



RECOGNITION IN PORTUGAL OF USJ'S DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

A university degree or diploma attests to the level of education of its holder and as such may be required by an employer or by another institution of higher education when enrolling for further studies. In principle, a diploma should be self-sufficient. However, the great difference in quality between institutions, the enormous number of institutions of higher education in the world today, the mobility of academics, and the not infrequent falsification of credentials have led countries to produce legislation regarding the recognition of degrees and diplomas.

For the better guidance of University of Saint Joseph (USJ) alumni who would like to obtain recognition of their degrees and diplomas in Portugal, we have collected the information below.

THE SIGNATURES ON USJ'S DIPLOMAS

The diplomas for USJ degree granting programmes are signed by the Rector of USJ, by the Rector of UCP and, in the cases of master and doctoral programmes, also by the Chancellor of USJ. This is set out in Article 46 of USJ's Charter (2019), which reads as follows:

- 1. All of USJ's diplomas and certificates are signed by the Rector and by the Registrar, or their legal representatives.*
- 2. The diplomas of degree-granting programmes also require the following signatures:*
 - 1) on the Doctoral and Master's diplomas, the signatures of the Chancellor and of the Rector of UCP, respectively chair and honorary chair of USJ's General Council;*
 - 2) on Bachelors' diplomas, the signature of the Rector of UCP, honorary chair of USJ's General Council.*
- 3. The diplomas and certificates of programmes organised jointly with other institutions of higher education are signed as set out in the agreement between the institutions.*

RECOGNITION OF DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS IN PORTUGAL

The general rules for recognition in Portugal of academic degrees and higher education diplomas conferred by foreign higher education institutions were updated, as of 1 January 2019, by [Decreto-Lei n.º 66/2018, de 16 de agosto](#). The procedures for obtaining that recognition were established in [Portaria n.º 33/2019, de 25 de janeiro](#). There are now three types of recognition available, depending on the origin of the degree or diploma and the objectives of the applicant. One of them applies to Macao. As of October 2019, degrees and diplomas granted by the higher education institutions of Macao are eligible for the fastest and simplest procedure: **automatic recognition**.

- **Automatic recognition**¹ – Provides full recognition but covers the degrees and diplomas only of those countries and regions listed by the [Commission for the Recognition of Foreign Degrees and Diplomas](#). Following the “Deliberação n.º 1053/2019 (13 de setembro, 2019)” of the Commission for Recognition Foreign Degrees and Diplomas, the

¹ “RECONHECIMENTO AUTOMÁTICO – É o ato que permite reconhecer genericamente um grau ou diploma de ensino superior estrangeiro, cujo nível, objetivos e natureza sejam idênticos aos graus portugueses de licenciado, mestre e doutor ou de diploma de técnico superior profissional, que conste do elenco de graus e diplomas fixado pela comissão de reconhecimento de graus e diplomas estrangeiros.” (DGES)



Bachelor Degrees, the Master's Degrees and the Doctoral Degrees granted in the Special Administrative Region of Macao are automatically recognized "because they have an identical level, objectives and nature to those granted in Portugal" – see *Diário da República*, 2.ª série, n.º 193 (8 de outubro 2019), p. 62-63². For recognition to be declared, however, applicants must fill-in the online form and attach one of the stipulated documents from the awarding institution to prove that the degree or diploma was granted to them. The recognition is provided within 30 days by the Direção-Geral do Ensino Superior for a small fee (€27.30).

See <https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento?plid=374>.

HOW TO PROCEED

Applicants must submit their request by filling in the [online form](#) available on the site of the government department for higher education, DGES (*Direção-Geral para o Ensino Superior*). They should choose the following, from the relevant dropdown list:

- 1. Recognition type** » "Reconhecimento automático" » **Subject** » (choose)
- 2. Applicant information** » ...
- 3. Country** » "Região Administrativa Especial de Macau" » **Institution** » "University of Saint Joseph" » ...

For detailed information, see www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento?plid=374.

CONCLUSION

1. Macao SAR and its higher education system are listed for automatic recognition of degrees and diplomas by the Portuguese Commission for the Recognition of Foreign Degrees and Diplomas.
2. Requests for recognition must be submitted by filling in the official online form and uploading a copy of a stipulated document as proof.
3. Below are the Portuguese and English explanations from the official DGES site.

² At the time of writing (10.10.2019), Macao and the degrees and diplomas of its higher education institutions are still not included in the list available online. An updated list can be expected at a later date. However, in the online form, "Região Administrativa Especial de Macau" is on the dropdown list as are all of the Region's institutions of higher education. *University of Saint Joseph* is listed under the English version of its name.



RECONHECIMENTO AUTOMÁTICO

O QUE É?

É o ato que permite reconhecer genericamente um grau ou diploma de ensino superior estrangeiro, cujo nível, objetivos e natureza sejam idênticos aos graus portugueses de licenciado, mestre e doutor ou de diploma de técnico superior profissional, que conste do elenco de graus e diplomas fixado pela comissão de reconhecimento de graus e diplomas estrangeiros.

A QUE GRAUS ESTRANGEIROS SE APLICA?

Verifique [aqui](#) se se aplica ao seu Grau/Diploma
Verique [nesta](#) tabela

ONDE E COMO SOLICITAR?

- Instituições de Ensino Superior Públicas
- Direção-Geral do Ensino Superior

O Reconhecimento é solicitado pelo titular do Diploma através do preenchimento deste [formulário online](#).

QUE DOCUMENTOS ENTREGAR?

De acordo com o n.º 2 do artigo 4.º do Decreto-Lei n.º 66/2018, deve apresentar um documento que comprove de forma inequívoca que o grau ou diploma foi atribuído, nomeadamente:

- Cópia do Diploma ou de documento emitido pela instituição de ensino superior estrangeira comprovativo da titularidade do grau ou diploma para o qual é requerido o reconhecimento, autenticada pelas autoridades competentes para o efeito;
- Cópia simples de documento emitido pela instituição de ensino superior estrangeira em que conste número de registo de grau ou diploma, no caso das instituições de ensino superior estrangeiras que disponham de registos centralizados passíveis de consulta pública através de identificador único;
- Diploma ou certificado emitido pela instituição de ensino superior estrangeira, em versão original, comprovativo da titularidade do grau ou diploma para o qual é requerido o reconhecimento.

QUANTO CUSTA?

O valor do emolumento a cobrar pela Direção-Geral do Ensino Superior é de 27,30€.

QUANTO TEMPO DEMORA?

Máximo de 30 dias após a instrução completa do processo.



AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION

WHAT IS IT?

This form of recognition generically recognises a higher education foreign degree or diploma with identical level, objectives and nature to the Portuguese degrees of *licenciado*, *mestre* and *doutor* and the short cycle professional higher technical diplomas, that are included in the list of degrees and diplomas approved by the commission for the recognition of foreign degrees and diplomas.

TO WHICH DEGREES/DIPLOMA DOES THIS APPLY?

Verify [here](#) if it applies to your degree/diploma
Check [this](#) table

HOW AND WHERE CAN I REQUEST THIS RECOGNITION?

- Public Higher Education Institutions
- Directorate-General for Higher Education

Recognition is requested by the Degree/Diploma holder by completing this [online form](#).

WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED?

According to Article 4 (2) of [Decree-Law no. 66/2018](#), applicants must present a document that unequivocally proves that the degree or diploma has been awarded.

- Copy of the Diploma or document issued by the foreign higher education institution proving the title of the degree or diploma for which recognition is required, authenticated by the competent authorities for this purpose;
- Simple copy of a document issued by a foreign higher education institution with a registration number of a degree or diploma in the case of foreign higher education institutions that have centralized registers that can be accessed through a unique identifier;
- Diploma or certificate issued by the foreign higher education institution, in original version, proving the title of the degree or diploma for which recognition is required.

COST?

The fee to be charged by the Directorate-General for Higher Education is €27.30.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

A maximum of 30 days after the full completion of all necessary steps for the application.