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STRENGTHENING NURSING EDUCATION SAVES LIVES



Exceeding our expectations, the roundtable organised by MEPs Mario Pirillo and Bernadette Vergnaud, brought together 75 key policymakers and politicians to discuss the education of nurses. The aim of the event was to bring the different views on the entry requirement to the same table to discuss the implications for patients, the nursing profession and health systems.

The EFN maintains its position and re-iterates that the compromises currently on the table are not supported by nurses and certainly do not ensure high quality of care and patient safety. This was clearly expressed by many stakeholders at the roundtable!

As stressed by the Cyprus Presidency, the modification of Directive 36 is a good opportunity to move on towards a higher level of quality delivery of health care and to inject confidence into a recognition system in order to enhance a higher mobility of professionals within the EU.



The EFN President, Unni Hembre, explained that *“Every 10% increase in bachelor’s nurses is associated with a 7% reduction in the odds of patients dying (RN4CAST). If you allow the minority to set the criteria for harmonisation, you will undermine the efforts of 24 EU Member States who have already implemented the 12 years as a direct response to the demands of current healthcare systems. Those who claim that the 12-year entry requirement will make all nurses academics are blind to the actual consequences and the incremental cost that a lower qualified workforce will cause to the future of healthcare. You should not ignore this evidence when designing new policies!”*

Please contact Mr Paul de Raeve, General Secretary of the European Federation of Nurses Associations, for more information.

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Further information:

- [Directive 2005/36/EC](#);
- [EFN Evidence Report on Directive 36 – Nursing Education from 10 to 12 years](#);
- [RN4CAST project](#).

