

## Initiation of a European Training and Education in Radiation Protection Platform (EUTERP Platform)

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## Definition of the QE in Euratom BSS

Persons having the **knowledge** and **training** needed to carry out physical, technical or radiochemical tests enabling doses to be assessed, and to give advice in order to ensure effective protection of individuals and the correct operation of protective equipment, whose **capacity** to act as a qualified expert is **recognised** by the competent authorities.

A qualified expert may be assigned the technical responsibility for the tasks of radiation protection of workers and members of the public.

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## Definition of the QE in Euratom BSS

Essential is:

- **Knowledge**
- **Training**
- **Capacity**
- **Recognised**

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## Definition of the QE in Euratom BSS

- \* Recognised capacity means more than training
- Contains also elements of experience and continuous education

**Member States have different interpretations of the definition**

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## Developments to improve the situation

- 2002:** Survey on the status of the RPE in the EU showed a wide range of training systems and requirements for RPEs
- 2004:** Feasibility study for the establishment of the European Training and Education in Radiation Protection Platform
- 2006:** Establishment of the EUTERP Platform

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## The 2002 survey

### Objectives:

- Is the status of the RPE in Member States in line with definition of QE?
- Are the education systems comparable?
- Can RPEs be mutually recognised within EU?

**Answers: NO**

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## The 2004 feasibility study

### Objectives:

- Recommend a preferred structure of the Platform
  - Aim: **to harmonise the criteria and qualifications for and mutual recognition of RP Experts**
- Propose a draft action plan
- Investigate willingness to participate
- Investigate co-operation with other projects and networks
- Indicate necessary financial support

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**Workshop**

- **Workshop held at CIEMAT, Madrid, 20-21 May 2004**
- **Participants invited from**
  - 25 Member States
  - 3 Candidate States
  - European Commission
  - International organisations (IAEA, IRPA, IOE)

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**Programmatic issues addressed**

- **Legal/administrative issues**
  - Definition QE; job profile; E&T requirements
  - National legal and administrative requirements
  - Implications of other EU legislation
  - European E&T infrastructure
- **Scientific issues**
  - Traceability to EU-BSS and its implementation
  - Identification of needs
  - Harmonisation of syllabi
  - Feedback of experience
  - Performance indicators

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## Structural issues addressed

- **Several programmatic issues to be addressed separately and simultaneously by the Platform**
- **Many potential participants**
- **Pragmatic and stepwise approach to reach the objectives of the Platform, i.e. international agreement on mutual recognition**

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## Programmatic Issues

**19 recommendations on:**

- **E&T Requirements for RPEs**
- **Mutual recognition of RPEs**
- **E&T as part of radiation protection infrastructure**
- **Future training needs in various sectors**
- **Harmonisation of training materials**
- **Effectiveness, efficiency and QM of the Platform**

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## KEY ELEMENTS E&T Requirements for RPEs

In order to reach harmonisation in the E&T requirements for RPEs:

- ***Rec 1: Investigate the differences in interpretation of the EU-BSS definition of QE in the national legislations***
- ***Rec 2: Define requirements for competences of RPEs, RPOs and workers, taking into account job profiles, sector of work, etc.***
- ***Rec 3: Provide guidance on the implementation of the requirements into national legislation***

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## Mutual recognition

In order to reach agreement on mutual recognition of RPEs:

- ***Rec 4: Investigate available systems for registration and recognition to find consensus on minimum requirements for mutual recognition (common denominator)***
- ***Rec 5: Define the scope to cover all practices***
- ***Rec 6: Provide guidance on who is responsible for recognition (authorities, professional organisations, etc)***

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## E&T Infrastructure

In order to establish a common RP E&T infrastructure in the EU:

- **Rec 7: Provide guidance and support to establish the necessary RP E&T infrastructure**
- **Rec 8: Make use of other European institutions (e.g. EFOMP), international organisations (e.g. IAEA) and societies (e.g. IRPA) to promote a consistent approach**

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## Training needs

In order to investigate the future needs for RPEs:

- **Rec 9: Analyse the number of persons, RPOs, RPEs requiring training**
- **Rec 10: Analyse the available training activities**
- **Rec 11: Identify gaps in training needs**

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## Training courses

In order to harmonise training materials:

- ***Rec 12: Peer review available training materials and events (IAEA, ERPC, national)***
- ***Rec 13: Use proven approach (e.g. IAEA) to establish standardised material***
- ***Rec 14: Establish a data base of material and events***

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## Effectiveness, efficiency and QM of the Platform

- ***Rec 15: Formalise feedback from events and lessons learned***
- ***Rec 16: Make use of ISO QM systems***
- ***Rec 17: Establish contacts with other networks and projects***
- ***Rec 18: Identify performance indicators***
- ***Rec 19: Assess the overall impact of the Platform***

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## Structural Issues

### General consensus on

- Manageable structure
- Efficiency
- Co-operation with other projects, networks and international organisations
- Self-sustainable after some years
- Start to elaborate on the key elements by a Co-ordinator, with the help of a Steering Committee

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## NEXT PHASE

### Establishment of the EUTERP Platform by a phased approach

- Start expected begin 2006, leading to:

**Self-sustainable EUTERP Platform**

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## Objectives of the EUTERP Platform

- To better integrate education and training into RP infrastructures in the EU
- To facilitate the transnational access to vocational education and training infrastructures
- To harmonise the criteria and qualifications for and mutual recognition of RP Experts
- To remove obstacles for the mobility of these experts within the EU

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## Scope of the EUTERP Platform

- Cover all EU Member, Candidate and Associated States (31)
- Participation of:
  - RP authorities
  - Bodies responsible for E&T
  - Providers of E&T in RP
  - Professional organisations
  - International organisations
  - Operators and employers

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## Work Programme

- **Three year programme**
  - Set up permanent secretariat
  - Invite participants
  - Establish Internet website
  - Publish newsletters
  - Organise workshops
  - Develop guidance and recommendations
- **Start with key elements**

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## Conclusion

- \* **European Union approach important for setting internationally agreed criteria for the qualification and recognition of RP Experts**