

The mobility of healthcare professionals

EurHeCA, the association gathering Competent Authorities of healthcare professionals would like to draw your attention on a critical dossier for the members of our association: the mobility of healthcare professionals.

Since its creation, our association is closely following and working on the European legislative initiatives impacting the mobility of the professionals represented within our organization. In May 2020, the European Commission published its long-awaited evaluation of the implementation of the Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications in the Member States. This piece of EU regulation is key for our professions and in the context of the publication of its evaluation we would like to draw your attention on some key elements for our association:

- **The evaluation presented by the European Commission is based on quantitative data.** We believe that an assessment of the quality and objectives of the provisions of the Directive is also necessary. Based on the exchanges we have between the members of our association, we have a clear overview of the difficulties raised by the Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications as implemented: difficulties with the alert mechanism in the Member States and knowledge of the language of the host country among others.
- **Patient safety must be the priority regarding the mobility of healthcare professional.** This specificity of healthcare professions should also be recognized through the implementation of the Directive on the setting up of Proportionality test before adoption of new regulation of professions in the Member States.

Our shared conviction is that the European provisions related to healthcare professionals' mobility should guarantee that Europeans benefit from the best healthcare. We believe that the first goal of the mobility of healthcare professionals within the European Union should be to ensure patient safety and not to respond to economic considerations.

Therefore, we do hope that the European institutions will address the issue to improve the existing legislation, to the benefit of the quality of healthcare and the safety of patients.

Moreover, the members of our association would also like to **welcome the European Commission's proposal regarding the EU4health program**. Our association believes in cooperation at European level and welcomes the proposal to dedicate an important budget to the health sector in the next multiannual financial framework (MFF).

About EurHeCA:

EurHeCA is an AISBL gathering Competent Authorities of healthcare professionals with the goal of ensuring a coordination of activities to guarantee patients' safety. The association gathers more than 15 members representing Competent Authorities of various health professions such as pharmacists, nurses, physiotherapists, podiatrists or midwives in 8 Member States.

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