

# A GUIDE TO USING THE FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS DATABASE



## About this Guide

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This guide provides information on foreign qualifications and how to get recognition advice in Ireland. It will show you how to use the NARIC Ireland Foreign Qualifications Database.

## NARIC Ireland

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NARIC Ireland provides advice on the academic recognition of foreign qualification. We try to compare a foreign qualification to an Irish qualification of a similar type and level on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

## NARIC Foreign Qualifications Database

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The NARIC Ireland Foreign Qualifications database provides comparability advice and information on academic qualifications. This information will help you understand your qualification in the context of the Irish education and training system.

It can also help employers, funding agencies and education and training institutions to determine if an applicant holds the academic qualifications for a particular job, funding or course.

## Qualification not in the Database?

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If you cannot find your qualification in the database you can contact us by email to [naric@qqi.ie](mailto:naric@qqi.ie) and we will do our best to help you. We do not have a public office and will only respond to your questions by email.

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## STEP 1

### Search the Database

<http://qsearch.qqi.ie/WebPart/Search?searchtype=recognitions>

- » Click into the database and search using the drop down boxes.
- » Select one of the following and press enter

• Country

• Type of Education

*(Higher Education, Further Education (VET), School Education)*

The screenshot shows the NARIC Ireland Foreign Qualifications search page. The search interface includes two dropdown menus: 'Country' and 'Type of Education'. Below the search interface, there is a list of 856 qualifications. The first few results are:

Qualification	Irish Award Type	NFQ Level	Country
البليمانس / الليمانس Bachelor Degree	Honours Bachelor Degree	8	Libya
شهادة الدراسة الثانوية العامة / الفرع العلمي (General High School Certificate)	Leaving Certificate	4 / 5	Syria
دبلوم المسلك الأول (Diplome d'Études de Premier Cycle)	Higher Certificate	6	Tunisia
دبلوم	Higher Certificate	6	Kuwait
دبلوم الدراسات العليا (Postgraduate Diploma)	Post-Graduate Diploma	9	Syria
د ثانوى تعليماتو بري ليك / شهادتنامه دوره ثانوى (Grade 12 Graduation Certificate)	Leaving Certificate	4 / 5	Libya

FIGURE 1 - SEARCH THE DATABASE

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## STEP 2 | View Results

- » You will now see your results in the form of a list.
- » In Figure 2 below you will see the results returned for the following search:
  - ~ Country = Poland
  - ~ Type of Education = Higher Education

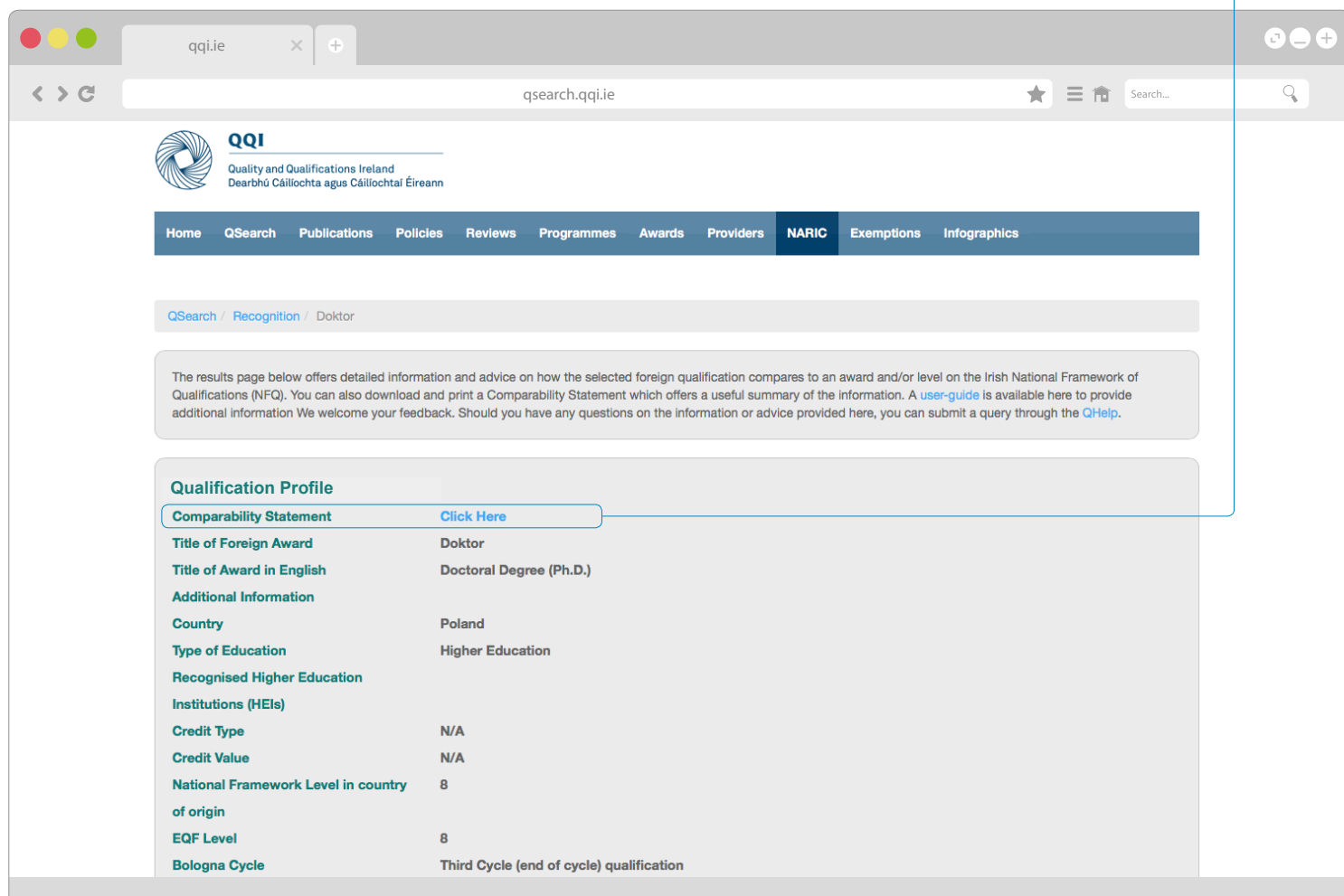
A screenshot of a web browser displaying the QSearch website. The browser's address bar shows 'qsearch.qqi.ie'. The website header includes the QQI logo and navigation tabs for Home, QSearch, Publications, Policies, Reviews, Programmes, Awards, Providers, NARIC (highlighted), Exemptions, and Infographics. The main heading is 'NARIC Ireland Foreign Qualifications'. Below this is a paragraph of introductory text. On the left, there is a search filter box with 'Country' set to 'Poland' and 'Type of Education' set to 'Higher Education'. The search results are listed as follows:

7 Qualifications from Poland of Higher Education			
<b>Doktor</b> Irish Award Type: Doctoral Degree	NFQ Level: 10	Country: Poland	
<b>Doktor Habilitowany</b> Irish Award Type: Higher Doctorate	NFQ Level: 10	Country: Poland	
<b>Lekarz</b> Irish Award Type: Masters Degree	NFQ Level: 9	Country: Poland	
<b>Licencjat/Inżynier</b> Irish Award Type: Honours Bachelor Degree	NFQ Level: 8	Country: Poland	
<b>Magister / Magister Inżynier</b> Irish Award Type: Masters Degree	NFQ Level: 9	Country: Poland	
<b>Świadectwo Ukończenia Studiów Podyplomowych</b> Irish Award Type: An Award at Level 8	NFQ Level: 8	Country: Poland	
<b>Świadectwo Ukończenia Studiów Podyplomowych</b> Irish Award Type: An Award at Level 9	NFQ Level: 9	Country: Poland	

FIGURE 2 – SEARCH RESULTS FOR POLAND + HIGHER EDUCATION

## STEP 3 | Select your Qualification from the list and view the Qualifications Profile

- » Click on a particular qualification from the list and you will see a Qualifications Profile (see Figure 3 below).
- » The Qualifications Profile contains important information about the qualification.
- » It compares the foreign qualification to an award-type and level on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications.
- » This profile also includes a link to a [Comparability Statement](#) for this qualification.



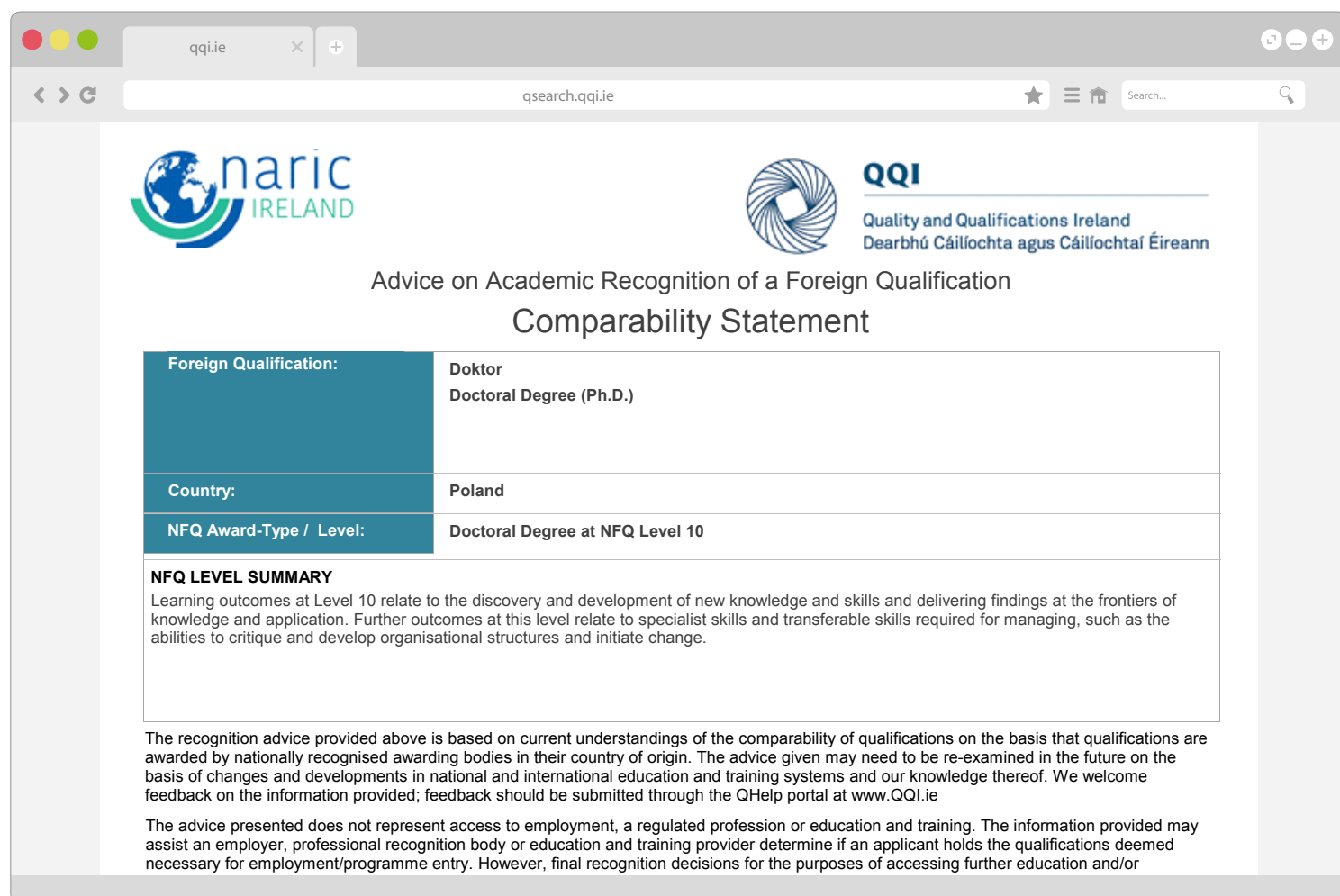
The screenshot shows the QQI website interface. The browser address bar displays 'qsearch.qqi.ie'. The navigation menu includes 'Home', 'QSearch', 'Publications', 'Policies', 'Reviews', 'Programmes', 'Awards', 'Providers', 'NARIC', 'Exemptions', and 'Infographics'. The 'NARIC' menu item is highlighted. The breadcrumb trail shows 'QSearch / Recognition / Doktor'. A text box explains that the results page offers detailed information and advice on how the selected foreign qualification compares to an award and/or level on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Below this, the 'Qualification Profile' section is displayed, featuring a table with the following information:

<b>Comparability Statement</b>	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
<b>Title of Foreign Award</b>	Doktor
<b>Title of Award in English</b>	Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.)
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Country</b>	Poland
<b>Type of Education</b>	Higher Education
<b>Recognised Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)</b>	
<b>Credit Type</b>	N/A
<b>Credit Value</b>	N/A
<b>National Framework Level in country of origin</b>	8
<b>EQF Level</b>	8
<b>Bologna Cycle</b>	Third Cycle (end of cycle) qualification

FIGURE 3 – QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE

## STEP 4 | Download and print your Comparability Statement

- » This one-page Comparability Statement can be downloaded and printed. It will help you and employers or education and training institutions to understand your qualification.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the QQI website. The page title is "Advice on Academic Recognition of a Foreign Qualification" and the main heading is "Comparability Statement". The page features the logos for naric IRELAND and QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland / Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann). The main content is a table with the following information:

Foreign Qualification:	Doktor Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.)
Country:	Poland
NFQ Award-Type / Level:	Doctoral Degree at NFQ Level 10

**NFQ LEVEL SUMMARY**  
Learning outcomes at Level 10 relate to the discovery and development of new knowledge and skills and delivering findings at the frontiers of knowledge and application. Further outcomes at this level relate to specialist skills and transferable skills required for managing, such as the abilities to critique and develop organisational structures and initiate change.

The recognition advice provided above is based on current understandings of the comparability of qualifications on the basis that qualifications are awarded by nationally recognised awarding bodies in their country of origin. The advice given may need to be re-examined in the future on the basis of changes and developments in national and international education and training systems and our knowledge thereof. We welcome feedback on the information provided; feedback should be submitted through the QHelp portal at [www.QQI.ie](http://www.QQI.ie)

The advice presented does not represent access to employment, a regulated profession or education and training. The information provided may assist an employer, professional recognition body or education and training provider determine if an applicant holds the qualifications deemed necessary for employment/programme entry. However, final recognition decisions for the purposes of accessing further education and/or

FIGURE 4 – COMPARABILITY STATEMENT

## FURTHER INFORMATION ON NARIC

More information on the work  
of NARIC can be found [here](#)

Visit [www.QQI.ie](http://www.QQI.ie)