Question for written answer E-013789/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: European supervision of doctors

Another case has recently come to light in Denmark of a doctor who has left one European country for another in order to avoid supervision or to work in another country in which he or she is still authorised to practise. A doctor who is struck off in one country is not automatically struck off in other European countries.

This practice might perhaps be acceptable if doctors were required to take their career documentation with them from country to country, so that the new country of employment can carry out a professional assessment on the basis of the material available. This, however, is not the case today. Most often, the doctors concerned are discovered and suspended when a sufficient number of patients complain, or when the press starts to look into cases of medical malpractice. This problem is far from new.

Does the Commission regard it as a problem for European patients that there is no possibility for information on doctors' standards to be shared?

What is the Commission going to do to keep citizens safe and to increase patient safety?

Is the Commission going to take steps to ensure that information on doctors, authorisations and warnings is readily available and can be passed between countries when a country so requests?

1075847.EN PE 570.044