



# How is labour market integration of immigrants effected by the German Recognition Act?

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He is member of the project team monitoring the implementation of the Federal Recognition Act.

His main interests are the medical professions and the related recognition procedures.



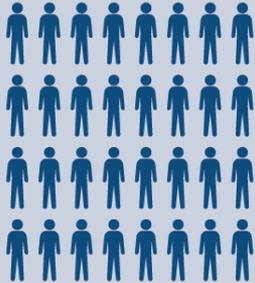
# GERMAN RECOGNITION ACT – BACKGROUND



- Implemented in 2012
- initial focus: to secure and attract foreign skilled labour for German labour market
- Legal claim to anybody, only prerequisite: a recognized foreign vocational qualification or training occupation
- Not dependent on residential status – applicable for refugees and asylum seekers



# THE LATEST RECOGNITION STATISTICS

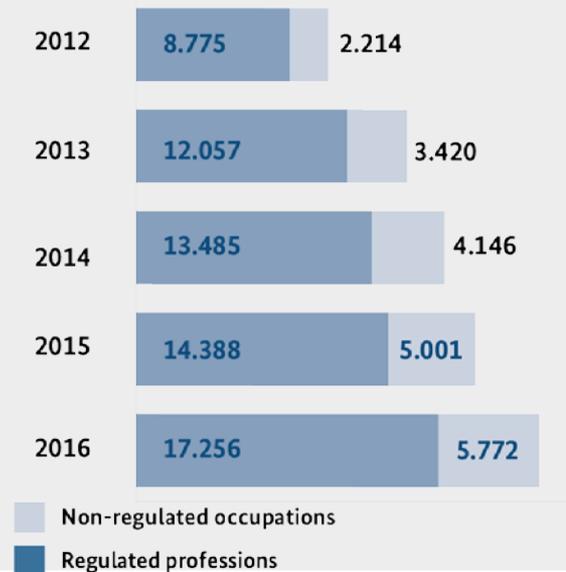


From 2012 to 2016

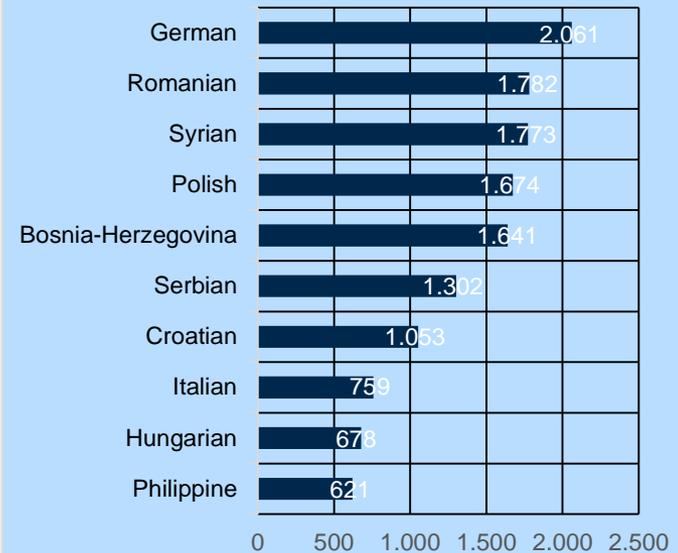
**86.500**

applications for recognition  
were made in professions  
governed by federal law alone.

Increase in the number of new applications  
for professional or occupational recognition



**Number of submitted  
applications for TOP 10  
nationalities 2016**





# THE EVALUATION OF THE RECOGNITION ACT

## Scope:

- Analysis of the goals of the Act

## Main interest:

- Impact of the recognition act
- How is the individual effected by the Recognition Act

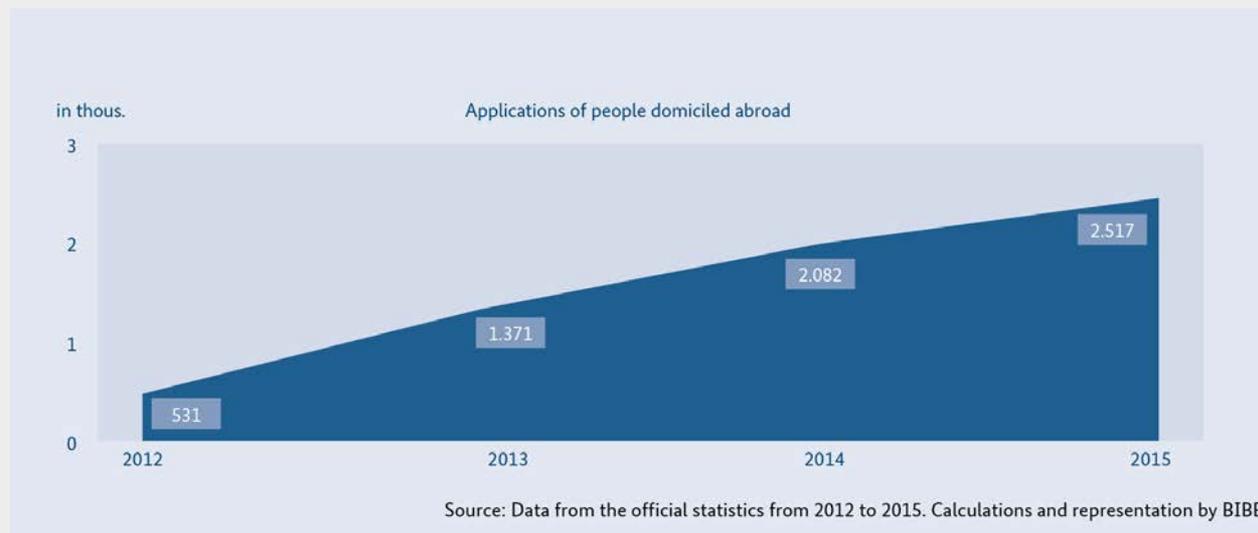
## Design of the evaluation:

- Selection criteria: person with partial or full equivalence
- Before and after comparison
- N = 812 people incl. 174 with a non-regulated occupation



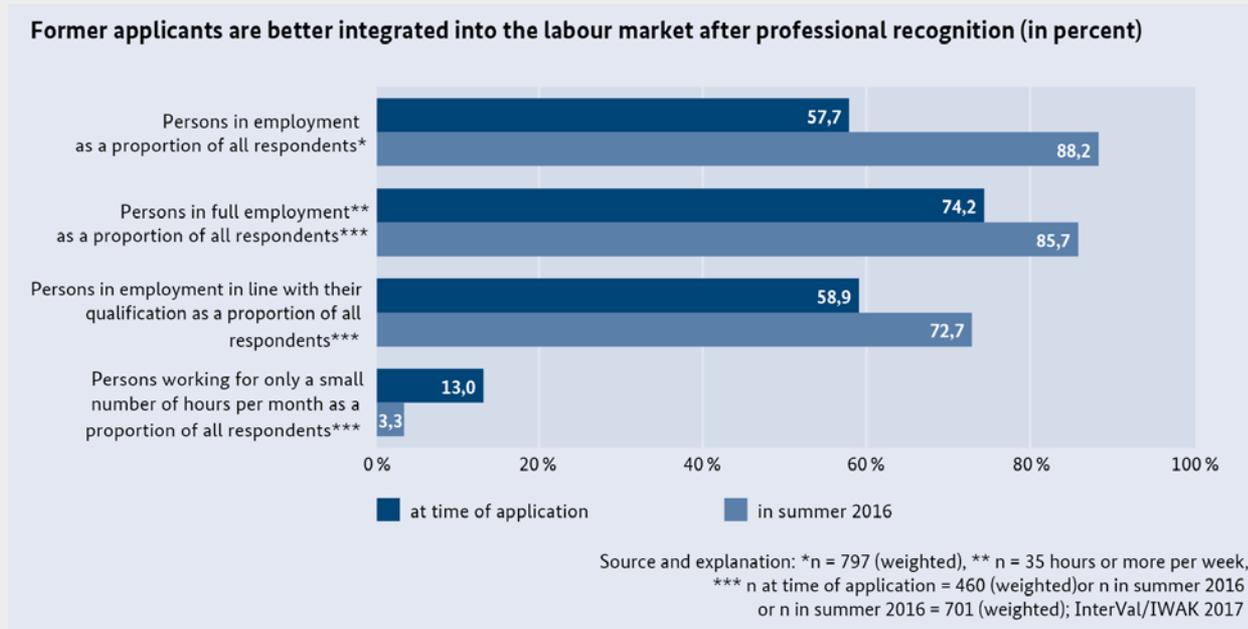
# New applications due to the Recognition Act

- 46% of all applications since 2012 of people without legal claim before 2012
- 31% of all new applications since 2012 due to better recognition regulations
- Possibility to submit applications from abroad





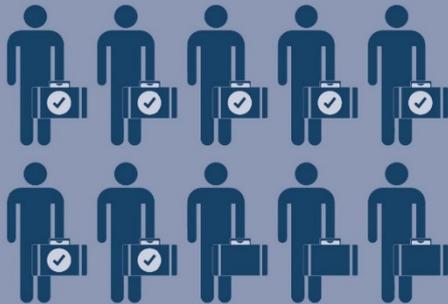
# Impact of the Recognition Act



- Effects become stronger with time passing since date of formal notice
- Better access to labour market



# Subjective assessment of occupational situation



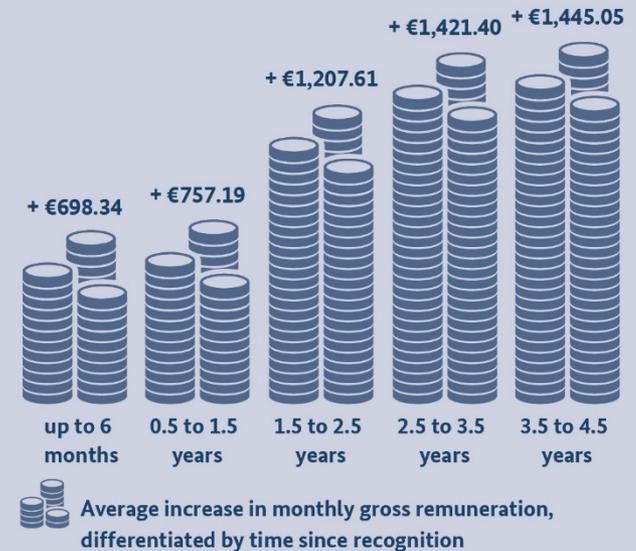
**72 percent** of respondents thought that their **personal work situation** was **better** than it had been at the time of application and also believed that this was the result of recognition of their foreign qualification.

– Amongst others also relevant for career entry access advancement (85% agreement)

## Average monthly income

was around **€1,000 higher**

than at time of application. This represented a rise of around **40 percent.**





# REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS



## Survey by IAB–BAMF–SOEP (Source: Brückner et al. (ed.), DIW Berlin 2017)

- About a third with vocational qualifications submitted an application, share of people rises over time
- Long-term perspective to stay might encourage to submit an application
- Over a third of those who haven't yet submitted an application need counseling
- About 96% got at least a partial recognition





# LIMITATIONS OF THE RECOGNITION ACT



- No recognition of informal and non-formal acquired skills,
- Formal qualification a condition for validation and recognition of informal and non-formal skills in context of the Federal Recognition Act
- Homogenous implementation and assessment of documents inhibited by federal
- Question of residential status subject of different law



# PRINCIPLES OF A SUCCESSFUL LABOURMARKET INTEGRATION



- Legal claim indifferent of country of origin, residential status
- Formal foreign qualification
- Information and counseling responding to individual needs
- Work related language skills
- Longterm perspective to stay – question of residence regulation



# Contact

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**Thank you for your attention!**