



Horizontal Coordination – Safeguarding Design Quality

Meeting of ACE PQD-PPE-CPD, SoS/L+I and RQI Work Groups

9-10 May 2016, Lisbon

Conclusions: Recommendations for action and aim – Date: 20 May 2016

Reasons – political / practical approaches

Why is “Safeguarding Design Quality” important?

Value of Design

- Panel to include DE, DK, ES, FR, IRL, PT
- Does ACE stand for architects as predominantly liberal professionals?
Definition: Adams' Case – European Court of Justice (ECJ), Professor Henssler for European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), European Council of the Liberal Professions (CEPLIS)
→ IDP to send Liberal Profession definitions to RB
- UIA paper – for Seoul Congress (for further discussion)
- ACE takes the lead on the development of this study
- DG CULTURE – creative sub-programme – bids for September
It could relate to Value project and also Entrepreneurship
→ Secretariat submit materials to RB and IN

Additional consideration:

- Do not over simplify or dumb down the approach
- Pick up elements of work from other areas – as many strands as we can.

Aim (political):

- ACE survey – For Architecture as well as Architects
- Main interest is in the way “Value of Design” is understood and measured
- Develop arguments for COM, MEPs etc. to underline different political positions of ACE
→ Coordinate horizontally over the three areas of ACE by RB
→ Located in Area 3 – Responsible Architecture

In which systems do architects work?

Regulatory Systems

- Better understanding of differences between various regulatory models (DE, ES, FI, IRL, UK)
- how to aggregate ex ante – and ex post regulations (evaluate whole systems)
- Historical approaches have situated control at different levels
- 5 countries – as examples for Regulation and needed for the Economic Study
- Gather all the information ACE can provide to help develop the Economic Study

Aim (political):

- Evaluate the whole regulatory requirements, resist cherry picking.



In which aspects of the system is ACE working?

1. Professional Qualification Directive (PQD)

Professional Traineeship Article 46

- Promote models of good practice in the delivery of professional traineeship
- Identify and promote commonalities
- Up-date ACE political position on “The need of traineeships in Architecture, 2012”

Aim (political):

- Prepare for the review of the PQD (Revision approximately 2017)
- Advocate 5 + 2 (political issue) evaluation in 2017 review
- Show that 4+2 can work.
- Look at curriculum assessment
- Set out benefits of having a higher threshold – (and international benchmark) including the argument that regulation boosts cross border competition (and mobility) by increasing consumer confidence in professionals from other Member States.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Article 22b

- ACE CPD Benchmark Study
- Set of key questions: x 8 (see report)
- Encourage the Member Organisations (MOs) of ACE to answer the questionnaire and seek the participation of colleagues in the European Network of Architects Competent Authorities (ENACA)

Aim (for now practical):

- Understand and get an overview of what the requirements are in the Member States – so we can take the lead in discussions on this area
- Encourage the MOs of ACE to join the ACE CPD Register
- Encourage Architects to stay ahead and up to date on CPD
- Facilitate cross-border work, and provide information on the website

2. Service Directive SIM

Article 23 Professional liability insurance and guarantees

Insurance policy

Aim (political):

- Develop political position further
- Advocate the political position towards COM

Insurance Fact Sheets

- Prototypes of the Fact Sheets have been prepared
- This information had not previously been collected / published
- All invited to check, correct and submit responses

Aim (practical):

- Provide information for architects and MOs in EU on ACE web site



- Facilitate cross-border work

International Insurance Policies Portal - Groupement Européen pour l'Assurance des Architectes et des Concepteurs (GEAAC)

- Picks up the doubts raised by the COM and expressed by stakeholders;
For example: Long processing times when responding to applications – reaction time inside GEAAC-members: max. 72 h
- It is considered to be the first portal that deals with the problems of architects when they provide cross-border work and finds practical solutions

Aim (practical):

- Provide information for architects and facilitate cross-border work

Next steps:

- Present the complete package on Insurance (Policy, Fact Sheets, International Insurance Policies Portal) to the EB in June with a view to seeking support
- Present at December GA
- Prepare a Press Release

In which other aspects is ACE working?

1. Accreditation

- ACE Review of Accreditation procedures
- Encourage the MOs of ACE to answer the questionnaire x 8 questions

Aim (practical/political):

- Understand and get an overview of the accreditation procedures operating in the EU
- Knowledge is valuable for our automatic recognition system under the PQD and for the discussions in association with Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

2. Ethics & Trust

- ACE Deontological Code
- small adjustments to the Code after the General Assembly (GA) in Berlin

Aim:

- Issue to MOs
- Discuss at June Executive Board (EB) to decide what we will do politically (e.g. whether to send to the COM as an example of a “voluntary convergence measure” (cf. art. 37 of the SIM Directive).

3. Entrepreneurship

- A concept is being developed



- An outline of work to be undertaken was presented – how to upskill the profession (through Education, Traineeship or CPD?). consider development of CPD Module e.g. for Export
- Encourage network for export agencies
- Monitor COM “Start-up” initiative for SMEs

Aim (practical):

- Upskilling – to improve the competitiveness of EU architects
- Engage with European Commission programmes regarding the acquisition of business and entrepreneurship skills
- Develop assistance for Export

4. Building Permits

- Develop brief note for EB regarding ECORYS study and consider whether to develop a position on Building Permits.
- Contact allied construction bodies / communities

5. Communication

- Set up online way of sharing information (background documents from ACE like Studies, COM etc.)
- Member Only section not public (also Sector Study, National Reports)

Actions taken by the European Commission

EU Commission is very clever at using the two key pieces of legislation such as the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD) and the Services Directive (SIM) to circumvent objections and to target the liberal profession in a random way. These two pieces of European legislation have become almost like a “Magna Carta”.

Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD)

Mutual evaluation of regulated professions – Peer Review report

- IDP described ACE problems relating to the report
- Attend event: Reforming Regulation of professions, 18. May 2016, Brussels
- MOs to contact with National Coordinators about this and criticise national errors

Services Directive (SIM)

Single Market Strategy (SMS)

- Compare COM Roadmap with ACE Roadmap
- ACE has commented to Bienkowska and staff
- ACE also submitted comments on the Dalton and Comi report (MEPs)
- Drafting changes were achieved by BAK through DE Shadow Rapporteurs.

Aim of ACE:

- Encourage MOs to contact National Coordinators, MEPs
- Advocate ACE policies towards MEPs especially in the committees (Internal Market and Consumer Protection IMCO / International Trade INTA)