

**Question for written answer E-008270/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Obstacles in the way of recognition of professional qualifications

Article 57 of the EU Treaty provides the legal basis for EU legislation covering the mutual recognition of diplomas. Recognition of professional qualifications makes the free movement of workers possible. The EU Institutions and Member States adopted hundreds of laws between 1985 and 1992 that were needed in order to remove the technical, regulatory, legal and bureaucratic barriers that had previously restricted the free movement of people, goods, services and capital. However, Member States were not obliged to recognise professional qualifications acquired in other Member States, and often they did not. This represented a major obstacle to the freedom of movement of professionals. In France, Malta, Cyprus and Portugal in particular (Survey of Directorate-General Internal Market and Services) respondents thought there were too many obstacles.

What measures does the Commission envisage adopting, if any, in order to bring about automatic EU-wide recognition of academic diplomas?