



Chile No. 1 (2017)

Agreement

on the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications and Degrees between the
Republic of Chile and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland

London, 13 May 2016

[The Agreement is not in force]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
October 2017*



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**AGREEMENT ON THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS
AND DEGREES BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE AND THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

The Republic of Chile and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

Desirous of developing relations between the peoples of the two countries and cooperating in the areas of Education and Mobility,

With a view to promoting bilateral mobility and the establishment of efficient mechanisms of mutual recognition of qualifications and degrees awarded in Chile and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Scope of this Agreement

1. The purpose of this Agreement is the mutual recognition of the qualifications and degrees referred to in clause 2 of this Article, based on the principle of reciprocity.
2. Each Party shall maintain a structure of Designated Government Departments and Designated Contact Points for the timely issue of official statements of comparability relating to qualifications and degrees awarded by those universities and other educational institutions of the other Party which are referred to in clauses 3 and 4 of this Article.
3. In the case of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the universities and other educational institutions are those listed in the Education (Recognised Bodies) (England) Order 2013 (including any institutions listed in that Order as it is amended or replaced from time to time), and those educational institutions for which the former Council for National Academic Awards, was the degree-awarding body from 1964 to 1993.
4. In the case of the Republic of Chile the universities are those which have been accredited by the Comisión Nacional de Acreditación (Chilean National Accreditation Commission (CNA)), including in this Agreement only programmes accredited by the CNA. Such accreditations must coincide, for the purposes of this Agreement, with the date of award of the corresponding qualification or degree. Professional qualifications awarded by Chilean universities qualify the holder to exercise that profession in Chile, except for regulated professions, which, in addition, must comply with established requirements according to the relevant regulations in force.

5. For the recognition of other qualifications and degrees that fail to meet the aforementioned requirements for mutual recognition, the procedure currently in effect in each country shall continue to apply.

ARTICLE 2

Designated Government Departments and Designated Contact Points

1. The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Chile and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on its own behalf and on behalf of the Devolved Administrations, are the Designated Government Departments which shall decide on guidelines, adjustments and solution mechanisms related to this Agreement.

2. The Division for Higher Education of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Chile and the UK National Recognition Information Centre (UK NARIC) of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are the Designated Contact Points for the purposes of this Agreement, with the exception as stated in Article 4.4. They shall assist graduates whose qualifications or degrees fall within the scope of Article 1.2 of this Agreement and shall be the official agencies for application of and advice related to this Agreement.

3. For the purpose of recognition, the following documents, duly legalised, should be submitted to the relevant Designated Contact Point:

- Qualification or degree – final certificate.
- Transcript or equivalent proof of study.
- In the Republic of Chile, in circumstances where recognition relates to the exercise of a profession, corresponding Authorisation to exercise the profession in the UK, where the profession in question is regulated in the UK.
- Translations of the above documents.

ARTICLE 3

Effects of Academic Recognition

1. This Article details some of the qualifications and degrees, eligible for mutual recognition as provided by Article 1.

2. The Parties agree to the following comparison statements:

- a) The degree of Licenciado/a awarded in the Republic of Chile from universities and programmes accredited by the CNA is considered comparable to the Bachelor (Honours) degree awarded by a Recognised Body in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- b) The degree of Magister awarded in the Republic of Chile from universities and programmes accredited by the CNA is considered comparable to the Master's degree awarded by a Recognised Body in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- c) The degree of Doctor/a awarded in the Republic of Chile from universities and programmes accredited by the CNA is considered comparable to the Doctoral degree awarded by a Recognised Body in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3. For recognition of qualifications and degrees awarded prior to the existence of the current quality assurance systems, the procedure currently in effect in each country shall apply. For Chilean qualifications and degrees the starting date is January 8, 1999 as it is the date the current Chilean quality assurance system came into force. In the case of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the starting date of the quality assurance system corresponds to the authorisation by Royal Charter or Act of Parliament given to the Recognised Bodies to award degrees, as set out in Article 1.3 of this Agreement. For degrees awarded by the former Council for National Academic Award the starting date is September 1964.

ARTICLE 4

Mechanisms for Professional Recognition

1. Recognising the characteristics specific to the two systems of professional training and the different authorities involved in professional authorisations, this Article outlines the mechanisms for recognition of professional practice and professional authorisation in both Parties.

2. In the Republic of Chile, professional recognition of qualifications and degrees shall be conferred by the Ministry of Education. In the case of non-regulated professions under Chilean regulations, this recognition will give direct access to the labour market. In the case of professions regulated by Chilean regulations, it will be necessary to fulfil the requirements for exercising the profession before the competent authorities in order to access the labour market. Access to the Chilean labour market shall be subject to immigration requirements.

3. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, academic recognition of the qualifications and degrees referred to in Article 1.2 shall allow, subject to immigration requirements, direct access to the labour market for graduates of Chilean universities and programmes accredited by the CNA, in non-regulated professions.

4. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Chile regulated professions are governed by Competent Authorities, who maintain discretion over the recognition of professional qualifications and the requirements to access the profession.
5. Therefore, for those qualifications that are related to the practice of regulated professions, it shall also be necessary to meet the statutory requirements or non-statutory regulations in effect in each country and currently imposed upon individuals seeking to access the profession.
6. In order to facilitate professional recognition in both countries and access to the labour market, Designated Contact Points for Professional Qualifications in both countries are appointed in the following clauses.
7. In the Republic of Chile, the Designated Contact Point for Professional Qualifications shall be the Division of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education. It shall advise graduates that studied in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on recognition issues.
8. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Designated Contact Point for Professional Qualifications shall be the NARIC National Contact Point for Professional Qualifications. It shall direct graduates of Chilean universities to the relevant Competent Authorities, and advise on access into the labour market of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
9. The Designated Contact Points shall keep their counterpart informed about any updates performed by higher education institutions covered by this Agreement, as defined in Articles 1.3 and 1.4, as well as about regulated professions defined in Articles 4.2 and 4.3

ARTICLE 5

Information Update or Rectification

1. Each Party shall give notice to the other, through the Designated Contact Points referred to in Article 2, of any amendments or changes to the higher education system of their respective countries that are relevant to the purposes of this Agreement.
2. The national quality assurance and accreditation agencies will make available up-to-date review reports of all universities or Recognised Bodies covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6

Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute as to the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled through direct discussion between the Designated Contact Points referred to in Article 2.

ARTICLE 7

Coming into Force and Revision

1. The Parties shall notify each other through diplomatic notes on the completion of the internal legal requirements necessary for the coming into force of this Agreement, which shall come into force 90 (ninety) days after the receipt of the last of the notices served by the Parties to that effect.
2. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties, executed through written communications. Such amendments shall come into force in accordance with the procedure set forth in the preceding clause.
3. There shall be a periodic process of review through the Designated Contact Points to further clarify the application of the terms of this Agreement, based upon the experiences of all stakeholders involved in the recognition process.

ARTICLE 8

Term of the Agreement

This Agreement shall have an indefinite term, but may be terminated by either Party by giving notice to the other, through a diplomatic note. This Agreement shall cease to be in force one year after the date of receipt of such notice.

Done in duplicate at London, on this 13th day of May, 2016, in the Spanish and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Republic of Chile:

**For the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern
Ireland:**

**HERALDO MUÑOZ
VALENZUELA
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**JO JOHNSON MP
MINISTER OF STATE
FOR UNIVERSITIES AND
SCIENCE**

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