

Ankara, 4 May 2009
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Letter of Support from the Chamber of Architects of Turkey for the Statement of the Czech Chamber of Architects

Regarding a Motion of Hana Orgoníková, Member of Parliament, which modifies Act no. 360/1992 Coll. on the Professional Practice of Certified Architects and on the Professional Practice of Certified Engineers and Technicians Active in Construction.

We have felt the necessity to write a letter supporting the position of Czech Chamber of Architects towards the aforementioned motion. Please kindly welcome the views and suggestions in this letter with our awareness that we should our profession as a universal one and that we should work for its improvement not only nationally but internationally.

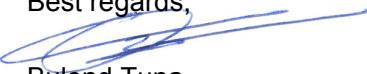
In our country, as it's also a widely accepted fact in Europe, we believe in the importance of well definition of professions and their respective regulatory bodies. In Turkey, professions of architecture and civil engineering are very well and separately defined in terms of their education, authority and responsibility. There are two separate chambers responsible for registration and regulation of these two separate professions.

The qualifications, authorization to practice and responsibility issues should always be handled very sensitively in professions such as architects, civil engineers and others who take part in the creation of the built environment, because they are directly related with public interest.

In these terms, we would like to express our worries to hear that now with this recent motion in the Czech Republic, Chamber of Certified Engineers and Technicians Active in Development will be authorized to issue certificates in the field of "architecture and civil engineering". This means to create an ambiguity in the boundaries between the fields of architects, engineers and technicians, as well as between their registration and regulatory bodies. This is very dangerous because those certificate holders, who are not qualified with proper architectural education as defined in the EU Qualifications Directive, will have the title of "architecture" in their certificates and this will create a confusion in the eyes of public.

Therefore, as a professional organization in a neighbouring geographical location with the Czech Republic, we would like to support the position of the Czech Chamber of Architects for the amending of the motion. We believe that this will lead to a positive result both for architects and public interest in the Czech Republic.

Best regards,


Butend Tuna
President