

Mutual Recognition of Profession Qualifications

Professor Frances Plimmer
United Kingdom

Background

- Globalisation of professional services;
- Surveying profession is fragmented;
- Vital need for surveying skills;
- Global challenges need a global profession to respond;
- Free movement of professionals;
- Process achieved by mutual recognition.

Principles of Mutual Recognition

- Access to professional qualifications;
- Relies on commonalty of:
 - Professional activities;
 - Content of professional education; and
 - Level of professional education.
- Ignores process of professional education;
- Relies on outcome ie professional qualification.

Requires:

- Degree-level (bac + 3 min.) entry;
- Regulation of profession in Host country;
- Corresponding profession;
- Adaptation mechanism;
- Willingness in Host country to accept principle of mutual recognition.

Underlying principles:

- No unnecessary barriers to trade in services;
- Based on objective and transparent criteria;
- Not more burdensome than necessary;
- Licensing procedures should not restrict supply of services.

FIG promotes mutual recognition by:

- Encouraging communication;
- Developing a methodology;
- Supporting professional organisations;
- Working with external organisations.

Drivers:

- Globalisation;
- Legislative pressure;
- Demand of membership;
- Recruitment.

Barriers

- Local nature of professional education;
- Lack of bureaucratic enthusiasm;
- Fragmented profession;
- Language and culture.

Alternatives:

- Harmonisation;
- International certification;
- Reciprocity Agreements.

Professional Associations:

- Define "corresponding profession";
- Investigate applications for membership;
- Preliminary interview;
- Adaptation mechanism;
- Ensure transparency and equal treatment;
- Communicate and exchange information.

Conclusions

- Mutual Recognition relies on:
 - Willingness to respect principle of free movement;
 - Mutual trust;
 - Comparability of level of university studies;
 - Nature and competencies of surveying.
- FIG policy is:
 - Simple and practical
 - Achievable and realistic.

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