

### **Appendix 3:**

#### **International agreements governing automatic equivalence of documents concerning education**

##### **Secondary education**

In case of documents certifying the obtainment of an equivalent of the Czech secondary school-leaving examination (“maturita” in Czech) in Slovakia, Poland (swiadectwo dojrzalosci), Hungary (érettségi bizonyítvány), and Slovenia, the procedure described in § 48 Paragraph 4 Letter c) of the Higher Education Act is applicable due to the equivalence specified in the international agreements mentioned below.

In case of documents certifying the obtainment of an equivalent of the Czech secondary school-leaving examination (“maturita” in Czech) in Germany (Zeugnis der Allgemeinen Hochschulreife), the compliance with the requirement of completion of secondary education completed by a secondary school-leaving examination in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 4 Letter d) of the Higher Education Act shall be assessed. However, the international agreement concluded with Germany stipulates that the result of such an assessment shall always be positive.

##### **Higher education**

###### **Slovakia**

The Czech Republic as well as the Slovak Republic recognize higher education and degree certificates certifying graduation at a higher education institution issued in the period from the splitting up of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic (i.e. from 1 January 1993) to date generally as mutually equivalent, and that automatically (without any further procedure). Thus, the documents in question are documents complying with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter b) of the Higher Education Act.

Exemption: Article 11 Paragraph 3 Letter b) of the Agreement stipulates that an automatic equivalence is not applicable to Slovak documents on higher education issued after 28 March 2015 and obtained at a higher education institution in the Slovak Republic upon completion of a Bachelor’s/Master’s/Master’s of Science/doctoral or post-graduate programme offered outside the territory of the Slovak Republic. In case of such documents, it is necessary to proceed in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter c). The Faculty may request that the applicant submits a confirmation issued by the Slovak higher education institution stating in the territory of which country the degree programme completed by the applicant was carried out.

###### **Poland**

Articles 4 to 6 of the Agreement determine a mutual automatic equivalence of Polish higher education qualifications (i.e. degree certificates) attesting the completion of an accredited degree programme on a specific level of higher education with their Czech equivalent. Thus, the documents in question are documents complying with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter b) of the Higher Education Act.

###### **Hungary**

The Agreement stipulates that the Czech Republic as well as the Hungarian Republic deem degree certificates recognized by the state – i.e. documents certifying the completion of a Bachelor’s programme (Article 6 Paragraph 1), a Master’s programme (Article 6 Paragraph 2)), and a doctoral programme (Article 6 Paragraph 4) mutually equivalent, and that automatically (without any further procedure). Thus, the documents in question are documents complying with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter b) of the Higher Education Act.

###### **Slovenia**

The Agreement stipulates that the Czech Republic as well as the Republic of Slovenia recognize degree certificates issued after the completion of higher education (Article 2) as equivalent and that such degree certificates attest the completion of higher education in the scope required for admission to education of scholars in both countries. In compliance with the Agreement, the equivalence of degree certificates applies to degree certificates issued after the completion of Masters’ programmes (applies to documents in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter b)). Automatic equivalence does not apply to degree

certificates issued after the completion of Bachelors' programmes (applies to documents in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 5) Letter c)).

### **Germany**

Article 3 of the Agreement stipulates that German higher education qualifications (degree certificates) attesting the completion of an accredited programme of a specific level of higher education for the purposes of further study, relevant parts of study, and individual examinations, shall be recognized "upon request". Thus, they are not equivalent automatically and without any further administrative procedures, therefore, a procedure in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 5 Letter c) of the Higher Education Act applies to them; however, the result of the assessment shall always be positive.

### **Verification of accreditation of a foreign institution**

Even if an international agreement determines the equivalence or a positive result of the assessment of documents on education issued abroad, it is necessary to check whether such a document was obtained by completing a secondary educational programme at a foreign secondary school operating in accordance with legal regulations of a foreign country or whether the given foreign higher education institution is authorized to offer higher education in the given foreign country (i.e. whether the higher education institution and the specific degree programme completed by the applicant are accredited).

### **List of international agreements:**

#### **Slovakia – equivalence (with the exemption of foreign branches of higher education institutions after 28 March 2015)**

Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic governing mutual recognition of equivalence of documents concerning education issued in the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic (Prague, 28 November 2013, published under No. 23/2015 of the Collection of International Agreements, in force from 28 March 2015).

#### **Poland - equivalence**

Agreement between the Czech Republic and the government of the Republic of Poland governing mutual recognition of parts of study, equivalence of documents concerning education, and documents concerning scientific and academic degrees issued in the Czech Republic and the Republic of Poland (Prague, 16 January 2006, published under No. 104/2006 of the Collection of International Agreements).

#### **Hungary - equivalence**

Agreement between the Czech Republic and the government of the Hungarian Republic governing mutual recognition of equivalence of documents concerning education and documents concerning scientific and academic degrees issued in the Czech Republic and the Hungarian Republic (Budapest, 6 May 2004, published under No. 92/2005 of the Collection of International Agreements).

#### **Slovenia - equivalence (with the exemption of Bachelor's degree certificates)**

Agreement between the government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Union Executive Council of Skupština of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia governing mutual recognition of equivalence of documents concerning education and documents concerning scientific and academic degrees issued in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Belgrade, 12 September 1989, published under No. 89/1991 of the Collection of International Agreements) – applicable only in Slovenia, not in other successor states to Yugoslavia.

#### **Germany – no automatic equivalence but the result of assessment shall always be positive (Proof in accordance with § 48 Paragraph 4 Letter d) or Paragraph 5) Letter c) of the Higher Education Act)**

Agreement between the government of the Czech Republic and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany governing mutual recognition of documents concerning higher education (Prague, 23 March 2007, published under No. 60/2008 of the Collection of International Agreements).