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Skills Portability Initiative

Following the dedicated social partners' hearing of 23 January 2026, this note presents HOSPEEM view on the European Commission's proposed skills portability initiative.

HOSPEEM welcomes the Union of Skills' aim to improve skills portability and recognition across the Single Market, provided it integrates smoothly with national qualification systems and avoids added administrative burdens. Skills should be transparent and understandable across borders, regardless of where they were acquired, and efforts to improve recognition for third-country nationals are also supported. This combined approach can help address labour and skills shortages and strengthen EU preparedness. The initiative must respect national competence, while also tackling other mobility barriers such as language skills, willingness to relocate, and housing availability.

Action 2. Modernise and expand recognition processes for regulated professions

HOSPEEM emphasises that the regulation must be transparent and aligned with the EU Directive 2018/958 Proportionality Test before adoption of new regulation of professions while respecting national competencies and public interest. We support voluntary common training frameworks for healthcare professions, guided by social partners' involvement.

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