

To the Comissão Parlamentar de Trabalho e Segurança Social

On the sequence of the process “Ordem dos Fisioterapeutas (PS), 642/XIII (3ª) - Criação da Ordem dos Fisioterapeutas (CDS-PP), the European Network of Physiotherapy in Higher Education (ENPHE), composed by 38 European countries and 3 associated non-European countries, with a total of 180 higher education institutions members, we would like to ask for an audience for further support and eventual clarifications and substantiations on creation of the Physiotherapists Order.

With the kindest regards

*THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF ENPHE*

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European Network of Physiotherapy in Higher Education

The Netherlands, 16th of March, 2018

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This regulation, performed by a legal regulatory body composed by physiotherapists, is fundamental to compulsory comprise all the physiotherapists in the Portuguese territory to control the quality standards of education and the liberal profession.

This is supported by our vision and recommendations to physiotherapy higher education in terms of professional competences, duties and rights of the autonomous physiotherapists, as stated in the document published by ENPHE [http://enphe.org/Portals/enphe/ESCO\\_report\\_ENPHE\\_recommendations\\_April\\_2017.pdf](http://enphe.org/Portals/enphe/ESCO_report_ENPHE_recommendations_April_2017.pdf)

These recommendations are aligned with the professional definition of ESCO <https://ec.europa.eu/esco/portal/occupation>, with the recommendations of the World Confederation of Physiotherapy (WCPT) <http://www.wcpt.org/policy/ps-autonomy> and with the many professional bodies with legal regulation of the profession in European countries, like in United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Malta, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Serbia, Spain, Sweden and in non-European countries like in United States, Australia, Canadá, Japan, New Zealand.

Professional autonomy requires differential diagnostic competences, diagnose in physiotherapy, clinical decision making informed by the best updated scientific evidence and specialised intervention skills, all competences that are obligatory to be included in both bachelor and master programmes in physiotherapy.

Knowing the higher educational institutes in Portugal and their scientific programmes, we consider the Portuguese Physiotherapists as, well prepared professionals with high standards of professionalism and high level of competences for autonomous liberal profession. Consequently, requiring a professional regulatory body constituted by physiotherapists, for obligatory registration to assure quality for the practice of the profession towards the citizens. Both the community and the health care system will benefit from this “Order”.

For further support and eventual clarifications and substantiations, we would like to ask for an audience to the Comissão Parlamentar de Trabalho e Segurança Social.

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