



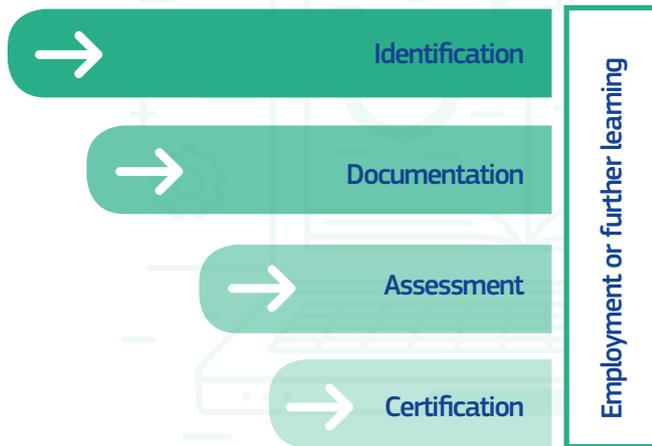
European
Commission

Unlocking talent

Validation of non-formal and informal learning

What is validation?

Validation is the process of identifying, documenting, assessing and certifying the learning outcomes of individuals acquired outside formal education and training (e.g. at work, at home and while volunteering).



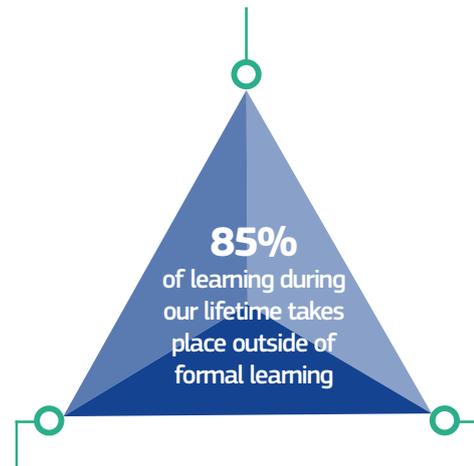
Purpose of validation



Validation gives visibility and value to all learning.

What is learning?

Formal learning is learning through a structured programme with the aim of receiving a qualification (e.g. in school, college or university).



Non-formal learning is structured learning that takes place outside of institutions (e.g. in-company training or volunteering).

Informal learning is unstructured learning that takes place as a part of daily life (e.g. during work or leisure).

Objectives of validation

Make all learning visible and valued



Complement formal education and training



Make learning count for further learning or employment



What are the benefits of validation?



For individuals

Learners/workers can...

- ▶ Have their skills recognised
- ▶ Gain easier access to jobs and further learning
- ▶ Become more aware of their own talents



For employers

Employers can...

- ▶ Better understand and identify talent
- ▶ Better match skills with labour market demands
- ▶ Update and renew in-company skills



For learning providers

Learning providers can:

- ▶ Reach out to lifelong learners, (e.g. adult learners, unemployed people and refugees)
- ▶ Make what they offer more flexible and inclusive

What is the current EU framework for validation?

Council Recommendation

2012

Adoption: An EU Council Recommendation invited countries to set up validation arrangements.

2019

Evaluation: The Commission is due to report to the Council on validation progress and suggest next steps.

European
Qualification
Framework
Advisory Group



<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/>

Peer learning at
EU Level



33 country and
thematic reports



[www.cedefop.europa.eu/
validation/inventory](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/validation/inventory)

EU Guidelines



[http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/
en/publications-and-resources/
publications/3073](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/publications/3073)

Sources

European Pillar of Social Rights: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1226>

EC website on validation: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1217>

Cedefop website on validation: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/validation>

EU Council Recommendation: <http://europa.eu/!mJ73RF>