Basic information

1997/0345(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure completed
Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect... (amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC) **Subject** 4.15.06 Professional qualifications, recognition of qualifications	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DELE EP Delegation to Conciliation Committee	WIELAND Rainer (PPE-DE)	26/09/2000

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
JURI Legal Affairs and Internal Market	WIELAND Rainer (PPE-DE)	23/09/1999
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	FONTAINE Nicole (PPE)	06/01/1998

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2233	1999-12-07
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2094	1998-05-18
Agriculture and Fisheries	2332	2001-02-26
Agriculture and Fisheries	2250	2000-03-20
Culture	2287	2000-09-26

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(1997)0638	Summary

02/12/1997	Legislative proposal published		
15/12/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
18/05/1998	Debate in Council		
03/06/1998	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
03/06/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0232/1998	
01/07/1998	Debate in Parliament		
20/03/2000	Council position published	05103/3/2000	Summary
30/03/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
21/06/2000	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
21/06/2000	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0174/2000	
04/07/2000	Debate in Parliament		
05/07/2000	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0298/2000	Summary
26/09/2000	Parliament's amendments rejected by Council		
22/11/2000	Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee		
13/12/2000	Final decision by Conciliation Committee		Summary
11/01/2001	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3663/2000	
18/01/2001	Report tabled for plenary, 3rd reading	A5-0012/2001	
31/01/2001	Debate in Parliament		
01/02/2001	Decision by Parliament, 3rd reading	T5-0049/2001	Summary
26/02/2001	Decision by Council, 3rd reading		
14/05/2001	Final act signed		
14/05/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/07/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/0345(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 040 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 047-p2-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 047-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CODE/5/13720

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0232/1998 OJ C 210 06.07.1998, p. 0008	03/06/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0394/1998 OJ C 226 20.07.1998, p. 0011-0026	02/07/1998	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0174/2000 OJ C 121 24.04.2001, p. 0010	21/06/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0298/2000 OJ C 121 24.04.2001, p. 0035-0119	05/07/2000	Summary
Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading		A5-0012/2001	18/01/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading		T5-0049/2001 OJ C 267 21.09.2001, p. 0020-0048	01/02/2001	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	05103/3/2000 OJ C 119 27.04.2000, p. 0001	20/03/2000	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0638  OJ C 028 26.01.1998, p. 0001	02/12/1997	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2000)0491 	27/03/2000	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(2000)0527 	21/08/2000	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0797/1998 OJ C 235 27.07.1998, p. 0053	27/05/1998	
CSL/EP	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3663/2000	11/01/2001	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Directive 2001/0019
OJ L 206 31.07.2001, p. 0001 Summary

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 02/07/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mrs Nicole FONTAINE (PPE, F) on the recognition of professional qualifications, the European Parliament approved, subject to certain amendments, the amendments proposed by the Commission. Generally, the amendments seek to ensure that Member States which wish to impose adaptation periods or aptitude tests should inform the Commission and Member States in advance, setting out the need for the test or adaptation period, its length and the standards to be adopted in any tests. Parliament also seeks to render it more arduous and complex for Member States to derogate from the rule that migrants may choose between a test and an adaptation period, thereby facilitating automatic recognition of qualifications for the professions of doctor and architect. Parliament called on the Commission, in the light of experience, to submit to the Council by 01.01.2008 a report on the application of this amendment to the Directive and to continue in an appropriate manner to harmonise the training of general practitioners. A proposal to this effect should be approved by 01.01.1999.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 02/12/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE : within the framework of the SLIM initiative (simplification of Community legislation), to simplify and clarify directives concerning the general system of recognition of diplomas and qualifications and other sectoral directives, in particular regarding the updating of lists of qualifications eligible for automatic recognition. SUBSTANCE : the proposal seeks to: - establish the legal principle under which the host Member State must take into account, in considering an application for recognition of qualifications, the experience gained after obtaining the qualifications in question. The host Member State will no longer be able to impose systematically supplementary requirements such as aptitude tests, conversion courses etc. but will be required to reduce or even end such practices; - introduce into Directive 89/48/EEC (first general system for the recognition of higher education diplomas) to introduce the concept of regulated education and training already contained in Directive 92/51/EEC (second general system). The purpose is to require the host Member State to take into account education and training undergone by the migrant in a Member State, even where such training is given without the profession being regulated. This new provision would dispense with the requirement in the host Member State to furnish proof of two years' professional experience; - extend to all the sectoral directives (with the exception of the 'Architects' directive) the system in the 'Doctors' directive for updating the lists of general medical qualifications eligible for automatic recognition; - ensuring legal certainty regarding the recognition of training undergone in third countries by Community nationals: each Member State remains free to recognize such training or otherwise except where the first host Member State has already recognized the professional experience of those concerned. In this case, a second host Member State may not directly reject the application for recognition but must give the reasons for a decision to reject it; - include in the annex for the sake of clarity of legibility updated lists of diplomas and other qualifications already referred to in the various sectoral directives.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 05/07/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In approving the report drafted by Mr Rainer WIELAND (EPP/ED, D), the European Parliament adopted, under the codecision procedure, second reading, the Council's common position on the recognition of professional qualifications but tabled a number of amendments calling, among other things, for the length of specific training for general medical practioners to be increased from two to three years. Furthermore, the Parliament also considered that further measures should be adopted to simplify the recognition of qualifications gained in countries outside the European Union and is therefore calling on the Commission to produce sectoral studies, on the basis of which it can, if necessary, present legislative proposals. Lastly, Parliament points out that the legal situation is fragmentary and is therefore calling for manageable consolidated versions of the legislation.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 01/02/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading

The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr Rainer Wieland (EPP/ED, D). (Please refer to the previous text).

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 14/05/2001 - Final act

PURPOSE : to simplify and clarify the directives relating to the general system for the recognition of professional qualifications and other sectoral directives, particularly with regard to eligibility for automatic recognition. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Directive 2001/19/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directives 89/48/EEC and 92/51/EEC on the general system for the recognition of professional qualifications and Council Directives 77/452/EEC, 77/453/EEC, 78/686/EEC, 78/687/EEC, 78/1023/EEC, 78/1027/EEC, 80/154/EEC, 80/155/EEC, 85/384/EEC, 85/432 /EEC, 85/433/EEC and 93/16/EEC concerning the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner, veterinary surgeon, midwife, architect, pharmacist and doctor. CONTENT: The effect of this directive is to oblige Member States to take rapid decisions on requests for recognition of qualifications and to take account of professional experience gained in other Member States. It also facilitates and speeds up the updating of lists of diplomas, certificates and titles eligible for automatic recognition within professions covered by the Directives. Under this directive, Member States will notify the Commission directly of any changes, introduced under national law, to the official title of a qualification or profession acquired following a certain training programme. The Commission will update and publish the corresponding lists of diplomas, certificates and titles in the Official Journal. The existing sectoral directives are simplified by gathering together in the annex es various provisions which have previously been scattered throughout the text. These directives now include lists, presented in the form of tables and separated according to Member State, of the title of the diploma, the organisation which issues the diploma, and the certificate which accompanies it. This directive also fills a gap as regards recognition of training obtained by Community nationals outside the European Union. For the professions covered by the sectoral directives, this new directive imposes on Member States the obligation, when considering an application for recognition, to take into consideration by any other Member state of a qualification acquired outside the Union ("Community elements") In the event of a rejection of a request, the Member State must justify its decision. In addition, Member States are obliged to recognise professional experience obtained in another Member State. The new directive requires decisions on applications for professional recognition to be taken within four months and that such decisions must be open to review under national law.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 21/08/2000 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The European Parliament adopted at second reading 11 amendments to the common position of the Council. The Commission is unable to accept seven of the amendments proposed by the Parliament. These include : - the introduction of a new recital calling on the Commission to present consolidated versions of the Directives, mainly on the grounds that this is a breach of the rules of drafting. - the introduction of a new recital calling on the Commission to draw up studies and legislative proposals on the recognition of training acquired in third countries. The Council's common position already touches directly on this point. - amending the common position by making ongoing training obligatory for general practitioners. According to the Treaty, the organisation and content of education and training is a matter for the Member States. - the introduction of a new condition concerning training for specialists is rejected for the reasons mentioned above. - extending by one year the minimum period of specific training in general medical practice. This is contrary to Treaty, since it goes beyond what is necessary to ensure freedom of movement and the directives on recogntion of diplomas. The remaining amendments are accepted.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 27/03/2000 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Council in its common position made several amendments to the Commission's proposal, all of which are accepted by the Commission.

Professional qualifications, recognition: doctor, dentist, architect...(amend. direct. 89/48/EEC, 92/51/EEC)

1997/0345(COD) - 20/03/2000 - Council position

The Council unanimously adopted the Common Position. The Council did not accept any amendments proposed by the European Parliament at first reading. The Commission did not make any amendments to its initial proposal. The main amendments made by the Council to the Commission's proposal concern the following: -the inclusion of certain Spanish specialised doctors in the scope of Directive 93/16/EEC. -the examination of diplomas. -clarification of the definition of "regulated training". -an acceleration of the procedure for the recognition of diplomas. On the European Parliament's amendments, the Council felt that those concerning the publication of the Co-ordinators Group's deliberations, the relaying of compensation measures to the Commission and the updating of lists of qualifications, were not in line with the SLIM initiative. -Other amendments on the introduction of automatic recognition of qualifications of a third country, are to be the subject of a report of the Commission.