Common Training Frameworks: Legal Provisions and Practical Questions

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Amending

Directive 2005/36/EC on recognition of professional qualifications

and

Regulation N° 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System ('the IMI regulation')

Directive of the European Parliament and the Council on Professional Qualifications

shall be :

transposed within 2 years in the National Law of all EU Member States, after publication in the EU Official Journal.

- revised after 5 years

<u>9/10/13</u>: Adoption by the <u>European Parliament</u>

<u>15/11/13</u>: Adoption by the <u>Council</u>

<u>17/01/14</u>: Published in the EU Official Journal

<u>2015</u>: Propositions and adoption by EU countries

Jan 2016: Deadline for transposition into national Law

Amendments

European Professional Card

Alert Mechanism

Partial Access

Language Skills

Continuous Professional Development

Professional Traineeships

Common Training Frameworks

A new regime for automatic recognition.

The new Directive makes it possible for EU Member States to decide on a <u>common set of knowledge</u>, <u>skills and competences that are needed to pursue a</u> <u>given profession</u>.

These aim at <u>introducing more automaticity</u> in the recognition of qualifications currently covered by the general system, <u>without compensation</u> <u>measures</u>, in all EU countries.

Requirements

- Profession regulated in at least 1/3 of Member States
- Enabling more professionals to move across Member States
- Transparent due process, including the relevant stakeholders from Member States where the profession is not regulated
- The common training framework shall be based on levels of the EQF

Each profession shall propose its CTF

and take care of :

- its regulation and
- protection of the <u>consumer</u>

With a **general high level** of **competence of the professionals**

How to prepare CTF

1) At national level:

The representatives of the profession contact the **coordinator** and collaborate at <u>national</u> level and with the ministries in charge of the Transposition.

Prepare in each country the **harmonization** according to the propositions of **CTF for one profession**.

2) At Europen Level

European Federation for one profession: analyse the situation as it is and send a questionnaire to the representatives of all EU countries.

3) **Find 10 countries : Government + Professionals** agrees to make propositions to the EC

When the proposition of « **Common Training Frameworks**» by **10 EU MS** will be adopted ,

- it will become <u>compulsory</u> for all EU Member States to <u>transpose</u> in the national Law

- we will then have the **same system of** <u>free</u> <u>movement</u>, like the 7 "sectoral" professions, thanks to the <u>harmonisation of education</u>.

Important points to bear in mind:

- The goal of the European Commission is to include as many Member States as possible in each CTF.
- The European Commission's mission is to **collaborate with the Member States** and not to use the CTF as a way of recognizing some professions "above" the Member States. The CTF procedure has to be completed with the agreement of the Member States and in a transparent way.
- The priority of the European Commission is to boost mobility within the Single Market by **reaching automatic mutual recognition of qualifications the fastest and easiest way possible**.
- The European Commission has to follow the policy guidelines for Growth announced by President Juncker.

Important points to bear in mind:

- The European Commission's DG "Growth" Unit "Free Movement of Professionals" is going to prepare by Summer a document aiming at helping stakeholders to better understand CTF.
- The European Commission's general idea on the CTF is that their goal is neither to lower standards nor to design the perfect training for a profession. The Commission wishes to guarantee a decent level of quality common to all Member States
- The European Commission's DG for Growth has limited resources, a given budget and has to work simultaneously on many projects. For this reason it doesn't have the capacity to examine several CTF projects at the same time.

Questions:

A country in which a profession seeking a CTF does not have a common training at the national level but does have a common regulation is eligible to become one of the ten Member States needed for a CTF? There are three countries in this position: Luxembourg Cyprus Malta.

Yes, such a country is eligible.

Either the training or the profession itself should be regulated in a Member State in order for it to be a part of a CTF.

Questions:

• Is it possible to define a basic set of common knowledge, skills and competences for all branches as a basis + a set of common knowledge, skills and competences for the specific branch?

There are already some. The idea is to work on what already exists to ease the work.

• When is a guideline for proposals to be expected?

As soon as possible (hopefully by Summer), but anyway before the end of 2015.

Questions:

• When will consultations on the definition of common training framework begin? Does the Commission intend to proceed by means of a trial on some qualifications or to open a general consultation?

There is no need for any consultation! CTFs are included in the "Mutual Recognition" Directive and their definition is clear. The European Commission is just going to publish a document aiming at assisting the professions who consider submitting a request for a CTF

 Does the Commission envisage the creation of an ad hoc working party, as in the case of the European professional card?

No, there will be a document of guidelines (see previous question) and probably a conference with stakeholders aiming at addressing questions on that document.

Questions:

• How will the Commission integrate the two features (card and common training framework) with one another?

Their integration is highly feasible and it can be envisaged that a profession has both. The two tools complement each other. The European Commission is not however envisaging to systematically link them.

Questions?

Thank you for your attention