

**Question for written answer E-001628/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica** (Renew)

Subject: Qualifications in Spain for specialists in infectious diseases

Spain is the only Member State that does not have any qualifications or specific training courses for doctors specialising in infectious diseases. Both the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) and the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) have approved curricula for training in this specialist field. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) noted this lack of any specialist training during a visit to Spain in 2016 and recommended that steps be taken to remedy this.

Approximately 100 hospitals in Spain do have doctors specialising in this field, with de facto recognition of their training, but these doctors are unable to have their expertise accredited in other Member States. This jeopardises the safety and quality of disease prevention throughout the European Union and breaches the personal and professional rights laid down both in Articles 45 and 49 of the Treaties and in Directive 2005/36 on the recognition of professional qualifications.

With the above in mind:

1. Does the Commission know about the ECDC's conclusions regarding this situation and does it agree with them?
2. Would it advise looking to experience gained during the pandemic to resolve this situation?
3. Academic qualifications are a Member State competence; nevertheless, has the Commission taken any action in this regard?