



ENGINEERS CHAMBER OF MONTENEGRO

President Ljubo Dušanov Stjepčević

Bul. Džordža Vašingtona 31

Podgorica

ljubod@ikcg.co.me

biserka.vujovic@ikcg.co.me

ing.komora@t-com.me

Re.: Public Authorization Engineers Chamber of Montenegro

Dear Mr. Stjepčević,

as an active participant in the meeting of Engineers Chambers of South Eastern Europe, which was organized by the Chamber of Engineers of Montenegro, held in Kotor from 8 to 10 April 2010, out of introductory speeches I came to conclusion that in your country there were some changes in the legal regulations, which relate to the public authorization of Montenegrin Chamber of Engineers to issue licenses to engineers involved in making planning documents, preparation of technical documentation and building construction.

My opinion is that such a relocation of authorization from the frame of the Chamber of Engineers is directly related to the determination of rights of the work of engineers engaged in this activity. The ECEC is of the opinion that it is very important that the profession is involved in the procedure of licencing / professional recognition of Chartered Engineers and that any decision about compliance with licencing requirements has to be based on an expertise from the Chamber. Additionally it is very clear that European institutions as well as the European legislation underline the importance of the work of professional Chambers to secure quality in services throughout Europe.

For example Art. 37 (1) of the Directive on Services in the Internal Market (2006/123/EC) clearly considers professional bodies as the most important partners in drawing up European codes of conduct, which are seen as a very important mean to secure quality of services in the internal market. Also in the "Working document of the Commission: "Quality of services – the role of European codes of conduct" from 17 December 2007 the European Commission states that "One of the less well-known and yet essential features of the Services Directive is the chapter dealing with quality of services, which aims at ensuring the high quality of services by encouraging, among other things, self-regulation ..." The paper makes it absolutely clear, that the Commission not only regards the work of Chambers as self regulating bodies as safeguard of quality of services in the internal market, but even wants to encourage self regulation, where it is not installed yet.

President's office Vienna: President Josef Robl, Karlsgasse 9/2, 1040 Vienna, Austria, e-mail: ecec@arching.at, Tel: +43 1 505 58 07, Fax: +43 1 5053211

ECEC Secretariat Athens: Secretary General Efstathios Tsegos, 4, Nikis Street, 10248 Athens, Greece, e-mail: ececsecretariat@central.tee.gr, Tel: +30 210 3291608, 210 3291366; Fax: +30 210 3291614

The internal market of services is only going to function if it is possible to keep up a certain level of quality throughout Europe. Especially for services like those of Chartered Engineers, which highly influence environment, health, safety and living conditions of people, it is extremely important to guarantee that all necessary steps are taken to ensure that these services are supplied with a certain level of quality. One of these steps is to guarantee that licensing decisions are taken by professional experts.

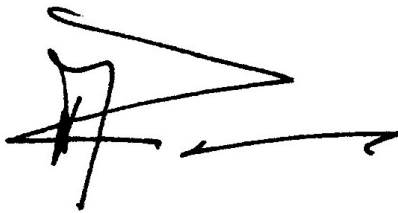
Therefore the involvement of professional Chambers in the licensing procedures is essential

Bearing in mind the solutions that are defined in the legislation of European countries, I think that it is necessary to take all needed actions toward the competent state body that deals with these matters to give the Chamber back the jurisdiction in determining the compliance with licensing requirements for engineers that work on planning, design and construction.

I also propose that my suggestions, which also represent the state and commitment of the Executive Board of the ECEC, are sent to the competent state authority as our opinion and support in solving the above problem as the matter of status of engineering profession united in your Chamber.

I wish success in work to the Engineers Chamber of Montenegro and that you get the support of the competent authorities to find the highest quality solutions in terms of these problems.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'R' followed by a horizontal line and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Josef Robl
President of ECEC

2 July 2010

President's office Vienna: President Josef Robl, Karlsgasse 9/2, 1040 Vienna, Austria, e-mail: ecec@arching.at, Tel: +43 1 505 58 07, Fax: +43 1 5053211

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