

OUTLINES OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS OF THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

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The educational systems of the USSR and the Eastern European countries of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Yugoslavia are outlined below. Only a few general schema of the systems have been included for each country. This is not intended as an in-depth study, and should not be regarded as such.

When the Bolsheviks overthrew the Tsarist regime in Russia in 1917 and Communists won control over Eastern European countries in the years following World War II, Socialist political systems were installed which secularized education and made it widely accessible.

Where higher education had existed in these countries it had been elitist, and in most cases, denied to peasants and the working classes, and even to women of the upper classes. Illiteracy among the masses was widespread. This changed under the egalitarian ideals of Socialism.

A primary goal was to eradicate illiteracy. In all these countries dynamic growth in enrollments and in the number of higher education institutions took place under Communist rule. Special emphasis was put on programs of study for workers, allowing them access to higher education while working.

Education is free at all levels. Schooling follows uniform programs, with minor exceptions. Curricula and examinations are centrally controlled at all levels. Where substantial ethnic minority populations exist, it is the stated goal to offer education in their own languages. Marxist studies were required in all curricula until recently, and in some cases, military service or a period of work experience was mandatory before moving on to the next level of education.

Although Socialist ideals have shaped the educational systems of these countries, diversity exists in the educational patterns, the nomenclature of diplomas and certificates awarded, and the varying emphasis placed by countries on technical/professional programs at tertiary level.

ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

All the countries under study have eight years of compulsory education except for Romania and East Germany, which have 10-year compulsory systems.

In seeking ways to make education better serve the economic and social needs of the state, each country has incorporated certain vocational or technical tracts of study into their secondary system, in addition to general education.

Highly skilled technicians, nurses, and--in some cases--primary and lower elementary school teachers, are educated at secondary level.

Upon graduation from academic high school, students earn a state certificate or diploma which generally grants access to higher education, although university entrance examinations are required in most of these countries.

Some secondary vocational programs incorporate apprenticeships which give graduates certification as skilled workers but do not grant access to higher education. Other vocational/technical programs result in a technical diploma which permits access to higher education.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education is offered at universities and at institutes originally derived from universities (medical schools, agricultural institutes, and academies of economics) as well as at institutions specializing in technical sciences, such as polytechnics. Graduate studies and research are done at research institutes

under the aegis of academies, such as the Academy of Science.

Student intake is determined by manpower needs. In most countries higher education degrees are validated and awarded by state commissions.

Graduates of the various types of higher education institutions receive university level diplomas which are considered equal, regardless of the type of institution attended. Socialist countries also have mutual recognition of each other's diplomas.

SUMMARY

Dramatic political changes underway in the USSR and Eastern Europe are already affecting their systems of education.

The Soviet Union is calling for "decentralization" of its higher education system under perestroika. Institutions of higher education in Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland are struggling to adjust to greater autonomy. The two Germanys are scheduled to reunite. The republics which constitute Yugoslavia, and each maintain control over their educational systems, seem intent on going their separate ethnic paths. Even Albania and Bulgaria, which have maintained their allegiance to Socialism, are allowing their students some freedom of movement.

Rapid change in these volatile times is the only certainty. Students from these countries who will be seeking study opportunities abroad for the next few years are all products of the systems described below. The time has come to familiarize ourselves with their systems and to make them welcome.

ALBANIA: Until the end of World War II, Albania, located in the southwest area of the Balkan peninsula, was one of the poorest countries in Europe with 90 percent of its population illiterate. Higher education was non-existent. After the Communist Party came to power in 1944 the educational system was reorganized. Free and compulsory education was established for all children between ages seven and 14 and for all illiterates between ages 12 and 40. As a result, it was claimed that illiteracy among the population under age 40 was wiped out by 1955. Between 1957 and 1971, the State University of Tirane and university-level professional institutes were formed.

Education is free, secular and guarantees the right of national minorities to receive instruction in their own language. Eight years of basic school is compulsory followed by four years of either academic or vocational education. Formal education in the schools is integrated with work in productive enterprises, physical education, and military service. Albanian is the predominant language of instruction.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
Basic compulsory school		8 yrs.	
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
Academic (<i>gymnasia</i>)	Completion of 8 yrs.	4 yrs.	Secondary School Leaving Certificate (<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>)
Vocational		4 yrs.	Technical School-leaving Certificate
HIGHER EDUCATION			
(All graduates of secondary schools must serve one full year in work enterprises before they are permitted to continue their education).			
University			
First degree	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	4-5 yrs.	Diploma
Engineering	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	5 yrs.	Bachelor's degree in various disciplines
Medicine	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	6 yrs.	Professional qualification
Dentistry	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	5 yrs.	Professional qualification
Pharmacy	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	4 yrs.	Professional qualification
Agronomy	Tech. Leaving Cert. or <i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	4.5 yrs.	Diploma
Veterinary science	Tech. Leaving Cert. or <i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	4.5 yrs.	Diploma
Agrarian economy	Tech. Leaving Cert. or <i>Deftese Pjekuri</i>	4.5 yrs.	Diploma
Forestry	Tech. Leaving Cert. or <i>Deftese Pjekuri</i>	4.5 yrs.	Diploma
TEACHER TRAINING			
Pedagogical Institute or Teacher Training School			
	Completion of 8 yrs.	3 yrs.	Primary Teacher's Qualification
Pedagogical Institute	Completion of 8 yrs.	3 yrs.	Lower Secondary Teacher's Qualification
University	<i>Deftese Pjekurie</i>	3 yrs.	Upper Secondary Teacher's Qualification



BULGARIA has a long history of educational development. The first schools were established in the ninth century and the concept of compulsory education was introduced in 1879. Sofia University was founded in 1888.

The present educational system has been shaped by the Communist-led coalition which gained power in 1944. Strong religious influences in education were eradicated. Emphasis was placed on technical and scientific education for students at all levels. In 1959 compulsory education was increased from seven to eight years from age seven, and mandatory vocational education was introduced into the academic secondary schools. Education is free at all levels. Bulgarian is the official language of instruction.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
Primary School (<i>nachalno uchilishte</i>)		3 yrs.	
Intermediate School (<i>progimnazija</i>)		5 yrs.	
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
Vocational School	Intermediate School	1-2-3 years	Vocational School-leaving certificate
Vocational-Technical School (<i>Teknikum</i>)		2-4 yrs.	Diploma of Completion of Secondary School/ Technician's qualification (<i>diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie/udostoverenje za poluvissa techniceska praktika</i>)
Academic (<i>gimnasium</i>)	Intermediate School	3 yrs.	Diploma of completion of Secondary School (<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>)
HIGHER EDUCATION			
University			
	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	4-5 yrs. + thesis	Diploma (<i>Diplom za zavarsono visse obrazovanie</i>)
	<i>Diplom za zavarsono visse obrazovanie Kandidat</i>	3-4 yrs. research + thesis research + thesis	Candidate of Sciences degree (<i>Kandidat na naukite</i>)
Engineering	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	5 yrs.	Doctor of Sciences (<i>Doktor na naukite</i>)
Medicine	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	6 yrs.	<i>Diplom in specialization</i>
Dentistry	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	5 yrs.	<i>Diplom in Specialization</i>
Pharmacy	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	5 yrs.	<i>Diplom in Specialization</i>
Veterinary medicine	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	5 yrs.	<i>Diplom in Specialization</i>
TEACHER TRAINING			
Teacher Institute	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	2-3 yrs.	Primary Teacher's qualification (<i>udostoverenie za pedagogiceska rabota</i>)
University or Institute	<i>Diplom za zavarsono sredno obrazovanie</i>	4-5 yrs.	Secondary Teacher's Qualification
GRADING SCALE:			
	0-6 (6 being maximum); 3 is passing.		

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: the modern state of Czechoslovakia was not formed until after World War I, and combined republics with great disparities in educational systems. Czech-speaking Bohemia and Moravia had a well-developed system that included Charles University in Prague (1348), the oldest university in Central Europe, as well as the Czech University of Technology (1707), the first school of engineering in Central Europe. In contrast, education in Slovakia under the control of Hungary had been neglected. Slovakia's Comenius University, its first, was not established until 1919. Even today, separate Czech and Slovak ministries of education administer and finance the two areas, and the language of instruction is predominantly Czech in the Czech Republic and Slovak in the Republic of Slovakia.

Education is free at all levels, and is mandatory for children ages 6 to 16. An eight-year basic compulsory school is followed by a four-year secondary program of general, technical or apprenticeship training. There are no private schools of any kind. Even theological faculties which train future clergy are run by the state.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
Elementary School (<i>Zakladní škola</i>)			
Lower Level		4 yrs.	
Upper Level		4 yrs.	
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
Academic (<i>gymnasia</i>)	Completion of 8 yrs.	4 yrs.	Maturity Certificate (<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>)
Vocational (<i>středně odborné školy</i>)	Completion of 8 yrs.	4 yrs.	Maturity Certificate (<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>)
Vocational Training Center			
(<i>střední odborná učiliště</i>)	Completion of 8 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	Trade/Technician's qualification
HIGHER EDUCATION			
University			
	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	4-5 yrs.	<i>Diplom</i>
	<i>Diplom</i>	2 yrs. + thesis	<i>Doktor</i>
	<i>Doktor</i>	minimum 3 yrs. + thesis	Candidate of Sciences (<i>Kandidát věd</i>)
	<i>Kandidát věd</i>	Research of variable length + thesis	Doctor of Sciences (<i>Doktor věd/ Doktor scientiarum</i>)
Engineering	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	5 yrs.	Professional Title (<i>Inženýr</i>)
Medicine	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	6 yrs.	Doctor of Medicine (<i>MUDr.</i>)
Dentistry	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	5-6 yrs.	MUDr.
Veterinary medicine	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	5.5 yrs.	MVDr.
TEACHER TRAINING			
Pedagogical Institute	Completion of 8 yrs.	4 yrs.	Kindergarten Teacher's Qualification
Pedagogical Inst.	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	4 yrs.	Primary & Lower Secondary Teacher's qualification
Pedagogical Inst.	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	5 yrs.	Secondary Teaching Cert.
Vocational School Teaching	<i>Maturitní vysvědčení</i>	5 yrs.	Vocational Teaching cert.
GRADING SCALE:			
Secondary 1-5 (1 being highest); 4 is a pass			
Higher: Fail (F), Pass (C), Good (B), Excellent (A)			



GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (EAST GERMANY): Higher education in Germany dates from the Middle Ages. The first universities were founded in Heidelberg in 1386 and in Cologne in 1388. Polytechnics were introduced in the early 1800s. German institutions of higher education became the model for most European higher education until the Nazi era, when education became politicized and standards declined. In 1949 Germany was divided into three zones of occupation by the Allies. The German Democratic Republic was ruled by the Communists, who eliminated the old three-school compulsory system, which they considered elitist, and introduced a single school to equalize educational opportunities. Private schools were abolished and in 1959 an element of technical training, or polytechnical education, was introduced at all levels.

Compulsory education begins at age six and extends through the completion of the 10th grade. In practice, more than 90 percent of students have a minimum of 12 years of school and/or vocational training. German is the language of instruction, and education is free at all levels.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION General Polytechnical high school (<i>Allgemeinbildende Polytechnische Oberschule</i> --commonly called <i>Oberschule</i>) Certificate of Completion (<i>Abschlusszeugnis</i>) 10 yrs.			
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
Extended High School (<i>Erweiterte Oberschule</i> (EOS) <i>Abschlusszeugnis</i>)	2 yrs. + exams		Maturity Certificate (<i>Abitur</i>)
Vocational Schools (<i>Berufsschulen</i>) <i>Abschlusszeugnis</i>	2 yrs. including apprenticeship 3 yrs.		Skilled worker qualification (<i>Facharbeiterbrief</i>) <i>Facharbeiterbrief</i> + <i>Abitur</i>
OTHER (Straddles Secondary/Post-Secondary)			
Specialized colleges for professional training (<i>Fachschulen</i>) Medical technology, applied arts, engineering technology, etc. <i>Abschlusszeugnis</i>	3 or 4 yrs.		Professional qualification (<i>Fachschulabschlusszeugnis</i>)
HIGHER EDUCATION			
Universities & Postsecondary institutions (Hochschulen)			
<i>Abitur</i> or <i>Fachschulabschlusszeugnis</i> <i>Diplom</i>	3-5 yrs. + thesis 3-4 yrs. research + dissertation		<i>Diplom</i> Doctor of a Scientific Discipline (<i>Doktor eines Wissenschaftszweiges</i>) Promotion A Doctor of Sciences (<i>Doktor der Wissenschaften</i>) Promotion B
<i>Doktor</i>	minimum 4 yrs. research + dissertation		
Engineering			
<i>Abitur</i>	4.5 yrs.		<i>Diplom Ingenieur</i>
<i>Abitur</i>	5 yrs.		<i>Diplom</i> in specialization
<i>Abitur</i>	5 yrs.		<i>Diplom</i> in specialization
TEACHER TRAINING			
<i>Fachschulen</i>	Completion of 10 yrs.		Teacher's Qualification for kindergarten
Pedagogical School <i>Abitur</i>	4 yrs.		Teacher's Qualification for Grades 1-4.
Pedagogical School/Institute <i>Abitur</i>	5 yrs.		<i>Diplom</i> (Teacher's Qualification for Grades 5-12)
University and <i>Hochschulen</i> <i>Abitur</i> or <i>Fachschulabschlusszeugnis</i>	4 yrs. + thesis 4 yrs.		<i>Diplom</i>
GRADING: School and Higher: 1-5 (1 is the maximum); 4 is the minimum pass.			

HUNGARY: Universities were first established by the church in the 14th and 15th centuries but functioned only for a few decades. Turkish occupation from 1526 to 1683 suppressed church-based education and was followed by Hapsburg domination until after World War I. While the first unified Hungarian school system was created in 1777, a hierarchical social system confined education to the elite. It was only in 1868, after public education between the ages of 6 and 12 years was made compulsory and free, that illiteracy among the general population began to wane. The system was modeled after those of Central Europe.

The foundation of Hungary's present socialist education system was laid in 1948 and provided for a mandatory eight-year elementary school and four years of secondary school, including vocational training. Although the national language of instruction is Hungarian, some separate schools are maintained for Germans, Yugoslavs, Romanians and Slovaks with instruction in their native languages. Elementary and secondary education are free; students must pay a nominal fee for higher education but 90 percent of these students receive some kind of grant.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (<i>általános iskola</i>)			
SECONDARY EDUCATION (<i>középfoku iskolak</i>)			
Academic (<i>gimnazium</i>)		8 yrs.	
Technical Secondary School (<i>Szakkozepiskola</i>)		4 yrs.	Maturity Certificate (<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>)
		4-5 yrs.	Technical Secondary School-leaving Certificate (<i>Szakkozepiskolai technikus bizonyitvany</i>)
		3 yrs.	Certificate of Skilled Worker (<i>Szakmunkas bizonyitvany</i>)
Vocational Schools (<i>Szamunkakepzoiskola</i>)			
HIGHER EDUCATION			
University			
	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	4-5 yrs.	Certificate of Completion (<i>Absolutorium</i>)
	<i>Absolutorium</i> + state examination		Diploma (<i>Oklevel</i> /Professional title)
	<i>Oklevel</i>	variable	Doctor (<i>Egyetemi Doktor</i>)
	<i>Oklevel</i> or <i>Egyetemi Doktor</i>	variable	Candidate of Sciences (<i>Tudomany kandidatus oklevel</i>)
	<i>Kandidatus</i> variable (research + dissertation)	6 yrs.	Doctor of Sciences (<i>Tudomany doktora</i>)
Medicine	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	5 yrs.	Doctor of Medicine (<i>Orvosdoktori oklevel</i>)
Dentistry	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	5 yrs.	Doctor of Dentistry (<i>Fogorvosdoktori oklevel</i>)
Pharmacy	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	5 yrs.	Doctor of Pharmacy (<i>Gyogyszereszdoktori oklevel</i>)
Engineering	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	5 yrs. + thesis	Diploma in engineering (<i>Mernoki oklevel</i>)
TEACHER EDUCATION			
Nursery/Kindergarten Teacher Training School (<i>ovoda pedagogusi/ovonokepzo intezetek</i>)		2 yrs.	Primary Teacher Diploma (<i>Ovonoj oklevel</i>)
Teacher's Training Institute (<i>tanitokepzo</i>)	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	3 yrs.	Lower Primary Teacher Diploma (<i>Tanitoj oklevel</i>)
Teacher's Training College (<i>tanarkepzo foiskola</i>)	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	4 yrs.	Upper Level Elementary Teaching Certificate (<i>Tanari oklevel</i>)
University (<i>tudomanyegyetem</i>)	<i>Erettsegi bizonyitvany</i>	5 yrs.	<i>Oklevel</i>
GRADING SCALE:			
School: 1-5 (5 being highest); 2 a pass			
Higher: 4.51 = Summa cum laude; 3.51 = cum laude; 2-3.50 = rite (pass)			



POLAND: Catholicism and external political forces have played a large role in education. The first institutions were started in the Middle Ages to train members of the clergy, and the Jagellonian University in Cracow was founded in 1364. The first Ministry of Education in Europe was Poland's Commission of National Education, created in 1773. Standards of education declined from 1772 to 1918 while Poland was occupied and partitioned off among Austria, Prussia and Russia. The Polish Communist state which emerged after World War II attempted to secularize learning. However, religious influences continued in education.

Poland's current educational system offers free and compulsory elementary schooling for eight years, from age 7. Although Poland attempted to extend compulsory education to ten years from 1978, economic hardship and a lack of teachers have hampered the attainment of this goal. Tuition is free at tertiary institutions and government-funded student housing and scholarships also assist students. The language of instruction is Polish.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
Basic School (<i>szkoly podstawowy</i>)		8 yrs.	
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
General (<i>licea ogólnokształcące/szkoly ogólnokształcące</i>)		4 yrs.	Maturity Certificate (<i>swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>)
Basic Vocational schools	Completion 8 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	Certificate of Completion of Basic Vocational School (<i>swiadcetwo ukonczenia zasadniczej szkoly zawodowej</i>)
Secondary Vocational Schools (<i>szkoly zawodowe</i>)	Completion 8 yrs.	5 yrs.	Technical Maturity Certificate (<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci-technikum</i>)
<i>Swiadcetwo ukonczenia zasadniczej szkoly zawodowe</i>		2-3 yrs.	Technical Maturity Certificate (<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci-technikum</i>)
Secondary Technical Schools (<i>technikumy</i>)	Completion 8 yrs.	5 yrs.	Technical Maturity Certificate (<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci-technikum</i>)
OTHER			
Post-lyceum Schools (<i>szkoly pomaturalne/szkoly policealne</i>)			
<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>		2 yrs.	Technician's Diploma (<i>Dyplom ukonczenia policealnego studium zawodowego</i>)
HIGHER EDUCATION*			
* Although an entrance exam is required for applicants to higher education, winners of national competitions (<i>olimpiada</i>) in secondary school subjects are exempt.			
University			
	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	4-5 yrs.	Magister
	Magister	minimum 2 yrs. research & dissertation	Doktor
	Doktor	exceptional research	Doktor Habilitowany (<i>dr. hab.</i>)
Medicine	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	6 yrs.	Dyplom lekarza
Dentistry	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	5.5 yrs.	Dyplom Lekarz stomatolog
Engineering	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	4 yrs.	Inzynier
	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	4.5-5 yrs.	Magister-inzynier
TEACHER TRAINING			
Teacher training schools (<i>wyższe szkoly nauczycielskie</i>)			
	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	4 yrs.	Magister pedagogiki
	<i>Swiadcetwo dojrzalosci</i>	4 yrs.	Magister pedagogiki
Universities			
GRADING LE:	2-5 (5 being highest); 3 is a pass		

ROMANIA: Church schools existed as early as 1001. The Princely Academies established in Bucharest (1694) and Iasi (1714) were cultural centers for all of southeast Europe. Between World Wars I and II, five universities and a number of professional institutions already existed.

Romania has a 10-year compulsory system for students between ages 6-16. Education is funded by the State and is free at all levels. Secondary education is offered in 4-year lycea which are of several categories: industrial, agro-industrial, economics, health services and sciences. The first two years of the lycea are open to all, but students wishing to enter a particular tract must take an entrance exam for placement if positions are limited.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
Primary School		4 yrs.	
Gymnasium		4 yrs.	
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
General Lycee (first level)	Completion 8 yrs.	2 yrs.	Certificate of Completion (<i>Absolevire</i>)
General Lycee (second level)	First level + exam	2 yrs.	Secondary School Leaving Cert. (<i>Bacalaureat/Maturitate</i>) <i>Diplome</i>
Specialized Lycee	Completion 8 yrs.	4-5 yrs. including apprenticeship	
Vocational School	Completion 8 yrs.	1-1.5 yrs. including apprenticeship	
Vocational Apprentice Schools (<i>Scoli Profesionale de Ucenici</i>)	Completion 8 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	Certificate of Completion
	<i>Absolevire</i>	1-2 yrs.	Certificate of Completion
HIGHER EDUCATION			
University	Bacc. + entrance exam	3-5 yrs.	State diploma/License (<i>Diploma de stat/Licenta</i>) Doctorat
Engineering	<i>Diploma de stat/Licenta</i> Doctorat	3-4 yrs. + thesis Professional distinction & publications	Doctor Docent of Science (<i>Doctor docent in stinile</i>) Jr. Engineer (<i>Diploma de subinginer</i>) <i>Diploma de inginer</i> <i>Diploma de doctor</i> <i>Diploma de rhitect</i>
Medicine	Bacc.	3 yrs.	
Architecture	Bacc.	5 yrs.	
TEACHER TRAINING	Bacc.	6 yrs.	
Pedagogical High School	Completion 8 yrs.	6 yrs.	
Teacher Training College (<i>Institut Pedagogic</i>)		2 yrs.	Qualification for Nursery School Teacher (<i>educatoare</i>) and Primary School Teacher (<i>invatatori</i>)
University	Bacc.	3-4 yrs.	Diploma for Middle School Teacher (<i>profesor</i>)
	Bacc.	4 yrs.	Diploma for University-level teacher

GRADING SCALE: Lower & Secondary: 10-4 (10 being highest); 5 is minimum pass.

Higher: 1-10 (10 being highest); 5 is the minimum pass, but 6 is the minimum pass mark in the final examinations.



USSR: Although schools under the auspices of the church existed from the fourth and fifth centuries, and the Slavonic Cyrillic alphabet appeared in the ninth century, the country was considered educationally backward until the Bolsheviks seized power in 1917. The principle of egalitarianism was introduced into education, making possible the highly literate population which exists today. The reforms of 1917 banned private schools and put education under the exclusive control of the state. Education became universal, free and secular. Subsequent reforms emphasized polytechnicism. Although Russian is the official language of instruction, teaching is also offered in 50 other languages used by the more than 100 different nationalities of the Republics and Regions.

Education is compulsory from ages 7 to 17; a 1984 Reform is gradually lowering the compulsory age for Primary School to age 6. An extensive system of part-time study also exists. Technical secondary education in the Soviet Union is divided into Vocational/Technical Institutes (*professional'noe techniceskoe/ucil'sce PTU*) which provide the vocational training opportunities of a cooperative education, and Specialized Secondary schools (*srednoe special'nogo ucebnoe zavadenie SSUZ*). The latter straddle both secondary and higher education, and can be of two types: the *technikum* or the *ucil'sce*. Both offer integrated programs including technical education and academic subjects. The *technikum* offers programs in highly skilled technical and clerical occupations. The *ucil'sce* provides programs focused on occupations such as nursing, health care, librarianship, and lower-level teaching certificates.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION			
SECONDARY LEVEL			
Academic		8 yrs.	Maturity Cert. (<i>Attestat zrelosti</i>)
Vocational/Technical		2 yrs.	Technical/Trade School Diploma
		3 yrs (for 8 grade graduates) 1 yr. (for 10 grade graduates)	(<i>Svidetel'stvo/Diplom ob okoncanji Srednego special'nogo ucebnoe zavadenija</i>)
Specialized Secondary Schools (<i>SSUZ</i>) (<i>Technikum/ucil'sce</i>)			
Entrance exam		4 yrs. (for 8 grade graduates)	Diploma of Specialized Secondary School
Entrance exam		2 yrs. (for 10 grade graduates)	(<i>Diplom ob okoncanjisrednego special'nogo Ucebnoe zavadenija</i>)
HIGHER EDUCATION			
Universities & Postsecondary Institutions			
	Attestat zrelosti or technician's diploma	4-5 yrs.	Diploma of Completion in specialization (<i>Diplom ob okoncanjis ucebnoe zave deniya</i>)
	Diplom		Kandidat nauk
	Kandidat nauk + significant professional accomplishments	2-3 yrs. research + dissertation	Doktor nauk
Medicine		6 yrs.	Diplom/professional qualification
Engineering		5 yrs.	Diplom/professional qualification
Dentistry		5 yrs.	Diplom/professional qualification
TEACHER TRAINING			
Pedagogic School (<i>Pedagogicheskoe Uchilishche</i>)			Diplom for Nursery/Primary School Teacher
	Completion 8 yrs.	4 yrs.	Diplom for Nursery/Primary School Teacher
	Completion 10 yrs.	2 yrs.	
Pedagogic Institute (<i>Pedagogichesky Institut</i>)			
	Completion 10 yrs.	4 yrs.	Diplom ob okoncanji vyssego ucebnoe zavadenija

GRADING SCALE: 2-5 (5 being highest); 3 is passing.

YUGOSLAVIA: This ethnically heterogeneous Balkan country is divided into six republics (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia) and two autonomous provinces (Kosovo and Vojvodina). The five principal ethnic groups in order of population are Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, Macedonians and Bosnian Moslems. Although the Jesuits founded schools of theology and philosophy in Zagreb in 1662, Yugoslavia had only three universities until well after World War II and opportunities for education at any level varied widely among the Republics.

Each of the Republics and provinces has control over its system of education; the language of instruction in each is that of the dominant ethnic group. The Latin alphabet is used in Croatia and Slovenia and the Cyrillic in Serbia, Montenegro, and Macedonia. Only primary education is compulsory from ages 7 to 15, or grades one through eight. Secondary education is available in different types of schools, some aiming only at vocational preparation, although recent reforms have attempted to introduce a common curriculum for the first two years of all secondary schools. Recent reforms also have established several levels for higher education. Tuition at institutions of higher education is free, and a well-developed system of grants and scholarships exists. Universities are autonomous.

LEVEL	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	PROGRAM LENGTH	DEGREE/CERTIFICATE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (<i>osnovna škola</i>)		8 yrs.	Elementary School Diploma
SECONDARY SCHOOL (<i>srednja škola</i>)			
Vocational School (<i>škole za kvalifikovane radnike</i>)	Elementary School Diploma	2-3 yrs. + apprenticeship/practical training	Diploma (a vocational qualification)
Technical School (<i>techničke škole</i>)	Elementary School Diploma	4 yrs. 4 yrs.	<i>Matura</i> with professional qualification <i>Matura</i>
Academic (<i>gimnazija</i>)	Elementary School Diploma		
HIGHER EDUCATION			
University			
Level I	Matura + entrance exam (optional)	2-3 yrs.	<i>Diploma, I stepen/stručni naziv</i> (professional qualification)
Level II	Matura + entrance exam	4-5 yrs.	<i>Diploma, II stepen/stručni naziv</i> (high professional qualification)
Level III	Level I <i>Diplom II stepen</i>	2-3 yrs. 1-2 yrs.	<i>Diploma, II stepen/stručni naziv</i> Master's (<i>Magistar</i>), <i>stepen III</i> or Specialist (<i>specijalist</i>)
TEACHER TRAINING	<i>Magistar</i>	2 yrs. research + dissertation	Doktor upon examination
Teachers' School (<i>uciteljski školi</i>)	Completion 8 yrs.	5 yrs.	Diploma for teacher of grades 1-4
Pedagogical School (<i>visi pedagoski škola</i>)	Completion 8 yrs.	6 yrs.	Diploma for Teacher of grades 5-8
Pedagogical Academy	(<i>pedagoska akademija</i>) Matura from gymnasium or technical school Gymnazija	2 yrs. 2 yrs.	Diploma for teacher of grades 5-8 Diploma for Upper Secondary Teacher
GRADING SCALE:	Secondary 1-5 (5 is highest); 2 is minimum pass. Higher: Slovenia & Croatia 1-5 Maximum; 2 = minimum pass In other Republics: 5-10 Maximum; 6 = minimum pass		

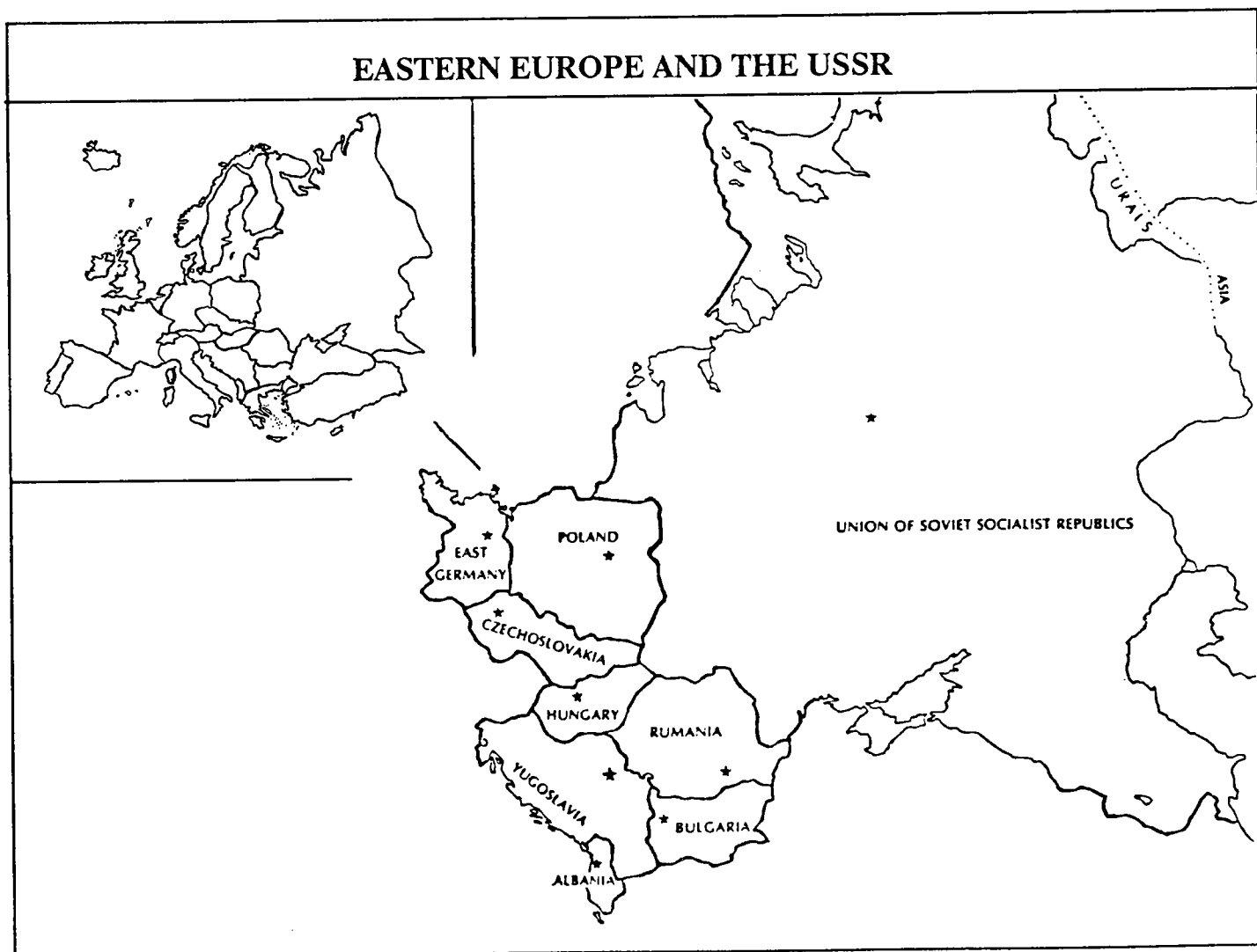
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EASTERN EUROPE AND THE USSR



SAMPLE EVALUATIONS

Country YUGOSLAVIA

Institution University of Skopje (also known as Kiril and Metodij University in Skopje)

Credential DIPLOMA, *I STEPEN* (First Phase)

Assessment Admission to this program follows high school graduation. The Diploma was awarded following completion of *I stepen* of an electrotechnical engineering program (two to three years of study). Emphasis in the "first phase" of studies is on practical work. It is equivalent to an associate degree from a community college in the United States.



Institution University of Zagreb

Credential DIPLOMA, *II STEPEN* (Second Phase)

Assessment: The Diploma was awarded following completion of *II stepen* of an electrical engineering program (two to three years of study after *I stepen*). It should be noted that admission to the "second phase" could also follow high school graduation and the successful completion of a university entrance examination. It is equivalent to a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from an accredited institution in the United States.

Institution University of Zagreb

Credential DIPLOMA, *III STEPEN* (Third Phase)

Assessment The diploma was awarded following completion of *III stepen* of an electrical engineering program (one to two years of study). It is equivalent to a master's degree in electrical engineering from an accredited institution in the United States.

