

 Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation




2012 Annual Educational Conference - September 6-8
San Francisco, California


**Connecting the Dots II:
The European Union
Experience
Current Challenges for
Quality of Care in the
Modernisation Agenda**


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Promoting Regulatory Excellence

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European Union

- The internal market of the European Union is a single market in which the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons is ensured and in which European citizens are free to live, work, study and do business.
- To ensure that everyone, citizen or business, can make the most of the advantages of the single market, the EU concentrates on dismantling barriers still impeding its operation. It seeks to harmonise legislation in order to improve its response to the challenges of globalisation and to adapt to advances, such as the new technologies.


3

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The History of the Directive 2005/36EC

- 1967 - proposed EU Directive for general care nurses
- 1969 - Draft Directives went to EU Parliament on content of general nurse training
- European Directives
 - Sectoral Directives - 77/452 EEC, 77/453 EEC (Generalist Nurse)
 - General Systems Directives - 89/595/EEC
 - 2001/19/EC
- 2005/36/EC merge of 15 directives

4

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Directive 2005/36/EC

- Directive 2005/36 consolidated earlier 15 Directives

Aimed to:

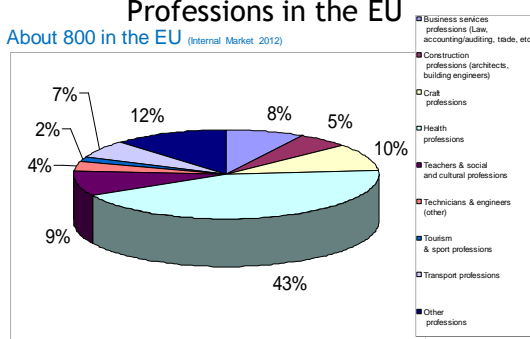
- Modernise the rules regulating the recognition of the professions and the liberalisation of the provision of services
- Ensure flexibility of procedures and mobility of professionals - special rules for General care nurses, midwives, doctors, pharmacists, dentists, veterinary surgeons & architects

5

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Professions in the EU

About 800 in the EU (Internal Market 2012)



Profession Category	Percentage
Business services professions (Law, accounting/auditing, trade, etc)	12%
Construction professions (architects, building engineers)	4%
Craft professions	7%
Health professions	2%
Teachers & social and cultural professions	8%
Technicians & engineers (other)	10%
Tourism & sport professions	5%
Transport professions	9%
Other professions	43%

6

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Modernisation Process

- Study on the Transposition of the Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (EP 2009)
- Evaluation Study to review the Professional Qualifications Directive against recent educational reforms in EU Member States (EC 2011)
- Public Consultation for the reform of the system of recognition of professional qualifications - Green Paper (EC 2011)

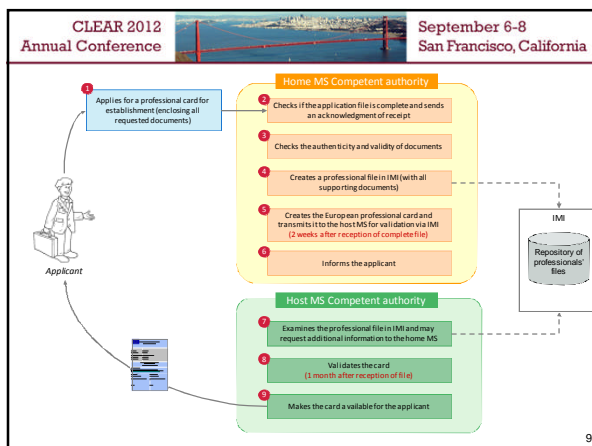
7

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Directive Modernisation Proposals

1. European professional card & E-government
2. Reform rules on establishment and temporary mobility
3. Regulated professions and partial access
4. Alert mechanism
5. Language skills
6. Specific issues for each of the health professions


8



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European Professional Card
 Electronic document

- On the card: only basic information (name, date and place of birth, nationality, profession, competent authorities involved, contact details)
- The IMI file of the professional - accessible only to the competent authorities involved in the recognition procedure



10

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Establishment and Temporary Mobility

- Qualifications levels (art. 11 and art. 13)
 - Justify substantial differences in education
 - ECTS
- Compensation measures (art. 14)
 - Twice yearly compensation measures
- Mobility from non regulating Member States (art. 13) - Applies to accompanying nationals


11

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Regulated Professions and Partial Access

- Great diversity of regulated professions, reserved activities and qualifications requirements across EU
- Lack of transparency and justification of qualifications requirements and reserved activities
- European Parliament Resolution called to reduce the number of regulated professions
- Ongoing review of regulated professions in a number of Member States

12


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Alert Mechanism - Exchange Information Proactively

Health professionals - including veterinary surgeons - who benefit from automatic recognition:

- Alert to all Member States and the Commission via the IMI;
- Decision by national authorities or courts;
- Information to be sent - identity of the professional prohibited to practice (applies also for temporary bans);
- Deadlines - within 3 days from the date of adoption of the decision on prohibition


13

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Language Skills

- Competent authorities can test for national language but only one.
- Testing can only occur after the qualifications have been recognised.
- The professional cannot incur any expense for testing that might be required of them to do a test by the competent authority.


14

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General Care Nurses

- Upgrade admission requirements to nurses from 10 to 12 years of general education (or equivalent solution)
 - General care nurses (not geriatric nurses or other nurses)
 - Already reality in 24 Member States (25th MS about to follow)
 - Issue of political concern to a minor number of countries

15

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General Care Nurses

- Duration of programme is now 3 years and 4,600 Hours of theoretical and clinical instruction
- Theoretical instruction no less than 1/3 of 4,600 = 1,533 hours
- Clinical instruction no less than 1/2 of 4,600 = 2,300 hours
- competencies may be defined
- Inputs model of education

16

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Patient Safety Challenges for Nursing

- Registered nurse title in Europe does not assure equivalence of role, education or practice standards
- Nursing in Europe needs to demonstrate the added value of the nurse to the modernising agenda of health care and regulation
- Nursing needs to become politically active within the structures of Europe

17

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Speaker Contact Information

Thank you

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18
