**Binding rules for process of MSUS competency achievement**

1. For participants who are starting the MSUS education process they must go through the whole process clearly established in the EULAR document (first: introductory online course, then: 3 level courses, finally: teach the teacher course).

2. For participants who are still in the middle of the MSUS educational process, i.e., those who have attended the basic or basic + intermediate or basic + intermediate + advanced courses (from 2007-till 2016) and want to continue the process under the EULAR competency system, they should fulfil the requisites for the level they apply for, as described in the EULAR website documents. If they have already completed the 3 level courses and take the teach the teacher course, they should pass a practical exam of MSUS skills at the end of the teach the teacher course. In addition, it is mandatory to take and successfully pass the Introductory US Online Course.

3. For participants who have completed the 3 levels (after 2007) + the teach the teacher course and want to obtain the EULAR Competency Certification, they have to take the EULAR Introductory US On-line Course (and pass the on-line exam), as it is a formal requisite for the EULAR Competency Certification.

4. For participants who attended any level course before 2007 (we created the 3-level system in 2007) and would like get into the process of MSUS competency certification, they should apply for the level more appropriate for their expertise but at least (in the most expertise scenario) for the advanced level with the established previous requisites.