

European professional qualifications' for Engineers

Directive COM(2002)119 final-Status

Great success at the European parliament concerning the directive on recognition of professional qualification with the intensive support of EurEta and FEANI.

EurEta is very satisfied with the outcome, which opens the way for introducing a common platform for engineers as wished by the majority of the EurEta board members (and national members) who were in favour of a platform for engineers, binding for all member states, instead of a section and annex. Considering that this vote was taken by a very high majority (187 in favour of a section /annex for engineers and 243 against) and considering that the council as well as the commission are both opposed to add sections/annex to the directive, in particular for engineers, we may reasonably suppose that this decision is definitive and will not be modified any more.

EurEta president Urs Keller and the Secretary-General Graham Guest will meet the president of FEANI Konstantinos Alexopoulos and the Secretary-General Philippe Wauters in Athens End of March in order to work on the European wide common platform for engineers and for professional qualifications.

You will find detailed information in the Directive COM(2002)119 final-Status

Report of the First Lecture of the EU Parliament on the Directive COM(2002)119 final on the 'mutual recognition of professional qualifications', Strasbourg, 11 February 2004

Conclusion: Highlights and decisions concerning Engineers

The Parliament rejected at a large majority all the Amendments concerning the introduction in the Directive of a Section and Annex for Engineers. This opens the way for EurEta and FEANI for submitting a Platform for Engineers, which was the option decided by majority by the EurEta and FEANI Board once the Directive will be adopted. It should also be noted that both the EU Council and the Commission do not support a Section and Annex for Engineers. Furthermore, an Article 11, the five levels of education as well as the duration as proposed initially by the EU Commission have been adopted. All amendments for the modification of level 4 and 5 have been rejected. On Article 15 ('Platform'), Amendments specifying that European as well as National professional organizations may introduce a Platform as well as Amendments defining a Platform have been adopted. Amendments introducing the notion of 'intellectual professions' have been rejected. The rest of the results of the vote needs a further and more-detailed analysis.

If you have any comments and questions you are invited to contact the EurEta Secretary-General Graham Guest.