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Bucharest, 11th November 2022

Letter of support for Spanish family doctors, members of the General Medical Council of Spain

For several years now, due to the shortage of family doctors in Spain, several regional health services have been allowing non-specialist doctors to sign contracts to perform work similar to that of family doctors. UEMO expresses its serious concern about this situation and believes it is unacceptable that a specialty recognised at least at national level by 19 European countries, many more than other specialties, in Directive 2005/36/EC, should be ignored by the "assimilation" of medical professionals as family doctors. No one can imagine replacing a cardiologist or neurosurgeon with a doctor with a qualification other than that established by the training curriculum of his or her specialty.

This decision jeopardises the safety of patients and undermines the dignity of a specialty and professionals who have been training for 4 years to practise, and conveys to society the image that such an important specialty can be practised without adequate training.

Sincerely,

Dr Călin BUMBULUȚ,
President of UEMO