

Thursday, November 23
Ballroom
11:25 – 12:25

Microcredentials in the Czech Republic

Markéta Martínková, Charles University

Daniel Opelík, Charles University, Faculty of Physical Education and Sport

Josef Voráček, Charles University, Faculty of Physical Education and Sport

Join at
slido.com
#1209 147



The National Recovery Plan of the Czech Republic



Project: Specific Goal C1 – Improving the permeability of higher education through microcredentials within its part of the reform objectives of the Plan:

- Transforming higher education institutions with the aim of adapting to new forms of learning and responding to changing labor market needs
- Adapting the capacity and focus of study programs

Recommendation of the Council of 16 June 2022 on the European approach to microcredentials for lifelong learning and employability (2022/C 243/02)

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The National Recovery Plan (NPO) of the Czech Republic



27.6.2022

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

C 243/10

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

of 16 June 2022

on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability

(2022/C 243/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 149 and 292, 165 and 166 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

1. Within Europe, a growing number of people need to update and improve their knowledge, skills and competences to fill the gap between their formal education and training and the needs of a fast-changing society and labour market. The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the digital and green transitions have accelerated the pace of change in how we live, learn and work. They have also highlighted the need for people to be better equipped to deal with current and future challenges. The pandemic has affected the career prospects of both young people and adults. It has also increased unemployment and damaged the physical, mental and emotional well-being of hundreds of millions of people in Europe.
2. One of the major challenges facing European businesses and employers is an insufficient supply of relevant skills in the EU

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The National Recovery Plan (NPO) of the Czech Republic



All 26 Czech public higher education institutions included

- to share experiences and
- to create an analytical and methodological framework
- to develop the necessary information systems infrastructure for the implementation of the microcredentials concept in the Czech Republic.

- ▶ [Akademie múzických umění v Praze \(The Academy of Performing Arts in Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [Akademie výtvarných umění v Praze \(Academy of Fine Arts in Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [Česká zemědělská univerzita v Praze \(Czech University of Life Sciences Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [České vysoké učení technické v Praze \(Czech Technical University in Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [Janáčkova akademie múzických umění v Brně \(The Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts Brno\)](#)
- ▶ [Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích \(University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice\)](#)
- ▶ [Masarykova univerzita v Brně \(Masaryk University Brno\)](#)
- ▶ [Mendelova zemědělská universita v Brně \(Mendel University in Brno\)](#)

- ▶ [Ostravská univerzita \(University of Ostrava\)](#)
- ▶ [Slezská univerzita v Opavě \(Silesian University in Opava\)](#)
- ▶ [Technická univerzita v Liberci \(Technical University of Liberec\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Hradec Králové \(University of Hradec Králové\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Jana Evangelisty Purkyně v Ústí nad Labem \(Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Karlova \(Charles University\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci \(Palacký University Olomouc\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Pardubice \(University of Pardubice\)](#)
- ▶ [Univerzita Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně \(Tomas Bata University in Zlín\)](#)
- ▶ [Veterinární univerzita Brno \(University of Veterinary Sciences Brno\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola báňská – Technická univerzita Ostrava \(VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola ekonomická v Praze \(Prague University of Economics and Business\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola chemicko-technologická v Praze \(University of chemistry and technology Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola polytechnická Jihlava \(College of Polytechnics Jihlava\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola technická a ekonomická v Českých Budějovicích \(Institute of Technology and Business in České Budějovice\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoká škola umělecko-průmyslová v Praze \(Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague\)](#)
- ▶ [Vysoké učení technické v Brně \(Brno University of Technology\)](#)
- ▶ [Západočeská univerzita v Plzni \(University of West Bohemia\)](#)

Definition of microcredentials



Microcredential (or mikrocertifikát in Czech) is an electronic record – a certificate – confirming completion of a small-scale **learning units** expressed by ECTS credits and confirming the achievement of clearly defined and comprehensive learning outcomes – a set of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that constitute competencies.

Learning units are linked to the EQF, subject to a system of standardized quality assurance processes, and assessed according to transparent and well-defined criteria.

Benefits of microcredentials



1. **Quality** - internal and external quality assurance
2. **Transparency** - clear information on learning outcomes
3. **Relevance** - distinct, targeted learning achievements
4. **Learning Pathways** - flexible learning pathways, learner-centred, individualized
5. **Recognition** - small learning experiences in a comparable way across the EU
6. **Portability** - owned by the learner and may be stored and shared (digital wallet)

A European approach to microcredential



<https://education.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2022-01>

What is a micro-credential?

The European approach to micro-credentials offers a common definition that is valid across sectors of education and the world of work and mirrors the societal mission of education and training

institutions, including higher and vocational education and training (VET) institutions, and non-formal providers as well as employers and labour market actors.

“ *A micro-credential is the record of the learning outcomes that a learner has acquired following a small volume of learning. These learning outcomes have been assessed against transparent and clearly defined standards.*

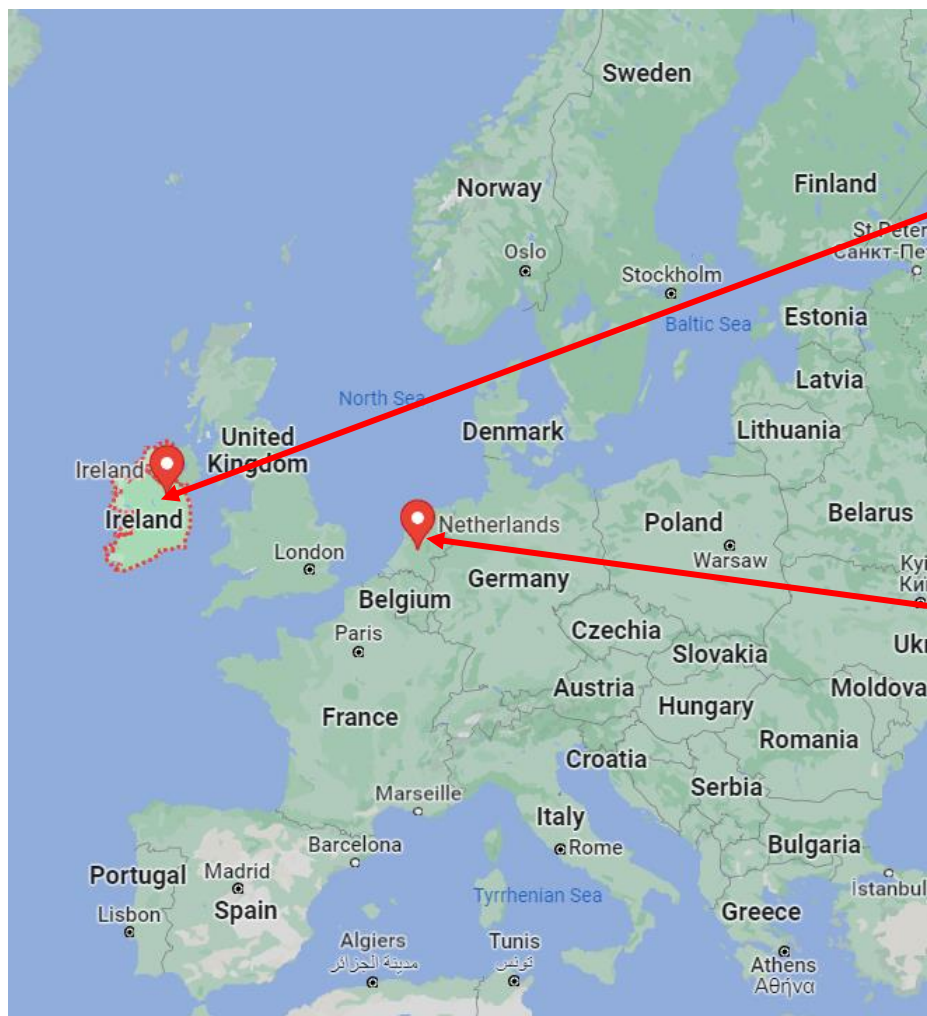
Courses leading to micro-credentials are designed to provide the learner with specific knowledge, skills and competences that respond to societal, personal, cultural or labour market needs.

Micro-credentials are owned by the learner, can be shared and are portable. They may be standalone or combined into larger credentials. They are underpinned by quality assurance following agreed standards in the relevant sector or area of activity.

”



A European approach to microcredential



IRELAND

NETHERLANDS

7 outputs of the project



7 outputs for the implementation of the microcredentials concept:

1. Analysis of Documentation for Skill-enhancing Education on a national level
2. Analysis of Documentation for Skill-enhancing Education on EU and international level
3. Proposal for Unified Certificate Format
4. Methodology for Recognizing Education Verified by Microcredentials
5. Methodology for Unifying Short-Term Education through the ECTS
6. Unified Online Catalog of Courses Leading to Microcredentials
7. Unified Information System for Education Results Verification

1. Analysis of Documentation for Skill-enhancing Education on a national level



Output (no. 1) completed – April 2023



- ▶ **Aims: Evaluation of current state** of documentation (certificates, etc.) for skill-enhancing education (upskilling or reskilling courses, lifelong learning)
- ▶ Analysis was conducted **at all 26 public universities** in the Czech Republic with a **100% response rate**.
- ▶ **Results: 9 specific recommendations for best practices** in document format and content for **enhancing the quality and consistency** of documentation



2. Analysis of Documentation for Skill-enhancing Education on EU and inter-national level



Output (no. 2) completed – May 2023



- ▶ **Aims: Extensive comparison of documentation practices and national frameworks + Survey among 21 universities from 15 different countries**
- ▶ Analysis was focused on Europe and selected countries around the world (e.g. USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia)
- ▶ **Results: Recommendations for best practices and open questions** in document format and content for **enhancing the quality, transparency and consistency** of documentation



3. Proposal for Unified Certificate Format



Output (no. 3) to be completed – December 2023

- ▶ **Aims: Unified microcredential format + accompanying manual**
- ▶ The workgroup 3 recently developed **initial version** of the certificate and its manual
- ▶ Emphasis is on detailed analysis of standardized items listed on the certificate and its electronic form ensuring its full compatibility with Unified Information System for Education Results Verification (output no. 7)
- ▶ **Importance:** academic recognition and credibility of microcredentials

<small>ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA Univerzita Jedna / Fakulta s určitým názvem Univerzita Dva / Fakulta s určitým názvem Univerzita Tři / Fakulta s určitým názvem</small>	<small>CZECH REPUBLIC University One / Faculty of Something University Two / Faculty of Something University Three / Faculty of Something</small>
OSVĚDČENÍ CERTIFICATE	
Jméno a příjmení	
narozen(a) 12. 3. 4567	born on 12. 3. 4567
ziskal(a) v souladu s § 60 zákona č. 111/1998 Sb., o vysokých školách, mikrocertifikát	based on art. 60 Act. n. 111/1998 on Higher education institutions was awarded a micro-credential
DVOURÁDKOVÝ NÁZEV KURZU	TWO-LINE NAME OF THE FIELD
DVOURÁDKOVÝ NÁZEV KURZU	TWO-LINE NAME OF THE FIELD
Odpovídající 5 ECTS Na úrovni 6 EQF	Corresponding to 5 ECTS On a level 6 of EQF
Dosažená známka: <i>výborně</i>	Grade achieved: <i>excellent</i>
Typ zajištění kvality: <i>RVH</i>	Type of quality assurance: <i>IEB</i>
Číslo osvědčení CZ-11000-2023-123456	Certificate number CZ-11000-2023-123456
Datum 12. 34. 5678	Date 12. 34. 5678

4. Methodology for Recognizing Education Verified by Microcredentials



Output (no. 4) to be completed – June 2024

- ▶ **Aims:** The workgroup 4 is developing a draft version of the standardized methodology for recognizing education verified by microcredentials for academic purposes
- ▶ **Two-phase feedback** involving all 26 participating universities **follows**
- ▶ Aim to align with relevant legislation and regulations **while fulfill a fundamental principle** of microcertificates on the European level: **academic recognition**
- ▶ **Implications:** standardization and academic acceptance

5. Methodology for Unifying Short-Term Education through the ECTS



Output (no. 5) to be completed – December 2023

- ▶ **Aims:** The workgroup 5 is developing a draft version of the standardized methodology for unifying short-term education using the ECTS (where credit load for a microcredential would typically range from 1 to 60 ECTS)
- ▶ **Two-phase feedback** involving all 26 participating universities **follows**
- ▶ Aim to promote transparency and comparability in short-term education
- ▶ **Implications:** facilitating credit transfer and recognition of microcertificates

6. Unified Online Catalog of Courses Leading to Microcredentials



Output (no. 6) to be completed – June 2024

- ▶ **Aims:** The workgroup 6 had defined a standardized format for exporting course data from the information systems of individual public universities
- ▶ Centralizes data repository allows presenting of courses not only through the online catalog but also possible other platforms
- ▶ **Implications:** to enhance accessibility, visibility and informed decision-making of target interested groups (e.g. graduates, highly skilled professionals)

7. Unified Information System for Education Results Verification



Output (no. 7) to be completed – June 2024

- ▶ **Aim:** to introduce a unified information system facilitating education results verification process (for both academic and professional purposes)
- ▶ Based on an analysis of the technical possibilities for the information system a solution based on EDCI principle (Europass) was chosen - *using a structured text file (JSON) containing all the required information about the course and microcredential holder in an unencrypted form and an electronic seal of the issuing institution.*
- ▶ **Importance:** Implementing basic principle of designing and issuing microcredentials at the EU level – portability (the ability of the holder to easily store and share microcertificates)

Beyond the project



application on the Czech labor market



data sets on certificats



**MINISTRY
OF REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CZ**



digital wallets



Národní akreditační úřad
pro vysoké školství



quality standards



Microcredential

**Fundamentals of sport
organisation management**

Cooperation with The University of Bordeaux

+

not only in education (SP) and research

Interest in lifelong learning and courses for adults

In search of courses recognition





International recognition of courses



Cooperation in the field of sport management



Ensuring a course focused on the Fundamentals of sport organisation management





**Accredited by Internal Evaluation Board
for 10 years**



**Students of the course in lifelong learning
OR
Students in study programme**





1. Students get MC in long life learning course

- + International recognised course
- + Value on Labour market

2. Students get MC while studying in study programme

- + Can get a MC Certificate immediately
- + MC Certificate eventhough they don't pass the study programme

3. Students get MC in lifelong learning + recognition in study programme (pre-studying)

- + Prestudying within the study programme
- + No semester issue

**Let's *START* the course and its
evaluation**



Invitation to a conference



Mikrocertifikáty v českém vysokoškolském prostředí

Microcredentials in the Czech Republic

6. 12. 2023, 9.00–17.15

Konferenční centrum Univerzity Karlovy

Celetná 20, Praha 1


Univerzita
Karlova

