

# RPE-RPO recognition requirements in Europe



**Sotiris Economides**  
HERCA WG E&T in RP

# Introduction

- The concepts of the Radiation Protection Expert (RPE) and the Radiation Protection Officer (RPO) were introduced in the EU BSS.
- The requirements concerning their roles and responsibilities are set in articles 82 and 84 of the BSS.



# Introduction

## RPE:

- An individual or, if provided for in the national legislation, a group of individuals.
- Knowledge, training and experience needed to give radiation protection advice in order to ensure the effective protection of individuals.
- Competence recognised by the competent authority.
- Very good understanding of radiation protection principles and how they are applied and implemented in the workplace.
- Comprehensive understanding of the relevant national legislation and ability to advise on the appropriate actions to be taken.



# Introduction

## RPO:

- Individual technically competent in radiation protection matters relevant for a given type of practice to supervise or perform the implementation of the radiation protection arrangements.
- Adequate level of understanding of concepts related to radiation protection.
- Acquainted with the safe and secure use of radiation sources as relevant to the application.
- Level of training dependent on the complexity of the radiation application and the associated duties and radiation protection tasks.



# Introduction



The HERCA WG on E&T in radiation protection has:

- established a **guidance** to support the MSs in their efforts to implement the EU-BSS requirements for RPE and RPO.
- **collected information (CFS)** from the MSs on the implementation of EU-BSS requirements concerning education, training, and retraining as well as the related mechanisms for the recognition of the RPEs and where appropriate the RPOs.



# Collected info

|     | A/a | Information  |
|-----|-----|--|
| RPE | 1   | Implementation   |
|     | 2   | Related terminology  |
|     | 3   | Translation of the term                                    |
|     | 4   | Role   |
|     | 5   | Categories   |
|     | 6   | Recognition arrangements                                   |
|     | 7   | Initial recognition requirements                           |
|     | 8   | Function covered by group of persons                       |
| RPO | 1   | Graded and/or practice specific approach in RPO assignment |
|     | 2   | Company employee or external                               |
|     | 3   | Training approved by PB/NA                                 |
|     | 4   | E&T requirements   |



# RPE concept

**Implemented**

28/29 MSs

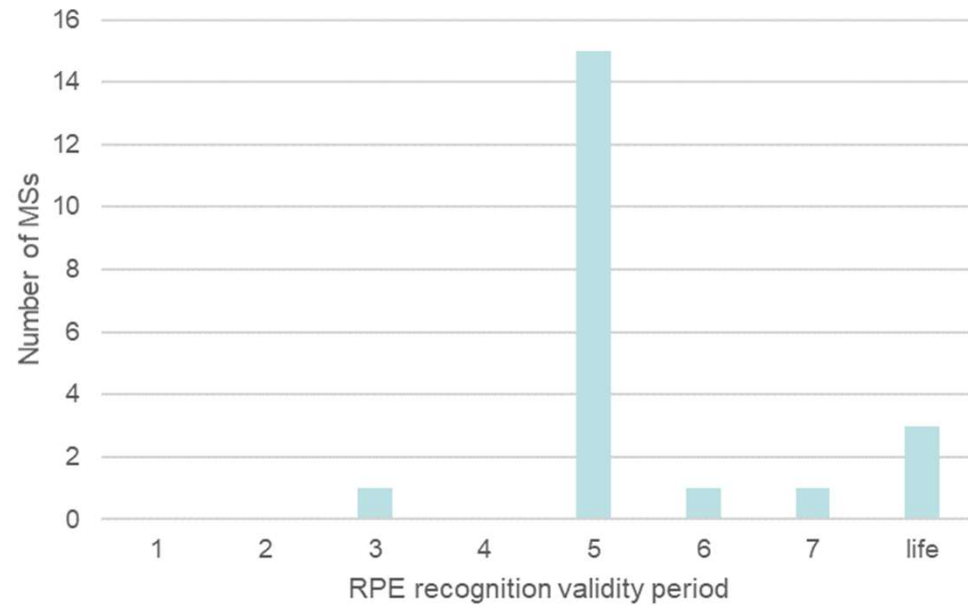
**Recognized  
by the RA**

28/29 MSs



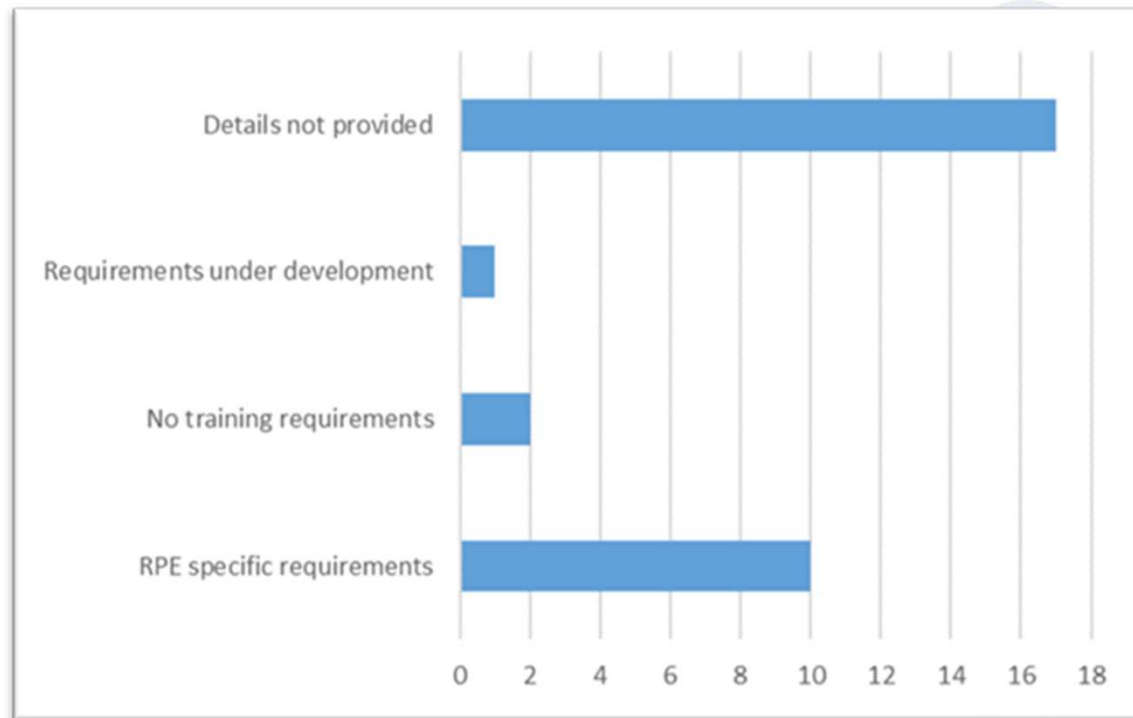


# RPE recognition validity period

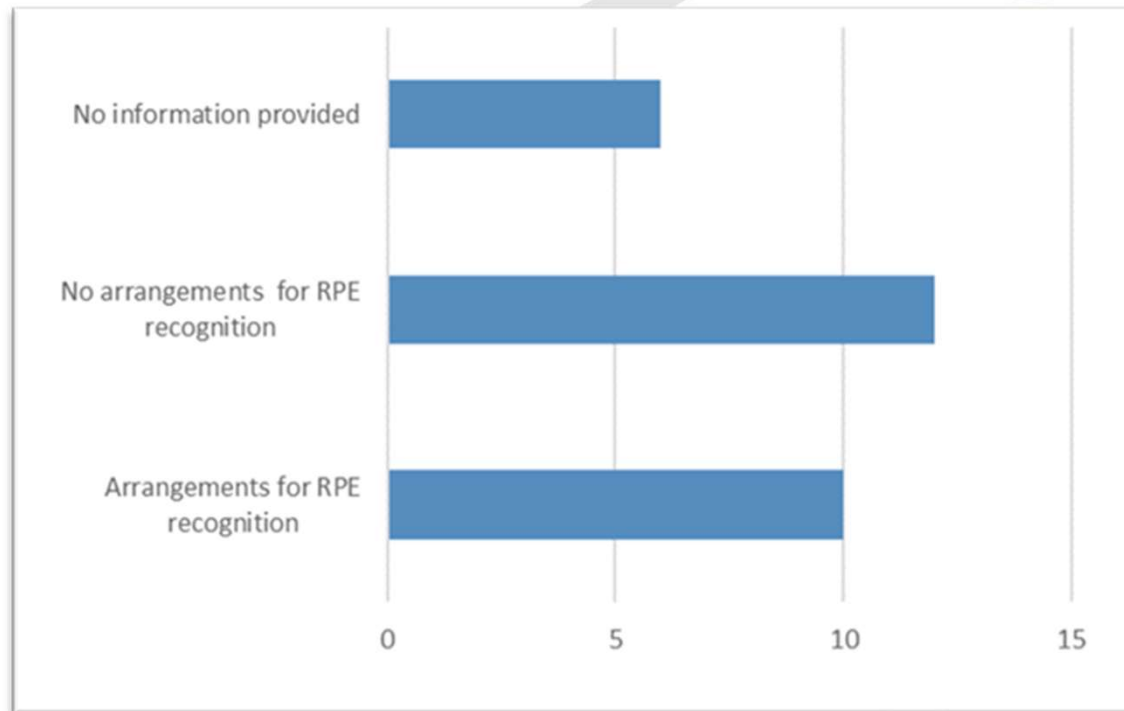




# RPE training requirements



# Number of MSs with arrangements for the recognition of RPEs from abroad



# RPO concept

**Implemented**

18/29 MSs

CONCEPTS



# RPO training approved by CA

**Yes: 18 MSs**

**No: 11 MSs**



# RPO certification

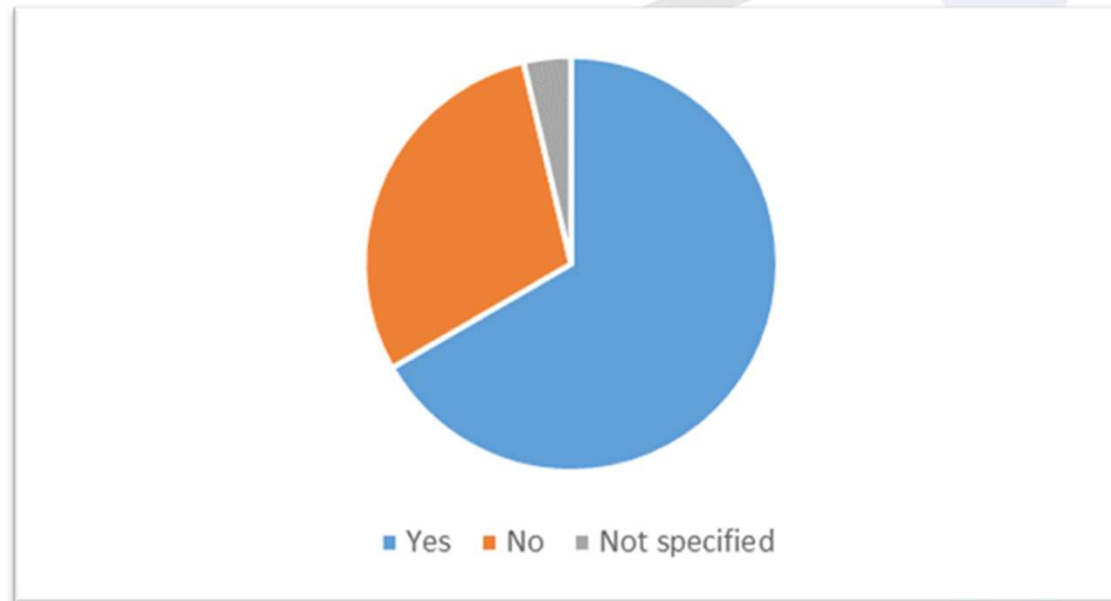
**Certification or  
approval scheme for  
RPOs**

**Yes: 18 MSs**

**No: 11 MSs**



# Requirements for RPO training approval in MSs



Retraining of RPOs in a period of 5-7 years after certification/approval is a prerequisite for their re-certification/approval in 10 MSs.

# Conclusions

- The concepts of RPE and RPO, as defined in the EU BSS seem to be implemented in most of the European countries.
- There are many similarities among MSs in the way the concepts are implemented, as well as areas where different approaches are followed (e.g., qualification, training requirements).







**Thank you for your attention**