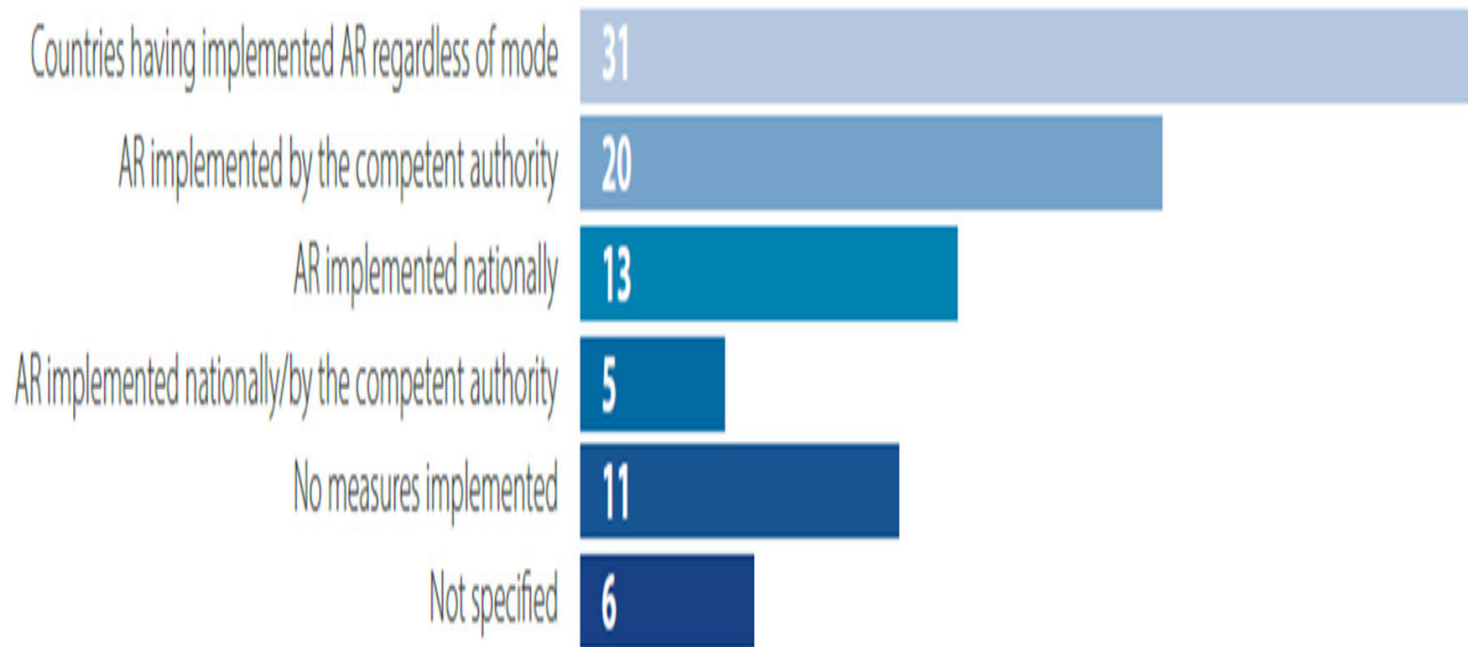
The Lisbon Recognition Convention

- The LRC adopted in 1997
- Core principles:
 - All applicant have the right to fair recognition of their qualifications in other member states
 - Recognition must be carried out within reasonable time
 - The competent recognition authority must recognize a higher qualification unless a **substantial difference** can be shown between the foreign and a similar national qualification
 - Automatic Recognition not mentioned in the LRC

The LRC and Automatic Recognition

- Automatic recognition Adopted in 2015 by the Yerevan Ministerial Communiqué (BFUG) : Recognise all qualifications from EHEA-countries automatically
- Automatic Recognition is the LRC without the principle of **substantial differences** – no assessment procedure
- Based on the European cooperation and mutual trust within the Bologna Process
 - European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance
 - An operating NQF referenced to the EQF and self-certified to the EHEA-framework
 - The three cycle system
 - Ratification of the LRC

The LRC Bureau: Monitoring implementation of AR in 2022



The monitoring report

- 31 countries represent a significant progress of implementation of AR since the 2015 Bologna Ministerial Conference in Yerevan 2015
- However, it could not be documented that implementation did cover all EHEA qualifications
- E.g. bilateral/multilateral agreements are usually between neighbouring/regional countries
- Main mode of implementation documented was non-legal implementation (de facto AR)
- Little evidence of AR being implemented in national HEIs – Implementation of AR by HEIs were in general not monitored by national authorities

The monitoring report and beyond

- Recommendations to implement AR nationally for all competent recognition authorities
- Recommendations to ENIC's to enhance communication on AR
- The LRCCB continues to follow the implementation of AR although it is not explicitly mentioned in the convention
- We are part of the Council of Europe's working group to draft a legally binding text on the obligation to implement the pre-requisites of applying AR
- The LRC and AR: Not twins but always sitting at the same table in family reunions



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