

**4c- Regulation in a European and International Context - Annex A**

## Summary of the European and International Action Plan 2009

**The GMC will undertake proactive and timely research and intelligence activity into European and international developments that affects this organisation and the wider medical regulatory environment.**

1. Track trends within medical regulation in Europe, particularly within:
  - a. The EU institutions, on the issue of patient and professional mobility in the context of the European single market policy, health and consumer protection policy and any other EU policy basis.
  - b. The UK/devolved governments, UK parliament and devolved assemblies to understand attitudes towards European and international medical regulation.
2. Work with other medical regulators within the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA), Healthcare Professionals Crossing Borders (HPCB), Conférence Européenne des Ordres des Médecins (CEOM), and the Alliance of UK Healthcare Regulators (AURE) to share information and identify and develop best practice with regard to medical regulation across the globe.
3. Build an evidence base from which to develop GMC policy and procedures regarding EEA graduates and IMGs through a number of research projects in partnership with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), RAND Europe and others.
4. Explore approaches to standards and ethics within European and world-wide regulatory jurisdictions to identify and understand commonality and divergence with the UK approach.

**The GMC will lead on and engage in a range of strategic initiatives to effectively influence and improve the practical, policy and legislative environment for medical regulation.**

5. Directly and proactively liaise with and lobby MEPs, Parliament and Commission officials to advocate the GMC's and, where appropriate, AURE's position with a view to influence existing and forthcoming European Commission legislative and policy proposals affecting healthcare regulation, patient safety and professional mobility, such as the proposed Directive on patients' rights in cross-border care.
6. Identify and coordinate timely responses to European and UK/devolved government/parliament/assembly calls for evidence and consultation on issues of relevance to European and international medical regulation.
7. Monitor and respond to the implications of the Bologna Declaration on medical education in the UK, through dialogue with the European Commission, DIUS, Universities UK, medical schools, and other relevant stakeholders.

8. Verify the compatibility of the post-White Paper model of medical regulation with EC law.

**The GMC will work in partnership, in a European Union and wider international context, to influence and build a stronger and safer regulatory medical environment for the benefit of patients.**

9. Continue to lead and manage the European-wide HPCB initiative including the successful internal and Europe-wide implementation of the Edinburgh and Portugal Agreements and the development of the HPCB agenda beyond delivery of these Agreements.

10. Explore the feasibility of further bilateral agreements for the electronic transfer of Certificate of Good Standing (CGS) or equivalent with other European medical regulatory authorities.

**The GMC will effectively and regularly raise awareness, internally and externally, of EU and international developments in the regulatory sphere that impact upon the organisation's statutory and non-statutory functions.**

11. Participate and contribute effectively to a range of UK, EU and wider International partnership and networking groups including AURE, IAMRA, CEOM, the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) International Forum, the BMA European Forum, the European Healthcare Fraud and Corruption Network (EHFCN), the Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE), the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE), and the International Physician Assessment Coalition (IPAC).

12. Raise the profile of European and International engagement within the GMC's range of internal and external engagement, including stakeholders nationally and in the devolved countries.