Recognition of professional qualifications: nurses responsible for general care trained in Romania

2023/0307(COD) - 12/12/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 577 votes to 7, with 28 abstentions, a resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending and correcting Directive 2005/36/EC as regards the recognition of professional qualifications of nurses responsible for general care trained in Romania.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure.

Parliament supports the Commission proposal which provides a targeted amendment of the rules of special acquired rights laid down in Article 33(a) of Directive 2005/36/EC to facilitate the recognition process for nurses responsible for general care who have completed the Romanian upgrading programme. The proposal states that these nurses should benefit from recognition under special acquired rights without the need to prove professional experience.

A number of host Member States have recognised the professional qualifications of nurses responsible for general care trained in Romania whose qualifications did not meet the requirements to benefit from recognition under Article 33a of Directive 2005/36/EC for the purpose of access to the same profession in that Member State.

In order to protect acquired rights, the amended text stipulated that host Member States shall guarantee the validity of the recognition of the Romanian qualification as a nurse responsible for general care granted pursuant to Articles 10 to 14 of this Directive before the date of entry into force of this amending Directive in the case of nationals of Member States who were trained as a nurse responsible for general care in Romania and did not meet the requirements of:

- Article 33a of this Directive in the version in force on 1 January 2007, or

- Article 33a of this Directive, as amended by Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System (‘the IMI Regulation’).