

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002454/25
to the Commission
Peter Agius (PPE)
(18 June 2025)**

Subject: Need for attention to risks in the EU beauty industry

Reports from practitioners in the beauty industry, including tattoo artists, massage therapists, beauticians and manicurists, indicate that inadequate regulatory oversight at both national and EU levels is leading to a rise in the number of unqualified practitioners performing treatments. In some cases, this poses significant health risks, including scarring, burns and infections. Furthermore, the initial treatments may be performed poorly, requiring multiple corrective interventions.

A key issue is the complete lack of harmonisation in beauty education standards across Member States, which results in inconsistencies in training quality, course duration and certification requirements. Moreover, non-EU nationals are entering EU Member States and delivering substandard services, which gives rise to concerns about consumer safety and fair competition.

The industry is further disrupted by impromptu educators offering rapid certification courses that allow individuals to enter these professions without adequate training.

Given this:

1. What measures can the Commission consider to address the safety and health concerns resulting from the number of unqualified practitioners in the beauty sector, which poses a risk to European citizens?
2. How does the Commission plan to address the issue of unqualified practitioners operating within the beauty sector and posing a risk to their clients, particularly practitioners from non-EU countries?

Submitted: 18.6.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(28 August 2025)**

In accordance with Articles 165 and 166 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Member States are responsible for the content of teaching and the organisation of their education system.

In accordance with Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Member States are responsible for defining their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care.

As a result, it is a Member State competence to decide whether and how to regulate professions in the beauty industry within the limits of the principles of non-discrimination and proportionality.

In cases where Member States chose to regulate certain professions in the industry, Directive 2005/36/EC ⁽¹⁾ lays down the rules for the recognition of qualifications obtained in other Member States.

The directive also includes provisions for situations where there are significant differences in training between Member States, allowing for measures like adaptation periods to ensure public safety.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2005/36/oj/eng>.