



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

Establishment of the National credit system

Practice of Azerbaijan

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Azerbaijan



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Azerbaijan

- **area:** 86,600 sq km, **population:** 10 million (April 6, 2019)
- capital: **Baku**, **language:** Azerbaijani
- **religion:** Islam (95% Muslims, 3.1% Christians, 1.9% others)
- **the member of the Council of Europe:** since 2001
- **economy:** energy (gas, oil), agriculture, tourism, science and technology

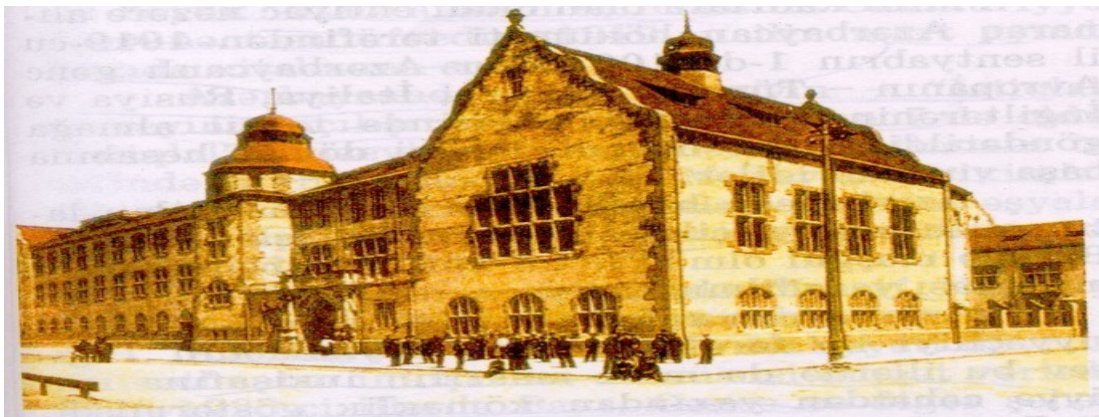




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Brief history of the Azerbaijan HE

- **1919:** Baku State University in Baku was established
- **in the Communist era**, universities were under political control, people with wrong profile were not allowed for studies and academic careers
- **after 1991**, HEIs emancipated rapidly and built up a strong autonomy





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Higher Education

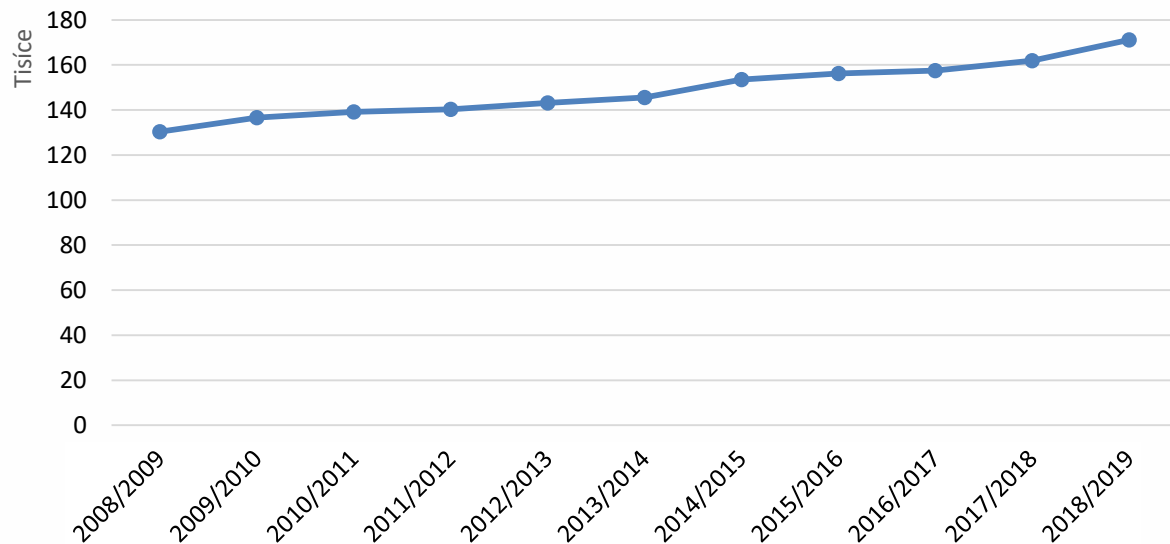
- Currently **51 higher education institutions** (for 10 million population): 38 **state**, 11 **private** and 2 branches of Russian HEIs
- 171 104 students (bachelor and master) at higher education institutions **in 2018/2019** academic year (92% at state & 8% at private)
- including 4118 **foreign students** (38% from Turkey) from 71 countries





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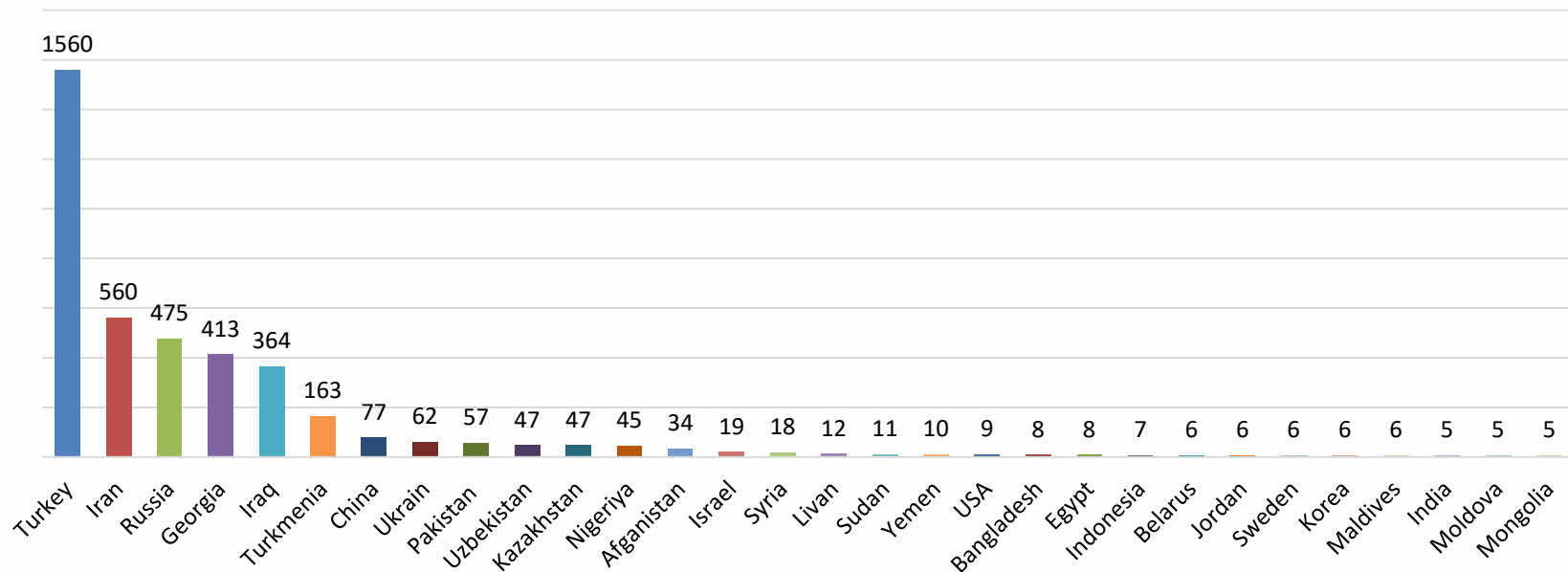
Number of students in Azerbaijan last 10 years





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Number of Foreign Students in Azerbaijan in 2019





Study conditions

- Government covers all **tuition fee expenses** of the following students:
 - students from **refugee families & children of national heroes**
 - students, who **deprived of parental care**
 - students with **disabilities**
 - special **talented students**, who get the highest points from admission examinations
- State program **on education abroad** (2007-2015)
 - **in general** – 3558
 - **currently studding** – 289
 - **graduated** – 2310
- State program for PhD students **on education abroad** (2019-2023)



Strategy of the government to improve HE sector

- **Development Concept** "Azerbaijan 2020: Vision of the Future"
- &
- **National Strategy** for the Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan
 - To participate in the process of formation of state policy on higher education;
 - To participate in the preparation and implementation of the concept of development of the higher education system, to coordinate and control the implementation of these concepts by higher education institutions and their scientific structures within the scope of their authority.



Policy

Instruments

There are three main ways how the Government can influence the HE:

**accreditation,
internationalization,
specific support**

- **Accreditation** as main QA institution; the Ministry can set only general rules,
- **Internationalization** reflects also the quality of the education, e.g. via mobility or employability of graduates,
- **Specific support** includes e.g. policy recommendations, action plans for improvement and advisory for HEIs.



European Higher Education Area

- Azerbaijan is an active member of **Bologna process** since 2005
- Main goals:
 - International mobility, cooperation and recognition
 - Flexible learning paths
 - Competitiveness of European HE
- Main principles have been introduced:
 - European Credit Transfer System (**ECTS**) – currently all HEIs implementing ECTS
 - **Three cycle degree** system by Education Law since 2009
 - Diploma supplement (**DS**) – all HEIs awarded by unique DS
 - European Standards and Guidelines for **Quality Assurance (ESG)**
 - National Qualification Framework (**AzNQF**) since 2018



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Division of study programs

Bachelor's degree program

- first cycle of higher education
- 240 – 300 ECTS (4 or 5 years)

Master's degree program

- following after Bachelor's degree program
- 90 – 120 ECTS (1.5 or 2 years)

Doctoral degree program

- following after Master's degree program
- 2 levels: PhD (3 or 4 years) & Doc of Sci (4 or 5 years)
- No ECTS system



External Quality Assurance System

- Accreditation regulations in Azerbaijan
 - Rules for accreditation of educational institutions (Cabinet of Ministers, 28 September, 2010, #167)
 - Accreditation of HEIs stages:
 - preparing for accreditation;
 - self-assessment of education establishment;
 - carrying out an analysis by Accreditation Committee;
 - preparing a final certificate on accreditation;
 - determining the status of education establishment and granting a relevant quality document – certificate.
- Accreditation and Nostrification Office



Brief history of implementation of ECTS

- Bologna Declaration, 2005
- **Pilot implementation** of the **credit system** from 2006 to 2009
- **Legislative base** on respect to the credit system from 2009 to 2012
- **Rules on Organizing the Credit system education** at bachelor and master levels of higher education institutions, 2013



Bologna Declaration

- Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan signed the Bologna Declaration in Bergen, Norway, in 2005
- Azerbaijan officially joined to Bologna process in 2005



Pilot implementation of ECTS system

- Order of the Ministry of Education on Pilot implementation of credit system in 10 HEIs of Azerbaijan in 2006
 - 1 faculty at each university
 - More than 15 study programs out of 148 at bachelor level
 - Academic hours transferred to the credits
 - 1 credit = 30 hours (15 class hours & 15 out-off class hours)
- Statute on Exams of students who study with the credit system, 2008
- Statute on Assessment of students who study with the credit system, 2008



Legislative base for ECTS implementation

- **Three cycle of HE**, Law on Education, 2009
- Subbachelor degree, 2009
- Decree of the CabMin of the Republic of Azerbaijan on approval of the “**State Standards and Programs for Higher Education**” No. 75, dated April 23, 2010
- Decree of the CabMin of the Republic of Azerbaijan on approval of the “**Bachelor’s Study Content and Arrangement RULES**” No. 117 dated 24 June 2010
- Decree of the CabMin of the Republic of Azerbaijan on approval of the “**Regulations of Master’s degree awarding and of Master course’s content and Arrangement Rules**” No. 88, dated 12 May 2010
- All HEIs implemented ECTS system
- Amendments in 2012

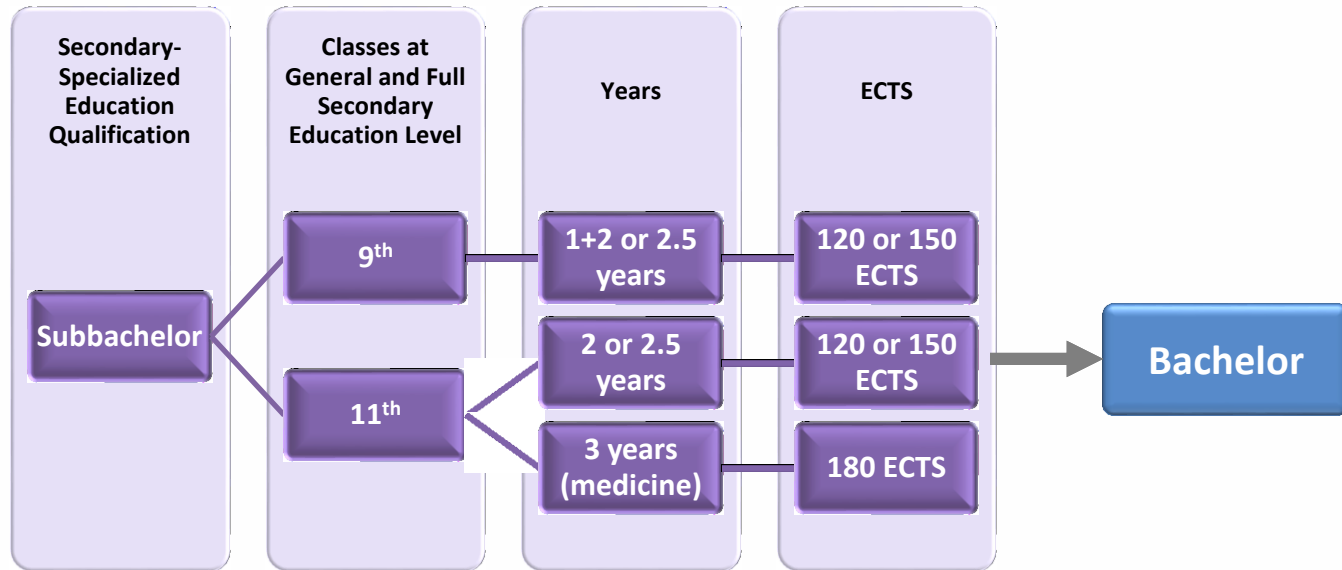


Main document for ECTS

- Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan No 348 of December 24, 2013 **"Rules on Organizing the Credit system education at bachelor and master levels of higher education institutions"**
 - 1 ECTS = 30 hours of student workload
 - 1 semester = 20 weeks, 1 week = 1,5 ECTS = 45 hours of student workload (Labor Code)
 - 1 semester = 30 ECTS (1 year – 60 ECTS)
 - Fulltime and Parttime education (previously intramural and extramural mode)
 - For fulltime students 1 semester – 30 ECTS (extra 10 ECTS)
 - For parttime students 1 semester – max 20 ECTS

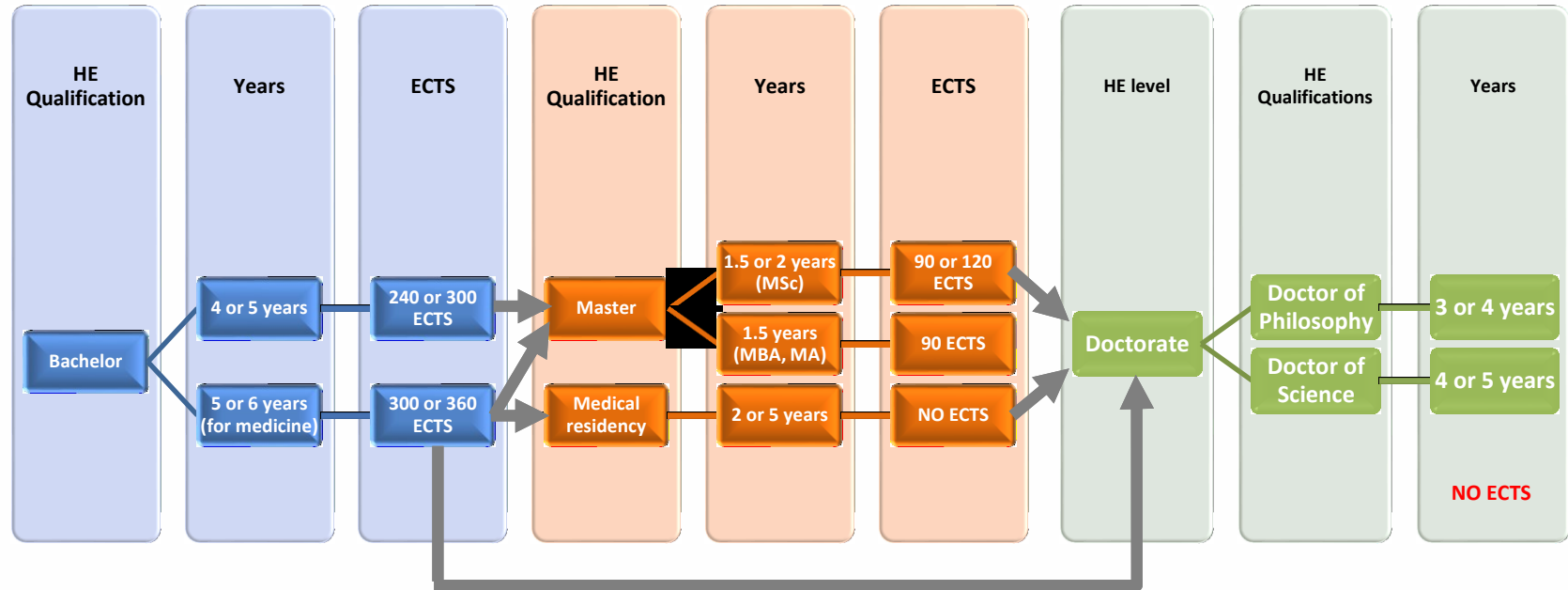


Secondary-Specialized Education Level





Higher Education Level





THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF
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Thank you!

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