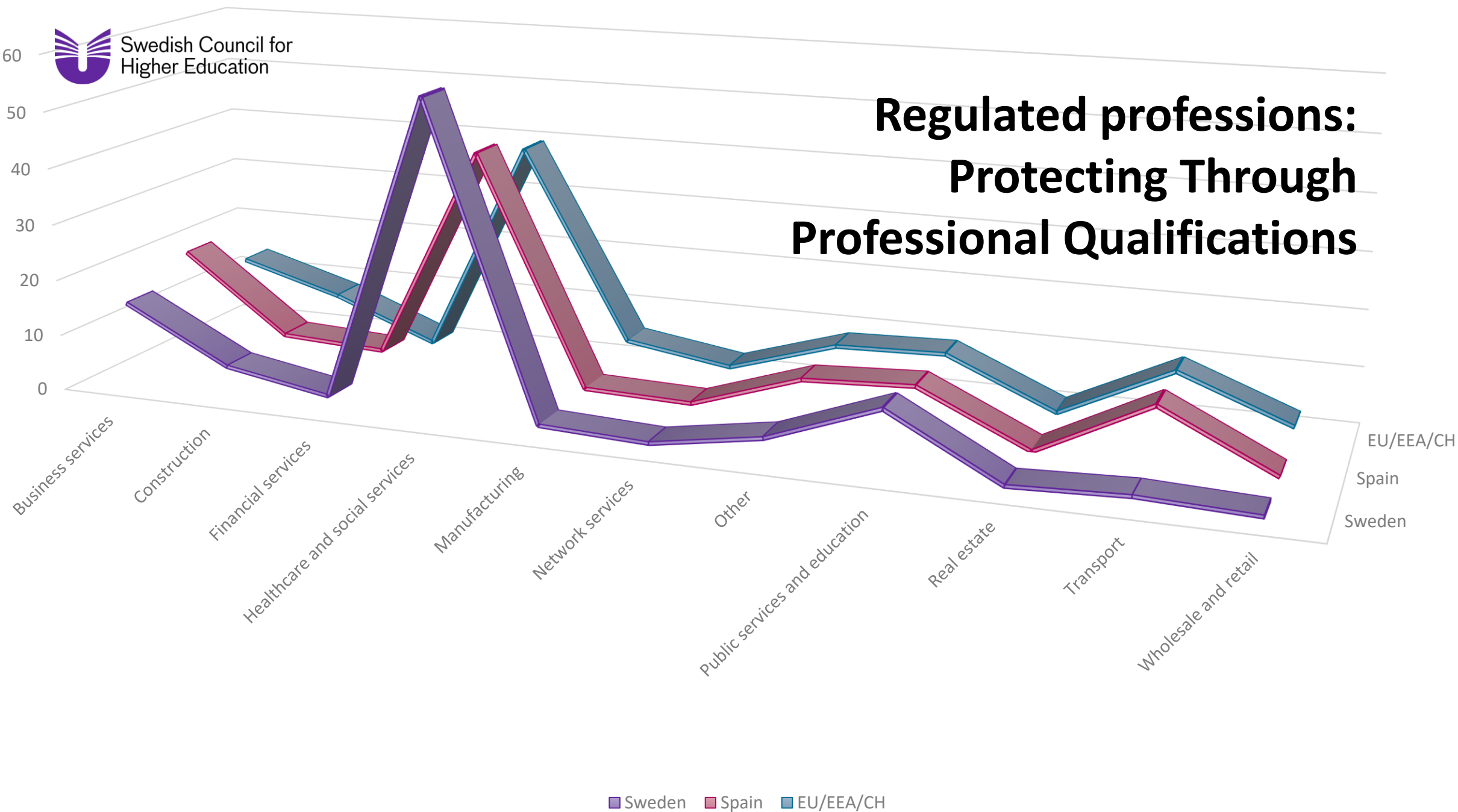


# Sweden's Experience: Connecting Mobility and Skills in Europe via Recognition of Professional Qualifications

Congreso ACREDITA 2025, Zaragoza, 26 November 2025

# Regulated professions: Protecting Through Professional Qualifications







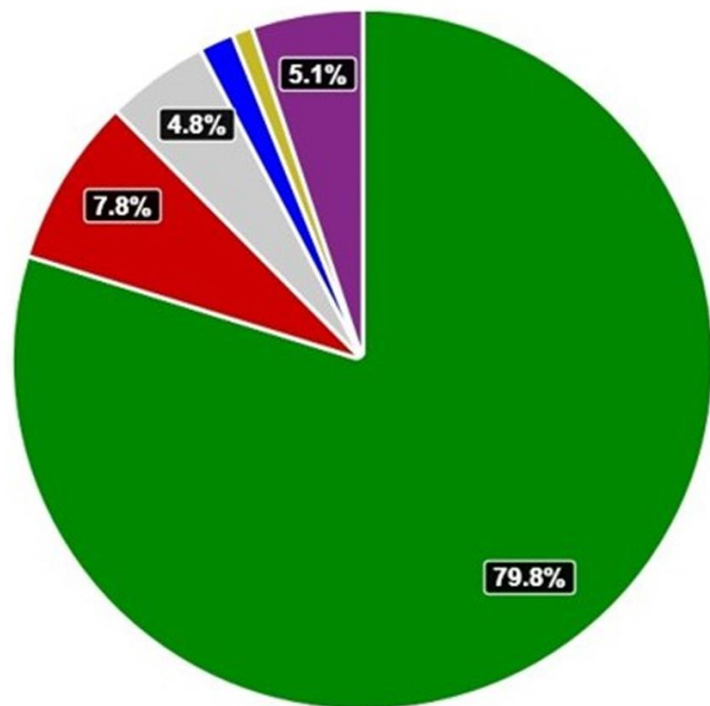
# Regulated Professions in Sweden – Key Facts

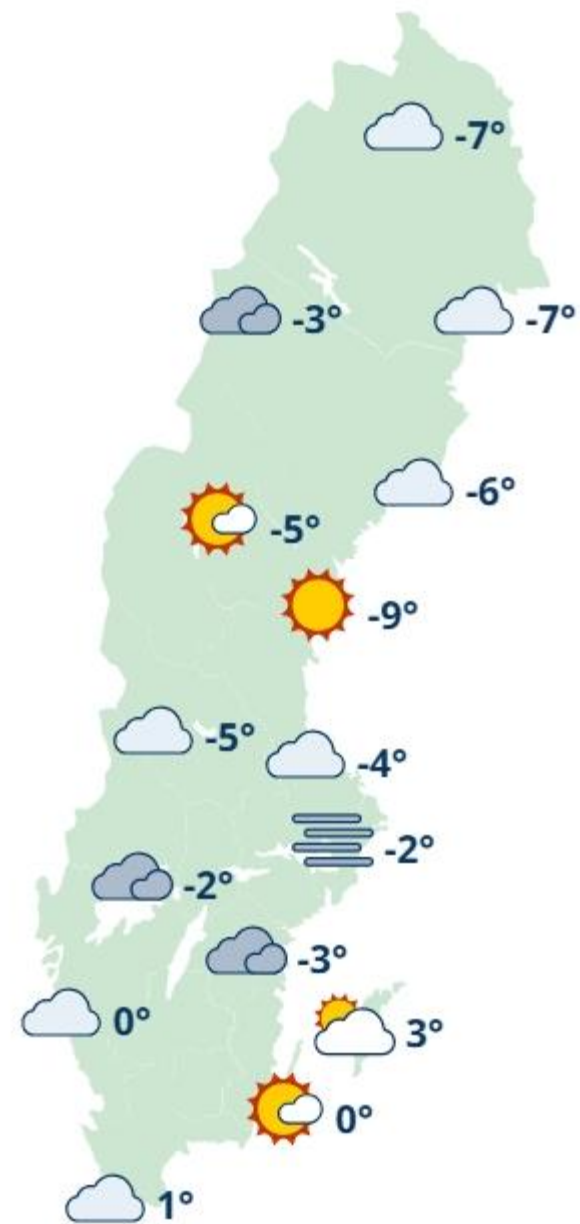
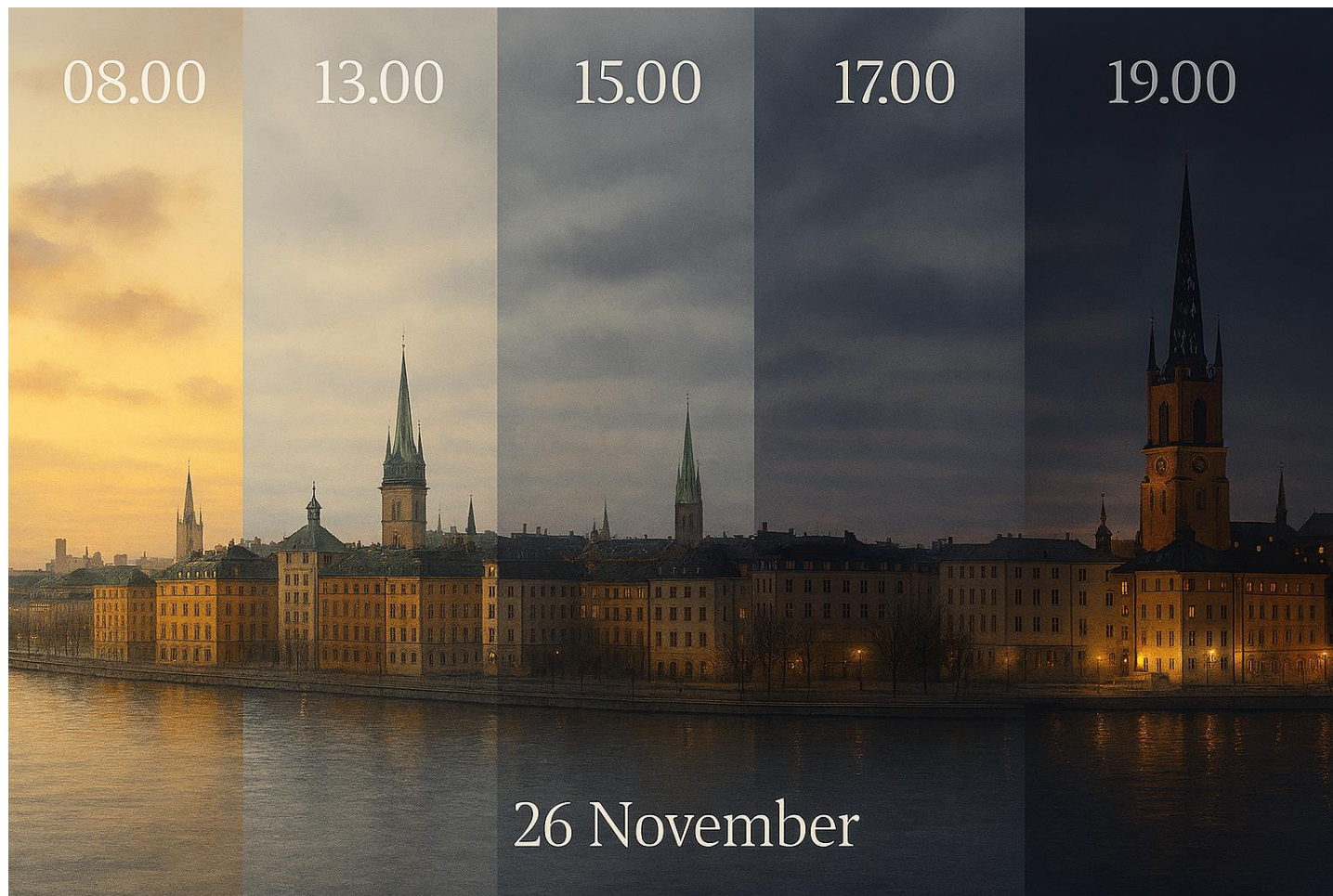
- **Healthcare & Education** – Typically academic degrees
  - Exception: Assistant Nurse - upper secondary vocational education
- **Technical & Safety Roles** – Vocational + certification/license
  - Examples: Installation electrician, blasting foremen
- **Specialized Professions**, examples:
  - Patent Attorney – Higher education + professional exam
  - Mountain Guide – Specialized vocational training + certification
- **15 Competent Authorities** oversee regulated professions and recognition
- **National Coordination Office and Assistance Centre for Professional Qualifications**
  - Supports the implementation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC) in Sweden
  - Acts as a central point for competent authorities and citizens – supporting professional recognition and mobility



# Professional Mobility – Where Do Swedish Professionals Go?

● Norway [79.8%] ● Denmark [7.8%] ● Finland [4.8%]  
● Spain [1.6%] ● Germany [0.9%]  
● All Other Countries [5.1%]







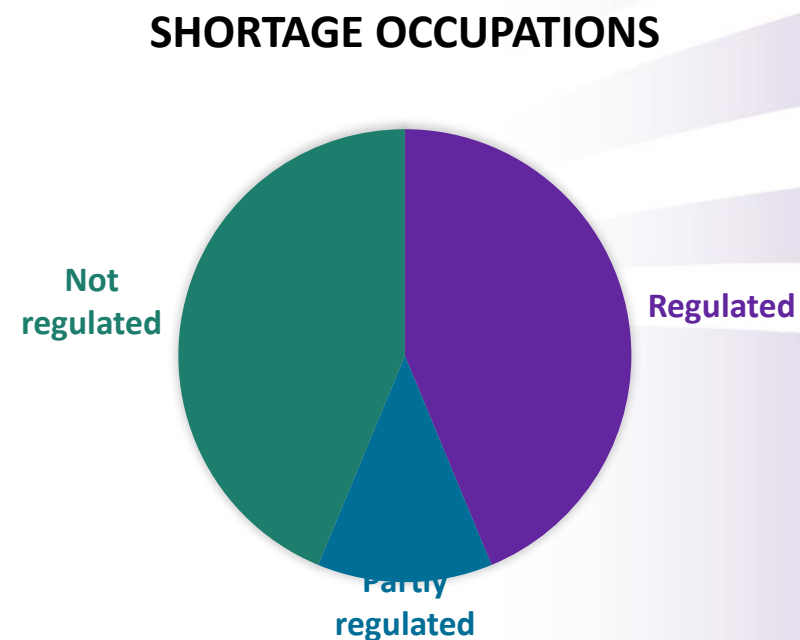
# Who Moves to Sweden from Europe?

- Age Profile: mainly young and early-career (20–40 years)
- Education Level: high share of tertiary-educated movers
- Geographic Distribution: strong concentration in urban regions
- Challenges: language barrier, housing market
- Labour-Market Outcomes: tech, healthcare, academia, hospitality/service jobs



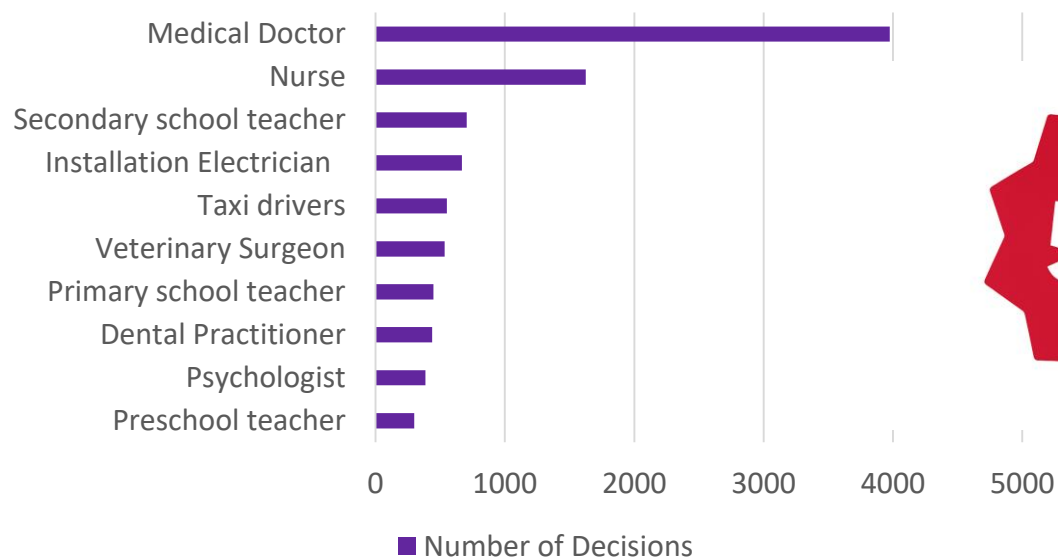
# High Demand and Shortage Occupations in Sweden

Shortage Occupations	Education Level	Regulated?
Assistant Nurse	? Vocational	🔒 Yes
Auditor	🎓 Higher	⚠️🔒 Partly
Car Mechanic	? Vocational	✗ No
Cook	? Vocational	✗ No
Dental Practitioner	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Engineer	🎓 Higher	✗ No
Installation Electrician	? Vocational	🔒 Yes
Interpreter	🎓 Higher	⚠️🔒 Partly
Machine Operator	? Vocational	✗ No
Nurse	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Preschool Teacher	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Software Developer	🎓 Higher	✗ No
Medical Doctor	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Truck Driver	? Vocational	✗ No
Vocational Subject Teacher	🎓 Higher	🔒 Yes
Welder	? Vocational	✗ No



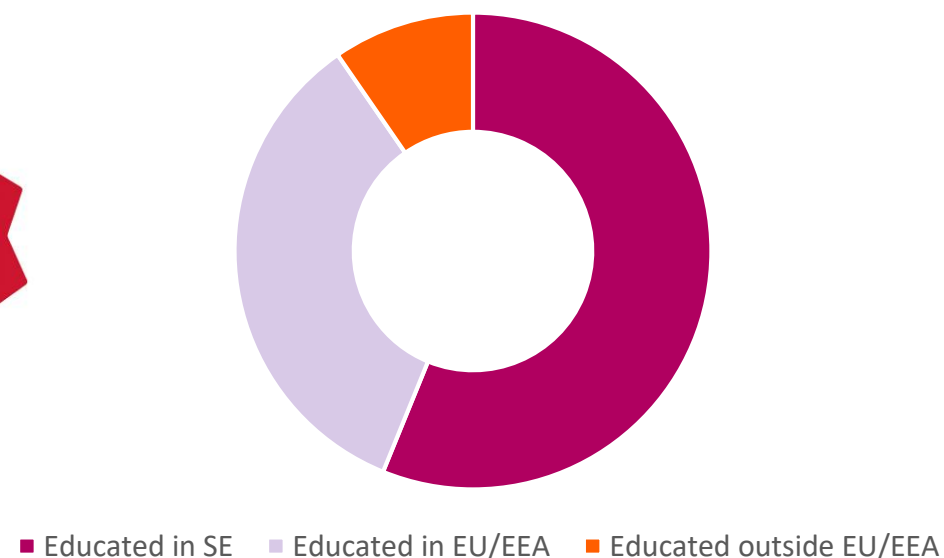
# Sweden's Skills Needs Meet Cross-Border Mobility

## Most Mobile Incoming Professions



5/10

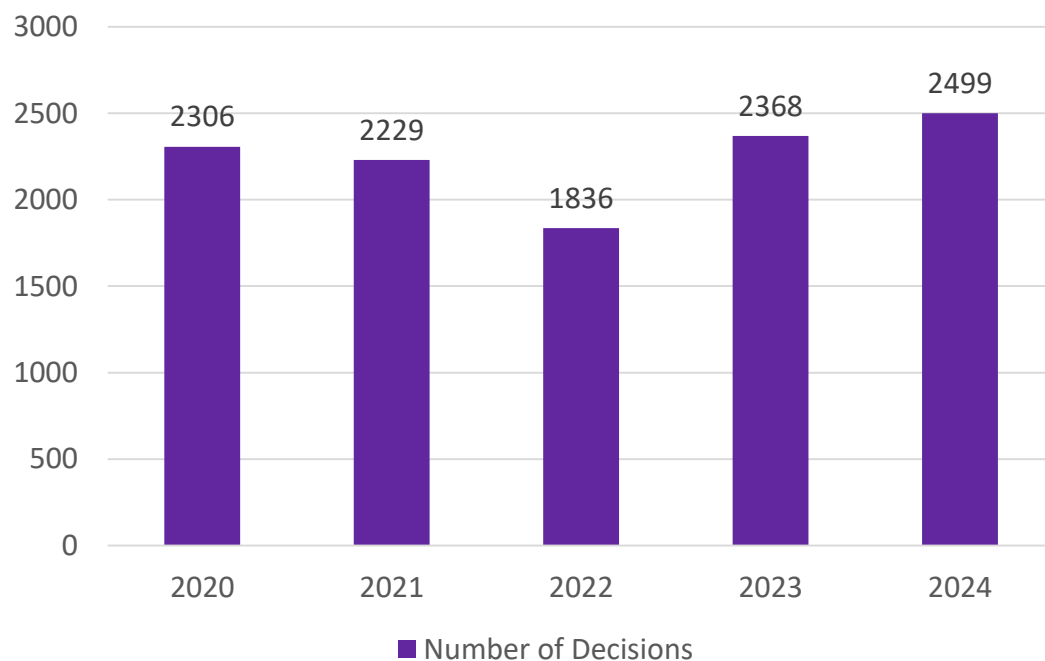
## Medical doctors licensed in Sweden



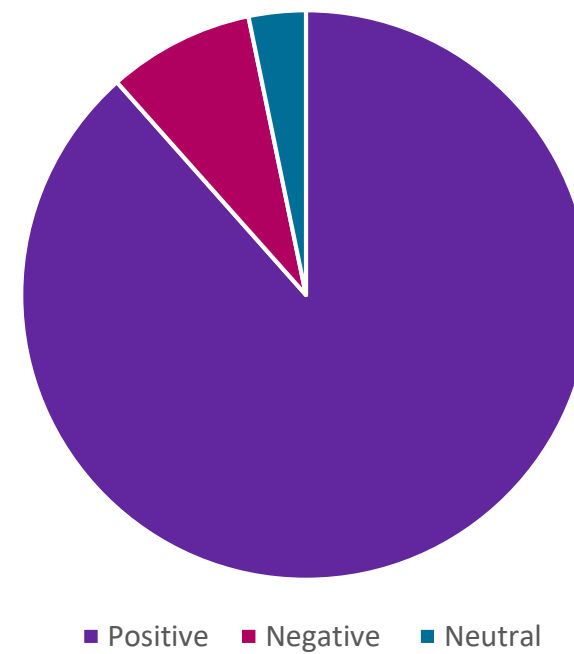


# Professional Mobility Meets Recognition in Sweden

## Number of Recognition Decisions



## Type of Recognition decisions



# Professional Recognition – Making Employment Without Borders a Reality

- Unlocks mobility
- Supports careers and work
- Essential for skills supply
- Efficient recognition of professional qualifications makes “Employment Without Borders” a reality
- Next step: Union of Skills with more automatic and digital recognition solutions







# Opportunities in Sweden: Jobs, Business & Education

- [Work in Sweden | sweden.se](https://www.sweden.se)
- [Find your new job in Sweden - Swedish public employment service - Arbetsförmedlingen](https://arbetsformedlingen.se)
- [The place for your business - verksamt.se](https://verksamt.se)
- [Validation of prior learning - Myndigheten för yrkeshögskolan](https://myndigheten-for-yrkeshogskolan.se)
- [Qualifications Assessment Tool - Swedish Council for Higher Education](https://www.hogskoleverket.se)
- [Studera.nu in English](https://studera.nu) for residents in Sweden needing study info in other languages
- [Study in Sweden - Live and learn the Swedish way 🇸🇪](https://www.studyinsweden.se) for international student planning to study in Sweden
- [Universityadmissions.se - Apply to Swedish universities](https://www.universityadmissions.se)

# Swedish Contacts & Resources under PQD 2005/36/EC

Swedish Coordination Office and Assistance Centre for  
Professional Qualifications (Professional Qualifications  
Directive 2005/36/EC)

E-mail: [ykinfo@uhr.se](mailto:ykinfo@uhr.se)

[Regulated professions list - Swedish Council for Higher  
Education](#)

[Assistance Centre for Professional Qualifications - Swedish  
Council for Higher Education](#)

PQD National Coordinators

- Natasha Österman [natalia.osterman@uhr.se](mailto:natalia.osterman@uhr.se)
- Lovisa Skeppholm [lovisa.skeppholm@uhr.se](mailto:lovisa.skeppholm@uhr.se)





# Thank you!