

2009 - 2014

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

2011/2024(INI)

14.9.2011

AMENDMENTS 1 - 64

Draft opinion Mario Pirillo (PE469.698v01-00)

The Implementation of the Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36/EC (2011/2024(INI))

 $AM_Com_NonLegOpinion$

Amendment 1 Elena Oana Antonescu

Draft opinion Recital B a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Ba. Stresses the need for the current system of automatic recognition to take also into consideration whether the professional is allowed or prevented to practice in the Member State of origin

Or. en

Amendment 2 Andreas Mölzer

Draft opinion Recital C

Draft opinion

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that there *is* a shortage of one million workers in the health sector *and that* mobility needs to be increased, also for workers whose qualifications are automatically recognised,

Amendment

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that there *will be* a shortage of one million workers in the health sector *until 2020 and whereas labour* mobility needs to be increased *initially within countries*, *given the fact of high unemployment, and then* also for workers whose qualifications are automatically recognised,

Or. de

Amendment 3 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Recital C

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that there is a shortage of one million workers in the health sector *and that mobility* needs to be *increased, also for* workers *whose qualifications are automatically recognised,*

Amendment

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that there is a shortage of one million workers in the health sector; *recognition of qualifications* needs to be *quick and efficient to facilitate mobility of healthcare* workers;

Or. en

Amendment 4 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Recital C

Draft opinion

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that *there is a* shortage of one million *workers in the health sector* and that mobility needs to be increased, also for workers whose qualifications are automatically recognised,

Amendment

C. whereas in Europe it is estimated that, by 2020, shortage of healthcare professionals, including physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, physiotherapists and other paramedical staff, will amount to one million and that mobility needs to be increased, also for workers whose qualifications are automatically recognised,

Or. en

Amendment 5 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Recital C a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

C a. Whereas the free movement of persons within the EU and the right to the recognition of merit and professional skills, could only exist when the existing

invisible barriers are limited and some national rules that nowadays disproportionately hinder the use of the right to qualified jobs will disappear

Or. en

Amendment 6 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Recital C b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

C b. Whereas the Directive on the application of patients' rights in crossborder healthcare requires that Member States of treatment ensure that information on the right to practise of health professionals listed in national or local registers established on their territory is made available to the authorities of other Member States, with an exchange of information taking place via the Internal Market Information system;

Or. en

Amendment 7 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Recital C c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

C c. Whereas one of the main reasons for the difficulties to recognize academic titles or professional qualifications is the lack of confidence in the criteria for the accreditation and the academic certificates of the country of origin,

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therefore it is urgent to establish measures for the automatic recognition by removing formal national obstacles for the recognition and prejudices.

Or. en

Amendment 8 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Recital C d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

C d. Whereas the mobility of professionals in the health sector should also take into account the need for an overall sustainable health workforce and the sustainability of national healthcare systems

Or. en

Amendment 9 Andreas Mölzer

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of *the most recent* technologies and the introduction of a professional card; Amendment

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of *efficient modern* technologies and the introduction of a professional card;

Or. de

Amendment 10 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the *introduction* of *a* professional card;

Amendment

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the *examination* of *different inspection and traceability options available such as the* professional card;

Or. en

Amendment 11 Elena Oana Antonescu

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the introduction of a professional card;

Amendment

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the introduction of a professional card *which should contain accurate information in order to improve the transparency between Member States*;

Or. en

Amendment 12 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and

Amendment

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and

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encourages the use of the most *recent technologies* and the *introduction of a professional card*;

encourages the use of the most *up-to-date* and *appropriate technologies to facilitate* the *recognition process*;

Or. en

Amendment 13 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the introduction of a professional card;

Amendment

1. Is in favour of modernising and improving Directive 2005/36/EC and encourages the use of the most recent technologies and the introduction of a professional card *on a voluntary basis, but in manner binding on the competent authorities*;

Or. it

Amendment 14 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Calls on the Commission to launch, prior to introducing the professional card, an in-depth impact assessment, a cost-benefit analysis and research into the information (standard across the Member States) to be stored on the card, and to set out how personal data will be protected;

Or. it

Amendment 15 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 b. Highlights numerous concerns raised in the public consultation about the professional card; argues that the introduction of any professional card must be voluntary for both the professional and the competent authority, must be subjected to a thorough impact assessment and cost-benefit analysis, and ensure that there are sufficient security and reliability safeguards ahead of a prospective implementation;

Or. en

Amendment 16 Elena Oana Antonescu

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 c. Stresses the need to ensure that transposition and implementation of the directive is concluded in all Member States. Stresses also the need for adaptation to changes and flexibility in transposition.

Or. en

Amendment 17 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 d (new)

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Amendment

1 d. Notes the Green Paper's suggestion to introduce a European professional card; calls on the Commission to ensure that it adds value to the recognition process and is secure, up to date and fraud-proof, notably by carrying out an in-depth impact assessment

Or. en

Amendment 18 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 e. Takes the view that recognition and registration of professionals, particularly in the health sector, must guarantee the safety of patients and consumers; questions whether a card should become the sole source of information on which to base a recognition decision, particularly for healthcare professionals;

Or. en

Amendment 19 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 f. Notes that the Internal Market Information System (IMI) already offers reliable tool for the secure exchange of information between competent

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authorities; considers that a more comprehensive use of IMI would facilitate the recognition process further and offer a cost-effective alternative;

Or. en

Amendment 20 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Approves of the revival of common platforms, which will enable countries that are members of the platform to recognise qualifications more quickly, and *appreciates* the *possible reduction* to *one-third* of Member States;

Amendment

2. Approves of the revival of common platforms, which will enable countries that are members of the platform to recognise qualifications more quickly, and *asks* the *Commission* to *evaluate the proposal to reduce the threshold* of Member States *required to establish a common platform from two-thirds to one-third*;

Or. en

Amendment 21 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Approves of the revival of common platforms, which will enable countries that are members of the platform to recognise qualifications more quickly, and appreciates the possible reduction to onethird of Member States;

Amendment

2. Approves of the revival of common platforms, which will enable countries that are members of the platform to recognise qualifications more quickly, and appreciates the possible reduction to onethird of Member States, with others able to join subsequently; calls on the Commission, however, to carefully assess, prior to reshaping of the platforms, the possibility of introducing a 28% system;

Amendment 22 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Hopes that the Member States will be promptly notified of the new qualifications that are to benefit from automatic recognition;

Amendment

3. Hopes that the Member States *and competent authorities* will be promptly notified of the new qualifications that are to benefit from automatic recognition;

Or. en

Amendment 23 Rovana Plumb

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Calls on the European Commission to draw up guides to best practices in the professional training field;

Or. ro

Amendment 24 Linda McAvan

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. Stresses that patient safety must be the guiding principle in all provisions on free movement of healthcare

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professionals;

Or. en

Amendment 25 Elena Oana Antonescu

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3c. Stresses the need to develop a sustainable workforce in the field of healthcare services, by framing staff recruitment and retention policies for healthcare systems and promoting gender equality and lifelong education and vocational training, while also placing emphasis on improving working conditions;

Or. ro

Amendment 26 Linda McAvan

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. *Hopes that the* alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive *will* be *extended also to the health care* professions;

Amendment

4. *Calls for a more robust* alert mechanism *than the one* provided for in the Services Directive *to* be *introduced specifically for healthcare* professions; *considers that the home Member State should be required to proactively alert all other Member States when a healthcare professional's right to practice is restricted;*

Or. en

Amendment 27 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. *Hopes that* the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive *will be extended also* to *the* health care professions;

Amendment

4. Urges the Commission to extend the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive to health care professions to ensure patient safety; this mechanism must be supported by a duty that national authorities exchange registration and disciplinary information about health care professionals;

Or. en

Amendment 28 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive *will be* extended *also* to the health care professions;

Amendment

4. Hopes that the *proactive* alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive *is also* extended to the health care professions *and is incorporated into the Internal Market Information (IMI) system*;

Or. en

Amendment 29 Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions;

Amendment

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions; calls for the Member States to be required, the Charter of Fundamental Rights and in particular the protection of personal data and the right to an effective remedy notwithstanding, to issue an alert to all other Member States once a migrating health professional loses his right to practise due to sanctions in any Member State;

Or. lt

Amendment 30 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions;

Amendment

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions, to enable the provision of timely information to Member States on any disciplinary measures, including suspensions, imposed on any healthcare professional, via the use of the IMI system;

Or. it

Amendment 31 Françoise Grossetête

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions;

Amendment

4. Hopes that the alert mechanism provided for in the Services Directive will be extended also to the health care professions *so as to guarantee patients' safety*;

Or. fr

Amendment 32 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 a. Is in favour of developing and strengthening the existing IMI system provided for in the Services Directive, to also cover the healthcare profession and to include a proactive alert mechanism which would alert competent authorities of previous disciplinary sanctions and malpractice claims;

Or. en

Amendment 33 Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4b. Considers that the Commission and the Member States ought to implement worker mobility in the health sector more effectively by strengthening employment policy generally and by further developing their machinery for planning labour requirements; Amendment 34 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4c. Considers that the Internal Market Information system (IMI) could enable swifter cooperation between competent authorities and simplify and accelerate recognition procedures;

Or. it

Amendment 35 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4d. Would like every Member State to establish an on-line access point containing full and permanently-updated information on the names of the competent authorities and on the documentation required for the recognition of health professional qualifications, so that such professionals can swiftly complete on-line the procedures needed for their professional qualifications to be recognised;

Or. it

Amendment 36 Mario Pirillo

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Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls *on the Commission to increase* the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives;

Amendment

5. Calls *for a review of* the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives *and for the minimum training requirements to be adapted to satisfy complex healthcare needs*;

Or. it

Amendment 37 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. *Calls on the Commission* to increase the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives;

Amendment

5. *Encourages Member States* to increase the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives;

Or. en

Amendment 38 Linda McAvan

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Commission to increase the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives;

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to increase the minimum duration of professional training for nurses and midwives; *however believes that time spent in training is not by itself a sufficient guarantee of fitness to practice, and time spent in practice should also be taken into account;*

Amendment 39 Christa Klaß

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Calls on the Member States to improve and update professional training for nurses and midwives throughout Europe and to develop common basic requirements for training courses;

Or. de

Amendment 40 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 b. Calls on the Commission to consider the importance of standardised learning outcomes and clinical competencies when setting out minimum training requirements;

Or. en

Amendment 41 Rovana Plumb

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 c (new)

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Amendment

5c. Stresses the need for Member States to organise exchanges of good practices with a view to guaranteeing the quality of healthcare services provided to patients;

Or. ro

Amendment 42 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. *Calls on* the *Commission to consider the* extension of partial recognition to *the health care* professions *very carefully, in order* to *avoid situations* that *might be difficult to handle in terms* of public *health protection*;

Amendment

6. Considers that the extension of partial access and partial recognition of training should not apply to those regulated professions with health and safety implications to ensure that the protection of the public is not compromised;

Or. en

Amendment 43 Linda McAvan

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. *Calls on* the *Commission to consider the* extension of partial recognition to the health care professions *very carefully, in order to avoid situations that might be difficult to handle in terms* of public health protection;

Amendment

6. *Has reservations about* the extension of partial recognition to the health care professions, *because* of *concerns about* public health protection;

Or. en

Amendment 44 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission to *consider* the extension of partial *recognition* to the *health care* professions *very carefully*, in order to avoid situations that *might be difficult to handle in terms of* public health *protection*;

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission to *prevent* the extension of partial *access* to the *healthcare* professions, in order to avoid situations that *undermine patient safety and* public health;

Or. en

Amendment 45 Christa Klaß

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the *Commission* to consider the extension of partial recognition to the health care professions very carefully, in order to avoid situations that might be difficult to handle in terms of public health protection;

Amendment

6. Calls on the *Member States* to consider the extension of partial recognition to the health care professions very carefully, in order to avoid situations that might be difficult to handle in terms of public health protection;

Or. de

Amendment 46 Christa Klaß

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 a (new)

Amendment

6a. Calls on professional training providers to coordinate and harmonise training arrangements throughout Europe; notes that access to employment in training should not be curbed for purposes of ensuring the provision of medical care;

Or. de

Amendment 47 Christa Klaß

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Takes the view that specific, targeted retesting in fields where there is a training shortfall should be sufficient to enable people to be deemed generally qualified in another Member State;

Or. de

Amendment 48 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6 c. Recognises that in order to protect public healthcare and uphold patient safety, partial recognition should not be granted to healthcare professionals whose training does not merit full recognition;

Or. en

Amendment 49 Elena Oana Antonescu

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6d. Stresses the need to update the current set of minimum professional training standards in line with scientific and technical progress;

Or. ro

Amendment 50 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6 e. Calls for further clarification and guidance on the provision of services on a temporary or occasional basis; acknowledges that competent authorities face difficulties in applying the existing regime;

Or. en

Amendment 51 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Takes the view that *checks need* to *be carried out on the knowledge of the*

Amendment

7. Takes the view that *Member States should have the flexibility* to *check for*

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language *of the host country* for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

language *competency, including technical scientific language,* for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession;

Or. en

Amendment 52 Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

Amendment

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession *and engaging in direct contact with patients*.

Or. lt

Amendment 53 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

Amendment

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession; considers that the competent authority in the host Member State must, before granting applicants authorisation to pursue a health profession, arrange for language tests in order to verify that they possess in-depth knowledge of the language of the host Member State.

Amendment 54 Linda McAvan

Draft opinion Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

Amendment

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession, and calls on the Commission to clarify the respective roles of employers and regulators in testing language competence;

Or. en

Amendment 55 Françoise Grossetête

Draft opinion Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

Amendment

7. Takes the view that checks need to be carried out – *during the procedure for recognition of professional qualifications, rather than later* – on the knowledge of the language of the host country for the specific purpose of pursuing a health care profession.

Or. fr

Amendment 56 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 a. Stresses that the fast and increase of innovation in the environmental science and industry, requires an open attitude of European and national authorities in order to accept new skills, qualifications and academic studies and to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and innovation. Therefore, it is necessary that the EU and Member States facilitate lifelong learning for professionals and officials working in the eco-industry or environmental sectors, as this will strengthen the takeover capacity and implementation of scientific or technical developments.

Or. en

Amendment 57 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 b. Takes the view that Member States should manage the language testing of healthcare professionals and should delegate a competent authority to carry out the checks;

Or. en

Amendment 58 Antonyia Parvanova

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 c (new)

Amendment

7 c. Points out that patients and the public need better assurances that healthcare professionals benefiting from recognition have kept their skills and knowledge up to date, as laid down in the national legislations and requirements of the Member States where they seek recognition

Or. en

Amendment 59 Mario Pirillo

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7d. Considers the provision of temporary and/or occasional services to create problems for the competent authorities in terms of implementing the temporary regime; calls on the Commission, therefore, to clarify matters in order to prevent temporary establishment becoming a means of avoiding the complex procedures under the general system.

Or. it

Amendment 60 Marina Yannakoudakis

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 e. Calls on Member States and the

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Commission to strengthen the existing regime for EEA citizens, and third country nationals, with third country qualifications, to ensure that patient safety and public health are not compromised;

Or. en

Amendment 61 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 f. Points out that the rapid evolution of industrial production, and the knowledge needs raised by science, has led to the emergence of new academic titles or qualifications that did not exist before in many European countries. Therefore, urges the competent authorities of the Member States to recognize academic tittles even though a similar title does not exist in their own country. As a result, professionals who bring new knowledge and experience can act as drivers of change and renewal in the industry.

Or. en

Amendment 62 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 g. Points out that the development of the e-health and the development of a remote healthcare system, requires that after

their training, nurses and doctors will be able to take care of patients from different nationalities. Therefore, It would be necessary to promote collaboration between training centres, hospitals and universities in different countries for the professionals and graduates who have to take care of the patients through these instruments.

Or. en

Amendment 63 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 h (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 h. Points that although the Single Market Act calls for a review of the scope of regulated professions, in the healthcare sector it is necessary to ensure patient safety through clear regulation of the skills, training needs and responsibilities. In this regard, it should be possible that professions that are recognised in other countries, such as chiropractic or acupuncture will be included in the list of tittles and professional qualifications of the Directive, in order to enrich the services offered to patients and to ensure public control in the exercise of these professions.

Or. en

Amendment 64 Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

Draft opinion Paragraph 7 i (new)

Amendment

7 i. Recognises the possible benefits of the introduction of the European Professional Card in terms of acceleration and simplification of the recognition procedure (as foreseen in recital 32 of Directive 2005/36/EC); in this regard, the Internal Market Information system (IMI) could facilitate much faster cooperation between the issuing Member State (the professional's of departure) and the receiving Member State (the country where the professional seeks establishment);

Or. en