

## **CED CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE UPDATE OF THE ANNEX V.3/5.3.1 OF DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC**

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is a European not-for-profit association which represents over 340,000 dental practitioners across Europe through 33 national dental associations and chambers in 31 European countries. Established in 1961 to advise the European Commission on matters relating to the dental profession, the CED key objectives are to promote high standards of oral healthcare and dentistry and effective patient-safety centred professional practice.

Since 2016 the CED has a Resolution<sup>i</sup> that considers of utmost importance the update of Annex V.3/5.3.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD) in order to answer to the scientific, technical and technological developments and maintain the profession of dentist at a high-quality level as it has always been.

Given so far there was no intention to update the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD) the CED decided to focus on evidence gathering. Consequently, in 2018 we sent the questionnaire to deans of dental schools in Europe to collect their opinion and to investigate the updates of the study programme at their universities.

The results revealed that many of the CED suggested changes **on the subjects are already implemented**. These findings prove that **the cost of the implementation of those changes will be minimal** as they have already been incorporated in most curricula.

**The current content of the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of the Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD) has to correspond to the existing programme of dental education**, and reflect the concrete competences and skills a dentist should have nowadays, in a modern and realistic way. This will demonstrate that upon graduation, he/she will be able to use the most updated tools and state of the art techniques and be ready to face new challenges for the dental profession.

The dental professionals, educators, students and as per the results of the CED questionnaire, many deans of dental schools are aligned that these changes are imperative, targeting at a

fresh and updated concept of dentistry, which will contribute to a better oral health for all European citizens.

Our proposal of changes reflecting the necessary updates, was prepared with the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), approved by the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners (ACDTP), is in line with the European Dental Students Association (EDSA) opinion regarding the need of an adequate clinical training with patients and in line with FEDCAR position.

The CED considers that updating the list of subjects calls for an urgent action but, at the same time, it is of utmost importance that in a near future the structural content of the Annex V.3/5.3.1. of Directive 2005/36/EC must be reviewed in order to include modules or competences and skills rather than just a list of subjects.

Over the past years, the CED has been calling for those changes in the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD) as it serves as a reference for the recognition of formal qualifications in dentistry. Any discrepancies might cause different interpretations regarding the automatic recognition of professional qualifications and impede the comparison of dental qualifications in Europe.

**Further delays in updating the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD) lead to the maintenance of an outdated dental curricula that poses a threat to public health and hampers further development of dentistry.**

Taking in account that there is no intention of changing the structural content of the list of subjects, the CED urges the European Commission and Member States to carry out the adequate changes as listed in our proposal. The CED remains committed to provide any further information and expertise to the decision makers in the EU in order to launch an action leading to the update of the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of Directive 2005/36/EC (PQD).

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<sup>i</sup> <https://cedentists.eu/component/attachments/attachments.html?id=2806>