



Paris, 25 June 2020

POLITICAL OPINION

on the mobility of health professionals within the European Union

The Senate European Affairs Committee,

Having regard to Articles 26 and 46 to 55 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Articles 165 and 168 of the same Treaty,

Having regard to Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications, amended by Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 amending Directive 2005/36/EC and Regulation (EU) No. 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System ("the IMI Regulation"),

Having regard to Directive (EU) 2018/958 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 June 2018 on a proportionality test before adoption of new regulation of professions,

Having regard to Article R. 4127-19 of the French Public Health Code,

Whereas the health professions cannot be practised as a commercial activity;

Whereas health professionals must be able to have their qualifications recognised in another Member State of the Union within a framework guaranteeing the safety of patients and non-discriminatory treatment;

Whereas the conditions of harmonisation of training requirements under Directive 2005/36/EC are currently inadequate;

Whereas responsibility for education and training lies exclusively with the Member States;

Whereas there is a lack of effective control of the application of the measures provided for by Directive 2005/36/EC;

Whereas a mastery of the language of the host country is absolutely necessary to the practising of a medical profession;

Requests the introduction of continuous, public, independent and transparent control of compliance with the minimum training requirements under Directive 2005/36/EC for the training institutions listed in Annex V of that Directive;

Encourages the European Commission to work with professional bodies and the representatives of the national training institutions to develop common cores for training;

Wishes to see the development of continuing education and re-certification programmes for all health professionals;

Asks that mastery of the language of the host country be a prerequisite for any recognition of qualifications;

Wishes to see greater harmonisation of the acts authorised in the practice of each profession, and a better alignment between the national specialities and those mentioned in Annex V of Directive 2005/36/EC;

Asks that Directive 2018/958/EU be applied without risk of harm to patient safety and quality of care;

Regrets that the alert procedure introduced by Directive 2013/55/EU to enable the competent authorities of one Member State to inform the competent authorities of all the other Member States of the identity of a professional whose pursuit on the territory of that Member State has been restricted or prohibited is not fully operational and asks that it be effectively implemented as quickly as possible;

Hopes that the European Professional Card will be able to provide clear information on the qualifications of a health professional wishing to practise in another Member State of the Union, specifying whether these qualifications have been recognised in the host Member State.