Recognition of refugees’ qualifications in the era of the fourth industrial revolution

Ceren Genc  
Study Group, the Netherlands

Lifang Shi  
CHESICC (China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center), China

Marina Malgina  
NOKUT (Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education, Norwegian ENIC-NARIC)

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Who we are?

• Ceren Genc
  SG - HollandISC
• Lifang Shi
  CHESICC
• Marina Malgina
  NOKUT

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Refugees: whom are we actually talking about?

• **Refugee:** someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence.

• Refugees differ from other immigrants in that they do not have the choice to remain in their home country.

• Many refugees have high levels of education and are multi-lingual. Refugees have valuable skills that they bring to the workplace and have potential to become excellent students at the universities.
Population of Concern - current situation in the world

Total:
67,749,838

Middle East and North Africa, 18,810,341
Africa, 20,180,297
Europe, 10,258,121
Americas, 8,998,144
Asia and the Pacific, 9,502,935
Population of Concern - current situation in the world
Population of Concern - current situation in the world

TEDGlobal Melissa Fleming
Population of Concern - current situation in the world

Higher education enrolment rates

36% of the world's youth
1% of refugee youth
Recognition: what are we actually talking about?

The 'recognition' of a foreign certificate, diploma or degree of higher education means its **acceptance** as a valid credential by the competent authorities in a Contracting State and the **granting** to its holder **of rights** enjoyed by persons who possess a national certificate, diploma or degree with which the foreign one is assessed as comparable (UNESCO)

- Recognition of a qualification = recognition of the human behind the qualification
- Inclusion – empowerment – participation
- Reduce the risk of (social, political, economical) alienation
Role of credential evaluators and credential evaluation agencies

• To provide fair and non-discriminatory treatment for all applicants, even in cases with insufficient or lack of documentation
• To promote the betterment of individuals’ lives and society by ensuring that educational qualifications are fairly and accurately recognized across borders
• To facilitate cross-border mobility
• => to put in place effective and up-to-date recognition procedures in order to address current challenges
Role of higher education institutions

• Responsibility to build policy and perception
• Responsibility to prevent conflicts, encourage peace-building

• From the point of view of HEIs: how to identify the potential admissible student?
Current challenges

• Volumes
• Unfinished qualifications
• Access to documentation/confirmation of studies
• Demand for mobility and portability
What kind of solution we need?

• Accessible
• Fast
• Professional
• Fair (e.g. including cases with lack of documentation)
• Provide relevant information
• Provide feasible system for transition and easy mobility between regions, educational levels and even countries

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Qualifications Passport for Refugees (QPR) as a possible solution

- Accessible: Assessment accessible to the refugees
- Fair: including those with lacking documentation
- Professional: Interview with the professional evaluator
- Relevant: Presenting available relevant information in an easy-to-understand way
- Fast: Issuing the passport in 1 week

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Qualifications Passport for Refugees: which information is relevant

- Highest achieved qualification
- Other qualifications
- Languages
- Work experience
- Membership in professional organisations
- Information and advise on the way ahead

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Qualifications Passport for Refugees: portability

- Standardised format
- Relevant and correct information
- Methodology is made known to the end users
- The document is easily accessible and verified by the end users
Qualifications Passport for Refugees: portability

• 73 EQPRs in 2017
• EQPRs have reached Norway, Germany, Sweden, Ireland...
• Gave access to further studies and courses
• Gave access to employment
Qualifications Passport for Refugees: next steps

• 2018: the methodology will be further developed and tested in Norway, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, Turkey, Lebanon...

• 2018-2020: focus on the acceptance of the QPR by the end users (HEIs, employers etc.)
• **China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center**

• **The Pioneer of Student Data Digitalization**
About CHESICCC

• Founded in 1991, an institution directly under Ministry of Education

• The only MOE-authorized entity for higher education Qualification Verification in China

• CHSI, maintained by CHESICCC, the only MOE-designated website for qualification verifications
About Database

False Qualifications?

China Higher Education Qualification Database starting from 2001, 100% coverage.

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About Database

167 Million Qualification Records Registered Since 1991

With an annual growth of 10 million

By the end of 2017    Unit: 1 million

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About Database

Total: 1.31 billion  By the end of 2017
Unit: 1 million

By the end of 2017, the database contains a total of 1.31 billion records, with the largest category being photos, followed by student scores and enrollment. The data is measured in units of 1 million.
About Database

The Proportion of False Credentials

- 2002: 28.5%
- 2003: 22.8%
- 2004: 18.4%
- 2005: 8.4%
- 2006: 6.5%
- 2007: 5.1%
- 2008: 4.7%
- 2009: 4%
- 2010: 3.2%
- 2011: 3%
- 2012: 3.55%
- 2013: 2.98%
- 2014: 2.75%
- 2015: 2.51%
- 2016: 2.35%
- 2017: 2.16%

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Service Platforms

Online Authentication

Online Payment

Graduate School Admission
Employment Service
Sunshine Gaokao

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Verification Report

• For Postsecondary Education

Student Records  Qualification Certificate  Higher Ed Transcript
Verification Report

• For Secondary Education

Gaokao Results
High School Diploma
High School Transcript
Huikao Results
Online Application System

Application Process:

1. Select Verification Items
2. Select Acceptance Office
3. Fill in Information
4. Upload Documents
5. Submit Application
6. Confirm and Pay

Notes:
1. We DO NOT verify degree certificate. CHESICC provides verification service of graduation certificate, not including degree certificate.
2. If you request the English verification report, you have to apply for the Chinese version together with it.
3. If you have already applied for the Chinese verification report, you still need to apply for the English version on site or by post. In this case, we do not support the online application.
4. You could apply for the copies of verification report on site or by post. In this case, we do not support the online application.
5. If your verification result indicates “Failure”, you could firstly consult with our staff when you have any questions to this result, and check with us on site or by post.
6. One applicant should apply less than 30 verifications, both Chinese and English versions are counted in.
7. Chinese universities or schools are closed during the winter vacation (Jan.–Feb.) and summer vacation (Jun.–Aug.). Your verification will be prolonged under these two circumstances: when you request the transcript verification report; when you request the graduation certificate if you graduated before 2000 (inclusive). But please be assured that our staff will put these applications at the first place as long as the universities or schools are open. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

* Verification Purpose: Select

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Student Data
Global E-transmission

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Connection with GDN

• Our Goal

• We make **Digital Student Data Portability** happen.

• Citizens world wide should be able to consult and share their authentic educational data with whomever they want, whenever they want, wherever they are.

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Connection with GDN

- Founding Father - **2012**
- GDN Annual Meeting Host - **2013**
- Signatory - **2014**
- Member of Executive Committee - **2015**
- Member of the Board of Directors - **2017**
GDN Signatories

66 Institutions

23 Countries

In 2017

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E-transmission Process
E-transmission Process
A New Age of Digitalization
Life Style in the Digital World

• QR Code Payment

Supermarket  Shopping Mall

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Life Style in the Digital World

• QR Code Payment

Fruit Store

Breakfast Stands
Roadside Stands

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Life Style in the Digital World

• Food Delivery and Takeaway

MISSFRESH:
Fresh fruit, seafood, milk
-- in 2 hours

O2O E-commerce Platform

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Life Style in the Digital World

• Sharing Economy

Shared Bicycles

Shared Cars

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Life Style in the Digital World

• E-Learning

Anywhere Anytime

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Updates on CHESICCC Online Verification

- Education Qualification Data Query – For Free

Started in January 2017
(Individual Query - Query Result)

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Updates on CHESICCC Online Verification

- Online Verification – For Free

Started in January 2018
(Personal Review - Chinese Verification Report)

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Updates on CHESICC Online Verification

• CHSI Page Views (2017)

155,709,670

- 77,777,698 (Desktop)
- 62,971,441 (Mobile)
- 14,960,531 (Tablet)

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Updates on CHESICCC Online Verification

- WeChat Mini Program

WeChat
Over 1 billion users
Chat, calls and more

Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate

Date of Report: May 28, 2012  Date of Expiry: Jun. 15, 2024

Name: ZHANG SAN

Sex: Female  Date of Birth: July 18, 1979

Start Date: 1998/01  Graduation Date: 2001/07

Type of Education: Regular Higher Education  Education Level: Non-degree

Institution: Beijing Forestry University  Location of Institution: Beijing City

Major: Sport Science  Forms of Learning: Full Time

Certificate No.: 1002 3120 0106 9999 99  Graduation Conclusion: Graduation

Barcode: 9627 1296 9302

Notes:
1. For more information about “Type of Education”, “Education Level” and “Graduation Conclusion”,
2. This verification report is an electronic registration result of qualification certificates in accordance with the
   Regulation of Higher Education Student Accept and Qualification Registration
   (CAS/0014(5)1); it should be CHSI (http://www.chsi.com.cn), the only MOE-designated qualification
   authentication website, to conduct online verification service.
3. Ways of verification: (1) Click on the online verification code in the report (electronic version) for online verification;
   (2) Log onto the “Online verification system” of CHSI website and enter the online verification code; (3) Use the Mini
   Program “CHSI Report Online Verification” to verify the report. To prevent fake reports, online use this said Mini
   Program rather than other third-party scanners to scan and verify.
4. The report is subject to change. Please use the latest version of the report.
5. The sign * indicates unknown information.
6. The report shall not be used for other purposes without the consent of its owner.
7. The online verification validity of the report can be set from 1 to 6 months and extended before the report is expired
   by the report owner.
Now your turn...

Q & A
Conclusion - LOs

• Engage the Higher Education representatives more with Refugee Integration
• Develop the knowledge of best practices
• Increase understanding of implementing new technologies
• Increase the involvement in the network
• Increase understanding to follow alternative pathways more than gateways