

RECOGNITION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS IN AUSTRIA

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Overview

1. European legal basis
2. Directive 2005/36/EC: main principles
3. EU recognition procedures by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Health
4. Examples of recognition procedures and the „ONE STOP“ procedure
5. Statistics

European legal basis

- Directive 2005/36/EC (recognition of professional qualifications)
- Directive 2003/109/EC (status of 3rd country nationals who are long term residents)
- Directive 2004/38/EC (free movement and residence of EU nationals and their family members)
- Directive 2004/83/EC (refugees/otherwise international protection)
- Directive 2009/50/EC (highly qualified employment)

Directive 2005/36/EC

- Automatic recognition
 - Only for six health professions (veterinary surgeon, doctor, general care nurse, midwife, dentist and pharmacist)
 - Minimum set of training requirements agreed under the Directive at EU level
 - Harmonized training
 - „Acquired rights“
 - No check of the training of the professional by the host MS

Directive 2005/36/EC

- Recognition based on the „general system“
 - Majority of health professions
 - Case-by-case analysis of the migrants' training
 - Substantially different matters
 - Compensatory measures (adaptation period of up to three years or aptitude test)
 - Right to choose between compensatory measures

Competent authorities (CA) for recognition within the EU in Austria

1. Doctors: Chamber of doctors
2. Dentists: Chamber of dentists
3. Midwives: Chamber of midwives
4. Pharmacists: Chamber of pharmacists
5. Veterinary surgeons: Chamber of veterinary surgeons

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- General care nurse
- legal basis: Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegegesetz (GuKG), BGBl. I Nr. 108/1997
- 3 years / 4600 hours theoretical and practical training
- conformity with Article 31 of the Directive 2005/36/EC since 1.9.1978
- „Diplomierte/r Gesundheits- und Krankenschwester/-pfleger“ (Annex V 5.2.2.)

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- Specialized trainings for nurses
- legal basis: Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegegesetz (GuKG), BGBl. I Nr. 108/1997
- e.g. paediatric nurse, psychiatric nurse, intensiv care nurse, operational care nurse, management and teaching nurse
- Training between 800 and 1600 hours after 3 years of basic nursing education
- Article 11 c ii and in Annex II of Directive 2005/36/EC

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- Assistant nurse
- legal basis: Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegegesetz (GuKG), BGBl. I Nr. 108/1997
- Article 11 b of the Directive 2005/36/EC
- 1600 hours in theoretical and practical training
- „Pflegehelfer/in“
- Entering age for training: 17

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- Medical-technical professions
- legal basis: Bundesgesetz über die medizinisch-technischen Dienste (MTD-Gesetz), BGBl. Nr. 460/1992
- physiotherapists, dieticians, logopedics, occupational therapists, orthoptists, biomedical analysts, radiology technicians
- 3 years of training at Universities for Applied Sciences (Article 11 d of the Directive 2005/36/EC)

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- Clinical and therapeutic masseurs
- legal basis: Medizinischer Masseur- und Heilmasseurgesetz (MMHmG), BGBl. I Nr. 169/2002
- 1690 hours of training for clinical masseurs (Article 11 b of the Directive 2005/36/EC)
- plus 800 hours of training for therapeutic masseurs (Article 11 b of the Directive 2005/36/EC)

Ministry of Health/dept. II/A/2 as CA

- Paramedics
- Legal basis: Sanitätergesetz, BGBl. I Nr. 30/2002
- Auxiliary health professions (e.g. doctor's assistant, laboratory assistant, operating assistant)
- Legal basis: MTF-SHD-Gesetz, BGBl. Nr. 102/1961
- Cardio-technicians
- Legal basis: Kardiotechnikergesetz (KTG), BGBl. I Nr. 96/1998
- Article 11 e of the Directive 2005/36/EC

Which qualifications?

- European Economic Area
- Swiss Confederation
- 3rd country qualifications if the holder has three years of professional experience in the profession concerned on the territory of the first MS which recognized that qualification

Who?

- Nationals of the European Economic Area
- Nationals of the Swiss Confederation
- 3rd country nationals who are long term residents
- Certain 3rd country family members of EU nationals
- Refugees/otherwise internationally protected persons
- 3rd country holders of the „EU blue card“

Slovakian general care nurse

- Automatic recognition
 - Minimum training requirements set out in Annex V point 5.2.1
 - According to Article 21 of the Directive (Annex V point 5.2.2)
 - „Acquired rights“ according to Article 23 based on professional experience
- Subsidiary application of the „general system“

„ONE STOP procedure“

- Introduced in 2006
- Acceleration of recognition procedures (one hour!) and customer orientation
- mainly for procedures falling under the automatic recognition
- also professions of the general system if no substantial differences experienced between the trainings

„ONE STOP procedure“ examples

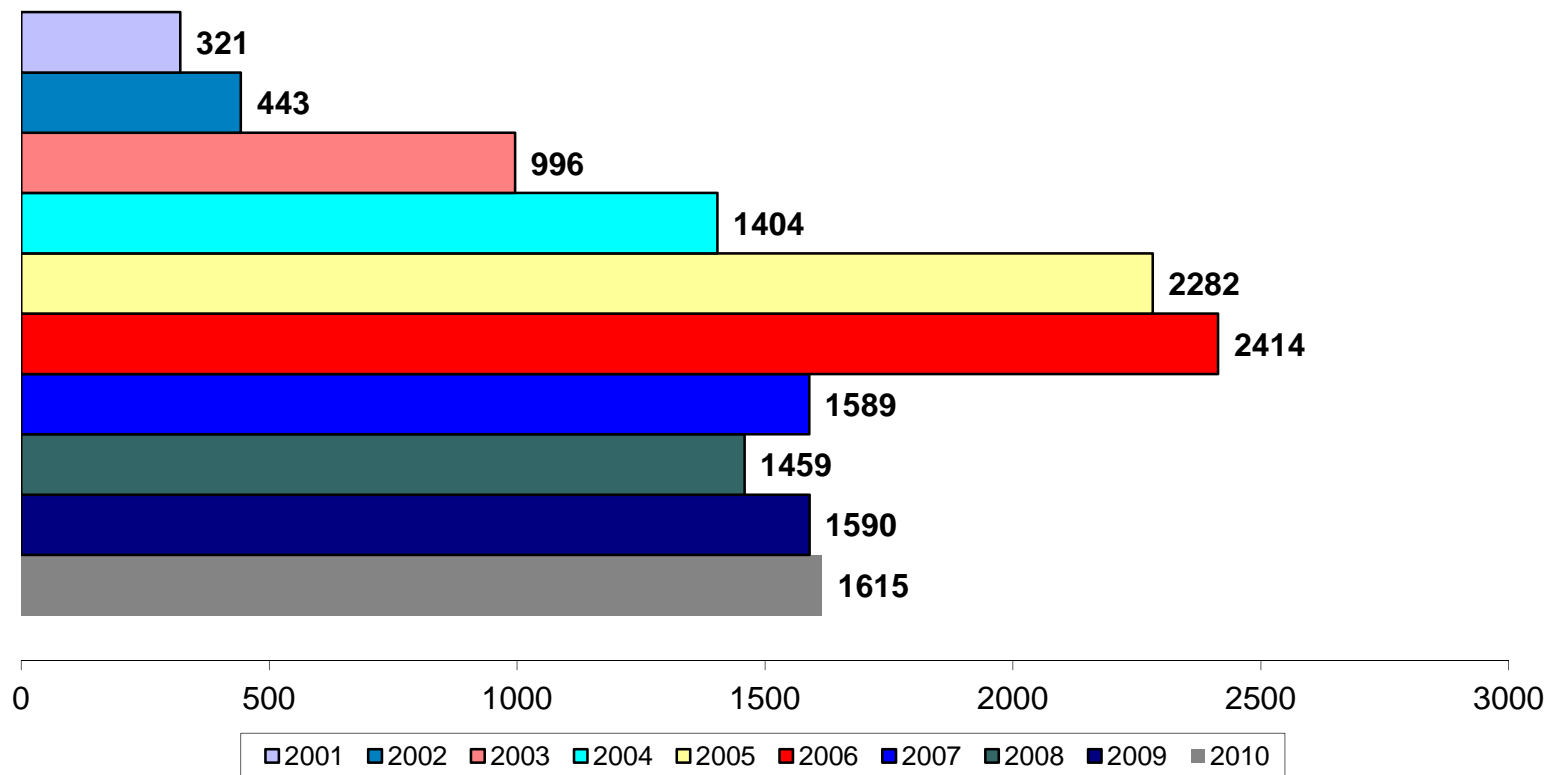
- automatic recognition of general care nurse from nearly every EU MS
- e.g. physiotherapists from Germany, Italy, Slovakia, Czech Republic with certain diplomas/trainings followed
- e.g. Hungarian therapeutic masseurs
- e.g. paediatric nurse from Germany and Italy

Hungarian physiotherapist

- Application of the „general system“
 - Analysis of the migrant’s training
 - Substantially different matters
 - Taking into account professional experience
 - Compensatory measures (aptitude test or adaptation period)
 - Right to choose
 - Duration of procedure up to four months

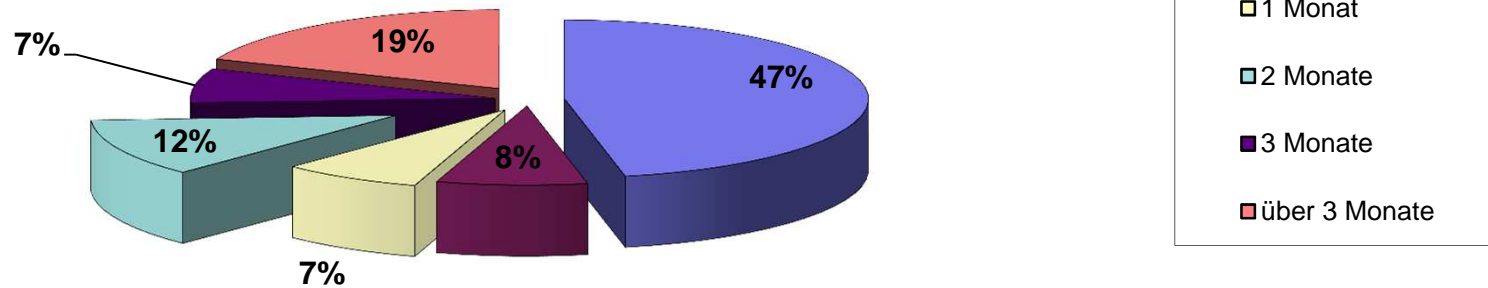
Statistics 1

Yearly number of recognitions



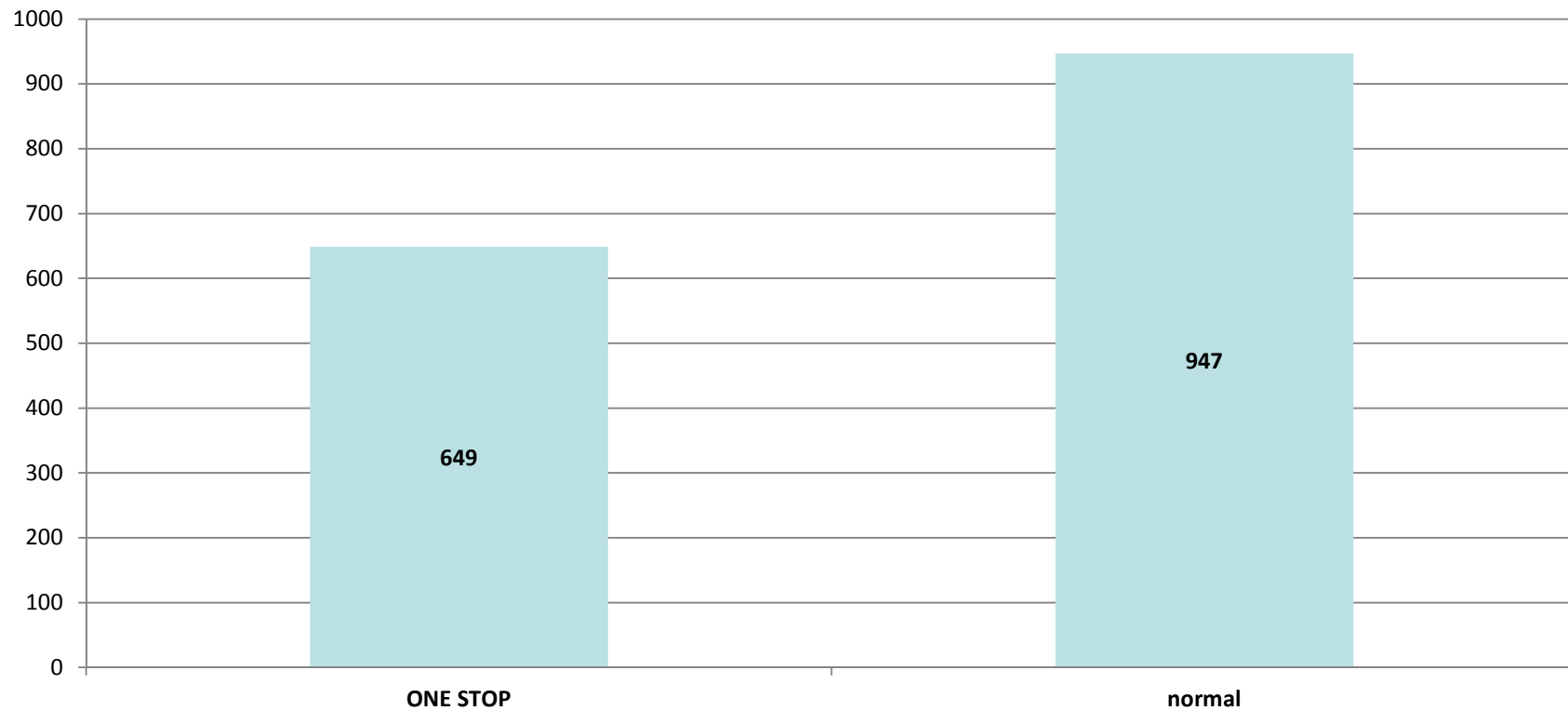
Statistics 2

Average duration of procedures in 2010



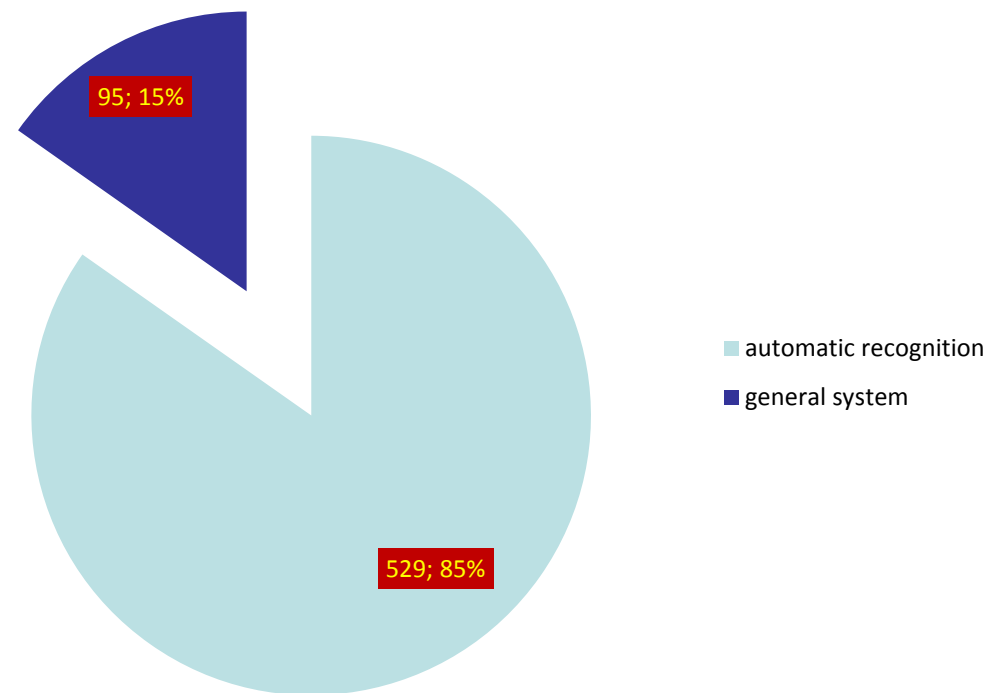
Statistics 3

Number of recognitions through „ONE STOP“



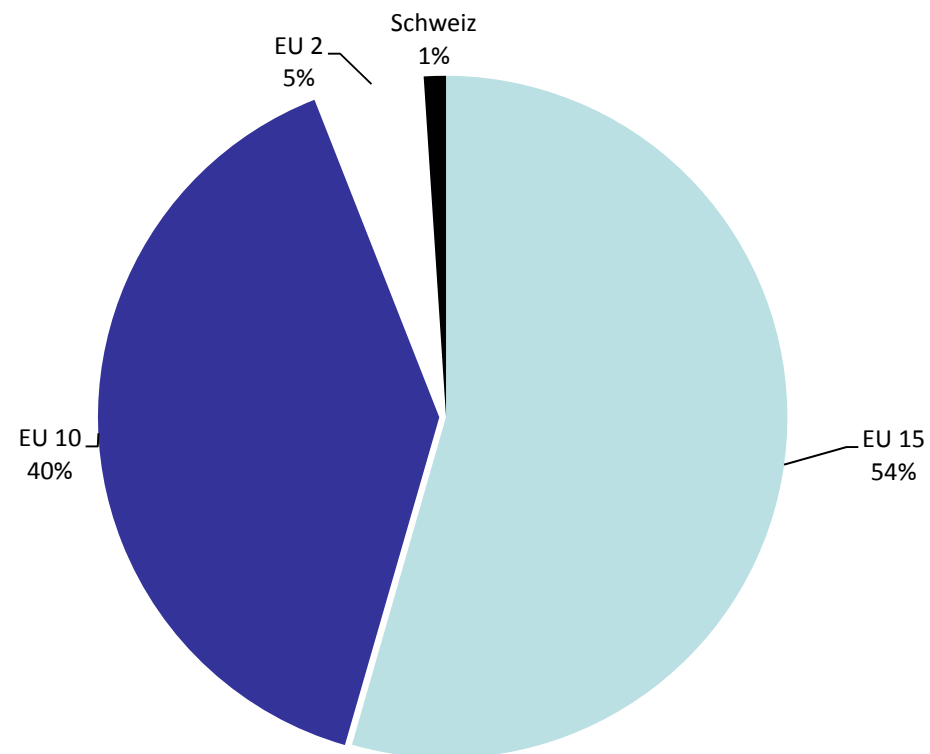
Statistics 4

Diplomas recognized in the year 2010 – general care nurse



Statistics 5

Diplomas recognized in the year 2010



Statistics 6

Professions of the year 2010

