

Treaty on Mutual Recognition of Degrees of Institutions of Higher Education and the Access to Higher Education between the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Government of the People's Republic of China

Article II

Higher Education Degrees concerned

1. In the Netherlands:

The Higher education degrees that are relevant for this Agreement are the following:

Bachelor degree;

Master degree;

Doctor degree;

There are three types of higher education institutions that offer degree programmes in the Netherlands:

The hogeschool(university of professional education);

The universiteit(research university);

The stelling voor internationaal onderwijs (institution for international education).

The higher education institutions and the accredited bachelor and/or master programmes they offer are registered in the Central Register Programmes Higher Education(Centraal Register Opleidingen Hoger Onderwijs -CROHO).

Accredited bachelor programmes are offered by both the *hogeschool* and the *universiteit*. Accredited master programmes are offered by the *hogeschool*, the *universiteit* and the *instelling voor internationaal onderwijs*.

Accredited programmes require completion of: 180 at the universiteit or 240 (at the hogeschool) credit points for a bachelor; 60 -180 credit points for a master degree, after successful completion of a bachelor programme.

The doctor degree primarily concerns a research degree for which a dissertation based on original research must be written and publicly defended, in the framework of a 4-year's Ph.D programme or independently. A doctor degree can be granted by a universiteit or another institution that has been approved by the Minister. The Ph.D. education programme leading to a doctor degree is open to holders of a master degree, exemption of which can be granted by the College Voor Promoties (doctorate board) in particular cases.

2. In China:

The higher education degrees that are relevant for this Agreement are the following:

Xueshi (bachelor degree); four years of full-time study;

Shuoshi (master degree): xueshi and two to three years of shuoshi study;

Boshi (doctor degree): xuezhi and two to three years of shuoshi study and three to four years of boshi study; or xueshi and five to six years boshi study.

The boshi primarily concerns a research degree for which a dissertation based on original research must be written and publicly defended. The boshi can be granted by a university or by research institutions approved by the state authorities.

Article III

Mode of Access into the Higher Education institutions

1. In the Netherlands:

a. Chinese students applying for admission to the first year of professionally oriented bachelor courses in the Netherlands must prove that they have passed the provincial comprehensive examination (huikao) and the national college entrance examinations (gaokao), or a comparable entrance examination as determined by the *hogeschool*, and have been admitted to the first year of the selected programme.

b. Chinese students applying for admission to the first year of bachelor courses at the *universiteit* in the Netherlands must prove that they have passed the provincial comprehensive examination (huikao) and the national college entrance examinations (gaokao) and have been admitted to the first year of the selected programme. On a case-by-case basis additional requirements may be set.

c. Chinese students who completed sub-degree courses of a duration of two or three years may be admitted to the third or fourth year of the bachelor degree programme in their field of study, mainly in the professional education stream, in the Netherlands.

d. Chinese students who obtained a bachelor's degree may be admitted to a master programme in their field of study in the Netherlands. Depending on the orientation of the bachelor's programme, admission to a master programme in the Netherlands may be accompanied by a bridging programme.

e. Chinese students who obtained a master's degree may be admitted to a Ph.D. programme in their field of study in the Netherlands.

f. Bachelor and master programme students from Chinese higher education institutions may apply to the Netherlands higher education institutions to be conceded to continue and conclude their study at a corresponding degree course at the particular institution in the Netherlands that has been applied for.

The individual higher education institution shall autonomously decide about the admission of students. In every case, the individual institution may set additional requirements.

2. In China:

a. The Netherlands students who obtained a general senior secondary education (HAVO or VWO) diploma may be admitted to the appropriate level of a bachelor programme at Chinese universities.

b. The Netherlands students who obtained a bachelor degree may be admitted to a master's degree programme in their field of study in China.

c. The Netherlands students who obtained a master degree may be admitted to a Ph.D programme in their field of study in China

d. Bachelor and master programme students from the Netherlands higher education institution may apply to Chinese higher education institutions to be conceded to continue and conclude their study at a corresponding degree course at the particular institution in China that has been applied for.

The individual higher education institution shall autonomously decide about the admission of students. In every case, the individual institution may set additional requirements.

Article IV

Application of the Academic Degrees

1. The following degree holders in China:

Xueshi (bachelor);

Shuoshi (master);

Use the above-mentioned form of academic degrees together with the explanations in the brackets in the Netherlands;

Boshi(doctor);

Indicate in the Netherlands that in China this is an academic degree at the level of a PhD.

2. The following degree holders in the Netherlands:

Bachelor (xueshi) ;

Master (shuoshi);

Doctor (boshi);

Use the above mentioned form of academic degrees in the same way as in the Netherlands together with the explanations in the brackets in China.

Article V

Territorial applicability

With respect to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this Agreement shall only apply to its territory in Europe.

Article VI

Entry into force, duration and termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date on which both Contracting Parties have informed each other of the completion of their respective constitutional procedures.

2. This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by either Contracting Parties by giving six month's notice in writing through diplomatic channels.

Done at Beijing, China, on 30 May 2005, in duplicate in the Dutch, Chinese and English language, the text in each of the languages being equally authentic; In the event of differences of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.