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EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
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DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING
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ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
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ASOCIATIA EUROPEANA A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

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European Junior Doctors statement on the 07.01.2011 Consultation paper by DGMARKT on the Professional Qualifications Directive [MARKT.D.4D(2010)]

March 15, 2011

The European Junior Doctors Permanent Working Group welcomes the Commission's initiative to revise the European Professional Qualifications Directive [EU 2005-36].

The European Junior Doctors Permanent Working Group (EJD) was formally created in 1976 and represents nearly 300.000 Junior Doctors. EJD's members are national medical associations that represent doctors in training. Junior Doctors roughly make up one third of the medical workforce in Europe and are among the main migrating group within the Health Sector. As such, the EJD can offer a particular insight on how the Directive is being implemented and on potential pitfalls and necessary improvements. For nearly two years we have been discussing the issue and the EJD has been present in the Commission's initiatives on the revision of the Qualifications Directive.

Nevertheless, when we were presented with this Consultation Paper [MARKT.D.4D (2010)] in January 2011 we identified a number of concrete questions that we had difficulty in providing a European wide perspective. We tried to mature our answers but it is our understanding that a broader discussion is needed among our members, in order to reach a consensus that truly covers the social and economic spectrum of Europe. As an example, if on one side it is clear that the automatic recognition of qualifications is a huge success in the promotion of doctor's mobility, we cannot ignore that the advances on science and medical education demand more from a piece of legislation that regulates mobility of professionals.

Faced with this complexity, the European Junior Doctors decided not to provide an incomplete and immature perspective on this consultation paper. The negative impact that such a position might have overcomes any potential benefit. We will have a General Assembly meeting in May where a profound and detailed discussion will take place. We will then provide the Commission with an overarching position.