



SEMINAR FOR BOLOGNA AND HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM EXPERTS

Recognition in Higher Education: How to make it work!

Recognition in Higher Education in Lebanon

Chafic Mokbel, HER Expert Lebanon



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

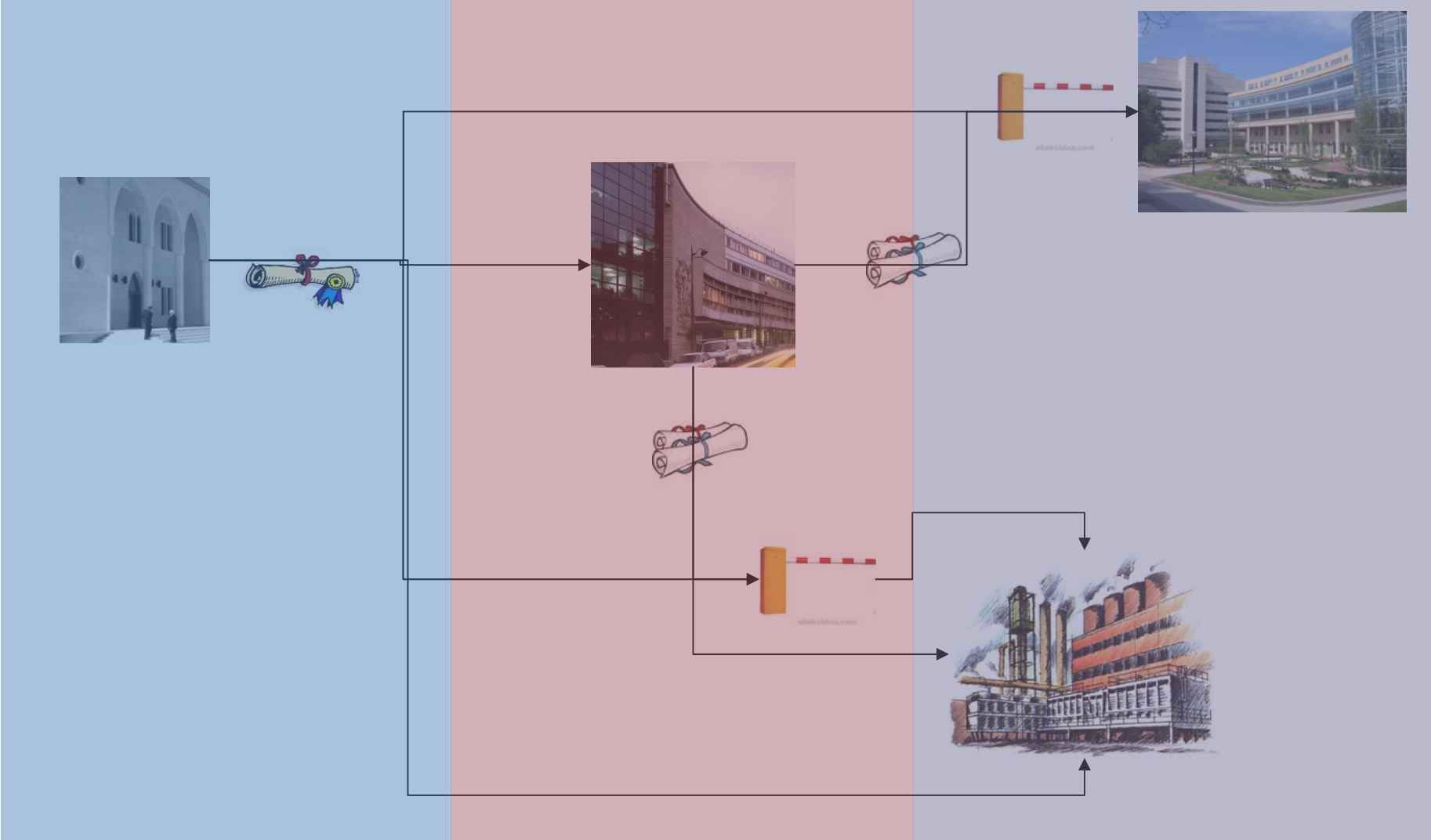
Why Recognition?



- > **Mobility for a better interaction and a harmonic dissemination of knowledge and skills**
 - **Need to Understand and Recognize Diplomas and Degrees**
 - Appropriate use of Qualifications
 - Qualifications' beholder rights

- > **Recognition is a crucial topic in countries with strong migration of qualifications**
 - **Two directions to be considered**
 - **E.g. Lebanon**
 - Expatriate rate 10% in 2005
 - 40% of Lebanese emigrants hold a higher education degree

Why Recognition?



> Recognition of Qualifications to:

● Enroll in a Higher Education Institution or Programme

- Smooth and Safe Integration
- Multilateral agreements (History ...)
- Official recognition of the highest degree delivered?
- Recognition within the same country in the case of diversity of systems

● Seek to Practice a Regulated Profession

- National exams, e.g. colloquium to exercise medicine in Lebanon
- National official positions, e.g. recognition of PhD to enter the public Lebanese University
- Prepare students to pass international exams, e.g. preparation to USMLE (*outgoing direction*)

● Integrate an Active Sector or Profession

- Diverse: engineering, business, ...
- Information and knowledge are crucial elements
- Some institutions organize their own exams to evaluate knowledge and skills
- Backup on private evaluation and certifications, e.g. IT/Telecom
- Lebanon has a good understanding of international systems due to high immigration rate

> Conventions

- **International Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Arab and European States bordering the Mediterranean, Nice 1976**
- **Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the Arab States, Paris 1978**
- **UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region**
- **Lisbon Recognition Convention**

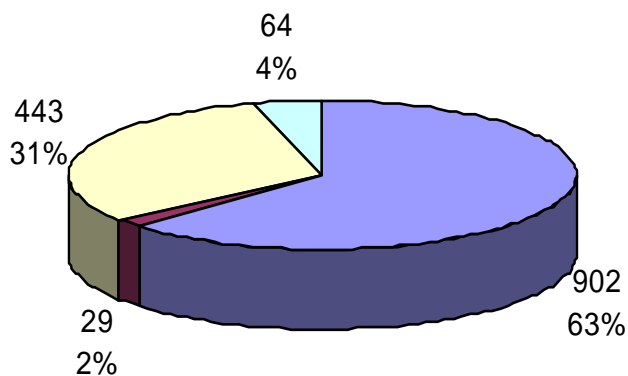
> Lebanese Higher Education System

- One of the oldest in the region
- ~ 200 000 students in higher education
- 1 Public University (Lebanese University) with 43% of the students
- ~40 private HEIs
- Academic Freedom and Diversity of Systems
- For recognition a decree setup a committee for the equivalence and recognition of diplomas (since 1957)
 - A transparent process that considers the good practices
 - More than 8000 recognition per year

Recognition in Lebanon – Some Indicators (on a trimester 2009)

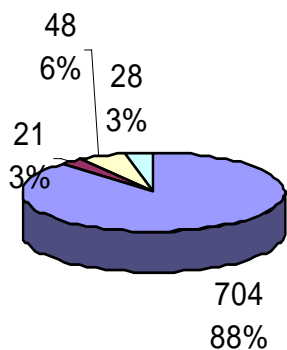


Total Official Recognition

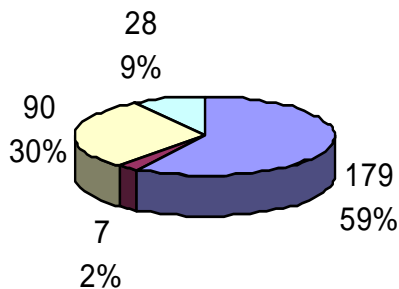


- Lebanese Degrees For Lebanese
- Lebanese Degrees For Non Lebanese
- Foreign Degrees For Lebanese
- Foreign Degrees For Non Lebanese

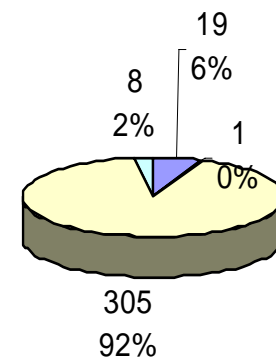
Recognition at BSc level



Recognition at MSc level



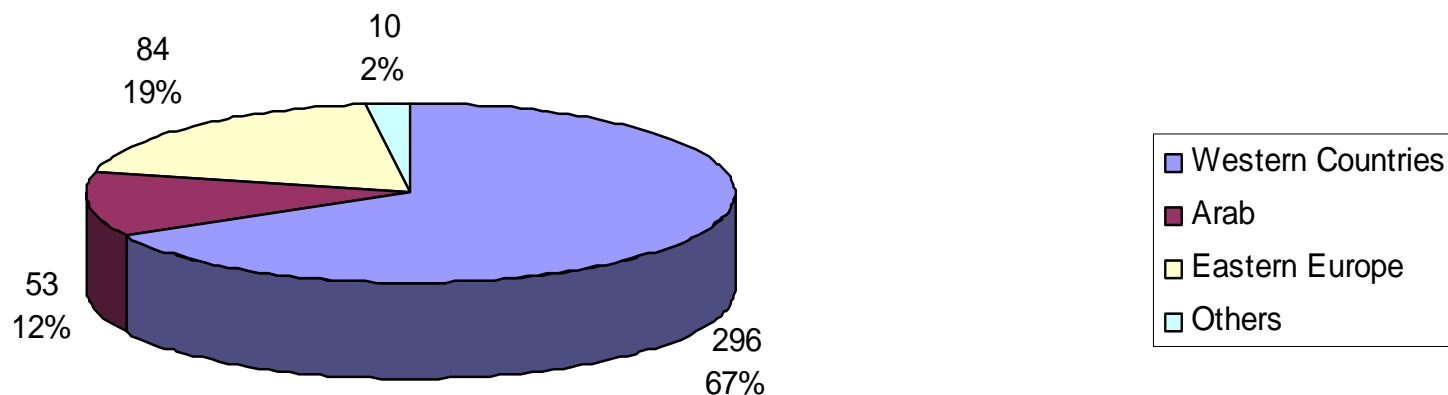
Recognition at PhD level



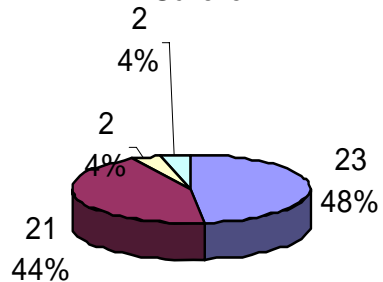
Recognition in Lebanon – per region



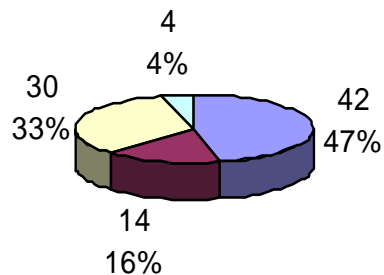
Total Recognition per region



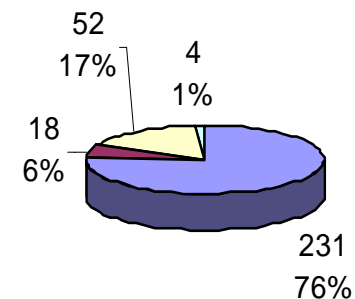
BSc level



MSc level



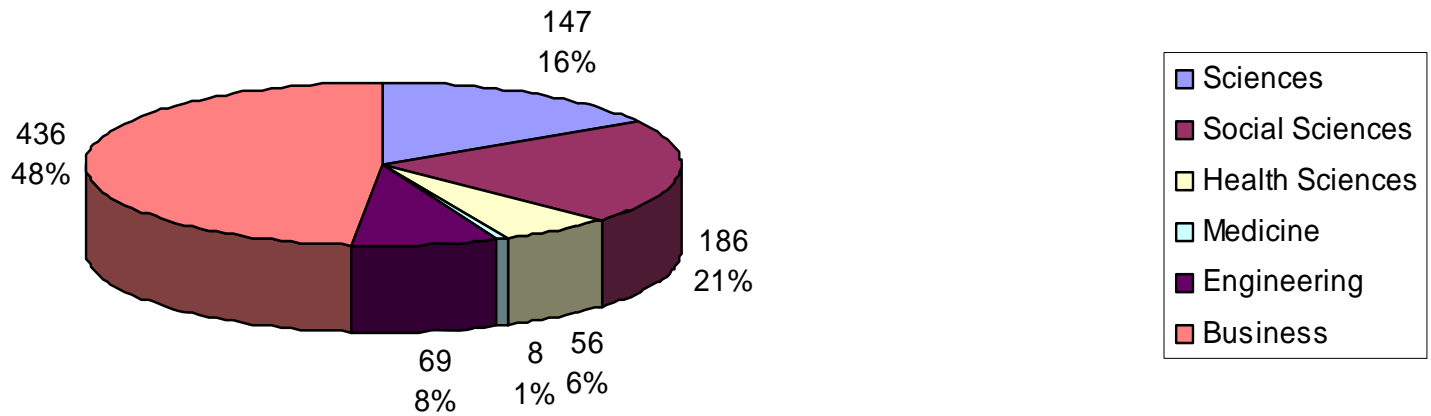
PhD level



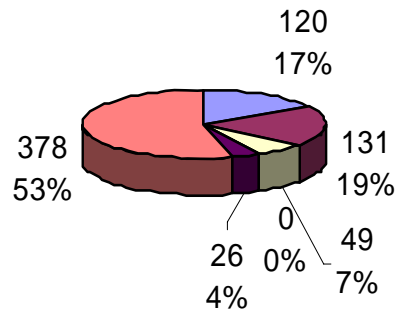
Recognition in Lebanon (Leb. Degrees) – Per Domain



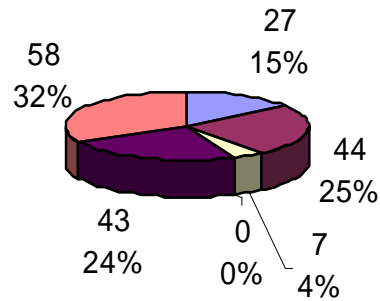
Total recognition Lebanese per domain



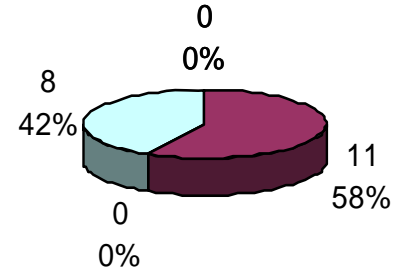
At BSc level



At MSc level



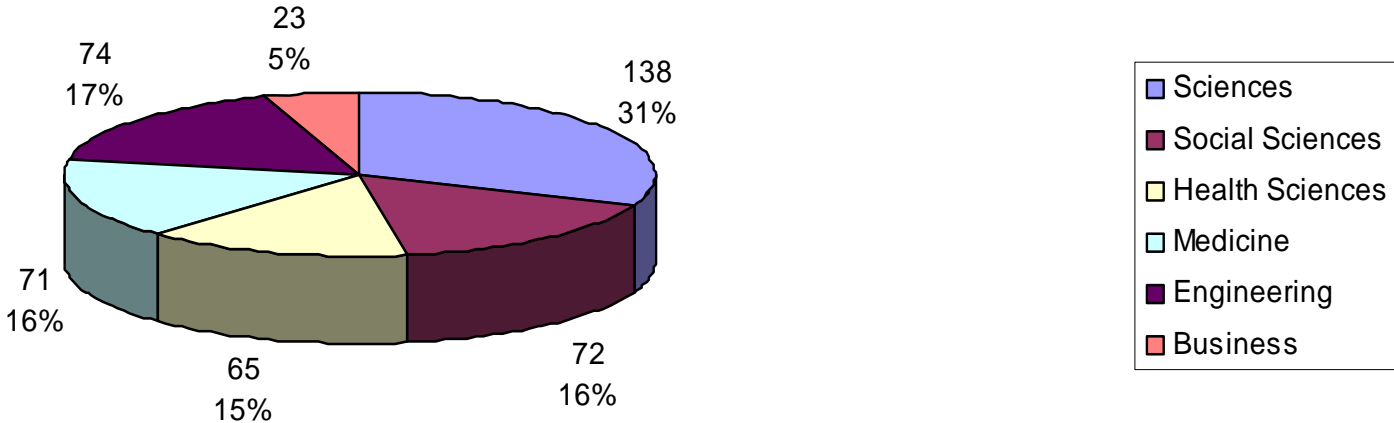
At PhD level



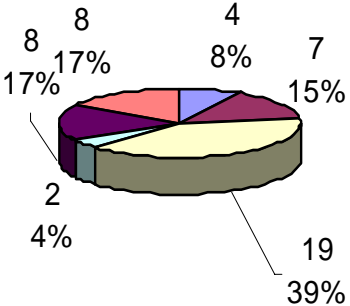
Recognition in Lebanon (Non Leb. Degrees) – Per Domain



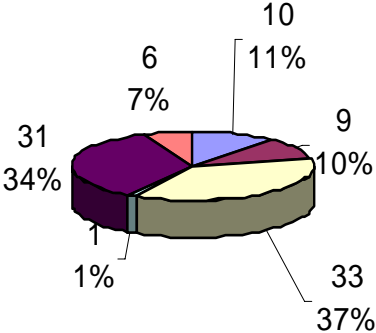
Total recognition Non Lebanese per domain



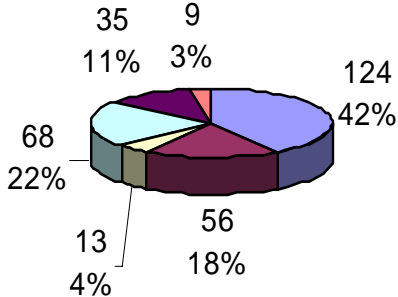
At BSc level



At MSc level



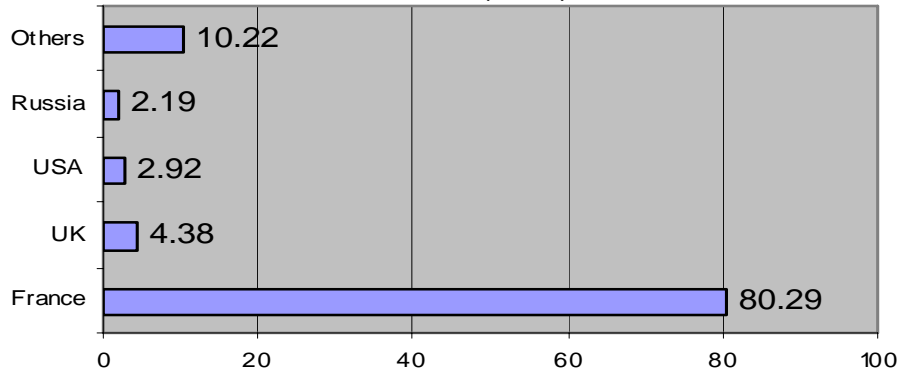
At PhD level



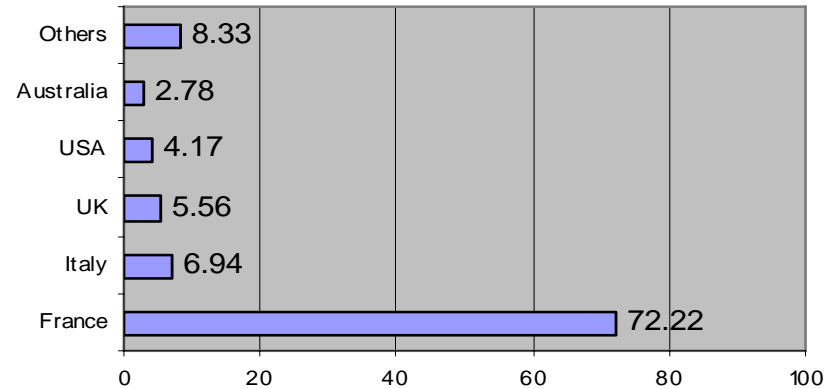
Recognition in Lebanon (Non Leb. Degrees) – Per Domain Per Country



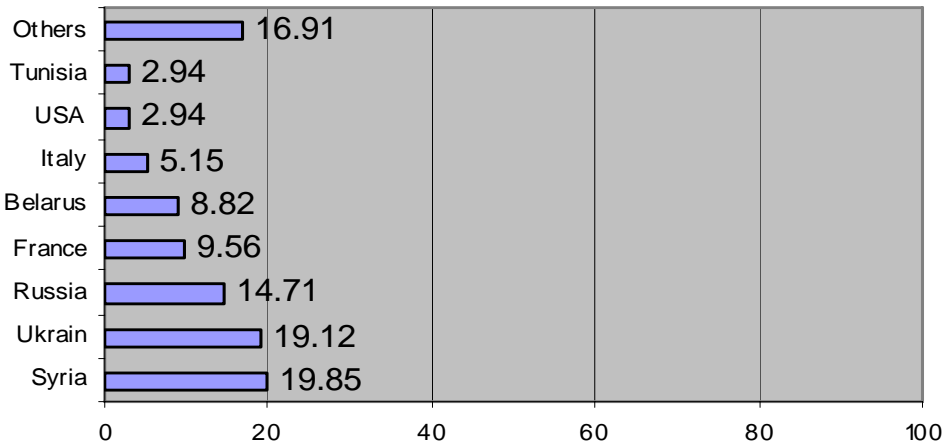
Sciences (31%)



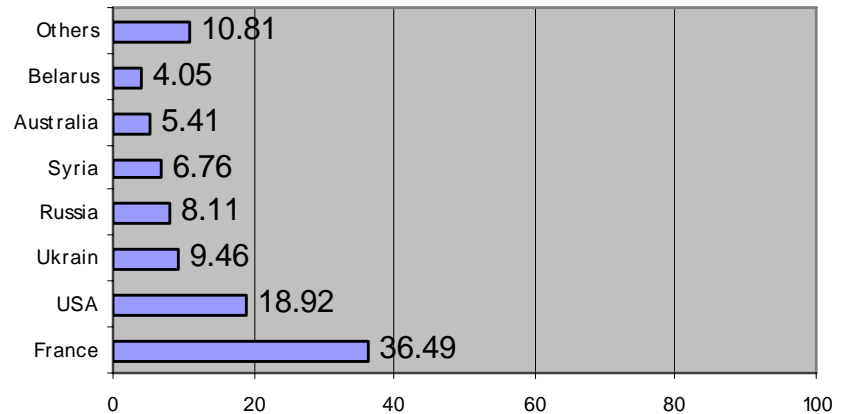
Social Sciences and Arts (16%)



Health Sciences and Medicine (31%)



Engineering (17%)



- > Information is at the basis of the recognition process
 - **Transparent**
 - **Precise**
 - **Easy of access**

- > ENIC-NARIC network is a key player in the information process
 - **Mediterranean Recognition Information Centers (MERIC)**

- > Recognition depends largely on the information available regarding the institution/system delivering the Diploma
- > European Tools help in this direction
 - ECTS and DS but also bridging with other credit systems
 - NQF for a better reading of qualifications within a system and EQF for a better reading of qualifications across systems
 - Mobility, multilateral conventions and joint degrees are very important in both information and trust building processes

- > Recognition is gaining in amplitude and importance with globalization
 - Conjugating existing tools?
- > Diversity and Multidisciplinarity in the qualifications is also increasing
 - Strengthening the network of information? Trust building process?
- > Competences developed within a Programme respond to qualifications needed in a socio-economic system. Those needs differ among systems.
 - How to cope with differences?
- > Profession-based training/exams are reality
 - How to integrate them in the process?



Thank you