

### Professional qualifications - Statistical background to the Green Paper

A Green Paper on “Modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive” was published by the European Commission (EC) on 22 June 2011. The Directive aims to facilitate the free movement of professionals within the EU, regardless of the Member State in which they acquired their professional qualification.

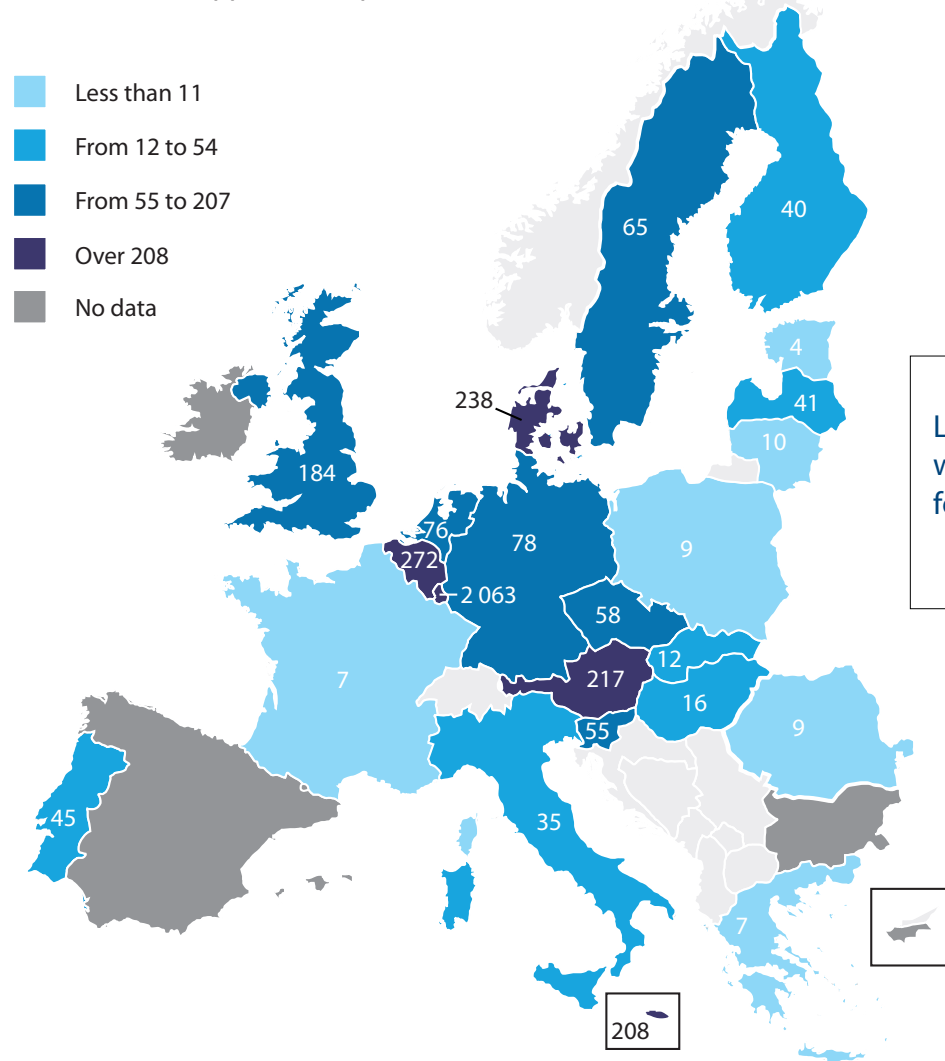
Updating the Directive is one of the twelve projects for 2012 in the Single Market Act, which is a series of measures adopted by the EC to boost the European economy and create jobs. Enhancing the mobility of qualified workers, the Commission believes, will help the economy become more competitive. The aim is to modernise the rules for recognising professional qualifications, through a simpler procedure including a European Professional Card.

This document provides Members with some statistical background on issues relating to the Green Paper. It is a test product from the Library, comments are welcome.

#### 1. Recognition of professional qualifications (2009)

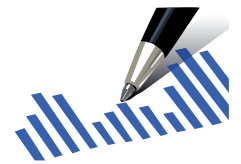
Data source: [European Commission](#)

Number of people seeking to work in Member States on the basis of professional qualifications granted in another Member State. Applications per million inhabitants.



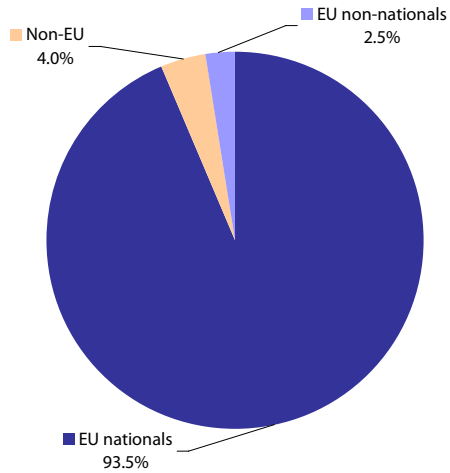
Luxembourg is the top host country with more than 2 000 applications for recognition of professional qualifications per million inhabitants.

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2. Population of EU Member States (2010)

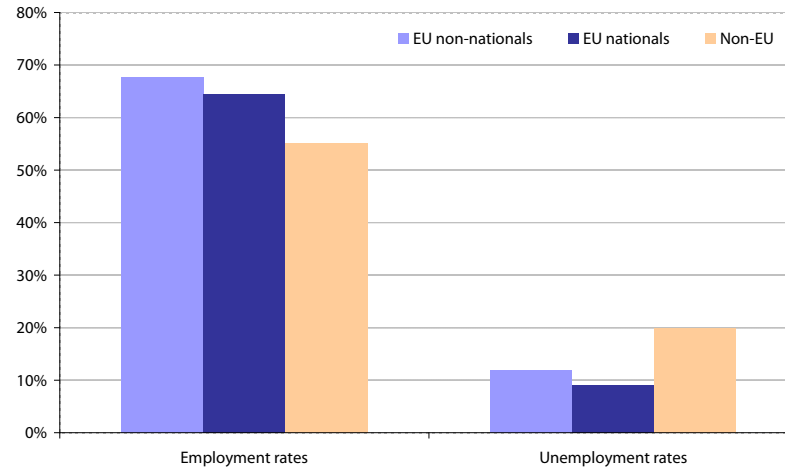
Data source: Eurostat



12.3 million EU citizens (2.5%) live in an EU country different from their own - called EU non-nationals.

3. Employment and unemployment rates for EU27 (2010)

Data source: Eurostat

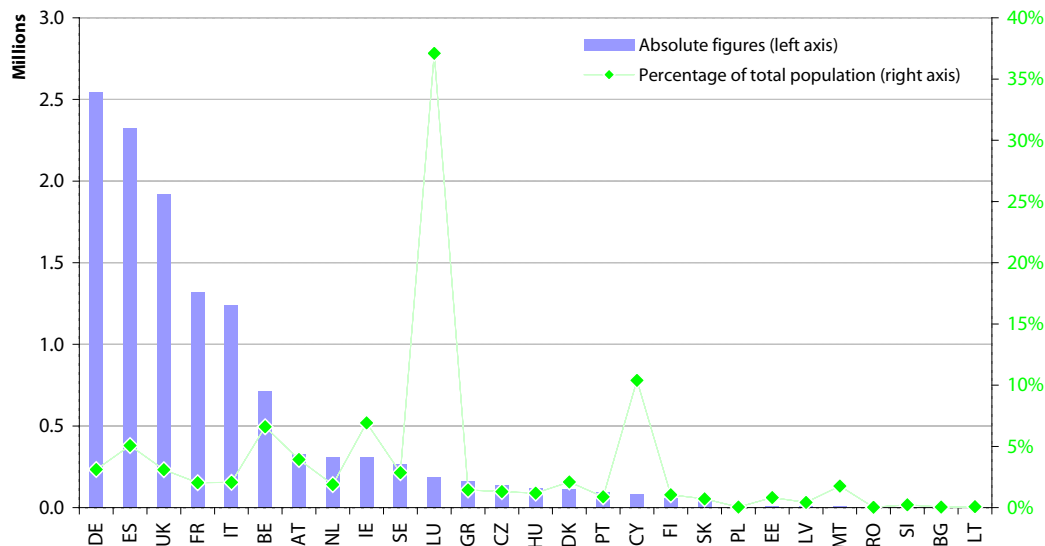


Highest employment rates are for EU non-nationals.

4. EU non-nationals in the Member States (2010)

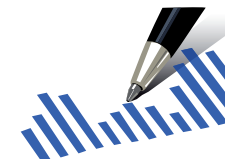
Data source: Eurostat

Distribution of the 12.3 million EU citizens living outside their own Member State



Luxembourg, Cyprus and Ireland are the top three Member States in terms of percentage of EU non-nationals on their territory.

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5. Graduates by Member State (2009)

Data source: Eurostat

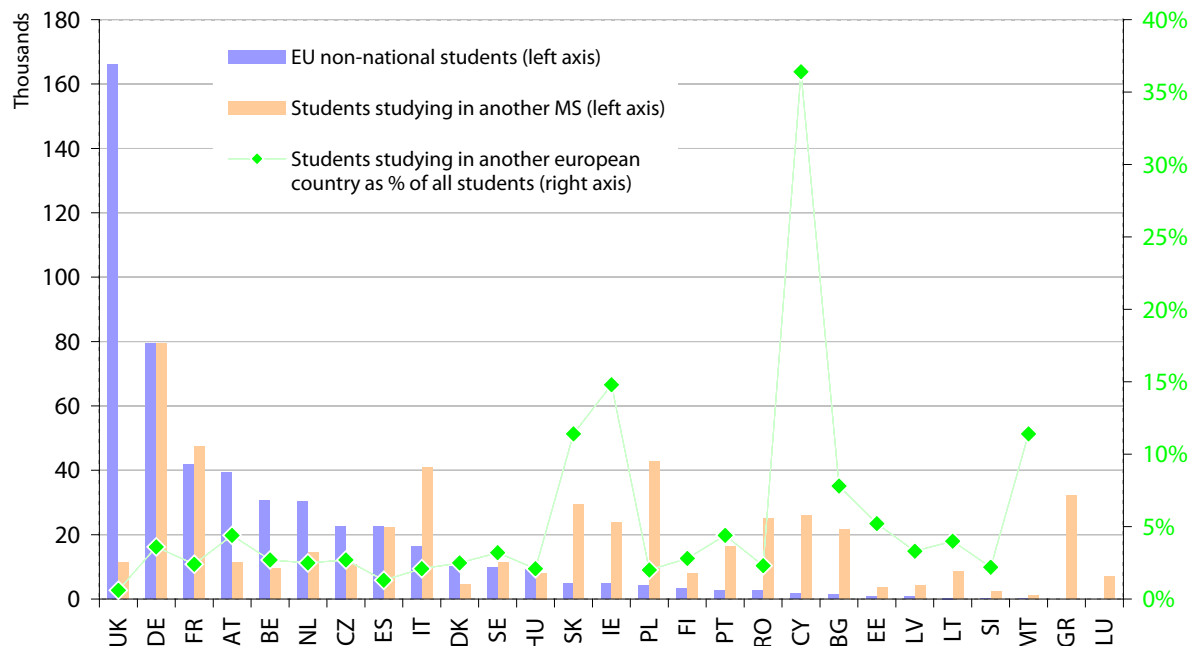
Number of graduates in the fields covered by the professional qualifications directive

	Health and Welfare	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	Science, mathematics and computing	Services
Belgium	20 364	10 591	5 567	1 412
Bulgaria	3 948	8 596	2 270	4 473
Czech Republic	8 959	13 796	9 081	4 448
Denmark	12 176	5 865	3 732	1 432
Germany	121 483	66 192	67 354	15 450
Estonia	1 259	1 206	1 020	1 059
Ireland	7 817	6 225	6 281	2 614
Greece	:	:	:	:
Spain	48 662	50 915	27 651	24 684
France	93 667	97 763	66 611	25 395
Italy	34 976	34 269	15 965	6 815
Cyprus	255	249	370	424
Latvia	2 019	2 189	1 265	1 592
Lithuania	4 359	7 123	2 270	1 472
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:
Hungary	6 659	5 916	4 360	5 901
Malta	379	160	268	35
Netherlands	23 846	9 900	7 864	6 925
Austria	5 283	9 482	5 556	2 026
Poland	51 962	50 686	39 321	32 941
Portugal	16 224	15 018	5 352	4 982
Romania	31 215	53 774	13 610	10 464
Slovenia	1 359	2 434	803	1 810
Slovakia	13 005	9 831	5 707	4 192
Finland	8 904	9 257	3 401	2 523
Sweden	15 899	10 359	4 482	1 808
United Kingdom	119 037	60 764	85 631	9 000
EU27	661 488	551 930	393 068	179 474
EU27 (%)	15%	13%	9%	4%

1 million new graduates in the fields "Engineering etc." and "Science, mathematics etc." in 2009.

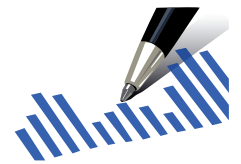
6. EU non-national students in tertiary education (2009) Data source: Eurostat (educ\_enr18, educ\_thmob)

Distribution by Member State of EU students studying outside their own country

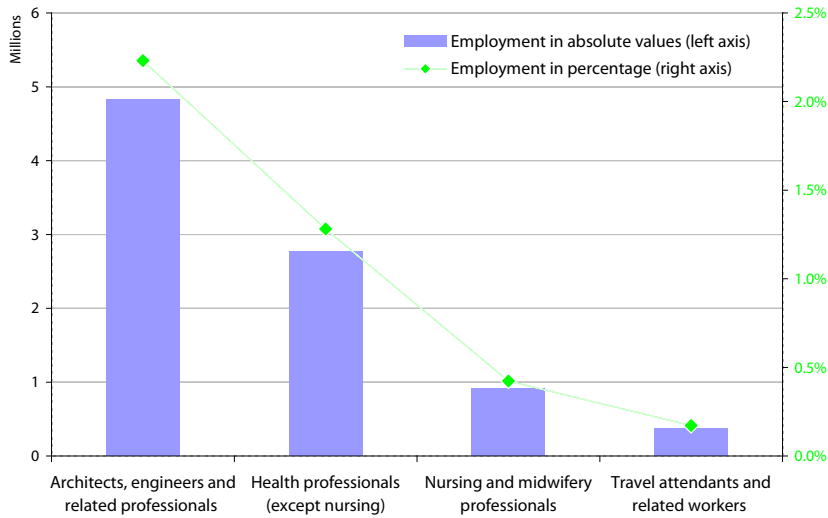


The UK attracts more EU non-national students than the other countries.  
Germany has the highest number of students abroad.

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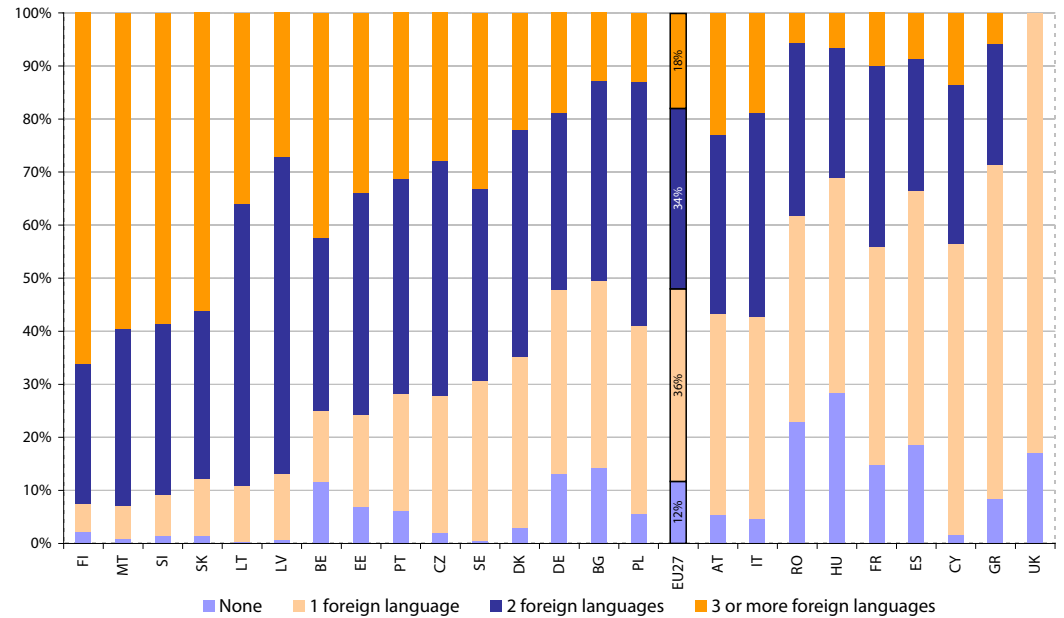


7. EU27 employment in selected occupations (2010) Data source: Eurostat



8.9 million people are employed in the fields covered by the Professional Qualifications Directive.

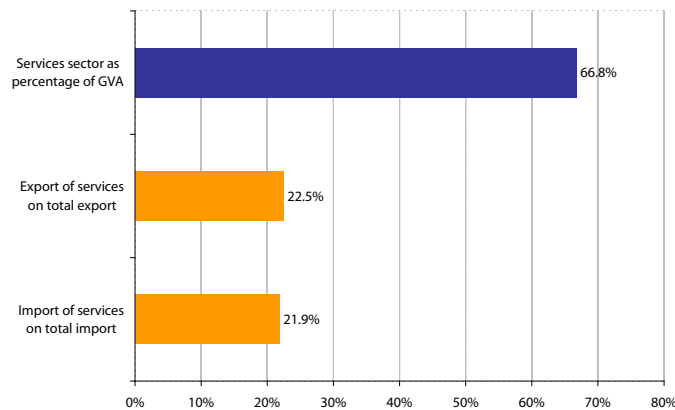
8. Foreign languages spoken in tertiary education (2007) Data source: Eurostat



More than half of students in European tertiary education claim to speak two or more foreign languages.

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9. Services in the EU economy Data source: Eurostat (bop\_its\_det\_nama\_nace31\_c)



The service sector accounted for more than 65% of EU Gross Value Added in 2009.

Notes

**Country code:** Austria (AT), Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Cyprus (CY), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Estonia (EE), Finland (FI), France (FR), Germany (DE), Greece (GR), Hungary (HU), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Malta (MT), Netherlands (NL), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovakia (SK), Slovenia (SI), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE), United Kingdom (UK), European Union (EU27).

: Colons are used for unavailable or extremely unreliable data.

**Definitions:** European Commission (EC), International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), Member State (MS), Gross Value Added (GVA), *Nomenclature generale des Activites economiques dans les Communautes Europeennes* (NACE).

**Extraction date:** data has been extracted in August 2011.



## Further information

### 1. Recognition of professional qualifications (2009)

The map shows the number of applications in 2009, divided by million inhabitants, for recognition of professional qualifications for the purpose of permanent establishment in the EU Member States.

The data come from the European Commission's [Regulated professions database](#). This information is introduced into the database directly by the Member States. All [regulated professions](#) covered by the directive are included. These data include all applications, whether these had a positive or a negative [decision](#) or are still under examination.

In 2009 – the most recent and complete set of data – there was 63 recognition per million of EU inhabitant. The total number of application for recognition in host country in the whole EU27 was 31 620.

### 2. Population of EU Member States (2010)

This graph shows the population split between EU nationals and non-nationals in the EU27.

“EU nationals” are individuals with EU citizenship living in a Member State of which they have citizenship.

“Non-nationals” are divided into two categories: EU non-nationals and non-EU. The EU non-nationals are EU citizens living in a country of which they do not have citizenship, e.g. an Italian citizen who lives in Belgium. The non-EU are citizens of a country outside the EU - generally known as extra-EU27 countries.

The percentages are calculated based on the total EU27 population (501 million citizens).

### 3. Employment and unemployment rates for EU27 (2010)

The graph shows the employment and unemployment rates of persons aged 15-64 years, in the three population categories: EU nationals, EU non-nationals and non-EU.

Employment rates represent employed persons as a percentage of the total population in that age group. Unemployment rates represent unemployed persons as a percentage of the active population.

### 4. EU non-nationals in the Member States (2010)

This graph shows the number of EU non-nationals living in each Member State in 2010 (left-hand axis) and the percentage of the total population they represent in each (right-hand axis). The countries are ordered by number of EU non-nationals. For example in Germany there are more than 2.5 million non-German citizens, which represent less than 5% of the total population.

### 5. Graduates by Member State (2009)

The table shows the number of graduates of tertiary education ([ISCED](#) levels 5 and 6) in selected fields – those relevant to the Professional Qualifications Directive – in the Member States in 2009. The fields shown, “Health and welfare”, together with “Engineering, manufacturing and construction”, “Science, mathematics and computing” and “Services” represent together more than 40% of 2009 graduates.

### 6. EU non-national students in tertiary education (2009)

Numbers of EU non-national students in tertiary education (defined as level 5 and 6 in the International Standard Classification of Education ([ISCED](#))) for the year 2009, the most recent available, are shown in this graph.

It shows three dimensions: the left-hand axis portrays the number of EU non-national students in each Member State (blue bar) and the number of students from that country going abroad to study (orange bar). The right-hand axis presents the percentage of students from each Member State studying in another European country as a percentage of all students. The UK, for instance, hosts more than 160 000 EU non-national students, while just over 11 000 British students go to another Member State to study. Less than 1% of British students study in another European country.



### 7. EU27 employment in selected occupations (2010)

The graph is the number of people employed in selected occupation for the year 2010 in the EU27. The selected occupations - corresponding to those covered by the Professional Qualifications Directive – are categories 214, 222, 223 and 511 in the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO, 1988 version).

The left axis gives absolute values, while the right axis shows what percentage that value represents in total EU27 employment.

For instance in 2010 almost 5 million are employed in the category “architects, engineers etc.”, which represents 2.2% of total employment.

### 8. Foreign languages spoken in tertiary education (2007)

The graph shows the number of foreign languages spoken by students in tertiary education. This set of data is based on self-reporting by students. (No data are available for Ireland, Luxembourg and Netherlands; France and Malta are provisional values and; for the UK, data for two and three languages or more are not available.)

This graph shows that at EU level 12% of tertiary level students speak only their native language, 36% declare that they speak one foreign language, 34% two foreign languages and 18% of the tertiary student population speaks three or more foreign languages.

### 9. Services in the EU economy

This graph includes three indicators on the service sector in the EU economy. The first shows the contribution of the sector to the EU economy, as a percentage of Gross Value Added at basic prices (GVA). The GVA is the value of output less the value of intermediate consumption; it is a measure of the contribution to GDP made by an individual producer, industry or sector. Services are generally referred to as economic activities covered by Sections G to K and M to O of NACE.

The second and third indicators are the export/import of services as a share of total exports/imports within the EU. This share is the value of export/import of services between the EU27 Member States divided by the sum of the value of exports/imports of goods and services between Member States. This is generally called intra-EU27 trade.