

The Professional Qualifications Directive Need for modernisation ?

“People dimension”
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OVERVIEW

1. The « people dimension » and the Single Market
2. Professional Qualifications' Directive and Services Directive
3. Modernisation of the Professional Qualifications' Directive.
4. Opportunities and pitfalls

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« The people dimension »

1. Mobility agenda for EU citizens and for the economy
2. Shortage of 12 million in the overall workforce, 16 highly qualified jobs to be filled in 2020
3. Integration of services market : 800 regulated professions (25% regulated in a single Member State)
4. Beneficiaries of the Single Market: only big business? What about SMEs and professions?
5. « Youth on the move »/Bologna process → impact on the single market?

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Professional Qualifications' Directive and Services Directives

1. Professional Qualifications Directive :
 - Directive 2005/36/EC
 - Consolidation, Repeal of 15 previous Directives
2. Services Directive
 - Directive 2006/123/EC
 - New instrument, new strategy
3. The two Directives complement each other (e.g. temporary mobility, points of single contact, IMI)
4. But differences in scope : health professions and jobseekers (free movement of workers)

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Modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive

1. Directive from 2005 but many parts 20 or 30 years old
2. Large evaluation with competent authorities and professions already in 2010
3. Public consultation: January to March (>350 responses)
4. Green Paper July 2011
5. Legislative Proposal

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Opportunities and

- Access to information, model of the point of single contact (Services Directive)
- Reaping concrete benefits from IMI
 - European professional card
- Member States' policy on regulated professions
- Temporary mobility a key factor for growth

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.....and difficult areas

- Concept of competence instead of duration?
- European Qualifications Framework
- Health sector (automatic recognition, patient safety)
- Language skills of a professional, such as a doctor or tourist guide (Article 53 of the Directive)

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Conclusion

1. « People dimension » untapped potential for the Single Market?
2. Professional Qualifications Directive important for services markets
3. Modernisation = better integration of professions into the single market (professional card)

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THANK YOU

For further information see our Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/qualifications/index_en.htm