EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 25.3.2014 C(2014) 1951 final

Dear President.

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion concerning the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee on Evaluating national regulations on access to professions {COM(2013) 676 final}.

With a view to the assessment of the regulatory mechanisms in place across Member States, the Commission notes the suggestion of three examining criteria by the Camera Deputaților, namely: the compatibility with the principle of non-discrimination, the justification by an overriding reason of general interest and the proportionality to securing the objectives those restrictions are designed to meet and without inflicting any unnecessary burden. The Commission is confident that these considerations will be borne in mind during the process of mutual evaluation and in preparation for action plans as set out in the Communication.

The mutual evaluation exercise should provide the opportunity for Member States to explain how professions are regulated at national level, what the mechanisms in place to protect the general interest are and why these are justified and proportionate to the objectives pursued. Member States will have the possibility to discuss the economic impacts of the different approaches to the regulation of professions. The Commission will facilitate the discussions between Member States and report on their outcome.

Following the mutual evaluation and drawing upon the related discussions, Member States will prepare action plans identifying, where appropriate, what remedial actions they propose. In doing this, Member States should in particular take into consideration the cumulative effects of all regulations affecting a profession as underlined in the Council conclusions of October 2013.

The Commission will prepare reports over the course of the exercise to both evaluate progress as well as to report findings and will communicate on the results when available.

Hoping that these clarifications address the concerns raised by the Camera Deputaților, the Commission looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Maroš Šefčovič Vice-President

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