

1 LEVEL 5 IN A LOT OF COUNTRIES: SCHE and HVET...

Recently, two organizations have conducted research into the positioning of level 5 in a number of countries. This was done by a network of NARICs (November 2023) and by the working group that looked at the introduction of the SCHE within the Bologna process (January 2024).

We have tried to summarize everything as best as possible in the table below.

Country	SCHE	VET: Comments / Plans
Albania	Diplomë Profesionale (2 years) = Professional Diploma 120 credits	Also: Certifikatë Profesionale (1 year – also level 5) Professional Certificate
Andorra	Diploma professional avançat (DPA) = Professional advanced Diploma 120 credits	
Armenia		VET: Diploma on Middle Profes- sional Vocational Education with the level of qualification “Specialist” No plans for SCHE
Austria		Diplom (Kolleg): VET qualification No plans for SCHE
Azerbaijan		Orta ixtisas təhsili (Secondary special education) Plans for SCHE
Belgium – Flanders	Gegradueerde (associate degree)/Graduaats- opleiding 90-120 credits	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		
Bulgaria		VET – level 4 (highest level) No plans for SCHE
Croatia	Stručni pristupnik / stručna pristupnica = 120 credits (or more)	Professional title: Pristupnik
Cyprus	5c Higher Certificates and Diplomas (3 years) (Ανώτερο Δίπλωμα (3 χρόνια)) 180 credits	5a Post-Secondary Certificates and Diplomas (1 year) (Πιστοποιητικό (1 χρόνος)), 5b Post-Secondary Certificates and Diplomas (2 years) (Δίπλωμα (2 χρόνια))
Czech Republic	Diplomovaný specialista (DiS.)	
Denmark	Erhvervsakademigrad / Academy Profession Degree Akademigrad/Academy Profession Degree	
Estonia		No plans for SCHE a formal Level 5 higher education qualification can be recognised as part of higher education studies under the conditions and procedures set by the higher education institution.
Finland		Level 5 in VET
France	Diplôme universitaire de technologie (DUT) Brevet de technicien supérieur (BTS) Diplôme d'études universitaires scientifiques et techniques (DEUST)	
Georgia	Diplom (Kolleg)	
Germany		No plans for SCHE
Greece		Plans for SCHE
Holy See	Higher Certificate	
Hungary	Felsőfokú szakképzettség	VET: Advanced-level vocational qualification (full, add-on,

	(vocational higher education qualification obtained on completion of a vocational higher education programme -felsőoktatási szakképzés) 120 credits or more	technician) (<i>Emelt szintű szakképesítés, szakképesítés-ráépülés, technikus szakképzettség</i>)
Iceland		
Ireland	Higher Certificate	
Italy		
Kazakhstan		
Latvia	HE: Diploma of short-cycle professional higher education (short-cycle professional higher education) (<i>Īsā cikla profesionālās augstākās izglītības un profesionālās kvalifikācijas diploms (īsā cikla profesionālās augstākās izglītība)</i>) 120-180 credits	VET: Certificate of professional qualification (<i>profesionālās kvalifikācijas apliecība</i>) (no students yet)
Liechtenstein		
Lithuania	Trumposios studijos	
Luxembourg	Brevet de technicien supérieur (BTS)	Master craftsman diploma (<i>Brevet de maîtrise</i>) Specialised advanced technician diploma (<i>Brevet de technicien supérieur spécialisé</i>)
Malta	Undergraduate Certificate Undergraduate Diploma Undergraduate Higher Diploma 30-60-90 credits	
Moldova	Diploma de studii profesionale, învățământul profesional tehnic postsecundar nonterțiar (Diploma of professional studies, post-secondary non-tertiary technical and vocational education and training)	
Monaco		
Montenegro		
the Netherlands	Associate degree 120 credits or more	
North Macedonia	No information	Only VET at 5
Norway		Two years program – part of a Bachelor's program - offered by University Colleges (HE) = Level 6.1 of the NQF and level 6 of the EQF No degree connected to 6.1
Poland	Certified Specialist (<i>Świadectwo dyplomowanego specjalisty</i>) Certified Specialist, technologist (<i>Świadectwo dyplomowanego specjalisty technologa</i>) 90 credits or more	
Portugal	Diploma de Técnico Superior Profissional (CTESP)	
Romania		Certificat de calificare profesională nivel 5 Plans for SCHE
San Marino		No level 5 qualifications in a formal way but Level 5 qualification can be obtained via accreditation of prior working experiences.
Serbia		

Slovakia		Diplomovaný špecialista DiS. (post-secondary, non-university professional education) - not part of higher education in Slovakia, is not counted toward a higher education degree (only included informatively, since it may be easily confused with the Bachelor level)
Slovenia	Višja strokovna izobrazba / Short-cycle higher vocational degree	
Spain	Técnico Superior de Formación Profesional Técnico Superior de Artes Plásticas y Diseño Técnico Deportivo Superior	
Sweden		The Higher Education Diploma (Högskoleexamen) is at EQF-/SeQF level 6 = 120 credits HVE at level 5 and 6
Switzerland		High VPET at higher levels
Turkiye	Önlisans (Associate's Degree)	
Ukraine	Молодший бакалавр	
United Kingdom (England / Wales)	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Higher National Diploma (HND) Foundation degree (FD)	
United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Higher National Diploma (HND) Foundation degree	
United Kingdom (Scotland)	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Higher National Diploma (HND)	

It shows that there is a situation that cannot be called homogeneous.

2 LEVELS 5 AND 6 (OVERVIEW 2022)

In 2022, Cedefop has drawn up an overview of what is available on 5 and 6, in even more countries. This shows even more how diverse the qualifications across levels and countries are embedded in the education system.

Country	Level 5	Level 6
Albania	<p>Not available (formal)</p> <p><i>Vocational/professional qualifications</i></p> <p>Post-secondary study programme of professional type</p> <p>Professional non-university study programme after secondary education</p> <p>Vocational certificate</p> <p><i>Lifelong learning qualifications</i></p> <p>Bridging courses (<i>certificate</i>)</p> <p>Specialisation courses based on professional requirements</p>	Bachelor
Austria	<p>VET college/school leaving certificate – 5-year programmes (BHS)</p> <p>Level-5 professional qualification awarded by the Federal Ministry of Defence – staff non-commissioned officer</p> <p>Level-5 professional qualification awarded by the Federal Ministry of Justice – senior prison officer</p> <p>Level-5 professional qualification awarded by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy</p> <p>Level-5 professional qualification awarded by the Federal Ministry of Health</p> <p>Level-5 professional qualification</p>	<p>Bachelor's degree</p> <p>Master craftsman</p> <p>Master of agriculture</p> <p>Engineer</p> <p>Health qualification awarded by the Federal Ministry of Health – nurse responsible for general care (RL 2005/36/EG)</p> <p>Level-6 professional qualification e.g. certified master chef</p>
Belgium-Flanders	<p>Graduate degree (short cycle)</p> <p>Professional qualification</p>	<p>Academic bachelor's degree</p> <p>Professional bachelor's degree</p> <p>Advanced bachelor's programme</p> <p>Professional qualification</p>
Belgium FR	<p>Associate degree</p> <p>Professional diploma, level 5</p> <p>Professional qualification e.g. diploma for commercial agent business managers</p> <p>Professional foundation diploma, level 5</p> <p>Skills certificate, level 5</p>	Bachelor's degree
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>Postsecondary education, including master craftsman exams and similar exams</p> <p>Highly skilled worker specialised for a certain occupation</p> <p>Qualification titles (position in the labour market)</p> <p>Diploma/certificate of completed post-secondary education or passed master craftsman exam and/or similar exam for a certain occupation, with a supplement</p>	Bachelor diploma (BA)
Bulgaria	Vocational qualification – national VET level 4	<p>Bachelor's degree</p> <p>Professional bachelor's degree</p>

Croatia	Professional higher education diploma / associate degree – short-cycle study VET post-secondary development certificate Master craftsman's diploma	Bachelor's diploma – undergraduate university studies Professional bachelor's diploma – undergraduate professional studies
Cyprus	5c Higher certificates and diplomas – 3 years 5b Post-secondary certificates and diplomas – 2 years 5a Post-secondary certificates and diploma's – 1 year 5 Qualifications at SVQ level 5	Bachelor's degree Qualifications at SVQ level 6
Czechia	NSK qualifications Travel guide Agricultural advisor for crop production	Bachelor's programme – Bc and BcA degrees – 3–4 years of tertiary education Graduation diploma – Tertiary professional education – DiS degree – 3–3.5 years of tertiary education Graduation diploma – Conservatoire DiS degree – 8 years' study after 5 years of primary education or 6 years' study after completion of a lower secondary general education programme NSK qualifications Career counsellor for educational and professional paths Independent research and development electrician
Denmark	VET certificate Academy profession degrees Certificate for supplementary single-subject courses at academy profession level Adult VET certificate Certificate for supplementary qualifications Acupuncture Level-assessed private and public education programme <i>Outside the remits of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Education, and Ministry of Culture.</i> Nordic acupuncture education Level-assessed private and public education programme <i>Outside the remits of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Education, and Ministry of Culture.</i> <i>Certified private client advisor</i> Level-assessed private and public education programme <i>Outside the remits of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of</i>	Bachelor's degree Bachelor's degree in arts Professional bachelor's degree Copenhagen International School of Performing Arts: 3-year professional acting course Level-assessed private and public education programme <i>Outside the remits of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Education, and Ministry of Culture.</i> Financial advisor wealth advisory Level-assessed private and public education programme <i>Outside the remits of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Education, and Ministry of Culture.</i>

	<i>Children and Education, and Ministry of Culture.</i>	
Estonia	<p>VET certificate, level 5</p> <p>Level 5 professional qualification – <i>technicians and master craftspeople, frontline managers, clerical workers</i></p> <p>Professional groups and professional qualifications <i>e.g. master carpenter, construction site manager, master chef</i></p>	<p>Bachelor's degree</p> <p>Diploma of professional higher education</p> <p>Level 6 professional qualification – specialists, supervisors</p> <p>Professional groups and professional qualifications <i>e.g. energy auditor, career counsellor</i></p>
Finland	<p>Specialist vocational qualifications</p> <p>Sub-officer qualification – fire and rescue services</p> <p>Vocational qualification in air traffic control <i>Although this qualification is no longer offered, it remains part of the FINQF.</i></p> <p>General level (1 and 2) study module for non-commissioned officers</p> <p>Master's level study module for non-commissioned officers</p>	<p>Bachelor's degrees – universities</p> <p>Bachelor's degrees – universities of applied sciences</p> <p>Professional specialisation programmes provided by universities and universities of applied sciences intended for holders of a bachelor's degree or a university of applied sciences bachelor's degree</p> <p>Specialised training provided by the church</p> <p>Pastoral qualification</p>
France	<p>Undergraduate technician certificates</p> <p>Undergraduate technician certificates in agriculture</p> <p>Undergraduate diploma in technology</p> <p>National diploma 'One of the best workers in France'</p> <p>National diplomas at level 5</p> <p>Professional certificates/titles - level 5</p> <p>Professional qualification certificates (CQP) – level 5 <i>CQPs are under the responsibility of social partners; they are registered on demand.</i></p> <p>Master craftsman qualifications issued by the Chambers of Trades</p> <p>Professional qualifications on demand – level 5 <i>Qualifications registered on demand are awarded by public or private bodies</i></p>	<p>Bachelor's degrees</p> <p>University bachelor's in technology</p> <p>National diploma in arts</p> <p>National diplomas at level 6</p> <p>Professional certificates/titles – level 6</p> <p>Professional qualification certificates (CQP) – level 6 <i>CQPs are under the responsibility of social partners; they are registered on demand.</i></p> <p>Professional qualifications on demand – level 6 <i>Qualifications registered on demand are awarded by public or private bodies</i></p>
Germany	<p>IT specialist</p> <p>Service technician (certified)</p> <p>Advanced vocational training pursuant to Article 54 of the Vocational Training Act</p> <p>Other advanced vocational training pursuant to the Vocational Training Act or Crafts and Trades Regulation Code (level 5)</p>	<p>Bachelor's degrees and equivalent higher education qualifications</p> <p>Specialist commercial clerk (certified)</p> <p>Business management specialist (certified)</p> <p>Master craftsman</p> <p>Operative professional (IT) (certified) <i>(Operative/r Professional (IT))</i></p> <p>Trade and technical school (advanced vocational training governed by federal state law)</p> <p>Advanced vocational training pursuant to Article 54 of the Vocational Training Act (level 6)</p>

		Other advanced vocational training pursuant to the Vocational Training Act or Crafts and Trades Regulation Code (level 6)
Greece	Vocational post-secondary school 'degree' for graduates of a vocational upper secondary school (EPAL) apprenticeship class, level 5 (post-secondary level) Vocational training diploma (post-secondary level) from a vocational training institute Vocational training diploma (post-secondary level) <i>This qualification is no longer being awarded after the enactment of Law 4186/2013.</i> Post-secondary non-tertiary education diploma or 'degree'	Bachelor's degree (universities / technological educational institutions – higher education)
Hungary	Upper secondary school leaving examination certificate – matura Vocational upper secondary qualification (3-year VET programmes, full, add-on, partial)	Bachelor's degree (BA/BSc) Vocational qualification with a higher education degree as a prerequisite Postgraduate qualification with a bachelor's degree as a prerequisite
Iceland	Vocational examination for professional rights – level 4 / Additional studies of vocational subjects	6 (5.2) Bachelor degree 6 (5.1) <i>Diploma degree (short cycle)</i>
Ireland	Advanced certificate Higher certificate Level 6 professional award	Honours bachelor's degree Higher diploma Ordinary bachelor's degree Level 7 professional award
Italy	Applied technologies specialisation Diploma (two-year course) Regional vocational training qualification for technical area	Bachelor degree First level academic diploma Applied technologies higher specialisation diploma (three-year course) Regional higher vocational training qualification
Kosovo	Diploma from formal providers <i>Qualification type A, C, D, E</i> Certificate from non-formal providers <i>Qualification type A, C, D, E</i>	Bachelor – Bologna 1 st cycle <i>Qualification type A</i>
Latvia	Diploma of first-level professional higher education	Bachelor's diploma Professional bachelor's diploma Diploma of professional higher education and diploma of higher professional qualification
Liechtenstein	Federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination) Federal VET diploma (three- or four-year dual VET programmes)	Advanced federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination) Advanced federal diploma of higher education issued by a college of higher education Federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination)
Lithuania	VET diploma, level 5 Study certificate – short-cycle HE programmes	Bachelor's diploma Professional bachelor's diploma

	<i>From 2024, short-cycle HE programmes will lead to a diploma and not a study certificate.</i>	
Luxembourg	Master craftsman diploma Advanced technician diploma Specialised advanced technician diploma	Bachelor diploma
Malta	Undergraduate diploma Undergraduate certificate VET higher diploma foundation degree	Bachelor's degree
Montenegro	Diploma of post-secondary vocational education	Diploma of first cycle academic and applied studies
Netherlands	Associate degree Non-formal qualifications	Bachelor's degree Non-formal qualifications
North Macedonia	5a Short cycle higher education (vocational) diploma 5b Post-secondary diploma for specialist education Craftsman diploma	First cycle university diploma (240 ECTS) First cycle vocational diploma (240 ECTS) First cycle university diploma (180 ECTS) First cycle vocational diploma (180 ECTS)
Norway	5.2 Diploma for vocational college education (1.5 to 2 years, 90 – 120 credits) 5.1 Diploma for vocational college education 0.5 to 1.5 years, 30 – 90 credits)	6.2 Bachelor's degree 6.1 University College degree
Poland	Certificate of professional competence in the profession – full qualification Certificate of professional qualification in the profession – partial qualification Certified specialist diploma – short cycle Qualifications awarded outside the formal education system State-regulated qualifications awarded outside the formal education and training system and non-regulated qualifications from the private sector (market qualifications).	First-cycle higher education diploma (bachelor's) Postgraduate qualification Qualifications awarded outside the formal education system State-regulated qualifications awarded outside the formal education and training system and non-regulated qualifications from the private sector (market qualifications).
Portugal	Diploma in technological specialisation – post-secondary non tertiary education	Bachelor's degree
Rumania	Graduation certificate – postgraduate programmes for professional improvement organised by higher education institutions Graduation certificate – professional training organised by authorised training providers – adult learning Post-secondary certificate / qualification certificate – post-secondary non-university tertiary education	Bachelor's degree / engineering diploma / urbanism diploma – first cycle of higher education Certificate attesting professional competence – postgraduate programmes for professional training and continuing professional development organised by higher education Graduation certificate – professional development programmes organised by authorised training providers Graduation certificate – Postgraduate programmes for continuing education organised by higher education institutions Professional conversion diploma – professional conversion programmes organised by

		higher education institutions
Serbia	Craftsman, i.e. specialist education lasting up to two years or one-year non-formal adult education lasting minimum of six months	6.2 Bachelor academic studies scope of at least 240 ECTS credits Specialised applied studies scope of at least 60 ECTS credits 6.1 Bachelor academic studies scope of at least 180 ECTS credits Bachelor applied studies scope starting from 180 ECTS credits
Slovakia	Maturita certificate + Certificate of apprenticeship Maturita certificate Certificate of final post-secondary exam + Absolutorium diploma Certificate of qualification	Diploma + Certificate of State exam + Diploma supplement Certificate of qualification
Slovenia	Short-cycle higher vocational diploma Old short-cycle higher vocational diploma Qualifications awarded before the Bologna reform. NQV certificate Certificate of completed study programmes for further training (Vocational qualification) Certificate of supplementary qualification	Academic bachelor's diploma Professional bachelor diploma Professional higher education diploma <i>Qualifications awarded before the Bologna reform.</i> Specialisation diploma following old short-cycle higher education Qualifications awarded before the Bologna reform. Certificate of completed study programmes for further training <i>Vocational qualification</i> Certificate of supplementary qualification
Spain	A – Advanced professional technician's degree Short cycle A – Advanced sports technician's degree Short cycle A – Advanced visual arts and design technician's degree Short cycle B – Professional certificate level 3 Short cycle C – Specialisation courses in vocational training in the education system that requires holding an advanced professional technician's degree Short cycle	Bachelor's degree Advanced degree in higher artistic education
Sweden	Qualified graduate from upper secondary engineering course Diploma in higher vocational education Qualifications Awarded outside formal education	Degrees, first cycle, Annex 2 to Higher Education Ordinance 1993:100 Degrees, first cycle, Annex to Regulation 2007:1164 Degrees, first cycle, Annex to Regulation 1993:221 Advanced diploma in higher vocational education Qualifications Awarded outside formal education

Switzerland	<p>Federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination)</p> <p><i>SERI proposes a standard NQF-VPQ level for this type of qualification.</i></p> <p>Federal VET diploma (3- and 4-year dual VET programmes)</p>	<p>Advanced federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination)</p> <p><i>SERI proposes a standard NQF-VPQ level for this type of qualification.</i></p> <p>Advanced federal diploma of higher education issued by a college of higher education</p> <p><i>SERI proposes a standard NQF-VPQ level for this type of qualification.</i></p> <p>Federal diploma of higher education (tertiary federal examination)</p>
Turkey	<p>Associate diploma (academic)</p> <p>Associate diploma (general)</p> <p>Level 5 vocational qualification certificate (NVQ)</p>	<p>Bachelor diploma</p> <p>Level 6 vocational qualification certificate (NVQ)</p>