



EFN POSITION PAPER ON BOLOGNA

The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) represents over one million nurses and is the independent voice of the profession. The mission of the EFN is to promote the interests, status and practice of the profession of nursing in the EU.

The EFN in collaboration with the International Council of Nurses and WHO Europe, make the following recommendations regarding nurse training in accordance with the Bologna process guidelines:

- There will be only one European level of basic or first level professional qualification; followed by a second level -master of Sciences- and third level PhD;
- A secondary level education is required to commence a first-level nursing education programme i.e. the same as that required to enter university;
- First level nursing programmes (RN Bachelor) will guarantee the acquisition of basic competencies and will cover at least three academic years (minimum bachelor level);
- The curriculum must be based on research and skills;
- The Director of the nurse programme or school MUST/shall be a nurse in a position of university professor (where applicable) or a qualified nurse with the highest level of nursing education in the Country.

The EFN would like to use the Bologna recommendations to update and standardise the European Nursing Directive at the national regulatory and European level:

- The EFN will adopt an amended version of the International Council of Nurses general nurse competency profile guidelines – this will require reformulation of the initial education/training curricula in each Member State;
- The EFN, with national organisations and educational institutions, will create in each country the best conditions for the implementation of the complete Bologna process.

In addition, the EFN shall work with the European bodies to contribute to a new framework of mutual recognition of diplomas/degrees, continuous professional development and Life Long Learning (LLL).

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