

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET SUBMITTED BY THE MINISTER  
OF COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

Draft Agreement on the Instruction and  
Education of Nurses

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The aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its Members for the purpose, among others, of facilitating their social progress and promoting the social well-being of their population. The Agreement on the Instruction and Education of Nurses is directed to that end.

2. The purpose of the Agreement is to harmonise the instruction and Education of Nurses in order to promote social progress and guarantee the standard of the nurses required for their establishment in the territory of other contracting Parties on an equal footing with those countries' nationals.

3. For the purpose of this agreement the term "nurses" include only general trained nurses, male or female. Those nurses whose training is solely within the field of public health, infants' and sick children's nursing, obstetrics or mental health are excluded.

4. An annex to the Agreement lays down the minimal standards of the instruction and education of nurses. This has regard to (a) the functions of the general trained nurses (b) the educational standard required of candidates for admission to schools of nursing, (c) duration and content of the educational programme, (d) requirements for the organisation of the school of nursing and (e) evidence of completion of the education programme.

5. Each contracting party undertakes to apply within its territory the provisions governing the instruction and education of nurses set out in this annex to the Agreement. This applies only in so far as the education of nurses is under the direct control of Government, otherwise Contracting Parties would

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only have to recommend to the competent authorities to apply the provisions of the Agreement.

6. This Agreement admits of several reservations and, should Hon. Ministers agree to Malta's accession to this treaty reservations in respect of items 3 and 4 (i) and (ii) of Annex II to the Agreement are indicated.

7. As it is desirable that Malta should be one of the original signatories when the Agreement is opened for signature on 23rd October, 1967, Hon. Ministers are accordingly requested to agree to Malta becoming a party to the Agreement on the Instruction and Education of Nurses subject to the reservations above-mentioned.

8. A copy of the draft Agreement is available for perusal at the office of the Secretary to Cabinet.

31st July, 1967.