

Vienna, July 2008

## INFORMATION LEAFLET

### Recognition of a foreign FH degree

Pursuant to section 5 sub-sections 4 and 5 of the Fachhochschule Studies Act (*Fachhochschul-Studiengesetz*, FHStG) as amended, the following provisions must be adhered to for the nostrification of a degree obtained from a foreign FH:

1. The application for the nostrification of a degree obtained from a foreign *Fachhochschule* requires proof that the nostrification is absolutely necessary for the applicant to work in his/her profession or to continue in his/her professional educations in Austria. Nostrification is not required if, for example, professional statutes have already been laid down in EU directives on the recognition of higher-education diplomas (e.g. 89/48/EEC).

2. The application for nostrification (cf. application) should name the comparable FH degree programme in Austria, which is – as regards requirements, overall scope and course contents - designed in such a way that it is considered equivalent to the foreign FH degree programme mentioned in the application.

3. The foreign and domestic FH degree programmes should be compared in the application (cf. comparison).

On the basis of this, the Fachhochschule Council (in the case of *Fachhochschulen*, the FH academic supervisory board) will examine whether the degree programmes are equivalent.

4. If a degree programme is almost equivalent and only a few extra classes or examinations are necessary for it to be fully equivalent, the applicant is entitled to take part in the courses and examinations requested by the FH teaching board or the FH Council. As a guideline the extra classes or examinations should not exceed 25% of the workload based on the curriculum.

5. With regard to the documents to be submitted (cf. application).

#### Please note:

- As a rule, there is no nostrification within the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA).
- The following rule applies with respect to holding academic degrees:  
Persons who were awarded an academic degree from a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution are entitled to hold this degree in the form laid down in the diploma. This includes the right to ask for the addition of the academic degree in the abbreviated version in public documents.
- No recognition is necessary for international FH graduates to be admitted to an Austrian doctoral programme.