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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu
on behalf of the Commission
(31.10.2025)

The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) is a Council Recommendation¹, set up in 2008 and updated in 2017. As such, it is a voluntary tool to make national qualifications easier to understand and more comparable. The European Qualifications Framework seeks to support cross-border mobility of learners and workers. There is an alignment between the Bologna Process levels and the European Qualifications Framework levels. Greece referenced its National Qualifications Framework to the European Qualifications Framework in 2014. It is each Member State's responsibility to determine the levels of their National Qualifications Framework and to link the levels of these to the levels of the European Qualifications Framework through a peer reviewed process called EQF 'referencing'.

The organisation and classification of staff within the national public administration is the exclusive competence of Member States. In doing so, however, they must respect EU law, including Article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 7(1) of Regulation 492/2011² which prohibit discrimination based on nationality between workers of the Member States as regards employment, remuneration and other conditions of work and employment.

The situation described by the Honourable Member concerning the different levels of qualifications required for engineers in the Greek public administration appears to concern different types of education. As the question concerns Greek nationals in Greece, EU law on free movement of workers does not appear to be relevant in this respect.

¹ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017H0615\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017H0615(01)).

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/492/oj/eng>.