WHAT IS A MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP?

The European Union’s Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) was adopted in 2005 with the aim of addressing all relevant aspects of migration in a balanced and comprehensive way. One of the objectives of this policy framework was to translate the strategic priorities of the EU in the area of migration and mobility into concrete proposals for dialogue and cooperation with non-EU countries.

The GAMM proposes a framework for EU external migration, asylum and mobility policy. The Mobility Partnerships (MPs), an integral element, make it possible for the non-EU partner countries to be part of this framework. The MPs are tailor-made to the shared interests and concerns of the partner country and EU participants. They hold as a main objective the desire to ‘bring together all the measures to ensure that migration and mobility are mutually beneficial for the EU and its partners, including opportunities for greater labour mobility’. The MP with the Republic of Azerbaijan was signed in December 2013.

The EU-Azerbaijan MP aims, inter alia, at informing Azerbaijani citizens about opportunities for legal migration, including studying in the EU Member States.

ABOUT THE MOBILAZE PROJECT

The EU funded project ‘Support to the Implementation of the Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan’ (MOBILAZE) is one of the outcomes of Azerbaijan’s continued progress in the implementation of the MP. The project started in January 2016 and will last for three years.

MOBILAZE is jointly implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and seven EU Member States – signatories of the MP with Azerbaijan: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia.

The overall purpose of the project is to provide support for the different migration policy areas established in the MP, namely legal migration and mobility, the fight against irregular migration, support for asylum policy and to maximize the developmental impact of migration. MOBILAZE has five project components corresponding to the objectives defined in the MP Declaration.
INTRODUCTION

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Disclaimer
This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of ICMPD and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

The information provided in this brochure shall be used for reference purposes only. The information was collected in 2018 and is accurate to the best of our knowledge. However, neither ICMPD nor the European Union can be held liable for any damage caused by possible discrepancies and changes in the legislation made later.

We encourage applicants to cross-check visa and residency requirements with the embassies and migration authorities of the European Union Member States and diploma nostrification questions with the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan.

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INTRODUCTION

WHO IS THIS BROCHURE MADE FOR?

This brochure has been designed both for Azerbaijani students who are still considering going abroad to the EU for education purposes and for those who have already made up their minds.

Here, we have summarised practical information and have provided tips on how to navigate visa and residence permit requirements as well as what to keep in mind following your return to Azerbaijan to make sure that your diploma is recognised back in your home country.

The information provided has been verified with the EU Member States, partners of the MOBILAZE project, as well as with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. On this occasion we would like to thank our European and Azerbaijani partners for their cooperation in the preparation of this publication.

The brochure has three sections:

1. **Pre-departure information**

This part will guide you through the main principles on applying for a visa to enter the EU for education purposes and help you to understand what basic documents you will need.

2. **Country-specific information**

In this brochure we mainly focus on the entry and residence rules for Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia. These countries are the MOBILAZE project partners and also signatories of the MP with the Republic of Azerbaijan. However, if you are planning a trip to an EU country not listed in the brochure, you still might find our information useful, as entry and residence permit requirements are similar in some of the EU countries. In that sense, this publication can be a good starting point for you in your application process. In the country-specific information section we look primarily into long-term entry visa and residency requirements. If you need to apply for a Schengen visa, all the necessary information is available for you in Section 1: Pre-departure information.
3. Steps to be taken following your return to Azerbaijan

In this section we will talk about procedures that you will need to undergo to get your foreign diploma recognised in Azerbaijan, namely the nostrification procedure. You will need to prepare certain documents from your EU university and it is good to prepare these documents in advance, prior to your return to Azerbaijan.

4. References

The references section provides information on the EU legislation for visas, as well as the EU information sources on education. It also provides links to Azerbaijani legislation on nostrification.

1 Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia

“Never regard study as a duty but as an enviable opportunity to learn and know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later works belong”.
- Albert Einstein
I. What you need to know before you go abroad

You have been accepted to study at a university in the EU: what to do next? The answer is: you have to apply for your visa.

First of all, don’t waste time. Even if you haven’t received a positive answer from a university of your choice, you can check visa information on the website of the Embassy of the intended country of destination. You will see a list of documents that are needed and you can get an idea of what you already have and what you will still need to prepare. Once you have heard from the university that you have been accepted, act fast and submit your visa application without any delay. If you need to apply for a long-term visa, it might take longer to issue and you do not want to waste time and be late for the beginning of the semester.

Act fast and apply for your visa as soon as you can after you have received a positive answer from your university. Long-term visas usually take longer to be issued and you don’t want to waste time or be late for the semester start.

On this occasion we also encourage you to check with your intended university as to what documents you will need to provide for enrolment once you are in the EU. Sometimes these are the same documents that you need for your visa (i.e. a certified translation of your birth certificate), but sometimes you need additional documents from Azerbaijan. It is essential to know this in advance, while you are still in Azerbaijan.

II. Types of visas and required documents

Although the details of visa and residence permit requirements may differ from one EU Member State to another, the main principles are the same:

a) If your stay and the duration of the intended course are shorter than 90 days – e.g. for short-term academic programmes or language courses – you will need to apply for a Schengen Visa (visa type C). Once you receive your visa in Azerbaijan, you are good to go and do not need to take any further steps with migration authorities from your country of study.

b) If your stay and the duration of the intended course are longer than 90 days – e.g. for long-term academic programmes including graduate or PhD courses – you will most likely need to apply for a national visa (visa type D). This type of visa will make you eligible to apply for a temporary residence permit in your country.
of study and this is usually not possible with a Schengen visa. Some countries, however, allow applying for a residence permit directly at their embassies without applying for a national visa first.

The minimum basic set of documents for a visa application (regardless of the type) includes:

- **Your passport**
  *Please, check the date of expiry in your passport to ensure it is still valid with the Embassy. Usually your passport needs to be valid for at least 6 months at the time of your visa application date.*

- **2 passport-sized photos (3,5 x 4,5 cm)**

- **Visa application form**

- **Letter of acceptance from your university**

- **Health insurance**

- **Proof of available financial means**
  *Usually a student needs to prove that he or she has enough money to sustain living in a foreign country independently. Each country sets a minimum amount per month. One of the ways to provide guarantees of available financial means would be a bank statement. If you have been awarded a scholarship to study in the EU, you can provide a letter notifying you about the scholarship award and its amount.*

- **Travel itinerary**
  *A reservation or a print-out from the Internet showing when you want to fly should be sufficient. Do not buy your flight ticket before your visa is issued.*

In addition to the absolute minimum listed above, the Embassy might request additional documents including a certified translation of your birth certificate or proof that you do not have a criminal record. Usually, you will also need a certified translation of your diplomas and a transcript of your records, but typically you would have been asked to provide this at an earlier stage, when applying to your EU university.

Carefully check the list of required documents with the Embassy of your country of destination. Make sure that you understand what type of visa you need to apply for and ask for the application response time in advance to allow for smooth planning and to avoid added stress before your departure.
COUNTRY SPECIFIC INFORMATION: visas and residence permits

BULGARIA

To study in Bulgaria for longer than 90 days, you will need to apply for a national long-term visa (type D) at the Bulgarian Embassy in Baku.

The following documents are required for a long-term national visa:

- **Passport**
  *The passport must have at least 2 empty pages, be valid for more than 3 months following the end of the anticipated period of residence in Bulgaria and must not be older than 10 years.*

- **Recent passport-sized colour photo (3,5 x 4,5 cm)**

- **Visa application form**

- **Letter of acceptance from the university**

- **Proof of payment of a visa fee**

- **Health insurance** (with the minimum coverage of EUR 30.000)
  *The health insurance shall cover all medical expenses, including transportation from Bulgaria in case of medical emergency and cover procedures in case of death.*

- **Proof of available financial means**
  *It shall be at the level of the minimum scholarship for the duration of stay in Bulgaria.*

- **Document confirming that you have a place to stay (accommodation) in Bulgaria**

- **Certificate of criminal records**

Moreover, when you apply for your visa at the Embassy, your fingerprints will be taken.

Upon obtaining a national visa and arriving in Bulgaria a student must apply for a continuous residence permit for education purposes valid for the initial period of 1 year. The application for a residence permit shall be submitted prior to visa expiration (latest 14 working days before the expiration) and shall be made at the Ministry of Interior (the Migration Directorate at the central level in Sofia or at the Migration Sectors/Groups at a regional level).

The following documents are needed for a residence permit application for education purposes:

- **A copy of the passport page with your picture and personal data, a copy of its pages containing the last Bulgarian entry stamp and a copy of the Bulgarian entry visa**
Recent passport-sized colour photo (3,5 x 4,5 cm)

Application form

*The form is written in the Bulgarian language and must be completed in Bulgarian.*

Original documents that were presented to support the application for a long-term visa

Obligatory health insurance valid in Bulgaria

Proof of having accommodation in Bulgaria (i.e. documents from the dormitory or a certified copy of an apartment lease contract)

A certificate of enrolment for study in a Bulgarian University, issued by the Ministry of Education and Science and a certificate of enrolment for study in the current academic year (in Bulgarian ("uverenie") issued by university

Proof of payment for studies (if applicable) and enrolment

Proof of payment of the state fee for residence permit (BGN 100)

Criminal records

*Issued in Azerbaijan proving that you have never been convicted of a crime; to be translated and certified at the Bulgarian Embassy in Baku. The certificate cannot be older than 6 months.*

If granted, your residence permit will then be ready for pick-up in two weeks following your initial application submission. You must bring your passport, a copy of its first page, and a copy of the housing certificate or rental contract in the Bulgarian language. As a residence permit (Bulgarian ID card) will contain biometric data, a digital photo and fingerprints will be taken.

Additionally, you will be required to pay the following fees (prices are subject to change by the Bulgarian Government):

- For ID card processing in 30 days | **BGN 45**
- For 10 days processing | **BGN 90**
- For 3 days processing | **BGN 225**

For your information: the fee for an extension of your stay is BGN 100 for 1 year and BGN 210 for the period of six months.

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**The Embassy of Bulgaria in Azerbaijan**
13, Huseyn Javid prospekti
Baku, AZ 1073

**Phone:** +994 12 5386971

**Website:** [www.mfa.bg/embassies/az](http://www.mfa.bg/embassies/az)

**The Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria**

**Website:** [www.mvr.bg/en](http://www.mvr.bg/en)
THE CZECH REPUBLIC

To study in the Czech Republic for longer than 90 days you need to apply for either a long-term residence permit for the purpose of studies or for a long-term visa for the purpose of studies at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Azerbaijan.

You must submit an application for a long-term residence permit if you intend to study in the Czech Republic for a period longer than 3 months and where your studies are not part of an exchange programme.

You need to submit an application for a long-term visa if you intend to study in the Czech Republic longer than 3 months and your studies are a part of an exchange programme.  

The long-term residence permit application or the long-term visa application for the purpose of studies require the following documents:

- **Passport**
  The passport shall not be older than 10 years, it must contain at least 2 free pages and its validity must be at least 3 months longer than the validity of the long-term visa.
- **1 recent passport-sized photo** (3,5 x 4,5 cm)
- **Application form**
- **Document confirming purpose of stay** (university acceptance letter)
- **Proof of accommodation**
- **Proof of available financial means**

When you submit your application at the Embassy your fingerprints will be taken.

Additionally, upon request you may be asked to submit:

- **A certificate of criminal records from Azerbaijan and other countries where you have resided for over 6 months in the last 3 years. The extract from the criminal records may be replaced by an affidavit, if the given state does not issue such a document.**
- **A document proving the fulfilment of conditions set out by the Ministry of Health on prevention of the spread of infectious illnesses** (medical report).
- **Medical insurance for the period of stay in the Czech Republic, which corresponds to the conditions set out in § 180j of the Act on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic.**

Since September 2014 the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Azerbaijan only accepts documents for the long-term visa applications in the Czech language. With the exception of your passport, all other documents must be submitted either in the
Czech language or in a foreign language accompanied with a certified translation into the Czech language.

Within 3 working days of entering the Czech Republic, all non-EU students arriving in order to receive a long-term residence permit for the purpose of studies are obliged to inform to the Ministry of the Interior office in person to report their arrival and to collect their biometric residence card. Foreigners arriving on a long-term visa for the purpose of studies will not receive a biometric card. Therefore, their only responsibility following their arrival is to report within 3 days to the Foreign Police, unless their accommodation provider does it for them.

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2 Check for more information on entry requirements and differences between long-term residence permit and visa on the website of the Czech Ministry of Interior: http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/immigration.aspx

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The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Azerbaijan
44 J.Jabbarli Str.
Caspian Plaza, 16th floor
Baku, AZ 1065

Phone: +994 12 4368555
Website: www.mzv.cz/baku/en/index.html

The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
Website: www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/immigration.aspx
LATVIA

To study in Latvia at a Latvian University for longer than 90 days (a full-time degree programme) you are required to apply for a residence permit. Applications can be submitted either at the Embassy of Latvia in Azerbaijan or in the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of Latvia (OCMA).

If an application is submitted at the Embassy of Latvia in Azerbaijan, it will be sent to the OCMA who takes a decision and in case a positive decision is made, the Embassy will issue a long term visa (30 days validity). If an application is submitted in Latvia - in the OCMA - you need to apply for a long-term visa (60 days validity) at the Embassy first and submit all necessary documents for the residence permit after entering Latvia.

Your university can apply on your behalf as well (for a residence permit valid for the duration of your studies).

In order to apply for a residence permit, you first need to get an invitation from the university. The university usually asks for your personal data, including a copy of your passport, and information of your intended accommodation in Latvia.

After your invitation is approved, the following documents are needed for your visa and residence permit:

- **Passport**
  
  *The passport shall be valid for at least 6 months.*

- **1 recent passport-sized photo** (3,5 x 4,5 cm)

- **Residence permit application form**
  

- **Invitation**

- **Legalised criminal record extract issued by a competent institution in Azerbaijan or another country if you have resided there longer than 12 months**

- **Proof of available financial means**

  *At least 430 Euro per month: document - for example, official (original) statement from a bank with a stamp.*

- **A copy of your study agreement** (original also must be shown)

  After arrival in Latvia you need to visit the OCMA to submit biometric data for a residence permit.

  For the issuance of your residence permit you need to present:

  - Valid travel document
  - Proof of accommodation
  - Proof of health insurance
  - Document (issued by any Latvian medical institution) proving that you don’t suffer from tuberculosis.
The Embassy of Latvia in Azerbaijan
44 J.Jabbarli Str.
Caspian Plaza, 6th floor
Baku, AZ 1065
Phone: + 994 12 4366778
Website: www.mfa.gov.lv/en/azerbaijan

The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
Website: www.pmlp.gov.lv/en/home

Riga is home to the major Latvian universities (photo © Dezidor)
LITHUANIA

To study in Lithuania for longer than 90 days, you need to apply for a long-term national visa. A national visa may be single-entry or multiple-entries and shall be issued for a period not exceeding one year.

A national visa for a single-entry is issued if you have been granted a temporary residence permit for the Republic of Lithuania.

A national visa for multiple-entries is issued if you arrive in Lithuania for the consecutive full-time studies to a higher education institution operating in the Republic of Lithuania or for studies within an international student exchange programme or a student exchange programme drawn up by a Higher Education institution operating in Lithuania and a foreign Higher Education institution. In order to obtain a national visa you must provide the following documents:

- **Passport**
  
  Period of validity must be at least 3 months longer than the period of validity of a visa requested to be issued. It must contain at least two empty pages and have been issued within the past 10 years.

- **1 recent passport-sized photo** (3,5 x 4,5 cm)

- **Application form**

- **Invitation letter**

- **Health insurance**
  
  Valid during the period of your stay in the Republic of Lithuania and that covers the costs of urgent medical aid as it is defined by the Law on Health System of the Republic of Lithuania and the costs that may occur should you need to return home due to health issues (transportation, including personal health care specialist/specialists, escort).

- **Proof of available financial means**
  
  A document certifying that you are in possession of adequate means of subsistence and (or) receiving regular income for living and have enough resources to return to the country of origin or foreign country to which you have a right to travel. A sufficient level of subsistence funds for a foreign student amounts to 0.5 of the minimum monthly wage for one month. A sufficient level of return funds amounts to 1 minimum monthly wage. These documents should be translated into Lithuanian or another language specified by a civil servant of the visa service.

The documents shall be submitted in Lithuanian, Russian or English. The documents in the Azerbaijani language are also accepted, in cases where a written translation into Lithuanian, Russian or English is provided. The consular officers of the Embassy have the right to invite you for a personal interview and/or to ask for additional documents.
A visa is usually issued within 15 days, unless additional consultations or meetings are required.

When you come to Lithuania, you need to submit your application and documents for issuance of permission to temporarily reside in the Republic of Lithuania not later than four months before the expiration date of your current multiple-entry national visa. You should submit this to a Migration Service of a territorial police office, based on your place of residence.

The Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior of Lithuania is the governmental authority that makes the decisions on visas and residence permit applications. The temporary residence permit is usually issued for the period of the duration of studies, but not longer than 2 years.

The Embassy of Lithuania in Azerbaijan
Izmir pr. 23
Baku, AZ 1065

Phone: +994 12 5370407
Website: https://az.mfa.lt/az/en/

The Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior
Website: http://www.migracija.lt/
THE NETHERLANDS

To study in the Netherlands for longer than 90 days, you need to apply for a national entry visa (also referred to as MVV, Machtiging tot voorlopig verblijf). An entry visa of this type shall be followed by a residence permit application (VVR, Verblijfsvergunning Regulier) once you are in the Netherlands.

The MVV shall be requested by a host/university in the Netherlands and submitted to the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND). This is known as the MVV-TEV procedure.

Under this procedure you need to await the decision on the application from outside the Netherlands. The IND will inform the university of the decision on the MVV application. This message will indicate what you need to do and which documents you need to bring to the Embassy in order to have the MVV sticker placed in your passport, among other things.

The general requirements to study in the Netherlands are as follows:

☑️ You have (provisionally) been accepted by a university or the University of Applied Sciences as a student to a full-time accredited day programme. This university or the University of Applied Sciences is recognised as a sponsor by the IND. Recognised educational institutions are listed in the Public Register of Recognised Sponsors (for this Register, please visit www.ind.nl)

☑️ You have sufficient independent long-term funds. The amount you need is the standard amount for students living away from home as set out in the Student Finance Act 2000. This standard amount is excluding tuition fees and fees for the application procedure. For higher professional education and university education this equals EUR 870.46 per month¹

☑️ Keep in mind that once you begin studying in the Netherlands you need to obtain at least 50% of the required credits during each academic year. This is called study progress monitoring and applies to all students who have a residence permit to ‘study’. The study progress monitoring does not apply to students who have already been deregistered during the course of the academic year or to exchange students. Should the study progress of a student not be sufficient, then the recognised educational institution will report this to the IND. This can result in the loss of your residence permit.

☑️ Do you need a preparatory education or a transition year? You must complete this programme within 12 months. The study progress monitoring is also applicable to this preparatory period.
Once you have collected the MVV (sticker in your passport) you can travel to the Netherlands. The MVV is valid for 90 days. When the MVV is granted, the IND officially grants the residence through the actual distribution of the document to you. The recognised sponsor (university) does not have to submit a separate application for a residence permit when you arrive in the Netherlands, as the document is already awaiting you upon arrival. The residence permit for study is valid for the duration of education plus an additional 3 months. You can get one extra year for preparatory education or a transition year, for example, to learn Dutch. The residence permit is issued for a maximum period of 5 years.

NB: Upon arrival in the Netherlands, you must register in the Municipal Personal Records Database (BRP) in the municipality where you are going to live. To register with the municipality you need a valid passport and/or a valid residence permit proof of housing and (if available) a legalised and translated birth certificate.

3 The standard amount is determined twice a year (on January 1st and on July 1st).

The Embassy of the Netherlands in Azerbaijan*
ISR Plaza
69, Nizami Str.
Baku, AZ 1005
Phone: +994124968833
Website: https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/

Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)
Website: https://ind.nl/en

* NB: The Embassy of the Netherlands in Georgia (Tbilisi) is responsible for processing national entry visa applications of Azerbaijani citizens. We encourage to verify the conditions and requirements online: https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/travel-and-residence/visas-for-the-netherlands/long-stay-visa-mvv/azerbaijan and by getting in touch with the Embassies directly.
To study in Poland for longer than 90 days, you need to apply for a long-term visa at the Polish Embassy in Azerbaijan.

You will need to submit the following documents for your application:

- **Passport**
  - Must be valid for three months after your planned departure from Poland
- **1 recent passport-sized photo** (3,5 x 4,5 cm)
- **Application form**
- **Official letter of acceptance to a college or university in Poland**
- **School certificates and diplomas**
- **Evidence of proficiency in the language in which you intend to study**
- **Proof of available financial means**
- **Health insurance**
- **Itinerary**

The visa will be valid for no longer than 12 months and must be revalidated in a local Voivodship Office. The visa allows you to stay in Poland and visit other Schengen countries for every 90 days in every 180 days period.

The general rule is, in the case of the planned extension of the period of stay in Poland over the period specified in the visa, you need to apply for a temporary residence permit. In order to acquire the permit, you must have a valid health insurance policy and enough money to cover costs of your stay, tuition fees and return travel to Azerbaijan.

The application for a temporary residence permit should be submitted in person, no later than on the last day of your legal stay in Poland.

If you have documents in a foreign language, you should attach a translation into Polish by a sworn translator. The residence card can be collected only in person.

**The Embassy of Poland in Azerbaijan**
Kichik Gala Street 2
Baku, AZ 1000

**Phone:** +994 12 4920114
**Website:** www.baku.msz.gov.pl/en

**The Ministry of the Interior and Administration**
**Website:** https://mswia.gov.pl/en
To study in Slovakia for longer than 90 days, you need to apply for a temporary residence permit for the purposes of study at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in the Russian Federation (Moscow).

After the respective temporary residence is granted, the applicant needs to apply for a Visa type D (national visa) in order to enter Slovakia.

If the temporary residence permit is granted, the police department will send you a written notice, stating the start and expiry dates.

You will need the following documents for your application:

- **Passport**
- **2 recent passport-sized photo** (3,5 x 4,5 cm)
- **Application form:**
- **Official letter of acceptance to a university**
- **Proof of available financial means**
  Issued either in the Slovak language or translated into the Slovak language
- **Criminal records certificate**
  With apostille from Azerbaijan, and every country where you have resided for more than 90 days within the last 3 years during 6 consecutive months (in case of documents from countries other than Azerbaijan a superlegalisation of document might be needed instead of apostille). It has to be translated into the Slovak language by an officially sworn translator (the list of accepted sworn translators can be found at [https://obcan.justice.sk/infosud-registre/-/isu-registre/zoznam/tlmocnik](https://obcan.justice.sk/infosud-registre/-/isu-registre/zoznam/tlmocnik)).

None of the documents proving the purpose of stay, financial resources and criminal record can be older than 90 days on the day of filing the application for temporary residence. The embassy will send its position on the granting of temporary residence to a competent police department in Slovakia.

Within 30 days from the delivery of the application and all required documents, the foreign police office shall make its decision.

A residence permit is issued in the form of a residence card. One has to collect the residence permit at the competent foreign police office in person (in case the application for a residence permit is made at the embassy, if the permit is granted, you must apply for a national visa to be able to travel to Slovakia and collect the residence card in person).
When collecting a residence permit, the foreign police office will require you to submit (within 30 days of having collected your residence card) a medical certificate stating that you do not suffer from any exotic disease that might threaten the public health. The certificate cannot be older than 30 days. It can be obtained from some medical centres in Slovakia only and a fee will be charged.

The police department will issue the temporary residence for the purposes of study for the expected duration of study; a maximum of 6 years. With the view of allowing job seeking in the territory of the Slovak Republic, the temporary residence permit for the purpose of study remains valid for 30 days following the completion of study at a university or following the successful final examination. The proof of the completed studies is the university diploma and state examination certificate.

Students who completed their full university degree studies in Slovakia can apply for the renewal of their temporary residence after the completion of their studies, for purpose of job seeking or starting business. In this case, it can be prolonged for 9 months.

An application for the renewal of a temporary residence permit has to be filed by the student in person using an official form to the foreign police department no later than the last day of the temporary stay validity. The temporary residence is deemed eligible within the territory of the Slovak Republic after its expiration until the decision on the application for renewal of the temporary residence is made.
3 STEPS TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING YOUR RETURN TO AZERBAIJAN: Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications

The Republic of Azerbaijan is party to the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (referred to as the Lisbon Convention, developed by the Council of Europe and UNESCO and adopted by national representatives meeting in Lisbon on 8 - 11 April 1997). “Regulations on the recognition and determination of equivalence of foreign higher education specialties” approved by the executive order of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan govern the procedures of application and recognition.

The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the institution that issues the certificate of recognition. Applicants must create a request on www.ani.edu.gov.az and submit the scanned copies of the following documents:

- Diploma (original and notarized Azerbaijani translation)
- Diploma supplement (transcript) (original and notarized Azerbaijani translation)
- Identity document (ID card)
- Passport (or passports) with all pages indicating border crossing (entry and exit) stamps
- Military record or certificate of registration for military service
- Application fee receipts
- In case of transfer during the years of study - official certificate of the inter-institutional/intra-institutional transfer
- In case of admission to a bachelor’s degree based on a college diploma - college diploma.

Note! Documents 2 and 3 shall be duly legalized with an “Apostille” stamp in the state of origin prior to submission.

Please be sure to apply well in advance, as the necessary expertise can take some time to complete.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE SURE THAT THE UNIVERSITY THAT ISSUES A DIPLOMA HAS A RELEVANT LICENSE AND ACCREDITATION.
REFERENCES

Visa Policy of the EU

EU Visa Code

Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Azerbaijan on the facilitation of the issuance of visas

Education and training information portal of the European Commission
http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe_en

Erasmus + Programme
https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus_en

Diploma Nostrification rules of the Republic of Azerbaijan
www.ani.edu.gov.az

Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (in force since 01.02.1999)
http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/165

Executive order of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan for confirmation of regulations on recognition and determination of equivalence of higher education specialities of foreign countries (in force since 13.05.2003)