

## Note 5

In this regard, the L.D. 18/2014, in transposition of Directive 2011/95/UE, introduced a provision that supports a system of qualification recognition in the absence of original official documentation. Specifically, paragraph 3-bis of Art. 26 of L.D. 251/2007, as amended by **L.D. 18/2014**, provides that "for the recognition of professional qualifications, diplomas, certificates, and other titles issued abroad to holders of refugee or subsidiary protection status, the **competent authorities shall identify appropriate assessment**, validation, and credit systems that allow the recognition of qualifications pursuant to Art. 49 of the Presidential Decree of 31 August 1999, n. 394, **even in the absence of original certification by the State in which the qualification was obtained, if the interested party proves that he cannot physically acquire such certification**".

If original documentation is available, the procedure still provides for a declaration of validity, which attests the validity of the foreign academic qualification and is issued by the Italian Embassy or relevant representative office in the country where the issuing institution is located.

Administrative assistance may also be carried out through the so-called "**dichiarazione di valore in loco**" (on-site validity declaration). In fact, **the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs directly assists the beneficiary of international protection in order to obtain the formal declaration of validity**. Specifically, Office VII (Promozione della lingua e dell'editoria italiane, internazionalizzazione delle università, borse di studio) of the **DGSP requests on-site validity declaration on behalf of the interested party, and then proceeds to send it to him by mail**.

Required documentation:

- Academic qualification(s), if available, in original copy;
- Copy of documentation attesting the title of international protection holder;
- A personal information sheet, containing the applicant's complete address and telephone number.

Contact:

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