



# Report from Brussels 1/2012

## 1. Common Market and Legal Issues

### 1.1 Professional Qualifications Directive – state of play

On April 25, the IMCO-Committee of the European Parliament held an expert hearing on the amendment of the PQD. The experts detailed on partial qualification and access, data protection issues in the context of administrative cooperation and the use of the European professional card. The ppt-presentations of all experts present at the hearing can be accessed [here](#).

More information about PQD you got by several reports and you can find in the member area of EFLA.

### 1.2 Public Procurement

On March 20, the IMCO-Committee of the European Parliament held an expert hearing on the amendment of the Public Procurement Directives. The ppt-presentations of all experts present at the hearing can be accessed [hier](#) .  
(you have to select the language you want)

### 1.3. Judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Union (COJ) on public procurement

On 15 March 2012 the COJ pronounced a judgment (case C-574/10) on the calculation of the thresholds for EU-wide calls for tenders. The court states that architects' services concerning the same building project have to be added even if they have been contracted in different contracts. Thus, the COJ now applies the criteria of technical and economic unity not only for construction services but also for architects' services.

Judgement of European Court from 15. march 2012 (Az. C-574/10) you find [hier](#). (you have to select the language you want)

For Architect- and engineers services now the limit is normally 200.000 € (netto -contract value). The actual limit values you can find on your national laws. The following webpage shows the german directive: [http://www.bgbl.de/Xaver/text.xav?bk=Bundesanzeiger\\_BGBI&start=%2F%2F\\*\[%40attr\\_id%3D%27bgbl112s0488.pdf%27\]&wc=1&skin=WC](http://www.bgbl.de/Xaver/text.xav?bk=Bundesanzeiger_BGBI&start=%2F%2F*[%40attr_id%3D%27bgbl112s0488.pdf%27]&wc=1&skin=WC)

In another judgment on public procurement of 29 March 2012 (case C-599/10) the COJ clarifies the obligations of the public authorities in a restricted tendering procedure. The contracting public authority has to request explanation from a tenderer when the tender appears to contain an abnormally low price. In contrast to this, the public authority will not have to ask for clarification if the tender is imprecise or does not comply with the technical requirements of the tender specifications.



#### 1.4 **European Court concretises duties of public applicants at not public procurements**

Judgement of European Court from 29. March 2012 (Az. C-599/10) you find [hier](#).  
(you have to select the language you want)

#### 1.5 **Exemption of micro-enterprises from publication of annual accounts**

The directive of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union of 14 March 2012 allows EU member states to exempt micro-enterprises from the publication of annual accounts. Micro-enterprises are companies which do not exceed the limits of two of the following criteria: a balance sheet total of EUR 350.000, a net turnover of EUR 700.000, ten employees.

Directive 2012/6/EU from 14. March 2012 you find [here](#).

### 2. **Energy and Environment**

#### 2.1 Energy efficiency directive

On February 28 the ITRE committee has voted on the report on the energy efficiency directive. Changes have been made in respect of finding a compromise between the member states and the Parliament such as the deletion of mandatory European energy efficiency targets. However, it was underlined by the committee to keep the overall aim of primary energy savings of 20%.

#### 2.2 Energy Roadmap 2050

At their informal meeting on April 19 and 20, the EU Energy Ministers gave their agreement to the Energy Roadmap 2050 published by the European Commission in December last year. Additionally, the ongoing negotiations on the energy efficiency policy and measures for a revival of the European emissions trading were on the agenda. The Energy Roadmap 2050 shows in different ways in which the CO2 emissions of the European energy sector by 2050 can be reduced by 85%.

### 3. **Sustainability**

#### 3.1 Following the Cohesion Policy proposals of October 6, and to help Member States prepare for the next programming period, the Commission presented on March 14 the "Common Strategic Framework" (CSF). It is intended to help in setting strategic direction for the next financial planning period from 2014 to 2020 in Member States and their regions. It will enable a far better combining of various funds to maximise the impact of EU investment.

More information about „Common Strategic Framework“ you find [hier...](#)



(you have to select the language you want)

#### **4. Support Programs and Call for tenders**

4.1 ESPON is the European observation network for territorial development and cohesion. It supports policy development related to EU cohesion policy. In the framework of the ESPON 2013 programme, calls for proposals are now open until June 12. Proposals must be related to the following objectives:

- Detecting territorial potential and challenges
- European territorial monitoring system

More information you find [here](#)

#### **5. ACE ENACA and International Affairs**

##### **5.1 ACE**

GA in Amsterdam was held on April 27, emphasizing the importance to respond strongly to the ongoing financial crisis but also to keep the focus on the future challenges. Furthermore, a memorandum of understanding was signed with ARCHASIA, the Architects' organisation of Asia.

##### **5.2 ENACA**

The next meeting of the Network is scheduled for May 4, and will address topics like supervised traineeship and the eventual implication of ENACA in the amendment process of the PQD.

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