



## “EURASHE Seminar on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Flexible Ties within Higher Education”

**Organised by EURASHE in cooperation with  
the European RPL Network (ERPLN), the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MŠMT),  
and the Czech Association of Schools of Professional Higher Education (CASPHE)**

Friday 14 December 2012, Prague (Czech Republic)

### Background

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** in Higher education has been one of the issues within the Bologna process debates for the last years. The topic received a **full attention and support** within the **Ministers' communiqué “Making the Most of Our Potential: Consolidating the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)”** in Bucharest in April 2012. The theme of RPL is inevitably linked to **qualifications, combination of knowledge, skills and competencies, lifelong learning**. Due to societal and technological developments, both in private and public sectors, higher education systems will have to accommodate a growing proportion of adult learners, allow more flexibility in higher education provisions, in lifelong learning and in professional programmes.

Therefore **development of modern tools of recognition** of any prior knowledge, skills and competences and their mutual acceptance within EHEA, learning about different approaches and bridging them may be of **great importance** for further compatibility and transparency of different national systems. An improvement of the **RPL-procedures** with the purpose to make them first of all payable, trustable and effective is key at this stage.

The tentative overarching thematic of the Seminar is **“RPL: Flexible Ties within Higher Education”**. This Seminar aims at providing participants with an overview of general developments as regards RPL, with opportunity to discuss the current challenges and to learn from the examples of best practices as regards to RPL implementation at institutional level, through the **4 different workshops** scheduled throughout the Seminar.



Two major areas of discussions will deal with:

- **The Mindshift to make RPL a reality** in particular drivers and motives of different stakeholders and;
- How to embed **RPL into the QA system** and its effectiveness.

### Objectives of the seminar

Participants should:

- Learn more on the European relevance and applicability of RPL within higher education, as well as recognising other vocational experience and qualifications;
- Discuss potential RPL-related tools for enhanced quality and transparency of higher education;
- Receive expert views on implementing RPL;
- Enhance knowledge and skills in implementing RPL;
- Build new partnerships on institutional level;
- Share and exchange expertise and experience on tools for developing RPL at their institution.

### Expected participants

About 80 participants expected from all over Europe will represent:

- **Policy makers** and Representatives of the **European RPL Network**;
- Officials in charge of **RPL on a government level**;
- Experienced members of **EURASHE Employability & Lifelong Learning working group**;
- **A number of** other EURASHE members from institutions of Professional Higher Education, as well as peers from universities;
- Heads of **Institutions and programmes** personally involved in RPL;
- **RPL practitioners**, managers, coordinators, administrators.