

# Greek bid to reform closed-shop professions

Greece is obliged to open up almost 70 closed-shop professions under the terms of its €110bn sovereign debt bail-out by the European Union and International Monetary Fund. Reforms could lead to increased productivity and lower prices equivalent to a 10% rise in real wages



**Truck drivers:** Total number of truck licences limited to 36,000. No new permits issued since 1986. Permits change hands for up to €350,000



**Pharmacists:** Practitioners are guaranteed 35% profit margin on all healthcare products



**Civil engineers:** Receive fixed percentage of capital cost of new building projects on which they work



**Lawyers:** Can only work within district in which they are licensed, limiting competition from outside a given region



**Doctors:** Hold monopoly on owning and operating private clinics that carry out medical tests. Private doctors usually work only in afternoons

**Average pension level**  
(As % of average wage, 2008)

