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### To Whom It May Concern

Podiatry is the modern term describing the profession that deals with the examination, diagnosis and treatment of the human foot. Indeed, the latest definition for this profession, which is a protected health profession in many countries, adopted by FIP-IFP (International Federation of Podiatrists) is:

Podiatry is that profession of **health sciences** concerned with the **research, prevention, diagnosis and treatment** of deformities, pathologies and injuries of the **foot and associated structures** – in relation with the body as well as the manifestations of systemic diseases – by all appropriate systems and technologies using scientific and professional specialised knowledge.

In the past, the term *Podologist (Podolog)* was erroneously applied to the profession in various countries; however this term is semantically incorrect since it refers to 'the study of the foot', as compared to the term *Podiatry* which means, semantically, the 'treatment of the foot'.

Podiatrists graduate with a university degree, after which post-graduate education at Master and Doctoral levels are also available in various universities across Europe.

Hence terms like *Podologist, Podolog* should not be used to describe the profession in accordance with the FIP-IFP definition, and in view to encourage harmonization of the profession between countries.

Enpodhe, as the European Network for Higher Education representing 25 Universities delivering Podiatry programmes, strongly encourages all educational organizations to adopt this terminology in order to harmonize the terms describing the profession, especially in Europe.

The curriculum presented in Romania for the Master in Podiatry is designed according to European and International criteria and is actually based on a programme that has been running for the past 15 years at the University of Malta and has been accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.



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