



First Aid in Europe



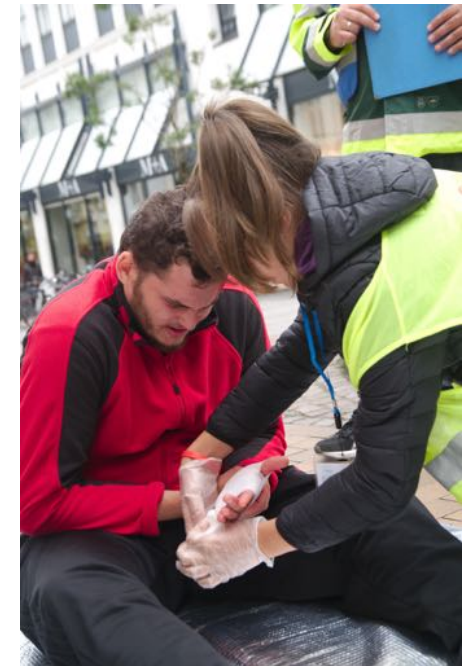
Appreciation through recognition of an education with vocational relevance

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Current state of first aid courses and their recognition in the EU



- All member states give out national certificates based on recommendations by public or other institutions recognised by law
- The recommendations are universally based on the current state-of-the-art of emergency medicine (e.g. the ERC guidelines)
- Recognition in other member states: Case by case basis - unclear if always done





Why European action?

- Certified first aid skills are required in many types of vocations – for example manufacturing or processing of goods under usage of heavy machinery, construction/building etc.
- These are sectors with a relatively high quota of EU citizens working outside their home countries!
- Recognition of first aid skills is important for the Single European Labour Market!



Our approach

- Considering that first aid is, in many cases, a vocational qualification:

The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) should be used as a vehicle to enable easy recognition



Challenges

- The general descriptors for Level 1/2 of the EQF aim at qualifications for day-to-day work tasks – not on latent knowledge and skills only applied in emergencies.
- Workplace safety-related/accompanying education for a job should be recognised as level 1 or 2, depending on complexity of the skill
- As a public health and safety issue – oversight may be advisable. This could, for example, be an independent expert group at EU-OSHA.



Thank you for your attention!

For more information, please check out our publication
Single European First Aid: Cross-Border First Responders

