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**INFORMATION  
INFORMATISCHE AUFZEICHNUNG  
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**NOTE D'INFORMATION  
NOTA D'INFORMAZIONE  
TER DOCUMENTIE**

Brussels, March 1974

COMMISSION PUSHES FORWARD DISCUSSION ON MUTUAL  
RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

The Commission has decided to submit to the Council a proposal designed to accelerate freedom of establishment of self-employed persons particularly as concerns the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.\*

Draft directives for a number of professions have already been submitted by the Commission to the Council and some are currently under discussion. The present proposal sets out, in the form of a draft Resolution of the Council, guidelines for the future consideration of the problem. It is made in the light of the conclusions of an ad hoc working group established by the Commission and of the Hearing on professional qualifications for doctors held in October 1973.

The guidelines emphasise that there is broad comparability of professional standards within the Community. For that reason specific provisions for the training required should as far as possible be avoided. The guidelines also mention the importance of maintaining the quality of professional training in the Community and the need to ensure flexible Community rules and procedures, open to changes necessitated by scientific and educational developments in Member States. In order to ensure systematic consultation with the practitioners and teachers in the professions, it seems desirable to establish advisory committees in order to assist the Commission in ensuring a high standard of professional training and to advise on any matter relevant to the profession.

These guidelines, if adopted by the Council, should give a new impetus to discussions within the Council on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

\* COM(74)254.