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Scope of Practice:

Overall Discussion about Practise in Countries with Regulated and Unregulated Scopes with a focus on Regulation of Scope within a Non-Regulated Country

by Prof. Marina Fuhrmann M.Sc., D.O.®

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## Regulated – Unregulated Countries – Example Germany

- A general survey of the European status
- Regulated and unregulated Scopes
- Examples
- Goals
- Comments

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In Europe 90 % of the countries do not have a regulation of osteopathy

No occupational legal profile exist in these countries

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EFO/FORE Memberstate	<p>Is osteopathy protected by a legal statute? Is this a medical or paramedical legal statute? In case there is no legal statute yet, is there any other form of official recognition of osteopathy (e.g. protection of the title of osteopath, or being able to register oneself as osteopath in a register set up by the professionals within private law)?</p>
Austria	No
Belgium	<p>29-04-1999: Law Colla on non-conventional healthcare in Belgium. Although not implemented yet. Medical statute. Social security reimbursement: 10 Euro (max. 50 per year) on a private basis. Trademark DO® as quality sign for professional osteopaths according to the requirements of GNRPO.</p>
Finland	<p>Official Healthcare Professionals. Medical statute. Name “osteopath” is protected. The government has VALVIRA where every healthcare practitioner is registered.</p>
France	<p>Recognized. Neither medical nor paramedical, osteopathy is in France a first line profession.</p>

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EFO/FORE Memberstate	<p>Is osteopathy protected by a legal statute? Is this a medical or paramedical legal statute? In case there is no legal statute yet, is there any other form of official recognition of osteopathy (e.g. protection of the title of osteopath, or being able to register oneself as osteopath in a register set up by the professionals within private law)?</p>
Germany	<p>No recognition. **** Title protection in the state of Hessen. Trademark DO® as quality sign for fully-trained osteopaths according to the requirements of VOD/EFO.</p>
Greece	<p>No recognition. GOA is an Association that acts as a register.</p>
Ireland	<p>No recognition.</p>
Italy	<p>No recognition.</p>
Luxemburg	<p>No recognition. The Professional Association ALDO also registers osteopaths DO trademark.</p>
Netherlands	<p>No recognition. Association NVO and register NRO. Both are looked at by a governing structure CvO. NRO registers and watches the trademark DO MRO® as a title for osteopaths.</p>

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EFO/FORE	Is osteopathy protected by a legal statute?
Memberstate	Is this a medical or paramedical legal statute? In case there is no legal statute yet, is there any other form of official recognition of osteopathy (e.g. protection of the title of osteopath, or being able to register oneself as osteopath in a register set up by the professionals within private law)?
Norway	No recognition. NOF is an association that also acts as a register.
Poland	No recognition. TOP as an association also registers.
Portugal	Recognized. Para-medical statute The Association AROP hosts a register.
Spain	No recognition. Register ROE and association APREO. Together they created a General Council (CGOE). There are other organizations, but they do not comply with the minimum level of training stated by EFO or FORE.
Sweden	No recognition. There is one association: SOF. SOF also registers. Organized within private Law.
Switzerland	Recognized. Medical statute.
United Kingdom	Recognized. The title "Osteopath" is protected. Only GOsC Registrants. Para-medical statute.

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Osteopath as a regulated profession

Example: United Kingdom

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- General Osteopathic Council guarantees quality and standards
- BOA supports the members
- Fitness to practise and related disciplinary procedures and sanctions are the main focus



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Osteopath as a non-regulated profession  
Example Germany

- Unique legal situation = Existing Law establishing the licensed Health Practitioner (first contact)

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## Status Quo in Germany

- Osteopathic education in Germany
  - Type 1 and Type 2 programs
  - Private and Academic offerings (Bachelor- and Master programs)

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- Type 1:
  - Academic programs (University of Applied Science  
- Fresenius, Idstein & others)
  - Approx. three private full time programs
- Type 2: post graduate offerings
  - 20 private schools with full and part time training with unified content and length of education
  - WPO – Osteo – state regulation in Hesse
- A diversity of other offerings

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## Bachelor- and Master Course of Studies

- Hochschule Fresenius Idstein (University of applied sciences)
- AVT-College (in Cooperation with Steinbeis-Hochschule Berlin)
- Dresden International University in Cooperation with Osteopathie Schule Deutschland, OSD

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Focus of a non-regulated country

- Development of the Profession by setting up guidelines and minimum standards
- Assurance of Patient Security
- Unification of all institutions in the field of Osteopathy

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## Activities

- Development of education and academic studies of osteopathy
- German Roundtable of Osteopathy
- Collection of signatures for the professional recognition of the Osteopath in Germany
- Preparation of legislative initiative-Lobbying

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## German Roundtable of Osteopathy

- Initiative of the VOD
- Participants include the BVO Associations of Osteopaths and DGOM as Physicians Associations
- Goal: political engagement, one voice against current threats for the profession

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## FAZIT:

- 1) Der Beruf Osteopath muss als eigenständiger Heilberuf mit Primärkontakt durch eine bundesgesetzliche Regelung anerkannt werden.
- 2) Die gesetzliche Regelung muss das für die Patientensicherheit notwendige hohe Niveau der Aus- und Weiterbildung der Osteopathen berücksichtigen.
- 3) Diese notwendige gesetzliche Regelung schließt eine Etablierung der Osteopathie als Erweiterung der Physiotherapie oder manuellen Therapie aus.

## Die Konsensgruppe Osteopathie

*Die Konsensgruppe Osteopathie wurde im Jahre 2012 gegründet, um eine einheitliche und homogene Interessenvertretung der in Deutschland ansässigen Verbände und Organisationen zu ermöglichen, die mit „einer Stimme“ Position beziehen und diese Position nach außen vertreten.*

*Jede der unterzeichnenden Organisationen steht für höchste Qualität der osteopathischen Aus- und Weiterbildung und die Etablierung der Osteopathie als Heilberuf mit Primärkontakt.*

*Die Konsensgruppe vertritt die Majorität der in Deutschland tätigen Osteopathen.*



*F. Biele*



*Gisela Puschke*



*E. Biele*



*H. Biele*



*B. Biele*



*M. Biele*



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## Campaign: Petition



ein Beruf -  
Der Osteopath  
mit Sicherheit

Immer mehr Menschen vertrauen auf die Osteopathie und ihren Osteopathen.

Doch in Deutschland gibt es den Beruf des Osteopathen nicht und die Ausbildung des Osteopathen ist nicht einheitlich geregelt...

Das gefährdet die Sicherheit der Patienten.

Daher:

Der Osteopath muss in Deutschland als eigenständiger Beruf anerkannt und die Ausbildung gesetzlich geregelt werden!


Bitte unterschreiben Sie für den Beruf des Osteopathen!

Jede Stimme zählt!

Unterschriftenlisten finden Sie in der Praxis Ihres Osteopathen.  
Oder unterzeichnen Sie online unter <http://osteopathie.de/unterschrift/>

Verband der Osteopathen Deutschland e.V. · Untere Albrechtstraße 15 · 65185 Wiesbaden  
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ein Beruf -  
Der Osteopath  
mit Sicherheit

Unterschreiben Sie für den Beruf des Osteopathen!

Name	Adresse	Unterschrift

Per Fax oder Brief an:

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Tel. 0611 - 9103661 · Fax 0611 - 9103662 · E-Mail [info@osteopathie.de](mailto:info@osteopathie.de) · [www.osteopathie.de](http://www.osteopathie.de)



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Status December, 2013:

more than 63.000 petitions are collected by  
VOD members now



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Lobbying in Berlin :Preparation of Legislative Initiative to establish the profession, Meetings with politicians on Federal and State Level



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- Thank you for your attention!