



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Jobs and Skills  
**B.5 Professional Qualifications and Skills for Competitiveness**

Brussels  
EMPL.B.5/AT

**Dirk G. BOCHAR**  
Secretary-General

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President

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*(Sent by email only)*

**Subject: Regarding your letter of 23 January 2025 to Commissioner Séjourné**

Dear Mr Bochar, dear Mr Appel,

Thank you for your letter of 23 January 2025 addressed to Commissioner Séjourné and for the explanations and references included therein. Your letter was forwarded to the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion for direct reply by the unit EMPL.B5, responsible for recognition of professional qualifications and Directive 2005/36/EC as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2025.

First, I would like to point out that it is the competence of Member States and their national competent authorities to examine individual applications for the recognition of professional qualifications for access to regulated professions and to decide whether these qualifications can be recognised in line with the recognition rules under EU law and with the national requirements to practice the profession at hand. The European Commission does therefore not have the competence to declare which standards or schemes Member States and national authorities shall rely on in their examination of applications for recognition of professional qualifications of engineers.

However, I would like to stress that a self-regulating instrument or scheme, such as the EUR ING Certification, can indeed serve as a helpful tool that can be of notable assistance to national authorities when examining applications for recognition of professional qualifications. This could then in turn facilitate recognition of professional qualifications for engineers that are in possession of the EUR ING Certificate when a national authority is familiar with this scheme.

In line with Directive 2005/36/EC, in the examination of an application for recognition of professional qualifications for access to regulated professions in the area of engineering, national authorities must take into account all the knowledge, skills and competences acquired by an applicant through professional experience or lifelong learning. Therefore, it is particularly relevant that the EUR ING Certificate combines requirements of education with requirements of professional experience as well as lifelong learning and continuous professional development, as this could indeed facilitate cross-border recognition procedures.

Yours sincerely,

*Electronically signed*

Martin LE VRANG  
Head of Unit (acting)