



International Network of Physiotherapy Regulatory Authorities  
Facilitating International Cooperation and Collaboration

April 28, 2016

Ms. Paula Tanasa  
European Commission  
DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs  
Unit E-5 Professional Qualifications and Skills  
1049 Brussels, BELGIUM  
Office 06/029

Dear Ms. Tanasa:

**Re: ER-WCPT Comments of April 25, 2016 on European Commission “Mutual evaluation – updated sector report for final comments (physiotherapists) - ARES (2016)2174211”**

The mission of the International Network of Physiotherapy Regulatory Authorities (INPTRA) is to promote regulatory principles and standards that help assure safe and competent physiotherapy practice worldwide through education, information sharing and other collaborative activities. The INPTRA Board of Directors agrees with and supports the European Region of the World Confederation for Physiotherapy's (ER-WCPT) recommendations in their letter of April 25, 2016.

We agree that the healthcare personnel or para-professionals from Croatia, Latvia, The Netherlands and Poland described in the ER-WCPT letter would not be considered physiotherapists from an international regulatory perspective but rather, support personnel. The education and scope of work/practice of physiotherapy technicians and/or assistants are not equivalent to the education and scope of work/practice of physiotherapists and in fact, they generally work under supervision. To assume that physiotherapy technicians/assistants can safely and competently practice as Physiotherapists may endanger physiotherapy patients.

We join ER-WCPT and others in kindly calling upon the European Commission to urgently correct this patient safety concern by recognizing the distinction in the profession of Physiotherapy between Physiotherapists and the para-professional support personnel from Croatia, Latvia, The Netherlands and Poland.

Sincerely,

INPTRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS