



P4ELECS
Platform for
Electrification Skills
& Competences

Quicksheet

About the European Qualifications Framework



Co-funded by
the European Union

About



The EU developed the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) as a **translation tool** to make **national qualifications easier to understand and more comparable**.¹

- Level comparison: The **EQF has 8 levels**, based on knowledge, skills, and autonomy (Each EQF level is defined by a set of learning outcomes).
- Link to national frameworks: all countries of the European union aligned their qualifications with the EQF, ensuring international recognition.² Also other countries align their qualifications with the EQF such as Norway, Turkey and Serbia.
- **Specialization**: Each level builds on the previous one, leading to deeper expertise in a field.

! Learning elements in the P4ELECS project align with EQF levels 5 (graduate), 6 (bachelor), and 7 (master).

Benefits



- ✔ **Transparency and comparability** – Makes it easier to compare qualifications across European countries.
- ✔ **Recognition** – Helps employers and institutions understand the value of different qualifications.
- ✔ **Mobility** – Supports student and worker mobility by aligning national frameworks.
- ✔ **Lifelong learning** – Integrates formal, non-formal, and informal learning, encouraging continuous education.
- ✔ **Career opportunities** – Facilitates access to jobs and further education across Europe.
- ✔ **Quality assurance** – Ensures that qualifications meet clear, structured learning outcomes.

Step by step



As a creator of learning content, you are expected to indicate the intended EQF level of your Building Block in the Building Block ID.

Use the steps below to help you determine the most appropriate level.

1. Scan the different EQF levels

- The EQF has 8 levels, but P4Elecs focuses on levels 5, 6, and 7.
- These levels define learning outcomes in knowledge, skills, and autonomy & responsibility.
- The tables below will show you
 - 1. The different EQF levels
 - 2. A simplified overview of the EQF levels and the national qualifications levels of the participating countries of the P4ELECS project.
 - 3. The learning outcomes of EQF levels 5, 6 and 7 defined in knowledge, skills, and autonomy & responsibility.



EQF Level	Description of the level
1	Basic general knowledge, simple tasks, direct supervision.
2	Basic factual knowledge, routine tasks, limited autonomy.
3	Broader factual knowledge, problem-solving in familiar contexts, some independence.
4	Theoretical and practical knowledge, problem-solving in varied contexts, moderate autonomy.
5	Practical and theoretical knowledge, applied skills, responsibility for own work.
6	Advanced knowledge, complex problem-solving, independent work and decision-making.
7	Highly specialized knowledge, critical thinking, leadership, and innovation.
8	Frontier knowledge, original research, expert-level problem-solving, full autonomy.

P4ELECS

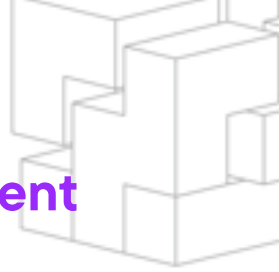
table 1: Overview of the different levels of the European Qualifications Framework



	EQF Level 5	EQF Level 6	EQF Level 7
EU	Short cycle	First cycle in HE	Second cycle in HE
BE	Graduaat	Bachelor	Master
DE	Advanced Vocational training	Bachelor	Master
IT	Higher technical education diploma	Bachelor	Master
LV	First level professional HE	Bachelor	Master
NL	Associate degree	Bachelor	Master

table 2: Simplified overview of the EQF levels and the national qualifications levels of the participating countries of the P4ELECS project

2. Analyse the complexity of your learning content to match the right EQF level



- Use the table below to compare your learning outcomes with the EQF descriptors

	EQF Level 5	EQF Level 6	EQF Level 7
Knowledge	Comprehensive, specialised, factual and theoretical knowledge within a field of work or study and an awareness of the boundaries of that knowledge	Advanced knowledge of a field of work or study, involving a critical understanding of theories and principles	Highly specialised knowledge, some of which is at the forefront of knowledge in a field of work or study, as the basis for original thinking and/or research Critical awareness of knowledge issues in a field and at the interface between different fields
Skills	A comprehensive range of cognitive and practical skills required to develop creative solutions to abstract problems	Advanced skills, demonstrating mastery and innovation, required to solve complex and unpredictable problems in a specialised field of work or study	Specialised problem-solving skills required in research and/or innovation in order to develop new knowledge and procedures and to integrate knowledge from different fields
Responsibility & autonomy	Exercise management and supervision in contexts of work or study activities where there is unpredictable change; review and develop performance of self and others	Specialised problem-solving skills required in research and/or innovation in order to develop new knowledge and procedures and to integrate knowledge from different fields	Manage and transform work or study contexts that are complex, unpredictable and require new strategic approaches; take responsibility for contributing to professional knowledge and practice and/or for reviewing the strategic performance of teams

Table 3: Overview of learning outcomes for EQF level 5, 6 and 7.



- Screen your learning outcomes and prior knowledge and ask yourself the following questions to help determine the EQF level:
 - What type of knowledge is involved?
 - Is it comprehensive, advanced, or highly specialized?
 - What kind of skills are required?
 - Are they routine, complex, or research-based?
 - What level of responsibility and autonomy is expected from learners?
 - Will they follow instructions, work independently, or take full responsibility for outcomes?

! For more guidance on formulating and identifying learning outcomes, please refer to the quicksheet '**Learning Outcomes**'.

3. Adjust your learning outcomes and/or material if needed

- If your content blends elements of multiple levels, refine it for consistency.
- Make sure the level you assign matches the overall intention and depth of the material.



Useful sources

Link	Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://europa.eu/europass/en/europass-digital-tools/european-qualifications-framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Europass – European Qualifications Framework (EQF)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Clear explanation of EQF levels and structure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/european-qualifications-framework-eqf	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cedefop – Guide to Writing Learning Outcomes<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Practical guide to formulating clear learning outcomes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications/4156	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cedefop – Guide to Writing Learning Outcomes<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Practical guide to formulating clear learning outcomes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://europa.eu/europass/en/national-coordination-points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EQF National Coordination Points<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Overview of how different countries apply the EQF.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/themes/qualifications-systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• European Training Foundation (ETF) – Qualifications Systems<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Insights into qualifications and vocational training systems across countries.



Good luck!