



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR CIVIL ENGINEERS

FERNANDO BRANCO

Antalya 2011



- EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF CIVIL ENGINEERS



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

PART I

PAST ECCE WORK



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

THE DOCUMENT

**THE CIVIL
ENGINEERING
CHARTER**

2008



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



European Council
of
Civil Engineers

“Carta dos Engenheiros Cívís”, aprovada na reunião de 24 de Maio de 2008, em Bka, do ECCE (“European Council of Civil Engineers”).

CIVIL ENGINEERING CHARTER

1. A civil engineer is a professional, academically educated and practice-oriented who uses his scientific, technical and other pertinent knowledge to perform, with others, civil engineering acts, aiming to contribute to a sustainable world, with a better quality of life.
2. Examples of civil engineer acts are:
 - At planning/design phase:
 - Structural design;
 - Building and other structures planning/design;
 - Tunneling and ground solutions design;
 - Roads and other communication infrastructures planning/design;
 - Water and sanitary infrastructures planning/design;
 - River, coastal and offshore infrastructures planning/design;
 - Urban and environment planning/design;
 - Safety planning.
 - During construction of buildings and infrastructures:
 - Technical supervision;
 - Construction and demolition management and supervision;
 - Materials production;
 - Safety, health and environment management.
 - During operation and maintenance of buildings and infrastructures:
 - Building investments management;
 - Inspection, maintenance and repair;
 - Operation and decommissioning management.
 - In general:
 - Research and teaching civil engineering;
 - Project and design management.
3. The civil engineer's knowledge is obtained from academic studies, professional experience and continuous professional development.
4. Based on the civil engineer's knowledge, the acts that each civil engineer should perform may be defined in each country by a national institution, where appropriate.

*Approved at the 4th ECCE Meeting
Bka, 24 May 2008*



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

THE DOCUMENT **PROFESSIONAL** **RECOGNITION** **RECOMENDATION**

2009



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



**ECCE
PROFESSIONAL
RECOGNITION
RECOMMENDATION**

LJUBLJANA, 2009



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

**I – COMMON PLATFORM
DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT**

**II – PARTIAL RECOGNITION, A
SOLUTION FOR REGULATED
COUNTRIES**

**III – ECCE CARD ASSOCIATED
WITH CHAMBERS**



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

THE DOCUMENT **PROFESSIONAL** **RECOGNITION** **PROCEDURES** **IN EUROPE**

2010



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

 European Council
of
Civil Engineers

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION & MOBILITY

**PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION
PROCEDURES
IN EUROPE**

November 2010



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

**I - HOW TO GET
PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**

**II – CIVIL ENGINEERING
LEVELS**



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

PART II

THE REVISION OF EU DIRECTIVE ON MOBILITY

2011-12



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

STEPS:

1. Kick off meeting - **done**
(29th October 2010)
2. Study about impact of educational reforms
(end of the year – till august 2011) – **going on**
3. Public Consultation - **done**
(end of 2010 – March 2011)
4. Green paper (autumn 2011) - **done**
5. Legislative proposal (2012)



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1. KICK OFF MEETING



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BRUSSELS MEETING 29TH OCTOBER

Jurgen Tiede – Unit of Professional Qualifications

**- 100 PARTICIPANTS
FROM MANY PROFESSIONS**

- ECCE, ECEC, AEEBC, FEANI?



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TEMPORARY MOBILITY

Temporary Mobility – ECCE considers that mobility through the concept of temporary mobility is useful for Civil Engineers.

Nevertheless it is frequently difficult to define the meaning of “temporary” as a construction work may vary from few months to some years.

So ECCE suggests that this type of mobility is associated to “temporary” and/or **“to a specific work limited in time”**.



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COMMON PLATFORM

Common Platform – Due to the big variety of the types of Civil Engineers existing in Europe (see enclosed Report) ECCE considers that the concept of a Common Platform for recognition/mobility of Civil Engineers **is very difficult to be implemented.**



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PROFESSIONAL CARD

Professional Card – ECCE thinks that the concept of this card associated to a **electronic certificate of the engineer curriculum** may be useful.

Nevertheless details of it must be more deeply discussed. Some aspects were referred, namely:

The electronic data base should be controlled by the chamber to which the engineer originally belongs;

The amount of information in the data base should be agreed by each chamber.



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2. IMPACT OF EDUCATIONAL REFORMS



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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General Internal Market and Services
KNOWLEDGE BASED ECONOMY
Professional qualifications

Brussels, 13 DEC. 2010
MARKT/D/EDCS/ (2010) 1032917

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Subject: Study evaluating the Professional Qualifications Directive against recent educational reforms in EU Member States

The European Commission Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services has commissioned GHK Consulting Ltd to carry out a study evaluating the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC) against recent educational reforms in EU Member States.

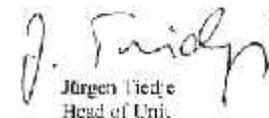
The study will facilitate the evaluation of Directive 2005/36/EC in the light of a number of important reforms, namely: the Bologna process; the "Tuning" project; and the development of national qualifications frameworks linked to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), including the Framework for Qualifications in European Higher Education (FQ-EHEA). It will look at whether these reforms are affecting and could improve the recognition of professional qualifications regulated by Directive 2005/36/EC. It will also examine whether certain aspects of these policies should be incorporated into the acquis on professional qualifications.

Through this letter we would like to inform you about the study and kindly request your assistance in participating in an interview with a member of the GHK team or in providing information for this research. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

The study will be undertaken from December 2010 to September 2011. It includes surveys (with ministries and competent authorities), focus groups and detailed case studies focusing on a sample of eight professions. It will also include analysis of trends to identify economic sectors and related regulated professions for which quicker and easier (or even automatic) recognition would be most beneficial in future.

If you have any further questions regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact Emmanuelle Du Châlard (email: emmanuelle.du-chalar@ec.europa.eu) or Corinne Guicicelli (email: corinne.guicicelli@ec.europa.eu) at DG Internal Market and Services.

Yours sincerely,


Jürgen Tiedt
Head of Unit



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**SKYPE VIDEO CONFERENCE
ABOUT BOLOGNA AND
PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**



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3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION



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European Council
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COMMENTS ABOUT CIVIL ENGINEERING PROFESSION

1. The scope of activities for which civil engineers are prepared varies substantially across Europe;
2. The academic education that leads to civil engineers varies substantially across Europe;
3. The profession is regulated totally or partially in most of the European countries;
4. The practice of the profession needs the knowledge of the language and of the technical codes of the host country.

CONSULTATION PAPER BY DG INTERNAL MARKET AND SERVICES ON THE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS DIRECTIVE

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions for further improving citizen's access to information on the recognition processes for their professional qualification in another Member State?



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Question 6: Do you see a need to include the case-law on “partial access” into the Directive?

1. ...**compensation measures**. They could be **avoided** awarding the” partial access”
2. Some **countries** (usually with regulated profession) **included already** this concept in the Directive
3. .. allows a **quicker recognition** for situations where the civil engineer has a **specialized academic education**
4. For other countries, this question is **still to be discussed**.



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Question 11: What are your views about the objectives of a European professional card?

1. The professional card can **not be the only document** of the professional recognition.
2. The European card could always be a **connection with** the professional data base and should be emitted by that **chamber**.
3. This concept increases **transparency and confidence**, but it does **not** allow **automatic recognition**..
4. The card will have no value and usefulness without **cooperation between the Member States**.



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Question 18: How could the current declaration regime be simplified,?
Is it necessary to clarify the terms “temporary or occasional”?

1. Temporary recognition it is more realistic to be

“recognition for a specific task” (construction work or design).

In this profession the word “Time” is very variable.

So both ideas should be considered.



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**COMMON PLATFORM
DID NOT APPEAR IN THE INQUIRY**



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**- RESULT FROM INQUIRY
JULY 2011**

371 responses



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Partial access

Almost no competent authorities, professional organisations and governments see the need for including the principle of partial access in the Directive.

On the contrary, citizens are more divided on this idea.

Some governments stress that it is necessary to define the precise criteria for the application of this principle. They consider that this principle should apply only where a profession can be easily divided into separate tasks.



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II.2.1 A European Professional Card

A large majority of stakeholders within all the categories are **in favour** of a professional card.

According to some respondents, the card should be issued at **EU level**, while others consider that this should be up to the **national competent authorities**.

As to the effects of the card, some respondents state that it could be **useful for temporary mobility** and that it could replace the declaration system.

On the other hand, some respondents consider that it could not **replace the evidence of formal qualifications** and other checks performed by competent authorities in the context of formal recognition procedures for establishment.

Many respondents consider that the card should be **linked to the IMI** and that the IMI should be strengthened.



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

II.2.1 A European Professional Card

As to the information that should be on the card, some of the most frequently mentioned features include: **photograph, nationality, name, professional and academic qualifications, contact details, diploma, CV, professional experience, trainings.**



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II.2.1 A European Professional Card

A large majority of respondents prefers to call the instrument "**European professional card**" instead of other names, such as professional passport.



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II.2.4 Easier temporary mobility

At the same time, a large majority of respondents within all categories considers that **it is necessary to clarify what "temporary and occasional"** provision of services means, since this determines the applicable legal regimes.



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II.2.2 Common platforms & European curricula

Many governments favour the idea of introducing the concept of a **European Curriculum** as a kind of 28th regime which would exist alongside national requirements.

On the contrary, competent authorities and citizens express reservations.



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**-GROUP ON
PROFESSIONAL CARD**



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Joachim Jobi **European Council of Engineering Chambers (ECEC)**

Dirk Bochar **European Engineers Federation (FEANI)**

Zuzanna Raskova **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Czech Republic**

Manuela Ronzitti **Ministry of Justice, Italy**

Gunnar Zillmann **Ministry of Economy and Technology, Germany**

Theodoros Koutroubas **European Council of Liberal Professions (CEPLIS)**

Kevin Sheridan **Association of European Building Surveyors, Ireland**

Albena Vlaykova **European Commission**



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- The majority would support that the card should enable an **accelerated procedure for recognition**
- a “**professional mobility card**” and not a “passport”.
- determination of who is the “**competent authority**” in those countries where the engineering profession is semi- or not regulated.



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PROFESSIONAL MOBILITY CARD: ILLUSTRATION OF THE POSSIBLE FUNCTIONING

1 Step 1: **Home Country**

Uploads the documents in IMI (if sent by email) Checks and validates the documents available in IMI

2 Creates a professional mobility card

3 Step 2: **in the host MS**

Checks the documents in IMI (automatic translation)

4 Grants recognition - Validates the card and makes it available for the professional



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Conditions of use:

- ***This card is valid only in combination with an identity card or a passport.***
- ***Check the validity of this card online using the card number and the security code at:***
http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/imi-net/professionalpass/checking.html

PROFESSIONAL MOBILITY CARD

ISSUED BY:

Home Member State:

Competent Authority (contact details):

Date:

VALIDATED BY:

Host Member State:

Competent Authority (contact details):



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**- GREEN PAPER
JUNE 2011**



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Question 1: Do you have any comments on the respective roles of the **competent authorities** in the Member State of departure and the receiving Member State?

Question 2: Do you agree that a **professional card** could have the following effects, depending on the card holder's objectives?

- a) The **card holder moves on a temporary basis** (temporary mobility):
- b) The **card holder seeks automatic recognition of his qualifications**: presentation of the card would accelerate the recognition procedure (receiving Member State should take a decision within two weeks instead of three months).
- c) The **card holder seeks recognition of his qualifications which are not subject to automatic recognition** (the general system): presentation of the card would accelerate the recognition procedure (receiving Member State would have to take a decision within one month instead of four months).



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Question 3: Do you agree that there would be important advantages to inserting the **principle of partial access and specific criteria** for its application into the Directive? (Please provide specific reasons for any derogation from the principle.)

For example, an engineer specialised in hydraulics in one Member State who wishes to work in a Member State where his activities are performed by more broadly qualified engineers who also deal with roads, channels and ports, might be able to gain partial access to the profession in the host Member State. He would only be authorised to perform activities relating to hydraulics



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Question 6: Would you support an obligation for Member States to ensure that information on the competent authorities and the required documents for the recognition of professional qualifications is available through a **central on line access point in each Member State?**

Would you support an obligation to enable online completion of recognition procedures for all professionals? (Please give specific arguments for or against this approach).



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NEXT STEPS:

- ANSWER TO INQUIRY
- DIRECTIVE PROPOSAL



- EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF CIVIL ENGINEERS