RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS ACT

In force from 08.02.2008


Part one.
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 1. (suppl. - SG 27/16) This Act shall provide for the terms and conditions for the recognition of professional qualifications, acquired in other Member States and in third states in view to access and exercise of regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the terms and conditions for partial access to the exercise of a regulated profession and recognition of apprenticeship for mastering the profession in another Member State.

Art. 2. (1) (Former text of Art. 2 - SG, 98/2010, in force from 14.12.2010) The Act shall apply to the nationals of Members States and of third states, which have acquired professional qualifications in other Member States and in third states and wish to pursue regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria as self-employed or as employed persons.

(2) (New - SG 27/16) The Act shall apply to the nationals of Members States, which have completed apprenticeship for mastering the profession outside the Member State of origin.


(4) (New - SG 27/16) The law shall not apply to the recognition of professional qualifications of seafarers, notaries and notary practice.

Art. 3. (1) The list of the regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be adopted by a Council of Ministers decisions under Art. 7 of the Vocational Education and Training Act and in compliance with Art. 9, Para. 3, p. 13 of the Higher Education Act.

(2) The decision under Para. 1 shall be published in the State Gazette.

Art. 4. (1) (Former text of Art. 4 - SG, 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009) Bodies of recognition of professional qualifications shall be:

1. The Minister of Education – for the professions: Doctor, Medical Nurse, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Midwife and Master Pharmacist as well as for the other medical professions, included in the list under Art. 3, Para. 1;
2. (amend. - SG, 8/2011, in force from 25.01.2011) the executive director of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency – for the profession Veterinary Doctor;
3. the chairperson of the Chamber of Architects – for the profession of Architect;
4. the chairperson of the Chamber of the Engineers in the Investment Design – for the profession Engineer in Investment Design;
5. other bodies, determined in a special law or in a statutory instrument of secondary legislation.

(2) (New - SG, 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009) Where the bodies under Para. 1 are Ministers, they may delegate their authorities under this Act by a written order to Deputy Ministers.
Art. 5. (1) Nationals of Member States, who hold evidence for professional qualifications, acquired in another Member State, may pursue regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria in compliance with the Bulgarian laws.

(2) Recognition of professional qualifications for the professions Doctor, Medical Nurse, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Veterinary Doctor, Midwife and Master Pharmacist and Architect shall be performed in compliance with the minimal qualification requirements for pursuing these professions in compliance with Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications.

Art. 6. (1) With the recognitions of professional qualifications for pursuing regulated profession, the recognition bodies shall apply:

1. the list of the professional associations or organizations, which meet the conditions of § 2 of the Additional Provisions:

5. for recognition of professional qualification of Doctors:
   a) the list of evidence for professional qualification for education in Medicine in the Member States;
   b) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Doctors – specialists in the Member States;
   c) the list of names of the specialized education in Medicine on the Member States;
   d) the list of evidence for professional qualification of General Practitioners in the Member States;

6. for recognition of professional qualification of Medical Nurses:
   a) curriculum for education of Medical Nurses in the Member States;
   b) list of evidence for professional qualification of Medical Nurses in the Member States;

7. for recognition of professional qualification of Doctors of Dental Medicine:
   a) curriculum for education of Doctors in Dental Medicine in the Member States;
   b) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Doctors of Dental Medicine in the Member States;
   c) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Doctors of Dental Medicine – specialists in the Member States;

8. for recognition of professional qualification of Veterinary Doctors:
   a) curriculum for education of Veterinary Doctors in the Member States;
   b) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Veterinary Doctors in the Member States;

9. for recognition of professional qualification of Midwives:
   a) curriculum for education of Midwives in the Member States;
   b) the list of evidence for the professional qualification of Midwives in the Member States;

10. for recognition of professional qualification of Master Pharmacists:
a) curriculum for education of Master Pharmacists in the Member States;
b) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Master Pharmacists in the Member States;
11. for recognition of professional qualification of Architects:
a) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Architects in the Member States;
b) the list of evidence for professional qualification of Architects, who benefit from acquired rights;
12. the list of evidence and certificates, which may be required by the recognition bodies;
13. the list of activities, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products, divided in the following groups:
   a) List N 1 – for activities, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products and of biological pesticides, for the purposes of agriculture and gardening (packed toxic products for the end consumer in their original packing);
   b) List N 2 – for other activities, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products;
14. form of a declaration for temporary providing services under Art. 13, Para. 1.
(2) The lists, curricula and the form of a declaration under Para. 1 shall be included as Annexes to the Decision under Art. 3, Para. 1.

Art. 7. (1) The recognition of the professional qualification provides for the nationals of the Member States access to the relevant regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria, for which they have acquired qualification in another member State, and the right to pursue this profession under the same conditions, as the Bulgarian nationals.

(2) The profession, which a national of a Member State wishes to pursue in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be the same for which he has acquired qualification in another Member State, if the relevant professional activities are comparative.

Art. 7a. (New - SG 27 of 2016) (1) The body of recognition shall grant partial access to exercise professional activity if the following conditions are met:
1. the applicant is fully qualified to practice in the Member State of origin the activity, for which a partial access in the Republic of Bulgaria is required;
2. the differences between the professional activity, legally practiced in the Member State of origin, and the regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria are so significant that the implementation of compensatory measures would amount to a requirement for the applicant to undergo a full course of education and training, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, to receive unlimited access to the regulated profession;
3. the professional activity can objectively be separated from other activities within the scope of the regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria, and for this purpose the body of recognition shall take into account whether the professional activity may be exercised as an independent activity in the Member State of origin.

(2) Partial access may be denied if the rejection is justified by imperative reasons in the general interest which can help achieve that objective and do not go beyond what is necessary to achieve that objective.

(3) The person, who has been granted partial access, shall exercise professional activity under the name of the profession in the Member State of origin. The name must be entered in Bulgarian as well.

(4) The person, who has been granted partial access, shall point out clearly to the recipients of the service the scope of their professional activity.

(5) Partial access shall not be given in the cases of automatic recognition of professional qualifications under Part three, Chapter two, three and three "a".

Art. 8. (1) Nationals of third states, having acquired professional qualification in a Member State, shall benefit from the rights of nationals of a Member State for recognition of their professional qualification in
the cases, where they:
1. are members of the family of a Bulgarian national;
2. are members of the family of a national of another Member State, where this national has moved to the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. (suppl. - SG, 9/2011) have received permit for long-term or permanent residence in the Republic of Bulgaria;

(2) Apart from the cases under Para. 1, professional qualification for pursuing regulated profession shall be recognized of nationals of third states, having acquired the right to pursue the same profession in a state, with which the Republic of Bulgaria has signed an international agreement for, or including clauses for mutual recognition of professional qualification of this profession, under the agreed conditions.

(3) Professional qualification for pursuing regulated profession, which has not been acquired in a Member State, may be recognized of a national of a third state under the conditions of mutuality, established for each concrete case, where the qualification corresponds to the legislative requirements in the Republic of Bulgaria for acquiring the same professional qualification.

Art. 8a. (New - SG 27/16) The body of recognition shall issue a European Professional Card for holders of professional qualification at their request in the terms and conditions, determined by an ordinance, adopted by the Council of Ministers, on a proposal from the Minister of Education and science after consultation with the respective professional and trade organizations.

Art. 9. Recognition of professional qualifications for pursuing regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be performed under the procedure of this Act, unless something else has been provided by a special law, or in European Community law.

**Part two.**

**FREE PROVISION OF SERVICES**

Art. 10. Free provision of services in the Republic of Bulgaria by national of other Member States shall not be restricted on a ground, related to their professional qualification, if they:
1. have been legally established in another Member State in view to pursuing the same profession on its territory;
2. have pursued this profession in one or several Member States, full-time, for at least one year or of an equivalent total duration of part-time work in the last 10 years, where the profession is not regulated in this Member State; this requirement shall not apply, where the profession or education and training required for its pursuance, have been regulated in the Member State of establishment.

Art. 11. (1) The provisions of this Part shall apply only in the cases, where a national of another Member State moves to the Republic of Bulgaria in view to pursue regulated profession for a single time or for a certain period of time.

(2) The single or temporary nature of providing services shall be subject to consideration for each concrete case in relation to the term, frequency, regularity and permanence of the provision of services.

Art. 12. Provision of services while moving shall be performed while observing the national rules for professional behavior with professional legislative or administrative nature, directly related to the professional qualifications, characteristics of the profession, usage of professional knowledge, the professional breaches, related to protection and safety of consumers, as well as while observing the disciplinary provisions,
applicable in the Republic of Bulgaria to those, pursuing the same profession.

Art. 13. (1) While providing services for the first time in the Republic of Bulgaria, the national of a Member State shall file before the recognition body a written declaration, containing data about the availability of insurance for the damages, which would occur as a result of guilty failure to fulfill his/her professional duties.

(2) The declaration under Para. 1 shall have attached:
   1. a document for citizenship;
   2. a certificate, issued by the competent body of the relevant Member State, that the declarer is legally established on its territory in view to pursue the relevant activities, as well as that at the moment of issuance of the certificate, he has not been under prohibition, including temporary for pursuing these activities;
   3. evidence for professional qualifications;
   4. (amend. - SG 27/16) evidence, proving the pursuance of the relevant activity for at least 1 year during the last 10 years – in the cases under Art. 10, p. 2;
   5. (amend. - SG 27/16) certificate that the person has not been convicted and that he had not been temporary or permanent revoked the right to exercise the profession - for the professions within security, health care and occupations, related to the education of minors, including child care and preschool education, which require such in the Republic of Bulgaria;
   6. (new - SG 27/16) declaration of proficiency in Bulgarian language - for professions which have implications for patient safety;
   7. (new - SG 27/16) certificate concerning the nature and duration of the activity, issued by the competent authority in the Member State, in which the person is established - for professions, in which the activities referred to in Art. 33 para. 1 are exercised.

(3) In the event of a change in the circumstances, certified by the documents under Para. 2, the declarer shall submit documents, proving the change within one month term from its occurrence.

(4) The declaration shall be renewed once a year, if the declarer will provide services once or temporarily in the Republic of Bulgaria during the relevant calendar year.

Art. 14. (1) The nationals of a Member State, established in another Member State, during temporary or single provision of services shall be freed from the requirements for registration or membership in a professional organization or association, as well as from the introduced in the Bulgarian legislation requirements for registration for the purposes of establishment of obligations for obligatory insurance contributions, comprising from activities, pursued in favour of the insured persons.

(2) Any national of a Member State shall be obliged to inform in advance and in urgent cases – afterwards – the National Revenue Agency about the services, which he/she has provided.

Art. 15. (1) Nationals of a Member State, who temporarily provided services in the area of architecture, shall be entered officially into the register of the Architect Chamber and shall receive a certificate for registration.

(2) The reason for registration shall be noted in the register, where the registration may be renewed annually in the same procedure.

Art. 16. (1) The nationals of a Member State, who temporarily provided services in the area of the investment design, shall be entered officially in the register of the Chamber of the engineers in the investment design and shall receive a registration certificate.

(2) The reason for registration shall be noted in the register, where the registration may be renewed annually in the same procedure.
Art. 17. (1) The nationals of a Member State, who temporarily provide medical services shall be entered into the register of the relevant regional college of the Bulgarian Doctors Union, of the Bulgarian Dentists Union, of the Bulgarian Pharmacists Union or of the Bulgarian Association of the Professionals of Healthcare on the grounds of a notification, sent by the Minister of Health.

(2) The entering shall be considered as done from the moment of receiving the notification.

(3) The reason for registration shall be noted in the register, where the registration may be renewed annually in the same procedure.

Art. 18. (1) The nationals of a Member State, who temporarily provide veterinary medical services, shall be entered officially into the register of the relevant regional college of the Bulgarian Veterinary Union and shall receive a certificate for registration.

(2) (Amend. - SG, 8/2011, in force from 25.01.2011) The entering shall be considered done from the moment of receiving the notification from the executive director of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency.

(3) The reason for registration shall be noted in the register, where the registration may be renewed annually in the same procedure.

Art. 19. (1) The services shall be provided under the professional title of the Member State of establishment, if such is envisaged in that Member State for the relevant professional activity.

(2) The professional title shall be indicated in the official language or in one of the official languages of the Member State of establishment in a way, which shall not admit confusion with the professional title in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(3) Where the Member State of establishment has not envisaged such professional title, the person, providing services shall indicate his/her professional qualification in the official language or in one of the official languages of this Member State.

(4) The services, related to the professional, for which automatic recognition is applied, may be provided under the professional title. Used in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 20. (1) (amend. - SG 27/16) While initially providing services, related to professions in the area of the public health and safety, for which automatic recognition is not applied under Part Three, Chapter Two, Three and Three "a", the recognition body may checkup the documents, certifying the professional qualifications of the declarer, before the provision of services.

(2) The checkup under Para. 1 shall be performed where the lack of the relevant professional qualification threatens the nationals’ safety and could lead to serious damage of their health, where it shall not exceed the needed for this purpose.

Art. 21. (1) (amend. - SG 27/16) Within one month from receiving the declaration under Art. 13, Para. 1 and the attached documents, the recognition body shall notify the declarer about its decision not to perform preliminary checkup of his/her professional qualifications or, having carried it out, shall:

1. require the applicant to sit an aptitude test or
2. issue permission for the provision of services.

(2) Providing the services must be able to start within one month term from the decision taking for performing, or not performing the checkup under Para. 1.

(3) In case that a difficulty occurs, which would lead to failure to observe the term under Para. 1, the recognition body within the same term shall notify the declarer about the reasons for the delay and the term for the decision taking. In such a case the term shall be up to 2 months after receiving the complete documentation.

(4) (amend. - SG 27/16) Where a substantial incompliance is established between the professional qualifications of the declarer and the education, conducted in the Republic of Bulgaria for pursuing the relevant
profession, which could threaten the safety of the nationals and lead to serious damage of their health, and that
incompliance cannot be compensated by the expertise of the declarer or with knowledge, skills and
competences acquired through lifelong learning, officially validated for this purpose by a competent authority,
the recognition body shall provide for the declarer possibility to prove, that he/she has acquired the lacking
knowledge or competence, by sitting an aptitude test under Art. 83, Para. 3.

(5) In case of lack of pronunciation of the body of recognition within the terms under Para. 1 0 4, the
national of a Member State may start to provide the relevant services.

(6) (amend. - SG 27/16) Where the professional qualifications have been checked by the body of
recognition under Para. 1, the services may be provided under the professional title, used in the Republic of
Bulgaria for performing the relevant activity.

(7) (amend. - SG 27/16) In case of reasonable doubt, the body of recognition may submit a request
to the competent bodies of the Member State of establishment for providing information on the legality of the
establishment of the persons, providing services, his/her good professional behavior, as well as on the lack of
disciplinary, administrative and penal sanctions, related to pursuing the profession.

(8) (New - SG 27/16) In case the body of recognition decides to verify the professional
qualifications, it may apply to the competent authorities of the Member State of establishment to provide
information on training courses of the service provider to the extent necessary for the evaluation of significant
incompliance, which are likely to cause harm to public health or safety.

(9) (New - SG 27/16) When professions are not regulated in the Member State of origin, the
information under para. 7 and 8 may be provided by the Help Center.

Art. 22. (1) With a submitted complaint by a receiver of services against the person, providing
services, the body of recognition shall request from the competent bodies of the Member State of
establishment the whole information, needed for the correct examination of the complaint.

(2) The body of recognition shall notify the receiver of services about its decision on the submitted
complaint.

(3) The body of recognition shall be obliged to provide exchange of information, needed for the
examination of complaints, related to providing services on the territory of other Member States.

Art. 23. The persons, receiving services shall have the right to receive the following information from
the persons, providing services:

1. name of the public registers, in which the Member State of establishment is entered, the relevant
registration numbers or equivalent identification data, contained in the relevant register;
2. name and address of the relevant competent body, where the Member State of establishment
requests receiving a permit or license for pursuing the activity;
3. data about the professional associations or organizations, in which they are members;
4. the professional title, an where applicable – the name of the professional qualification and the
Member State where it was acquired;
5. the identification number under the Value Added Tax Act, if for pursuing the activity VAT is due;
6. data about the availability of insurance on the damages, which might occur as a result of guilty
failure to perform the professional duties.

Part three.
FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT

Chapter one.
GENERAL SYSTEM FOR RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
Art. 24. (1) Under this Chapter, professional qualifications shall be recognized for the professions, for which automatic recognition is not applied.

(2) Under this Chapter professional qualifications shall also be recognized for the professions, for which automatic recognition is applied, but the applicant, because of concrete and exceptional reasons, fails to meet the requirements for automatic recognition in the following cases:

1. for the activities, related to the categories professional experience, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 4, where the applicant fails to meet the requirements of Art. 34, 35 and 36;
2. for doctors, doctors-specialists, nurses, doctors of dental medicine, doctors of dental medicine – specialists, veterinary doctors, midwives, Master – pharmacists and architects, where the applicant fails to meet the requirements for real and legal professional practice under Art. 39, 45, 49, 52, 53, 57, Art. 61, Para. 2 and 3, Art. 62, 71 and 72;
3. for architects, where the applicant possesses evidence for professional qualification, which is not indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 11, letter "a";
4. for doctors, nurses, doctors of dental medicine, veterinary doctors, midwives, Masters-pharmacists and architects, holding evidences for professional qualification as specialists, acquired after a training course for acquiring a title, indicated in the lists under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "a", p. 6, letter "b", p. 7, letter "b", p. 8, letter "b", p. 9, letter "b", p. 10, letter "b" and p. 11, letter "b", in view to recognition of the relevant specialization;
5. for nurses, holding evidences for professional qualification, acquired after a training course for acquiring a title, indicated in the list of Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter "b", where they have not passed training for nurses in compliance with the minimal qualification requirements;
6. for nurses, who have not passed training for nurses in compliance with the minimal qualification requirements, where in the Republic of Bulgaria the relevant professional activities are pursued by nurses, holding evidence for professional qualification, received after training, leading to acquiring the title, indicated in Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter "b";
7. for applicants, holding evidence for professional qualification, issued in a third state in the meaning of § 3 of the Additional Provisions.

Art. 25. (amend. - SG 27/16) For the purposes of recognition and where an apprenticeship to adapt is required or a test for the recognition of qualifications, the evidences for professional qualifications shall be grouped in the following qualification levels:

1. competence certificate, issued by a competent body in another Member State on the grounds of:
   a) passed training course, which is not a part of the education for acquiring a certificate or a diploma in the meaning of p. 2, 3, 4 or 5, or passed special examination without preliminary training, or on the basis of pursuing the profession in a Member State during the last 10 years in full working time for the term of 3 successive years or with an equal time of not full working time, or
   b) general secondary or high education, certifying acquiring of general knowledge;
2. a certificate, certifying a successful finishing of the following high education:
   a) general education, added with a training course or professional training, different from the one, indicated in p. 3 and/or with a testing or professional length of service, required as an addition to this course, or
   b) technical or professional education, added, if needed, with a training course or professional training, indicated in letter "c" and/or a testing or professional length of service, required as an addition to this course;
3. a diploma, certifying the successful finishing of:
   a) training after finishing high education, different from the one, indicated in p.4 and 5, with length at least one year with a regular form of training or with equal length in distant form of training; in these cases the successful finishing of high education, required for acceptance in university and other higher school, or of
professional training in addition to the high education, must have been a premise for acceptance in this education, or

b) (amend. - SG 27/16) regulated education or training, or in a regulated profession - professional training with a special structure where competencies shall go beyond what was envisaged for the training, referred to in item 2, equivalent to the training, referred to in letter "a", if this training ensures comparable professional standards and prepares the trainee for a comparable level of responsibilities and functions provided the diploma is accompanied by a certificate, issued by the Member State of origin;

4. (amend. - SG 27/16) diploma, certifying a successful finishing training after the high education with length, not less than 3 and not more than 4 years in regular form of education or with equal length in part-time education, which in addition can be expressed by an equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), at a university or other higher education school, or school providing equal training, as well as, where appropriate, certifying completed vocational training, required in addition to secondary education;

5. (amend. - SG 27/16) diploma, certifying successful finishing training after the high education with length not less than 4 years in a regular form of education or with equal length in part-time, which in addition can be expressed by an equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), at a university or other higher education school, or school, providing equal training, as well as, where appropriate, certifying completed vocational training, required in addition to secondary education.

Art. 26. (amend. - SG 27/16) Each evidence or a set of evidences for professional qualifications, issued by a competent body in another Member State, certifying successful finalized education in the European Union, in full-time or part-time form of education, within or outside formal study programs, which is recognized by this Member State as equal in relation of the qualification level and gives the same rights for access or prepare for pursuing this profession, shall be equalized to an evidence for professional qualification of the relevant level under Art. 25.

Art. 27. Where the Member State or origin or residence has raised the required qualification level for access to a profession and for its pursuance and according to national legal, legislative or administrative provisions the persons, finished training before the date of the change benefit from acquired rights, the conducted training shall be considered as corresponding to the level of the new training.

Art. 28. (1) (suppl. - SG 27/16) Where the access to a regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria has been bound to holding certain professional qualifications, the body of recognition shall permit the access to this profession and its pursuance under the same conditions, which are applied to the Bulgarian nationals, if the applicants hold a certificate for competence or evidence for professional qualifications under Art. 25, required by another member State for access to the profession or for its pursuance on the territory of this Member State.

(2) (amend. - SG 27/16) Certificates of competence or evidence of professional qualifications under para. 1 shall be issued by a competent authority in other Member State, designated for this purpose in accordance with the laws, bye-laws or administrative provisions in force in that Member State.

(3) (amend. - SG 27/16) Where the profession is not regulated in the member State of origin or of residence, the access to it shall be permitted to applicants, who have pursued it in full working time during at least one year or of an equivalent total duration while at part-time work during the last 10 years in this Member State and hold one or more of the competence certificates or one or more of the evidence for professional qualification.

(4) The competence certificates and evidence for professional qualification under Para. 3 shall meet the requirements of Para. 2 and shall certify that the applicant is prepared for pursuing the relevant profession.

(5) (amend. - SG 27/16) The professional experience of one year under para. 3 shall not be
required, if the evidence of professional qualification of the applicant certify the completion of regulated education and training. To the qualification level of Art. 25, item 3, letter "a", shall be equated regulated education and training or vocational training of special structure, referred to in Art., item 3, letter "b", when it is certified by the Member State of origin.

(6) (amend. - SG 27/16) The body of recognition may refuse access to the profession or to its exercise to applicants, whose licenses fall under Art. 25, item 1, when the qualification required for the exercise of the profession in the Republic of Bulgaria falls into Art. 25, item 5.

Art. 29. (1) The recognition body may request the applicant to pass practice for adaptation with the period of up to 3 years or to sit an examination for competence recognition in the cases, where:

1. (revoked - SG 27/16)
2. (amend.- SG 27/16) the training, certified with the evidence for professional qualifications, is substantially different in regarding professional activities, compared to the scope of training in the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. (amend. - SG 27/16) the regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria includes one or more professional activities, which have not been included in the relevant profession in the Member State of origin of the applicant and for which in the Republic of Bulgaria is required training, the content of which differs substantially from that in the certificates of competence or of professional qualifications of the applicant.

(2) (amend. - SG 27/16) Significant difference under para. 1, item 2 shall occur when the education, received by the applicant, is characterized by substantial differences in content and duration, compared to the length and/or content of the education, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the acquired knowledge, skills and competencies as a result of this training do not comply with the necessary ones to practice the profession.

(3) (new – SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) The recognition authority shall require from the applicant to undergo adjustment apprenticeship with a duration of up to 5 years and to sit exams for recognition of qualifications in cases where the applicant is a person having been granted international qualification and cannot provide the evidence referred to in Art. 28, par. 2.

Art. 30. In the cases under Art. 90, Para. 1, the recognition body shall provide to the applicant the right to choose between practice for adaptation and examination for recognition of competence.

Art. 31. (1) For the professions, for whose pursuance is required correct knowledge of the Bulgarian legislation and whose substantial and permanent element is giving advice and/or providing assistance in the Bulgarian legislation, the recognition body shall decide in which cases it shall request practical experience for adaptation or an examination for competence recognition.

(2) Para. 1 shall also apply to:
1. applicants, holding evidence for professional qualification, issued in a third state in the meaning of § 3 of the Additional Provisions;
2. in the cases under Art. 24, Para. 2, p. 2 and 3;
3. in the cases under Art. 24, Para. 2, p. 4 – in relation to the Doctors and Doctors of Dental Medicine
4. in the cases under Art. 24, Para. 2, p. 6 where the relevant professional activities in the Republic of Bulgaria are pursued by nurses, holding evidences for professional qualification. Acquired after training, leading to acquiring professional title, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter "b".

(3) In the cases under Art. 24, Para. 2, p. 1, the recognition body may request from the applicant to pass a practical experience for adaptation or to sit an examination for competence recognition, where the applicant wishes to pursue professional activities as self-employed or as manager of an undertaking, which require knowledge and application of the national legislation in force under the condition that this is requested
by the Bulgarian nationals as well.

(4) (New - SG 27/16) The body of recognition may require the applicant to undergo an adaptation apprenticeship or a recognition of aptitude test when:

1. the applicant seeks recognition of their professional qualifications under Art. 25, item 1, when the professional qualifications, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, fall within Art. 25, item 3, or
2. the applicant seeks recognition of their professional qualifications under Art. 25, item 2, when the professional qualifications, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, fall within Art. 25, items 4 or 5.

(5) (New - SG 27/16) The body of recognition may require the applicant to undergo both an adaptation apprenticeship and a recognition of aptitude test where the applicant seeks recognition of their professional qualifications under Art. 25, item 1 when the professional qualifications, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, fall within Art. 25, item 4.

(6) (former para. 4, amend. - SG 27/16) When applying para. 1, the body of recognition shall verify that the knowledge, skills and competences acquired by the applicant in the course of his professional experience or through lifelong learning, and officially validated for this purpose by a competent authority in another Member State or in a third country, may fully or partially compensate the substantial differences in training.

(7) (New - SG 27/16) The decision to require the undergoing of an adaptation apprenticeship or a recognition of aptitude test must be duly justified where the applicant shall be provided the following information:

1. the level of professional qualification, required in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the level of professional qualification of the applicant in accordance with the classification of Art. 25;
2. the significant differences in the meaning of Art. 29, para. 2, as well as the reasons why these differences cannot be compensated by the knowledge, skills and competences acquired in the course of professional service or through lifelong learning, officially validated for this purpose by a competent authority.

(8) (New - SG 27/16) The bodies of recognition shall ensure that applicants have the opportunity to take a recognition of aptitude test no later than 6 months from the date of the decision under para. 7.

Art. 32. (revoked - SG 27/16)

Chapter two.

RECOGNITION, BASED ON ACQUIRED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Art. 33. (1) Where the access in the Republic of Bulgaria to, or pursuing professional activities, indicated in the list of activities, related to the recognition, based on acquired professional experience under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 4 has been bound to possessing general, commercial or professional knowledge and skills, the recognition body shall accept the previous pursuing of such an activity in another Member State as sufficient evidence for possessing knowledge and skills, needed for the pursuance of the professional activity.

2 The professional activity under Para. 1 must have been pursued in compliance with the provisions of Art. 34, 35 and 36.

Art. 34. (1) The activities, included in the list under Art. 6 Para. 1, p. 4, letter "a" shall be pursued during:

1. 6 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, or
2. 3 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, where the applicant has evidenced, that he has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 3 years, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or a competent body, or
3. four successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, here the applicant proves, that he has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 2 years, certified by a certificate,
recognized as valid by the Member State or by a competent body, or

4. 3 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during not less than 5 years, or

5. 5 successive years at a position of a manager, of which not less than 3 years with technical obligations and responsibility for management of at least one unit of the relevant undertaking, if the applicant proves that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during not less than 5 years, or has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 3 years, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or by a competent body.

(2) In the cases under Para. 1, p. 1 and 4 the pursuance of the activity should not have been finalized before more than 10 years from the date, on which the applicant has produced his/her application and all the needed documents before the recognition body.

(3) The provision of Para. 1, p. 5 shall not apply to activities, included in the former Group 855 – "establishments for hairstyling", on the nomenclature of the International standard economic classification (ISEC) of UNO.

Art. 35. (1) The activities, included in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 4, letter "b" must be pursued during:

1. 5 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, or

2. 3 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during not less than 5 years, or has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 3 years, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or a competent body, or

3. 4 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during not less than 3 years, or

4. 3 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during at least 5 years, or

5. 5 successive years as an employed person if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during at least 5 years, or has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 3 years, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or by a competent body, or

6. 6 successive years as an employed person if the applicant proves, that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during at least 5 years, or has passed training for the relevant activity with minimal duration of 2 years, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or by a competent body.

(2) In the cases under Para. 1, p. 1 and 4 the pursuing of the activity shall not have been finalized before more than 10 years from the date, on which the applicant has produced his/her application and all the needed documents before the recognition body.

Art. 36. (1) The activities, included in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 4, letter "c", shall have been pursued during:

1. 3 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, or

2. 2 successive years as self-employed if the applicant proves that he/she has passed training for the relevant activity, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or a competent body, or

3. 2 successive years as self-employed or as manager of undertaking, if the applicant proves that he/she has pursued the relevant activity as employed person during not less than 3 years, or

4. 3 successive years as employed person, if the applicant proves that he/she has passed training for the relevant activity, certified by a certificate, recognized as valid by the Member State or a competent body.

(2) In the cases under Para. 1, p. 1 and 3 the pursuing of the activity shall not have been finalized before more than 10 years from the date, on which the applicant has produced his/her application and all the needed documents before the recognition body.
Chapter three.
AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Section I.
General Provisions

Art. 37. (1) (amend. and suppl. - SG 27/16) The recognition of the evidences for professional qualifications in view to pursuing the professions of Doctor, Doctor-specialist, Nurse, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine – specialist, Veterinary Doctor, Midwife, Master Pharmacist and Architect under this Chapter shall be done only if they are indicated in the lists under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letters "a", "b", "c" and "d", p. 6, letter "b", p. 7, letters "b" and "c", p. 8, letter "b", p. 9, letter "b", p. 10, letter "b" and p. 11, letter "a" and certify that the person has acquired during their training knowledge, skills and competences, indicated in this Act.

(2) The evidences for professional qualification, indicated in the list of the certificates for professional qualification of Doctors – General Practitioners under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "d", shall be recognized in view to pursuing general medical practice.

(3) The evidences for professional qualifications shall be recognized, if they are issued by a competent body of another Member State and in need they shall be accompanied with the relevant certificates, indicated in the lists under Para. 1.

(4) Para. 1 and 2 shall not concern the rights under Art. 39 – 42.

Art. 38. The evidences for the professional qualifications for the professions under Art. 37, Para. 1, issued in compliance with the minimal qualification requirements and recognized under this Act, shall give the same rights for pursuing the relevant profession, as those, issued in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Art. 39. (1) Where the evidences for professional qualifications for the professions of Doctor, Doctor-specialist, Nurse, Master Pharmacists and Architect, held by nationals of Member States fail to meet all the qualification requirements of this Act, they shall be recognized, if:

1. certify a successful finalization of training, started before the dates, indicated in the lists under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letters "a", "b" and "d", p. 6, letter "b", p. 7, letters "b" and "c", p. 8, letter "b", p. 9, letter "b" and p. 10, letter "b", and
2. they are accompanied by a certificate for a real lawful pursuing of the relevant activities in a Member State during at least 3 successive years for the last 5 years, before the issuance of the certificate.

(2) Para. 1 shall apply also to evidences for professional qualifications, acquired on the territory of the former German Democratic Republic, if they certify a finished training, started before:

1. 3rd October 1990 – for Doctors, Nurses, Doctors of Dental Medicine, Doctors of Dental Medicine – specialists, Veterinary Doctors, Midwives and Masters Pharmacists, and
2. 3 April 1992 – for Doctors - specialists.

Art. 40. The evidences for professional qualifications of the professions: Doctor, Doctor-specialists, Nurse, Master Pharmacists and Architect, held by nationals of Member States and Issued by the former Czechoslovakia or by the Check Republic or by Slovakia, where the training has started before 1 January 1993, shall be recognized, where:

1. the competent body of the relevant Member State confirms that they have the same legal validity on its territory, where the evidences for professional qualifications, which it issues, and for the Architects – as the indicated in the list of the evidences for professional qualification of Architects, who benefit from acquired
Art. 41. (1) (Amend. - SG, 98/2010, in force from 14.12.2010) The evidences for professional qualifications of the professions: Doctor, Doctor-specialists, Nurse, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine – specialist, Veterinary Doctor, Midwife, Master Pharmacists and Architect, held by nationals of Member States and issued by one of the states of the former Soviet Union – Estonia, where the training has started before 21 August 1991, or from Latvia, where the training has started before 11 March 1990, shall be recognized under the conditions of Art. 40.

(2) (Amend. - SG, 98/2010, in force from 14.12.2010) The evidences for professional qualifications for Veterinary Doctors, issued from Estonia, where the training has started before 20 August 1991, shall be recognized:

1. in case of confirmation under Art. 40, p. 1 and
2. if they are accompanied by a certificate, issued by Estonian competent body for real and lawful pursuing of the relevant activities on the territory of the relevant states during not less than 5 successive years for the last 7 years, before the date of issuance of the certificate.

(3) (Amend. - SG, 98/2010, in force from 14.12.2010, suppl. - SG 27/16) The evidences for professional qualifications for the professions under Para. 1, held by nationals of Member States, issued from Slovenia, where the training has started before 25 June 1991, or Croatia, where the training has started before 8 October 1991, shall be recognized under the conditions of Art. 40.

Art. 42. The evidences for professional qualifications for the professions: Doctor, Nurse, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Veterinary Doctor, Midwife, Master Pharmacists of nationals of another Member State, which fail to meet the professional titles, envisaged for this Member State in the lists under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letters "a", "b", "c" and "d", p. 6, letter "b", p. 7, letters "b" and "c", p. 8, letter "b", p. 9, letter "b" and p. 10, letter "b", shall be recognized, if they are:

1. issued by these Member States and
2. accompanied by a certificate, issued by the relevant competent body, which indicates, that the evidence for professional qualification, certifies successfully finished training in compliance with the provisions of this Act and shall be equalized by the Member State, which has issued it, to the qualifications, indicated in the lists.

Section II.

Doctors

Art. 43. (1) Evidences for professional qualification shall be recognized, certifying finished education in Medicine in compliance with the following requirements:

1. (amend. - SG 27/16) its duration shall be at least five years, which can be expressed with the equivalent number of credits in the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), and includes no less than 5500 hours of theoretical and practical training, conducted by or under the direction of a university;
2. provides acquiring the following knowledge and skills:
   a) adequate knowledge in the obligatory subjects for acquiring professional qualification in Medical profession and good understanding of the scientific methods, including the principles for measurement of the biological functions, the evaluation of scientifically established facts and analysis of data;
   b) sufficient understanding of the structure, functions and behavior of healthy and sick people, as well as the connection between the health and the physical and social human environment;
   c) adequate knowledge in clinical subjects and practice, which give a clear picture for the physical
and psychical illnesses and their prophylaxis, diagnose and treatment, as well as for the human reproduction;

d) clinical experience in hospitals under relevant supervision.

(2) Training, started before 1 January 1972 shall be recognized also where the duration under Para. 1 includes 6 months practical training, held by a University.

Art. 44. (1) Evidences shall be recognized for acquired specialty by Doctors, certifying held training in compliance with the following requirements:

1. theoretical and practical training has been held at a University, University hospital or an approved for this purpose by a competent body another medical or health establishment;

2. it has been held in a regular form and its duration complies with the one, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "c";

3. it has been held under the direction of a competent body and with the personal participation of the trainee in all the medical activities of the structure, in which the training has been conducted.

(2) For recognition of evidences for acquired specialty by Doctors shall be required holding evidences for finished training in Medicine, included in the list of the certificates for professional qualification for training in Medicine under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "a".

Art. 45. (1) Evidences shall be recognized for an acquired subject General Medicine, certifying conducted training in compliance with following requirements:

1. its duration is has been at least 2 years – for evidences for professional qualification, issued before 1 January 2006 and for evidences, issued after this date – 3 years;

2. it has been conducted in a regular form under the direction of a competent body and with the personal participation of the trainee;

3. the practical training has been conducted for a period at least 6 months at an accredited medical establishment for hospital help and for at least 6 months in accredited practice in General medicine or in accredited centre for first medical help.

(2) While recognizing evidences, issued on, or after 1 January 2006, where the duration of training under Para. 1, p. 1 was 2 years on 1 January 2001, the practical training within the frames of the training for acquiring higher education in Medicine, conducted in an accredited medical establishment for hospital help or as a part of the accredited practice in General Medicine, or in an accredited centre for first help, shall be recognized as practical training under Para. 1, but not for more than 1 year.

(3) The practical training under Para. 1, p. 3 may be conducted for a period up to 6 months also in another medical or health establishment, accredited for training in subjects, different but related to the subject General Medicine.

Art. 46. (1) The evidences for professional qualification of the profession Doctor shall be recognized if they have been indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "a".

(2) The evidences for professional qualification of the profession Doctor-specialist shall be recognized if they have been issued by competent bodies, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "b" and contain the names of the subjects, used in the Member States, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter "c".

(3) The evidences under Para. 2, issued in Spain to Doctors, finished their training for acquiring specialty before 1 January 1995 shall be recognized also where they fail to meet the minimal qualification requirements of this Act, if they are accompanied by a certificate, issued by a competent Spanish body under the conditions of Art. 27, p. 2 of Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on recognition of professional qualifications.

(4) (New - SG 27/16) Evidence under para. 2, issued in Italy to doctors who have begun training for acquiring specialty after December 31, 1983, and before January 1, 1991, shall be recognized even where
the corresponding training does not meet the minimum training requirements of this Act, if accompanied by a certificate, issued by a competent Italian authority, stating that the said doctor effectively and lawfully has exercised in Italy the activities of a specialist doctor in the same specialty for at least 7 consecutive years during the last 10 years, preceding the issuance of the certificate.

Art. 47. (1) The evidences for professional qualification for the General Practitioners (GP) shall be recognized if they are indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter ‘d” or under the conditions of Art. 39.

(2) Apart from the cases under Para. 1, right to pursue the activities of a GP shall be recognized to Doctors, who:
   1. benefit from this right on the date, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 5, letter ‘d” under provisions, applicable to the Medical profession and giving access to the professional activities, and
   2. have established themselves on this date on the territory of the relevant Member State.

(3) The right under Para. 2 shall be benefitted on the bases of a certificate, issued by the competent body of the relevant Member State, confirming the right to pursue the activities of a GP in this state without holding evidences for professional qualification under Para. 1.

(4) The certificates under Para. 3, issued to nationals of Member States from other Member States shall give the same rights for pursuing the activities of a GP, as the ones, issued in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Section III.
Nurses

Art. 48. Evidences shall be recognized for professional qualifications, certifying finished training for a nurse in compliance with the following requirements:
   1. it has been conducted in a regular form and includes at least the programme under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter ‘a”;
   2. its duration is not less than three years, which can be expressed with the equivalent number of credits under the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), and includes no less than 4 600 hours of theoretical and clinical training where the duration of the theoretical training is not less than one-third, and the duration of the clinical training - not less than a half;
   3. it has been conducted in hospitals or other health institutions under the responsibility of nursing teachers and assisted by other qualified professionals;
   4. ensures the acquisition of the following knowledge, skills and competences:
      a) complete knowledge of the sciences which are the foundation of nursing, including sufficient understanding of the constitution, psychological functions and behavior of healthy and sick persons, as well as the social environment of the human being;
      b) sufficient knowledge of the nature and ethics of the profession and the general principles, relating to health and nursing;
      c) adequate clinical practical experience;
      d) ability to participate in the practical training of health personnel and experience of working with such personnel;
      e) experience of working with other healthcare professionals;
      f) competence for determination upon one’s own discretion of the necessary health care by using current theoretical and clinical knowledge, and for planning, organizing and giving nursing care in the treatment of patients in order to improve professional practice;
      g) competence for effective collaboration with the other medical professionals, including participation in the practical training of health professionals;
h) (new - SG 27/16) competence to encourage individuals, families and groups of individuals to lead a healthy lifestyle and to take care of themselves;

i) (new - SG 27/16) competence independently to take immediate life-saving measures and to take measures in case of crisis and disaster;

j) (new - SG 27/16) competence to independently providing advice, guidance and support to persons in need of care and to their relatives;

k) (new - SG 27/16) competence for independent quality assurance and evaluation of health care;

l) (new - SG 27/16) competence to carry out comprehensive professional communication and to work in collaboration with members of other professions in the health sector;

m) (new - SG 27/16) competence to analyze the quality of health care in order to improve their own professional practice as a nurse.

Art. 49. Evidences for professional qualification in the profession Nurse shall be recognized if they are indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter “b” or under the conditions of Art. 39.

Art. 50. (1) (revoked - SG 27/16)

(2) Evidence shall be recognized also of formal qualifications in nursing awarded in Poland to nurses who completed training before 1 May 2004, which did not comply with the minimum training requirements laid down in this Act, but attested by the diploma “bachelor” which has been obtained on the basis of a special upgrading programme under the conditions of Art. 33, item 3 of Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on recognition of professional qualifications.

Art. 51. (amend. - SG 27/16) The following evidence of formal qualifications in nursing of nationals of the Member States awarded in Romania which did not comply with the minimum training requirements of this Act, shall be recognized if accompanied by a certificate showing effective and lawful exercise of the activities of a nurse in Romania, including taking full responsibility for the planning, organization and carrying out of health care for patients, for at least three consecutive years during the last five years prior to the date of issue of the certificate:

1. "Certificat de competente profesionale de asistent medical generalist" with post-secondary education, completed by "coal postliceal", stating that the training started before January 1, 2007;

2. "Diplom de absolvire de asistent medical generalist" with a short course of higher education, certifying that training commenced before October 1, 2003;

3. "Diplom de licen de asistent medical generalist" with long courses of higher education, certifying that training commenced before October 1, 2003.

Section IV.

Doctors of Dental Medicine

Art. 52. Evidences shall be recognized for professional qualification, certifying graduated training in Dental Medicine in compliance with the following requirements:

1. (amend. - SG 27/16) conducted theoretical and practical training with duration of at least 5 years, which in addition can be expressed with the equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), and contains no less than 5 000 hours, including at least the programme under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 7, letter ‘a’;

2. it has been conducted in, or under the direction of a University or other higher school, providing equal training;

3. provides acquiring of the following knowledge and skills:

a) sufficient knowledge on the sciences, on which Dental medicine is based and good understanding
of the scientific methods, including the principles of measurement of the biological functions, assessment of scientifically established facts and analysis of data;

b) sufficient understanding of the structure, psychology and behavior of the healthy and sick human beings, as well as the influence of the natural and social environment over their health condition, as far as it is related to Dental Medicine;

c) sufficient knowledge over the structure and function of teeth, mouth, jaws and the connected with them tissues – healthy or sick, as well as over their relation to the health condition and to the physical and social human welfare;

d) sufficient knowledge in the clinical subjects and methods, which allow the Doctor of Dental Medicine to acquire thorough image over the anomalies, damages and illnesses of the teeth, mouth, jaws and the connected with them tissues, as well as in prophylaxis, diagnostic and therapeutic Dental Medicine;

e) sufficient clinical experience, acquired under appropriate direction;

f) acquiring skills, needed for pursuing all the activities, including prophylaxis, diagnostics and treatment of anomalies and illnesses of teeth, mouth, jaws and the connected with them tissues.

Art. 53. (1) Evidences shall be recognized for acquired specialty by Doctors of Dental Medicine, certifying finished training in compliance with the following requirements:

1. theoretical and practical training has been conducted at a University or another higher school, medical study or research centre or at an approved for the purpose medical establishment by a competent body;

2. the regular training under p. 1 has been with duration of at least 3 years and is conducted under the direction of a competent body with the personal participation of the trainee in the relevant activities.

(2) For recognition of the evidences for acquired specialty by Doctors of Dental Medicine shall be required holding evidences for finished training in Dental Medicine according to the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 7, letter "b".

Art. 54. (1) The evidences for professional qualification of the profession Doctor of Dental Medicine shall be recognized, if they are indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 7, letter "b".

(2) Evidences for professional qualification of the profession Doctor of Dental Medicine, issued in Italy, Spain, Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Rumania shall be recognized, where the training started on, or before the date, indicated in the Annex under Para. 1 for the relevant Member State, if they are accompanied by a certificate, issued by a competent body of this Member State, certifying:

1. real and lawful pursuing in this Member State the activities of Dental Medicine as a basic activity during not less than 3 successive years during the last 5 years, before the date of issuance of the certificate, and

2. right to pursue the activity under the same conditions, as the holders of evidences for professional qualification, indicated for the relevant Member State in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 7, letter "b"

(3) Finished training with duration at least 3 years, certified by a competent body of a Member State under Para. 2 as equal to the minimal qualification requirements of this Act, shall be recognized without the three-year practical experience under Para. 2, p. 1.

(4) The evidences for professional qualifications, acquired in the former Czechoslovakia shall be recognized as the evidences for professional qualifications, issued from the Czech Republic and Slovakia, under the conditions of Para. 2 and 3.

Art. 55. (1) Evidences for professional qualification of the profession Doctor, issued from Italy for a started training after 28 January 1980, but not later than 31 December 1984 shall be recognized if they are accompanied by a certificate, issued by the competent Italian body, certifying:

1. a passed examination for competence in view to establishing the possessing knowledge and skills,
as well as the holders of evidences for professional qualifications, indicated for Italy in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 7, letter "b";

2. a real and lawful pursuing the activities in Dental Medicine as a basic activity during not less than 3 successive years during the last 5 years before the date of issuance of a certificate;

3. right to pursue or real lawful pursuance of the activities in Dental Medicine as a basic activity and under equal conditions with the holders of evidences for professional qualification, indicated for Italy in the Annex under p. 1.

(2) Finished training with a duration at least 3 years, certified by the competent body as equal to the minimal qualification requirements of this Act, shall be recognized without passing a competence examination under Para. 1, p. 1.

(3) Training in Medicine, started after 31 December 1984 at a University shall give the rights under Par. 2 under the conditions, that the 3-year training term has started before 31 December 1994.

Section V.
Veterinary Doctors

Art. 56. Evidences shall be recognized for professional qualifications, certifying a finished training in Veterinary Medicine in compliance with the following requirements:

1. (suppl. - SG 27/16) a full theoretical and practical training has been conducted, lasting at least five years, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), at or under the guidance of a university or other higher education institution;

2. includes at least the programme under Art. 6, para. 1, item 8, letter "a";

3. ensures the acquisition of sufficient knowledge and skills regarding:
   a) (suppl. - SG 27/16) sciences underpinning the activities of veterinarians and of the EU legislation, related to these activities;
   b) (amend. - SG 27/16) anatomy, physiology, behavior and physiological needs of animals and the skills and competencies necessary for their breeding, nutrition, welfare, their reproduction and hygiene as a whole;
   c) (revoked - SG 27/16)
   d) (amend. - SG 27/16) clinical, epidemiological and analytical skills and knowledge needed for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases of animals, including anesthesia, aseptic surgery and painless death, whether considered individually or in a group, including specific knowledge of diseases that can be transmitted to humans;
   e) (suppl. - SG 27/16) preventive medicine, including competencies, related to research and certification;
   f) (amend. - SG 27/16) hygiene and technology of production, manufacture and distribution of food for animals or products of animal origin, intended for human consumption, including skills and competencies necessary to understand and explain the best practices in this regard;
   g) (amend. - SG 27/16) the responsible and prudent use of veterinary medicinal products for the treatment of animals and ensuring the safety of the food chain and protection of the environment.
   h) (revoked - SG 27/16).

Art. 57. (1) Evidences for professional qualification of the profession Veterinary Medicine shall be recognized if they are indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 8, letter "b".

(2) Evidences for professional qualification of the profession Veterinary Doctor, issued to nationals of Member States in Estonia or whose training has started in this state before 1 May 2004. Which fail to meet the minimal qualification requirements of this Act shall be recognized. If they are accompanied by a certificate for real and lawful pursuing of the relevant activities in Estonia during at least 5 successive years during the last
Art. 58. The evidences for professional qualification shall be recognized, certifying finished training for Midwives in compliance with the following requirements:

1. it has been conducted in a regular form;
2. theoretical and practical training has been conducted with a duration not less than 3 years, including at least the programme under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 9, letter 'a', or
3. its duration is at least 18 months, includes at least the programme under p. 2 and has been conducted after acquiring an evidence for professional qualification Nurse, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 6, letter "b";
4. provides the acquiring of the following knowledge and skills:
   a) (amend. - SG 27/16) sufficient knowledge about the sciences, on which the midwives’ activities are based, in particular the obstetrics and gynecology;
   b) profound knowledge about the professional ethics of the profession and of the legislative acts, which regulate it;
   c) (amend. - SG 27/16) appropriate general medical knowledge (biological functions, anatomy and physiology) and knowledge of pharmacology in the field of obstetrics and neonatology, as well as knowledge about the relationship between the health condition and the physical and social environment of the individual and their behavior;
   d) (amend. - SG 27/16) adequate clinical experience, gained in accredited hospitals, allowing the midwife - independently and assuming full responsibility to the extent necessary, except in pathological cases – to provide prenatal care, actual birth and subsequent manipulations in accredited hospitals, and to monitor the prenatal phase and childbirth, to provide postnatal care and to revive newborns until the arrival of a doctor;
   e) sufficient understanding in the training of the healthcare workers and experience in the work with such workers.

Art. 59. (1) The evidences for professional qualification of the profession Midwife, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 9, letter "b", shall be recognized under this Act if the training has been conducted in a regular form and one of the following conditions has been observed:

1. (amend. - SG 27/16) the training period is at least three years, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), including at least 4 600 hours of theoretical and practical training where at least one-third of the minimum duration is clinical training;
2. (amend. - SG 27/16) the training period is at least two years, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), including at least 3 600 hours after the acquisition of evidence of professional qualification of Nurse as listed under Art. 6, para. 1, item 6, letter "b";
3. (amend. - SG 27/16) the training period is at least 18 months, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS), which includes at least 3 000 hours after the acquisition of evidence of professional qualification "Nurse" as listed under item 2, followed by one year of professional experience, proven by a certificate.

(2) (amend. - SG 27/16) The professional experience certificates under Para. 1 must have been issued by a competent body and certify pursuing of all professional activities of Midwives for the relevant period in a medical establishment of hospital help or in an approved for this purpose other medical establishment.
Art. 60. (1) The professional qualification evidences of the profession of Midwife, which are recognized under this Act, shall give the right for pursuing at least the following activities:

1. providing sufficient information and advice in family planning issues;
2. certifying pregnancy and tracing the normal pregnancy; conducting the needed examinations for tracing the normal pregnancy;
3. appointment or recommendation of the needed examinations for the possible earliest diagnostics of every risky pregnancy;
4. preparation of a programme for preparation of the future parents for their role, providing thorough preparation for the birth and advice in the issues of hygiene and nourishment;
5. assisting the woman while giving birth and observation of the foetus through the relevant clinical and technical equipment;
6. performing normal delivery, in cases of head womb position, including episiotomy – if needed, and in urgent cases – conducting delivery with sciatic womb position;
7. tracing symptoms of anomalies in the mother or the child, which require Doctor’s interference and giving help by the Doctor in case of intervention; undertaking urgent measures at the absence of a Doctor, as manual removal of the placenta, followed by manual examination of the uterus;
8. examination of the newly born child and taking care of him/her; undertaking all initiatives, which are needed and performing – if needed – an urgent reanimation;
9. taking care of the woman, who has given birth, observation of the mother during the after-delivery period and giving all useful advice for raising the newly born child under the best conditions;
10. conducting the treatment, appointed by a Doctor;
11. drawing up the needed written reports.

(2) The activities under Para. 1 shall be pursued upon appointment or independently while observing the requirements, determined under Art. 7 of the Branch Organizations of Nurses, Midwifes and Associated Medical Specialists Act.

Art. 61. (1) In the cases, in which the evidences for professional qualification of nationals of Member States of the profession of Midwife meet the minimal qualification requirements of this Act, but have not been recognized under art. 59, they shall be recognized, if they are accompanied with certificates of professional experience under Art. 59, Para. 1, p. 1.

(2) The evidences under Para. 1 shall be recognized also where they have been issued before the date, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 9, letter "b", if they are accompanied by a certificate for real and lawful pursuance of the relevant activities during at least successive 2 years, during the last 5 years, before the date of issuance of the certificate

(3) Para. 1 and 2 shall apply also to national of Member States, whose evidences for professional qualification for the profession Midwife certify a finished training on the territory of the former German Democratic Republic, where a certificate under Para. 2 certifies a finished training, started before 3 October 1990.

Art. 62. (amend. - SG 27/16) The evidences for professional qualification of the profession Midwife, issued before 1 May 2004, which fail to meet the minimal qualification requirements of this Act shall be recognized under the conditions of Art. 43, p. 4 of Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on recognition of professional qualifications.

Art. 63. Evidences for professional qualification of the profession Midwife of nationals of Member States, acquired in Rumania before 1 January 2007, which fail to meet the minimal qualification requirements of this Act, shall be recognized if they are accompanied by a certificate for real and lawful pursuance of the activities of a Midwife in Rumania for at least 5 successive years during the last 7 years, before the date of
issuance of the certificate.

Section VII.

Master-Pharmacists

Art. 64. (1) Evidences for professional qualification shall be recognized, certifying finished training for Master-Pharmacists in compliance with the following requirements:

1. (suppl. - SG 27/16) its duration is at least five years, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS);

2. theoretical and practical training has been conducted in a regular form with minimal duration of 4 years in, or under the control of University or another higher school with recognized equal status;

3. (amend. - SG 27/16) during or at the end of the theoretical and practical training, an apprenticeship is held with a duration of no less than 6 months in a Pharmacy or in a medical establishment for hospital help under the direction of its Pharmacy department;

4. includes at least the programme under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 10, letter "a",

5. provides sufficient knowledge about:

   a) medicinal products and substances, used for production of medicines;

   b) pharmacy technologies and physical, chemical, biological and micro-biological control of medicines;

   c) metabolism and the impact of the medical products and the action of toxic substances, as well as use of medicinal products;

   d) assessment of the scientific information about the medicine products and ability for providing appropriate information based on this knowledge;

   e) the legal and other requirements, related to pharmaceutical practice.

(2) The recognized evidences shall give the right to pursue the profession Master-Pharmacist, which includes at least performing the following activities:

   a) preparation of medicine products according to pharmacopeia an magisterial prescriptions;

   b) production and control of medicinal products;

   c) control of the medicines in a control laboratory of the medicinal products;

   d) warehouse, storage and dissemination of the medicinal products in the trade network;

   e) (amend. - SG 27/16) procurement, preparation, testing, storage, distribution and provision of safe and effective medicines of the necessary quality in pharmacies;

   f) (amend. - SG 27/16) preparation, testing, storage and provision of safe and effective medicines of the necessary quality in hospitals for inpatient care;

   g) (amend. - SG 27/16) to provide information and advice on medicinal products, including with regard to their correct use;

   h) (new - SG 27/16) reporting on adverse reactions to medicinal products to the competent authorities;

   i) (new - SG 27/16) support to patients regarding their treatment, tailored to individual needs;

   j) (new - SG 27/16) participation in local or national programs in the field of public health.

Art. 65. (1) Evidences for professional qualifications in the profession Master Pharmacist shall be recognized, if they are indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 10, letter "b",

(2) For receiving a permit for performing retail trade with medicinal products in a Pharmacy, the practical experience under Art. 224, p. 4 of the Medicinal Products in Human Medicine Act shall be recognized to nationals of Member States on the bases of a produced certificate for pursuance these activities for the same period, issued by the competent body of the state of origin or of residence.
Art. 66. (1) (Former text of Art. 66 - SG 27/16) Evidences for professional qualification, certifying training for Architect shall be recognized in compliance with the following requirements:

1. (amend. - SG 27/16) its duration is:
   a) at least 5 years in a regular form of training which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS) at a university or other higher education institution, and completing it with an examination, or
   b) at least 4 years in full-time education, which in addition can be expressed in equivalent number of credits as per the European system of credit transfer (ECTS) at a university or other higher education institution and ends with an examination, together with a certificate for a two-year completed professional practice, conducted in accordance with para. 2;

2. (revoked - SG 27/16);

3. basic element in the training is Architecture;

4. provides balance between theoretical and practical preparation;

5. provides acquiring the following knowledge and skills:
   a) ability to create concessions of architecture designs, which meet aesthetic and technical requirements at the same time;
   b) sufficient knowledge in history and theory of Architecture, as well as of the arts, technologies and humanitarian sciences, related to them;
   c) knowledge of fine arts as a factor, influencing the quality of the architecture conception;
   d) sufficient knowledge in civil construction, planning and techniques, used in the planning process;
   e) understanding of the connection between the human being and the architecture creations – on one side, and between the architecture creations and the environment – on the other side, as well as understanding of the need, the architecture creations and the space between them to be built, depending on the human needs and its scales;
   f) understanding about the architect’s profession and his/her role in society, in particular, by creating projects, having in mind the social factors;
   g) knowledge of the study methods and preparation of a construction design;
   h) knowledge of the problems of the structure conception, the construction and civil construction, related to the building conception;
   i) (suppl. - SG 27/16) sufficient knowledge about the physical and technological problems, as well as the building function and the elements for internal comfort and climate protection within the sustainable development framework;
   j) technical skills for designing buildings, satisfying the requirements of the consumers while observing the restrictions, imposed by the budget and legal order in the area of construction;
   k) sufficient knowledge of the branches, organizations, legal order and procedures, related to the construction design and planning.

(2) (new - SG 27/16) Practice under para. 1, item 1, letter “b” shall be held after completion of the first three years of training where during at least one year it builds on knowledge, skills and competences, acquired during the training. It shall be conducted under the direction of a person or body, authorized by the competent authority in the Member State of origin and shall be assessed by a competent authority in that Member State.

Art. 67. (revoked - SG 27/16)

Art. 68. (revoked - SG 27/16)
Art. 69. (1) (amend. - SG 27/16) Apart from the cases under Art. 66, evidences for professional qualification of the profession of Architect shall be recognized, if they certify a finished training, conducted as a part of a social programme or training in a correspondence form at a University or another higher school, which meets the requirements of Art. 66, para.1, items 3-5, and has been finalized successfully with an examination in Architecture after 7, or more years work in the Architecture area under the control of an Architect or Architecture bureau.

(2) (amend. - SG 27/16) The examination under Para. 1 must be conducted by a University and to be equal to the examination under Art. 66, para. 1, item 1, letter "b".

Art. 70. (1) A national of a Member State, who has the right to use the professional title of Architect, granted to him by a competent body of a Member State for high achievements in the Architecture area shall be accepted for meeting the requirements, needed for pursuing an activity as Architect.

(2) The nature of the activities, which the person under Para. 1 has pursued, shall be certified by a certificate, issued by the Member State of origin or of residence.

Art. 71. (1) The evidences for the professional qualification of the profession Architect, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 11, letter "b", issued in another Member States, with which is certified a finished training, started not later than the indicated in the list academic year, shall be recognized also where they fail to meet the minimal qualification requirements under this Act, as providing the same rights about the access to the profession as the evidences for professional qualification of Architect, issued in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) The certificates shall be recognized, issued by a competent body of the Federal Republic of Germany, certifying, that the evidences for professional qualifications, issued after 8 May 1945 by a competent body of the German Democratic Republic shall be equal to the evidences, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 11, letter "b".

(3) (New - SG 27/16) Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall apply also to certificates of professional qualifications of the profession of Architect, stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 11, when the training has started before January 18, 2016.

Art. 72. (1) Certificates shall be recognized, issued by a competent body of the Member States, which have introduced rules, regulating the access to the professional activities of Architect and their pursuance from the following dates:

1. 1 January 1995 – for Austria, Finland and Sweden;
2. 1 May 2004 – for the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia;
3. (suppl. – SG 21/14) 5 August 1987- for the rest of the Member States joined the European Union before the Republic of Bulgaria;

(2) The certificates under Para. 1 must certify right to use the professional title of Architect not later than the relevant date and the real pursuance of the relevant activities during not less than 3 successive years during the last 5 years.

(3) (New - SG 27/16) For the purposes of access to and exercise of the profession of Architect, the Republic of Bulgaria shall recognize as having the same effect in the country as the certificate of training, issued by it, having been provided as of August 5, 1985, and having started no later than January 17, 2014, planned by "Fachhochschulen" in the Federal Republic of Germany for a period of three years, which meets the
requirements of Art. 66, items 3-5 and gives access to the activities, mentioned in Art. 70, in that Member State under the professional title "Architect", insofar as the training has been followed by a four-year professional service in the Federal Republic of Germany, proven by a certificate, issued by a competent authority, in whose registry is registered the architect wishing to benefit from the provisions of the Directive.

Chapter three "a".
AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BASED ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF TRAINING (New - SG 27/16)

Art. 72a. (New - SG 27/16) (1) The common training framework shall not replace the curriculum in the Member State unless it decides otherwise in accordance with its national legislation.

(2) The certificates of professional qualification, acquired on the basis of the single framework of training, shall be recognized as necessary for the exercise of a regulated profession, provided that:

1. the common training framework enables more professionals to move from one Member State to another;

2. the profession, in respect of which the common training framework applies, or the education and training leading to the profession, is regulated in at least one third of all Member States;

3. the common set of knowledge, skills and competences combines the knowledge, skills and competences required in the systems of education and training, applicable in at least one third of Member States, regardless of whether the relevant knowledge, skills and competences are acquired through a general education course at a university or other higher education institution, or during vocational training;

4. the common training framework is based on the levels of the European Qualifications Framework, set out in Annex II to the Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008 establishing a European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (OJ C 111/1 of 6 May 2008);

5. the respective profession is not covered by another common training framework and is not subject to automatic recognition in accordance with Chapter three;

6. the common training framework is developed through a transparent due process, including with the involvement of relevant concerned parties in the Member States, in which the profession is not regulated;

7. the common training framework permits nationals of any Member State to acquiring professional qualification in this framework without requiring registration or membership in a professional organization in advance.

(3) Professional qualifications, acquired in accordance with single framework of training, shall not be automatically recognized if any of the following conditions is present:

1. there are no schools, universities or other type of educational institutions on the territory of Bulgaria which can offer such training for the said profession;

2. the introduction of the single framework of training would adversely affect the organization of the system of education and vocational training;

3. there are substantial differences between the common training framework and the training in Bulgaria, leading to serious risks to public order, public safety and public health, the safety of service users or the protection of the environment.

(4) Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall also apply to specialties within a profession if these subjects relate to professional activities, the access to which and the pursuit of which are regulated in the Member States where the profession is subject to automatic recognition under Chapter three.

Art. 72b. (New - SG 27/16) (1) Taking a general training exam shall give the holder of the professional qualification the right to practice the profession under the same conditions which apply to the holders of professional qualifications, acquired in the country.

(2) The general training exam must:
1. enable more professionals to move from one Member State to another;
2. apply to a regulated profession or regulated education and training leading to exercising of this occupation in at least one third of the Member States;
3. be prepared through a transparent due process, including with the involvement of relevant concerned parties from the Member States in which the profession is not regulated;
4. allow citizens of each Member State to participate in the exam and in the practical organization of such exams in the Member States without requiring preliminary registration or membership in a professional organization.

(3) General training exam shall not be organized and qualification of specialists, acquired after a passed general training exam, shall not be automatically recognized, if any of the following conditions is present:
1. the profession is not regulated in the Republic of Bulgaria;
2. the content of the general training exam will not decrease sufficiently the risks typical for the Republic of Bulgaria to do with public health or the safety of service users;
3. the content of the general training exam will significantly reduce the attractiveness of the access to the profession in comparison with the requirements in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Chapter four.
PURSUING REGULATED PROFESSION, RELATED TO TRADE, DISSEMINATION AND USE OF TOXIC PRODUCTS

Art. 73. (1) Right shall be recognized to pursue a regulated profession, related to trade, dissemination and professional use of toxic products and of biological pesticides for use in agriculture and in an area, included in the lists under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 13, on the basis of a professional experience, if the person has performed the relevant profession in another Member State, as follows:

1. for the professions, included in the list of activities, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products and of biological pesticides for the purposes of agriculture and gardening (packed toxic products, intended for delivery to the end consumer in their original packing) under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 13, letter "a", during:
   a) 5 successive years as self-employed or manager of undertaking and the activity has not been interrupted for more than 2 years starting from the date of filing the application;
   b) 2 successive years as self-employed or manager of undertaking and the applicant holds an evidence, issued by a competent body of a Member State of origin or residence for pursuing an activity, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products;
   c) 3 successive years as self-employed or manager of undertaking and the applicant proves, that for the relevant activity he has received a preliminary preparation, for which he has evidences or it has been recognized by a competent body that it is meeting the requirements;
   d) 3 successive years as self-employed and the applicant hold an evidence, issued by a competent body for pursuing an activity, related to trade and dissemination of toxic products;
   e) 4 successive years as self employed and the applicant proves, that for the relevant activity he/she has received preliminary preparation, for which he/she olds evidences or it has been recognized by a competent body that it meets the requirements;

2. for the professions in areas, included in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 13, letter "b" during:
   a) 6 successive years as self employed or manager of undertaking and the activity has not been discontinued for more than 2 years starting form the date of filing the application;
   b) 3 successive years as self-employed or manager of undertaking and the applicant holds an evidence, issued by a competent body for pursuing an activity, related to professional use of toxic products;
   c) 4 successive years as self employed or manager of undertaking and the applicant proves, that for
the relevant activity he/she has received a preliminary preparation, for which he/she holds evidences or has been recognized by a competent body that it meets the requirements;

d) 4 successive years as self employed and the applicant hold evidence, issued by a competent body for pursuing an activity, related to professional use of toxic products;

e) 5 successive years as self employed and the applicant proves that for the relevant activity he has received preliminary preparation, for which he/she holds evidences or it has been recognized by a competent body that it meets the requirements.

(2) The provisions of Para. 1, p. 2, letters "a", "b" and "e" shall not apply to activities, related to professional use of the following strongly toxic products:

1. Cyan-hydrogen acid and its soluble salts;
2. Fluor-hydrogen acid and its soluble salts;
3. Acryl -nitril;
4. liquid dense ammonia;
5. methyl - bromide;
6. Chloral -picrin
7. Phosphorus – hydrogen and products, emitting it;
8. Ethyl - oxide;
9. Sulphur-hydrogen;
10. Carbon-three chloride;
11. Three-chloral- acetone -nitril;
12. etc.

(3) In the cases under Para. 1, p. 2, letters "b" and "d" the evidences must indicate the concrete product or products, which the applicant has the right to use in the Member State of origin or residence. In this case the activity must have not been discontinued for more than 2 years before the date of filing the application.

Art. 74. (1) The evidences, issued by a competent body of a Member State of origin or residence, shall prove that the conditions under Art. 73 have been met.

(2) The evidences shall be produced with the application and where needed, they shall contain the following data:

1. in the Member State of origin or residence, the permit shall be restricted to access to activities, related to dissemination of toxic products, or shall also include activities, related to the professional use of these products;
2. the permit shall refer to all or only to certain toxic products.

(3) In case that the documents under Art. 73 allow pursuing only of certain activities, the recognition body may permit access only to these activities.

Art. 75. Restrictions shall not be admitted, which:

1. stop the applicant to establish him/herself on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or to provide services, under the same conditions or with the same rights as of the Bulgarian nationals;
2. comprise from administrative procedures, which indirectly lead to discrimination attitude to the nationals of other Member States.

Art. 76. Persons, pursuing regulated profession, related to trade, dissemination and use of toxic products, shall have the right to be members of professional or trade organizations under the same conditions and with the same rights and obligations as of the Bulgarian nationals.

Chapter five.
PROCEDURE OF RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Art. 77. (1) Persons, wishing to pursue regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall file an application to the relevant recognition body under Art. 4.

(2) The application shall be according to a form, confirmed by the recognition body and shall contain:

1. information about the applicant’s identity;
2. information about his/her professional qualification;
3. the concrete regulated profession, which he/she wishes to pursue and the supposed term for its pursuance;
4. the attached documents and certificates, indicated in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 12, which the recognition body requires for the relevant profession and for the persons under Art. 8, Para. 2 and 3 – sufficient evidences that their qualification complies with the legislative requirements in the Republic of Bulgaria for acquiring the same professional qualification;
5. document for paid state charge or a document for a paid price of the service.

(3) The documents, related to evidences for good reputation, for lack of declared insolvency, for lack of prohibition to pursue the profession, for the physical and psychical health of the applicant, for his/her financial status and for availability of insurance against financial risks, comprising from his/her professional liability, shall have been issued not more than 3 months before the date on which they are produced before the recognition body.

(4) (New - SG 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009) The documents under Para. 2, p. 4, which have not been issued in the Republic of Bulgaria, shall be produced certified by apostille or by a diplomatic or counselor representation of the relevant state in the Republic of Bulgaria or by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a translation into the Bulgarian language, certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The requirement shall not apply to identity documents.

Art. 78. (1) Within the term of up to one month from receiving the application and the attached to it documents, the recognition body shall notify in writing the applicant for their receiving.

(2) Where missing of documents or incompleteness in the produced documents is established, the recognition body, within the term under Para. 1 shall notify the applicant in writing to produce within the term of 2 months the relevant documents. In this case, the term under Art. 84 shall stop to run.

(3) If the applicant fails to produce the needed documents within the term up to 2 months from receiving the notification under Parra. 2, the recognition procedure of the relevant professional qualification shall be discontinued.

Art. 79. (1) The recognition bodies shall establish expert commissions, which shall examine the submitted application and documents for recognition of professional qualification.

(2) The commission staff may also attract external consultants.

(3) The commission members and the external consultants shall sign a declaration for non-dissemination of the information, become known to them in relation to the recognition of professional qualifications of the relevant profession.

(4) The commissions proceed according to rules, confirmed by the recognition body.

Art. 80. The commissions shall examine the recognition documents of professional qualification and shall produce before the recognition body a motivated proposal for recognition or refusal of recognition of professional qualification in compliance with the requirements of this Act.

Art. 81. (1) In case of occurring grounded uncertainty about the truthfulness of the produced
documents, the recognition body, upon proposal of the commissions may request from the competent bodies of another Member State confirmation of the truthfulness of the evidences for professional qualifications, issued in the other Member State, as well as confirmation, that the applicant meets the minimal qualification requirements under this Act, referring to the professions, for which automatic recognition is applied.

(2) In case of occurrence of grounded uncertainties about the truthfulness of the documents, produced by national of third states, the recognition body, upon proposal of the commissions, may request from the competent bodies of this state a confirmation of the truthfulness of the evidences for professional qualifications.

Art. 82. Where the grounded uncertainties are related to evidences for professional qualification, issued by a competent body of a Member State and cover training, received wholly or partially at an institution, legally established on the territory of another Member State, the recognition body may ask the competent body of the Member State of the document origin if:

1. the training, conducted at this institution is officially recognized in this Member State;
2. the issued evidence for professional qualification is the same as the one, which would be issued, if the whole training were conducted on the territory of this Member State, and
3. the issued evidence for professional qualification provides the same professional rights on the territory of this Member State.
4. (New - SG 27/16) the applicant has been removed or disqualified from practicing the profession as a result of serious professional misconduct or conviction for abuse of office in connection with the exercise of any of his professional activities.

Art. 82a. (New - SG 27/16) The exchange of information under Art. 81 and 82 between the competent authorities on recognition in the different Member States shall be done through the Internal Market Information System (IMI).

Art. 83. (1) Where the evidences for professional qualification have substantial incompliances with the requirements of this Act, the commissions shall propose to the recognition body to grant to the applicant possibility to pass a practical experience for adaptation or to pass an examination for competence recognition.
(2) In case, that the applicant declares in writing his/her consent with the measures under Para. 1, the term under Art. 84 shall stop to run by the production of the evidences for their fulfillment.
(3) the terms and procedure for conducting the practical experience for adaptation and of the competence examination and for their evaluation, shall be determined by an act, issued by the recognition body, unless anything else has been provided by a special law.

Art. 84. (1) The recognition body shall take decision for recognition or refuses to recognize the professional qualification of the relevant profession within the term of up to 3 months from the date, on which the application is filed and all the needed documents, on the bases of a proposal by the commissions under Art. 79.
(2) The term under Para. 1 may be extended by a month in the cases under Chapters One and Two of this Part.
(3) While taking decision for recognition of professional qualification of the relevant profession, the recognition body or an official, authorized by it shall issue a recognition certificate upon a form, confirmed by the recognition body.
(4) The recognition body shall refuse recognition of the relevant professional qualification by a motivated written order, about which the applicant shall be notified in writing.
(5) The decision and the refusal for recognition of access to regulated profession or its pursuance on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be subject to discussion under the terms and procedure of the
Art. 85. Where for the pursuance of the relevant regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria, taking an oath or signing an oath declaration is provided, whose formulation may not be used by the nationals of the other Member States, the recognition body shall provide an appropriate form and contents of an oath or an oath declaration

Art. 85a. (New - SG 27/16) (1) When the exercise of a regulated profession is related to apprenticeship to master the profession, the body of recognition shall recognize the apprenticeship to master the profession, taken in other Member State, if it is in accordance with the guidelines under para. 4 and acknowledges the apprenticeships to master the profession, taken in third countries.

(2) The body of recognition may establish an appropriate limitation of the duration of a portion of the apprenticeship to master the profession, which portion can be taken abroad.

(3) The recognition of the apprenticeship to master the profession shall not replace the requirements on taking the exam in order to exercise the profession.

(4) The body of recognition shall issue guidelines on the organization and recognition of apprenticeships to master the profession, taken in another Member State or in a third country, including the role of the head of the apprenticeship to master the profession.

Art. 86. (1) For the activities on recognition of professional qualification, the recognition bodies shall collect charges according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

(2) Where the recognition body is not a state body, the recognition services shall be paid in prices of the amount, determined by the managing bodies of the relevant organizations, which shall not be larger than the amount of the charges, determined by the tariff under Para. 1.


Part four.
RULES FOR PURSUING THE PROFESSION

Art. 87. Where in the Republic of Bulgaria using a professional title is legislatively established, the nationals of other Member States, who have received recognition of their professional qualifications may pursue a regulated profession, indicated in Part Three, Chapter Three under the professional title, which corresponds to the regulated profession, as well as to use its abbreviation.

Art. 88. (1) Where the pursuance of a certain profession in the Republic of Bulgaria is regulated by a professional association or organization, the nationals of the Member States shall have the right to use the relevant professional title or its abbreviation, if they produce evidence, that they are members of this organization or association.

(2) The professional associations or organizations under Para. 1 may request as a condition for acceptance the members – nationals of other Member States - to possess certain qualifications only under the conditions, provided by this Act.

Art. 89. (1) (previous text of Art. 89 - SG 27/16) Persons who have their professional qualifications recognized under this Act, must have knowledge of the Bulgarian language, which to enable them to exercise the regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) (New - SG 27/16) Testing of knowledge of Bulgarian language shall be mandatory when:

1. a profession is exercised which has implications on patients’ safety or
2. there is a serious and concrete doubt about the sufficient level of language knowledge of the person with regard to the work this person will perform.

(3) (New - SG 27/16) Testing of knowledge under para. 2 shall be done only after the issuance of a European Professional Card or after the recognition of professional qualification.

(4) (New - SG 27/16) Testing under para. 2 shall be carried out in an order, determined by the respective body for recognition, except for the verification of regulated medical professions, carried out according to the ordinance under Art. 186, para. 3, item 1 of the Health Act, and must be proportionate to the activity which will be exercised.

(5) (New - SG 27/16) The act, which stipulates the result from the test under para. 2, shall be subject to appeal under the terms and provisions of the Administrative Procedure Code.

Art. 90. (1) Apart from the cases under part Two and Art. 87 and 88, the nationals of Member States, whose professional qualifications are recognized under this Act, may use their academic titles, granted to them by the Member State of origin and their abbreviated form on the language of the Member State of origin.

(2) The recognition body may request these titles to be accompanied by the name and address of the training or examination institution, which has granted them.

(3) Where an academic title, granted by the Member State of origin, may be mistaken with the one, existing in the Republic of Bulgaria, including additional training, which the applicant has not passed, the recognition body may request from the applicant to use the academic title of the Member State of origin in another appropriate form.

Part five.

ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (Title amend. - SG 27/16)

Art. 91. (1) The recognition bodies of professional qualification for pursuance of regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria shall cooperate and give mutual assistance in view to facilitate the application of this Act.

(2) The bodies under Para. 1 shall guarantee the confidential nature of the information, which is exchanged.

Art. 92. (1) The recognition bodies shall exchange information with the relevant competent bodies of the other Member States on disciplinary, administrative or penal sanctions, related to pursuance of the profession, or other circumstances, which may reflect the activities of this Act.

(2) The information exchange under Para. 1 shall be proceeded while observing the legislation in the area of the personal data protection.

Art. 92a. (New - SG 27/16) The exchange of information under Art. 91 and 92 shall be done through the Internal Market Information System.


1. observing the equal application of this Act by the recognition bodies;
2. collecting information about the access conditions to regulated professions in the other Member
3. maintaining electronic data base with information in the English and the Bulgarian languages, containing the List of the regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria and the conditions for access and their pursuance, as well as information, related to the regulated professional in the other Member States.

4. one in every two years, starting from the enforcement of this Act, shall submit a report to the European Commission, containing statistic information about the number of the taken decisions and refusals for recognition of professional qualifications of nationals of Member States, as well as description of the major problems in the recognition procedures.

5. (New - SG 27/16) preparing analysis on proposals for common frameworks of training and common tests in training;

6. (New - SG 27/16) performs an exchange of information and of good practices regarding the requirement to the applicant to undergo apprenticeship to adapt or to take an exam for recognition of qualification under Art. 29.


(3) The national coordinator shall be representative of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Recognition committee on professional qualifications under the European Commission.

(4) The national coordinator shall operate in cooperation with the contact persons under Art. 94.


Art. 94. (1) Every recognition body shall determine a contact person, who shall:

1. provide to the nationals and contact persons in the other Member States the needed information, related to recognition of professional qualifications, information, included on the national provisions for the regulated professions and their pursuance. The social legislation and moral norms;

2. assist the nationals for exercising their right under this Act in coordination with the rest of the recognition bodies and contact persons.


1. assist the nationals and contact persons in the other Member States by providing them with information on the contact persons in the Republic of Bulgaria of a certain profession;

2. collect information from the contact persons under Para. 1 about the number of questions of nationals and upon request shall provide it to the European Commission within the term of 2 months from receiving the request for providing information;


Art. 95. (New - SG 27/16) The bodies of recognition shall inform the competent authorities of all other Member States about a person to whom an administrative body, professional organization or a court in Bulgaria have enacted a permanent or temporary restriction of or stripping of the right to exercise on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, in whole or in part, the following professions:

1. physician and general practitioner with evidence of professional qualification, stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 5, letters "a" and "d";

2. doctor-specialist with a specialty stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 5, letter "c";

3. nurse responsible for general care with evidence of professional qualification, stated in the list of
Art. 6, para. 1, item 6, letter "b";
4. dentist with evidence of professional qualification, stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 7, letter "b";
5. dentist-specialist with evidence of professional qualification, stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 7, letter "c";
6. veterinarian with evidence of professional qualification, stated in the list of Art. 6, para. 1, item 8 letter "b";
7. midwife with evidence of professional qualification, stated in Art. 6, para. 1, item 9, letter "b";
8. pharmacist with evidence of professional qualification, stated in Art. 6, para. 1, item 10, letter "b";
9. holder of a certificate, issued by the competent authorities in the Member State of origin or residence, certifying that his/her evidence of professional qualification falls within the scope of Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications, and whose training meets the minimum requirements of this Act, but began before the reference dates for qualifications, specified in the lists under Art. 6 para. 1, item 5, letters "c" and "d", item 6, letter "b", item 7, letters "b" and "c", item 8, letter "b", item 9, letter "b", and item 10, letter "b";
10. holder of a certificate for acquired rights under Art. 39-42, Art. 46, 47, 50, 51, Art. 54, para. 2, 3 and 4, Art. 55 and Art. 61, 62 and 63;
11. other person pursuing activities which have implications for patient safety, where the person pursues a regulated profession in that Member State;
12. a person pursuing activities, related to the education of minors, including child care and education of preschool children when the specialist practices a regulated profession in that Member State.

(2) The bodies of recognition shall send the information under para. 1 through the Internal Market Information System no later than three days from the date of entry into force of the administrative act or court decision on restricting or disqualifying a person from the right to exercise a given profession.

(3) The information under para. 1 shall include:
1. identity of the person;
2. the profession practiced;
3. information on administrative body, professional organization or court which have enacted the restriction or stripping of right;
4. the scope of the restriction or stripping of right;
5. the period to which the restriction or stripping of right applies.

(4) No later than three days from the date of the enactment of the court decision, the bodies of recognition shall inform through the Internal market Information System the competent authorities of the other Member States the identity of persons applying for recognition of professional qualifications, for whom subsequently the courts found that individuals have used forged documents for professional qualifications regarding recognition.

(5) Data on persons under para. 1 and 4 shall be collected and processed under the Protection of Personal Data Act.

(6) The bodies of recognition shall immediately inform the competent authorities of the other Member States regarding the change or expiration period of the restriction or stripping of rights under para. 1.

(7) When sending information under para. 1, the bodies of recognition shall notify in writing the person about their decision to send the information on them and their right to object against that decision before the body of recognition, as well as their right to claim compensation for damage, caused by wrong information sent to other Member States, where in this case, in the decision to send the information under para. 1, shall be noted that it is being considered amidst proceedings, initiated by the person.

(8) Data under para. 3 can be processed within the period of their validity. The information under para. 1 shall be deleted within three days from the date of entry into force of the decision on revocation or expiration of the term of restriction or stripping of rights.
Art. 96. (New - SG 27/16) (1) On the portal of the Single Contact Unit, maintained under Chapter II of the Act On The Activities Of Provision Of Services, shall be published online in a clear and comprehensible form the following:

1. list of regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria, including contact information for bodies of recognition;
2. list of professions, for which there is a European Professional Card, its operation and the related fees to be paid by the persons, as well as the authorities which issue it;
3. list of occupations under Art. 20;
4. list of regulated education and training and training with a special structure pursuant to Art. 25, item 3, letter "b";
5. information about the requirements, procedures, required documents and fees due for the activities under Art. 13, 20, 77, 78 and 89 for the regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria;
6. detailed information on remedies in administrative and judicial proceedings against the acts of the bodies of recognition, issued in exercise of their powers under this act.

(2) The information under para. 1 shall be provided and updated by the relevant bodies of recognition and by the help center under Art. 98, para. 1.

(3) The competent bodies of recognition through the Single Contact Unit shall provide information on each inquiry received, in the shortest possible time in view of the circumstances and the aim of the inquiry.

(4) The information under para. 1 can also be provided in other official languages of the European Union.

Art. 97. (New - SG 27/16) (1) The bodies of recognition and the Single Contact Unit shall create opportunities to access of information and documents, and to carry out procedures under this Act remotely and electronically while keeping their right afterwards, in case of reasonable doubt or extreme necessity, to ask for certified copies of the documents.

(2) The request to provide a certified document shall not be construed as a request to provide a missing document with regard to the deadlines in administrative proceedings.

(3) Paragraph 1 shall not apply with respect to conducting an apprenticeship to adapt and the exam for the recognition of qualifications.

(4) In cases where necessary, procedures under para. 1 shall be implemented in accordance with the Electronic Document and Electronic Signature Act.


(2) The contact point under para. 1 shall assist citizens and contact points of other Member States in recognition of professional qualifications under this Act, including through information on national legislation on occupations and their exercise, social legislation and, where applicable, ethical rules.

(3) The contact point under para. 1 shall assist citizens in exercising their rights under this Act in cooperation, where appropriate, with the contact point in the Member State of origin and the bodies of recognition.

(4) The bodies of recognition in the Republic of Bulgaria are obliged to cooperate fully with the contact point under para. 1 and, where appropriate, with the contact point in the Member State of origin, and to provide all relevant information on individual cases to these contact points at their request and in compliance with the Protection of Personal Data Act.

(5) Upon request from the European Commission, the contact point under para. 1 shall provide the
requested information in connection with inquiries it works on, not later than two months from the receipt of the request.

Additional provisions

§ 1. In the meaning of this Act:

1. "regulated profession": a professional activity or group of professional activities, included in the List of the regulated professions in the Republic of Bulgaria, which is of a social importance and/or is of substantial importance for people’s life and health and the access to which is submitted to legal, legislative or administrative provisions on:
   a) possessing specific professional qualification, or
   b) competence, or
   c) membership in a professional organization, operating for maintenance at a high level in the relevant professional area for whose realization it has received specific recognition by the state.

2. "professional qualifications": qualifications attested by evidence of formal qualifications, an attestation of competence referred to in Art. 25, p. 1 and/or professional experience;

3. (Suppl. – SG, 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009) "evidence of formal qualifications": diplomas, certificates and other evidence issued by an authority in a Member State designated pursuant to legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions of that Member State and certifying successful completion of professional training obtained mainly in the Community. Where the first sentence of this definition does not apply, evidence of formal qualifications referred to in paragraph 3 shall be treated as evidence of formal qualifications. Evidences for evidences for professional qualifications are also evidences, issued in third states in the meaning of § 3 and 3a.

4. "applicant" shall be a person, who requests recognition of his/her professional qualification, received in another state in view to access pursuing of regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

5. "competent body": any authority or body empowered by a Member State specifically to issue or receive training diplomas and other documents for professional qualifications or other documents for access or for pursuance of a regulated profession.

6. "recognition body" shall be the body in the Republic of Bulgaria, authorized to accept applications and to take decisions on recognition of professional qualifications for pursuance of a regulated profession.

7. "regulated education and training": any training which is specifically geared to the pursuit of a given profession and which comprises a course or courses complemented, where appropriate, by professional training, or probationary or professional practice.

8. (amend. - SG 27/16) "professional experience": the time during which the applicant has actually and lawfully pursued the profession concerned full-time or equivalent part-time working hours in a Member State;

9. "adaptation period" shall be the pursuit of a regulated profession under the responsibility of a qualified member of that profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

10. (amend. - SG 27/16) "aptitude test" shall be the test limited to the professional knowledge, skills and competencies of the applicant, carried out or recognized by the recognition bodies with the aim of assessing the ability of the applicant to pursue a regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

11. "manager of an undertaking": any person who in an undertaking in the occupational field in question has pursued an activity:
   a) as a manager of an undertaking or a manager of a branch of an undertaking; or
   b) as a deputy to the proprietor or the manager of an undertaking where that post involves responsibility equivalent to that of the proprietor or manager represented; or
c) in a managerial post with duties of a commercial and/or technical nature and with responsibility for one or more departments of the undertaking.

12. "a Member State" shall be a Member State of the European Union or another state – party of the European Economic Agreement and Switzerland.

13. "a Member State of origin" shall be the Member State in which the applicant has acquired his/her professional qualification.

14. "a Member State of establishment" shall be the Member State from which the applicant comes and in which he legally has been established in view to provide services.

15. (revoked - SG 27/16)

16. "employed persons" shall be any person who works on an employment or other equalized to it legal relation.

17. (New - SG 27/16) "Apprenticeship to master the profession" shall be the period during which the profession is practiced under guidance, provided that this is a condition for the exercise of the regulated profession, where this can be done during training for acquiring professional qualifications or afterwards.

18. (New - SG 27/16) 'European Professional card' is an electronic certificate proving the recognition that the specialist meets all the necessary conditions to provide services in the host Member State on a temporary or occasional basis, or proving the recognition of professional qualifications in order to establish themselves on the territory of another Member State.

19. (New - SG 27/16, amend. - SG 59/16, in force from 01.08.2016) "Lifelong Learning" means general education, vocational education and training, informal training and non-formal learning throughout life, resulting in increased knowledge, skills and competences and may include professional ethics.

20. (New - SG 27/16) "Imperative requirement in the general interest" shall be the considerations, recognized as such in the practice of the Court of the European Union.

21. (New - SG 27/16) "European system of credit transfer (ECTS)" is the system of academic credits in higher education, used in the European Higher Education Area.

22. (New - SG 27/16) "Common training framework" shall be a common set of minimal knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for the exercise of a profession.

23. (New - SG 27/16) "General training exam" shall be a standardized aptitude test, available in the participating Member States and reserved for holders of a particular professional qualification.

§ 2. Pursuing a profession by the members of an association or organization, listed in the list under Art. 6, Para. 1, p. 1, shall be equalized to pursuit of a regulated profession in the indicated Member States in the list.

§ 3. evidence for professional qualification, issued in a third state to a national of another Member State shall be equalized to the evidence for professional qualification in the meaning of this Act, if the holder has 3 years professional experience in the relevant profession on the territory if the Member State, which has recognized his/her evidence for professional qualification in compliance with the minimal qualification requirements.

§ 3a. (1) (New - SG, 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009 , former text of § 3a - SG, 61/2011) Apart from the cases under § 3, evidences for professional qualification, issued in a third state to a Bulgarian national or another national of a Member State , shall be equalized to evidence for professional qualification in the meaning of this Act, where it is established for every concrete case compliance at comparison of the specialized knowledge, skills and experience of the applicant, with the knowledge, skills and the relevant experience, required by the Bulgarian legislation for pursuing a certain profession.

(2) (New - SG, 61/2011) Where the evidences for professional qualification under Para. 1, certifying the specialized knowledge and skills for the professions under Art. 4, Para. 1 have been issued by a
third state, which is not a party of a bilateral or multilateral agreement, in which the Bulgarian state also participated, the recognition body of professional qualifications shall propose sitting the state examinations, indicated in the single state requirements under Art. 177 of the Health Act.

§ 3b. (New - New - SG, 41/2009, in force from 01.07.2009) (1) Where at comparison of the specialized knowledge, skills and service, certifies by evidences for professional qualification for the professions under Art. 4, p 1, issued in a third state for Bulgarian nationals, whose training has started before and has finished after 1 January 2007, with the knowledge, skills and the relevant service, required by the Bulgarian legislation for pursuing the same professions, incompatibility is established, the recognition body of professional qualification may propose passing additional training in the curriculum subjects, which have not been studied or have been studied insufficiently, sitting examinations and/or conducting the relevant length of service.

(2) The terms and procedure for passing the training, sitting the examinations and conducting the service and for their evaluation shall be determined by the recognition body under Art. 83, Para. 3.

§ 4. (1) The certificates, related to acquired professional qualification on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, needed for access or pursuing a regulated profession on the territory on another Member State, shall be issued under the terms and procedure, determined by an ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

(2) Where the acquired professional qualification is under regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the certificates under Para. 1 shall be issued by the recognition body and in non-regulated profession – by the body, determined by the ordinance under Para. 1.

(3) For the activities under Para. 1 and 2, charges shall be collected, determined by the tariff under Art. 86, Para. 1, where the recognition body is a state body.

(4) Where the recognition body is not a state body, the services of recognition shall be paid in prices in the amount not larger than the amount of the charges, determined by the tariff under Para. 3. The amount of the prices shall be determined by the managing bodies of the relevant organizations.


Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 15. (1) The statutory instruments of subordinate legislation and the other instruments for the application of this Act shall be issued within 1 month after its enforcement.

(2) By the enforcement of the acts under Para. 1, the issued acts of the application of the repealed provisions by § 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 shall apply, unless they contradict to it.
§ 16. The Act shall come into force on the day of its publication in the State Gazette.

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The Act was adopted by the 40th National Assembly on 25 January 2008 and has been sealed by the official stamp of the National Assembly.

Transitional and concluding provisions

TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE HEALTH ACT

(PUBL. - SG, 41/2009, IN FORCE FROM 02.06.2009, AMEND. - SG, 98 /2010, IN FORCE FROM 01.01.2011)

§ 80. (In force from 01.07.2009) (1) Evidences for professional qualification of a regulated profession, recognized by the relevant competent body before the enforcement of this Act, shall give access and right to pursue the relevant regulated profession in the Republic of Bulgaria under the same conditions, as the recognized ones under the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Act.

(2) (Amend. - SG, 98/2010, in force from 14.12.2010) The evidences for professional qualification, issued in the former Soviet Union to persons, who have started pursuing the relevant regulated profession on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria under Art. 1, Para. 3 of the repealed Ordinance N 29 of 1975 for recognizing documents for education, issued by schools and bachelor’s schools in other states (publ. SG, 2/1975, repealed 20/1996) and have pursued it by the enforcement of this Act, shall give the rights under Para. 1.

§ 81. (In force from 01.07.2009) The current by the enforcement of this Act procedure for recognition of professional qualification for the professions under Art. 4, Para. 1, p. 1 of the Recognition of Professional Qualification Act shall be finalized under this Act.

§ 96. The Act shall come into force on the day of its publishing in the State Gazette, with the exception of:
1. Para. 3, 5, 6 and 9, which shall come into force on 1 January 2009;
2. Para. 26, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 65, 66, 69, 70, 73, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 88, 89 and 90, which shall come into force on 1 July 2009;
3. Para. 21, which shall come into force on 1 June 2010.

Concluding provisions

TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT

(PUBL. - SG, 74/2009, IN FORCE FROM 15.09.2009)

§ 9. In the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Act(publ. SG, 13/2008, amend. 41/2009), everywhere the words "the Minister of Education and Science", and "Ministry of Education and Science" shall be replaced by: "the Minister of Education, Youth and Science", and "the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science"

§ 48. The Act shall come into force on the day of its publishing in the State Gazette, with the exception of § 1, which shall come into force on 15 September 2009, and § 47, which shall come into force
from 1 October 2009.

Transitional and concluding provisions
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE HEALTH ACT

(PUBL. - SG 98/2010, IN FORCE FROM 01.01.2011)

§ 113. (In force from 14.12.2010) The current by the enforcement of this Act procedures on recognition of professional qualification of nationals of third states, which have acquired professional qualifications of regulated medical professions in third states, shall be finalized under the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Act.

 § 121. The Act shall come into force on 1 January 2011 with the exception of:
 1. Para. 1, 16, 20, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 42, 44, § 56, p. 1 and 2, § 65, 68, 70, 76, 80, 81, 90, 92, 96, § 102, p. 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8, § 105, p. 1, 3 and 5, § 107, p. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, letter "a", p. 7, 10, 11, 13 and 15, letter "a", § 109, 110, 112, 113, § 115, p. 5, § 116, p. 4 and 6, § 117, p. 5 and 7 and § 118, p. 1, which shall come into force on the day of the publication of the Act in the State Gazette; 
 2. Para. 102, p. 1, 2 and 6, which shall come into force on 1 March 2011; 
 3. Para. 22, p. 1 (on Art. 36, Para. 1, sentence two), § 37, § 48, p. 2, § 51 and 59, which shall come into force on 1 July 2011; 
 4. Para. 107, p. 15, letter "b", which shall be enforced from 30 September 2011.

Transitional and concluding provisions
TO THE BULGARIAN FOOD SAFETY AGENCY ACT

(PUBL. - SG, 8/ 2011, IN FORCE FROM 25.01.2011)

§ 30. The Act shall come into force from the day of its publication in the State Gazette.

Transitional and concluding provisions
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION ACT

(PUBL. - SG, 43/2011, IN FORCE FROM 15.06.2011)

§ 21. The Act shall come into force from 15 June 2011, with the exception of § 5, which shall be enforced from 1 July 2011, and § 16, which shall be enforced from 1 January 2011.

Concluding provisions
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE YOUTH ACT

(PROM. – SG 68/13, IN FORCE FROM 02.08.2013)

§ 9. In the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Act the words “the Minister of Education, Youth and Science”, “Minister of Education, Youth and Science” and “the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science” shall be respectively replaced by “the Minister of Education and Science”, “Minister of Education and Science” and “the Ministry of Education and Science” everywhere in the text.
§ 55. The Act shall enter into force from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE ASSYLM AND REFUGEES ACT  
(PROM. – SG 80/15, IN FORCE FROM 16.10.2015)  
§ 83. This Act shall enter into force from the day of its promulgation in State Gazette, except for § 40, which shall enter into force on 1 January 2016.

Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT  
(PROM. - SG 59 OF 2016, IN FORCE FROM 01.08.2016)  
§ 86. This Act shall enter into force on August 1, 2016.