

**Question for written answer E-005766/2017/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: Regulated professions and the 700 000 jobs « invented » by the Commission

The Commission has submitted a proposal for a directive which would enable it to carry out a proportionality test before the adoption of a new regulation of a profession by a Member State. The Commission's main argument for gaining the right to veto the regulation of professions by Member States is that this would create 700 000 jobs¹.

The conclusion of the study cited by the Commission is as follows²:

'Our findings in relation to the effect of licensing on employment are less conclusive. Although we estimate that licensing is associated with a loss of about 705 000 jobs, our cross-sectional analysis did not yield any clear results either way. We are inclined to attribute this to the characteristics of our dataset and we urge policy makers not to interpret our inability to reach a robust conclusion [...]'.
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How can the Commission legislate for a total of 500 million people on the basis of such weak data: a single, non-independent study which does not provide a robust conclusion?

¹ COM(2016)0822 final – 2016/0404 (COD), p.4.

² 'Measuring Prevalence and Labour Market Impacts of Occupational Regulation in the EU', Maria Koumenta, Queen Mary University of London, and Mario Pagliero, Collegio Carlo Alberto Torino.