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**Cyprus Qualification  
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**European  
 Qualifications  
 Framework**



### What is EQF

The **European Qualifications Framework (EQF)** is a reference framework that links the qualifications of different countries together. It acts as a translation device to make qualifications easier to understand across different countries and systems in Europe. This will help learners and workers who are moving between countries from job to job and from education or training institution to another. The aims of the EQF are to help develop a European-wide workforce that is mobile and flexible, and to aid lifelong learning.

### How does EQF work

The **EQF** has eight levels that are based on knowledge, skills and competence. Each of the eight levels is defined by a set of descriptors indicating the learning outcomes relevant to qualifications of the level in any system of qualifications.

Each level should be achievable through a variety of education and career paths. The focus is on learning outcomes - what a person holding or studying a particular qualification actually knows and is able to do - rather than on inputs such as length of study.

### How does EQF work

The **European Higher Education Area (EHEA)** aims to facilitate cooperation between systems throughout the EHEA. This will make European higher education known and appreciated throughout the world. 48 countries world wide are participating in the EHEA, working to implement its goals for quality and mobility.

### Benefits of the EQF

For employers and learning providers, the **EQF** will make it easier to compare the level of qualifications from different national systems. This will support labor market mobility both between and within countries and sectors. It will also enable a much better match between supply and demand for knowledge, skills and competence.

### What is QF - EHEA

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### What is CyQF

The **Cyprus Qualifications Framework (CyQF)** incorporates three main education paths: the general education route starting from the beginning of compulsory education and gives access to CyQF level 4 and the higher levels of the framework; And the VET path which levels from level

3 to 6 which have the same value at these levels of the general education route. Finally the higher education area normally associated with qualifications and is aligned to CyQF levels 5 to 8.

### The Cyprus Qualifications Framework

NQF levels	Educational /Academic Qualifications	Occupational /Vocational Qualifications	EQF levels	
8	Doctoral Degree		8	
7c	Master's Degree		7	
7b	Post Graduate Diploma			
7a	Post Graduate Certificates			
6	University Degree (Ptychion /Bachelor's Degree)	SVQ Level 6	6	
5c	Higher Certificates and Diplomas (3 years or more)	SVQ Level 5	5	
5b	Post Secondary Certificates and Diplomas (2 years)			
5a	Post secondary Certificates and Diplomas (1 year)			
4	Upper Secondary General Education and Evening Schools Certificates (12th class - or 12 & 13th for some private schools) - Apolyterion	Upper Secondary Technical and Vocational Education and Evening Technical Schools Certificates (12th class) - Apolyterion	SVQ Level 4	4
3	Lower Secondary Education Certificate (10th class)	New Modern Apprenticeship Certificate	SVQ Level 3	3
2	Compulsory Lower Secondary Education Certificate (9th class)	Preparatory Programme (New Modern Apprenticeship)		2
1	Compulsory Education Certificate (Elementary School Leaving Certificate, and/or graduates of 7th and /or 8th class)			1

SVQ = system of vocational qualifications