

**Question for written answer E-007272/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Svetoslav Hristov Malinov (PPE)

Subject: Position under EU law with regard to the possible establishment of a professional organisation of medical auxiliaries in Bulgaria

Under a derogation from Directive 2006/100/EC, Bulgaria is permitted to authorise holders of the qualification of 'feldsher' (medical auxiliary) to exercise their profession in Bulgaria without entitlement to professional recognition in other EU Member States.

The Nurses', Midwives' and Associated Medical Specialists' Professional Organisations Act is the law which regulates the exercise of these professions in Bulgaria. 'Feldshers' are deemed to be associated medical specialists within the meaning of the act, and the body that looks after their professional interests is the Bulgarian Association of Health Care Professionals (BAHCP).

A specific body representing the 'feldshers' in Bulgaria is pressing for a change in the law at national level with a view to splitting from the BAHCP. An issue that has emerged in public discussion about this prospect is the possibility that the establishment of an independent professional organisation of 'feldshers' might conflict with undertakings given by Bulgaria following its accession to the EU.

Can the Commission confirm that EU rules would not be breached if the 'feldshers' in Bulgaria were to split from the main body and form their own independent professional organisation?