

Interviews available with one of the report authors, Rob Mahoney, CLGE Vice President for GI

Impact of EU legislation on cadastral surveyors unveiled at CLGE conference

Report recommends surveyors do their research before relocating

European surveying professionals planning to work in another country should ensure that they understand the potential impact of EU legislation in that particular Member State before taking any action, says a new report published today (6 May 2010).

The study, produced by a working group of cadastral and land registry experts from EuroGeographics and The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE) shows how nine different countries approach different surveying tasks. It uses eight typical activities of cadastral surveyors identified by an earlier joint report to evaluate how the profession could be affected by four relevant articles in the Lisbon Treaty. These relate to the freedom of movement by workers; freedom of establishment; and freedom of providing services.

“The impact of the EU Directives on the cadastral system and surveyors varies from country to country depending on national legal systems, organisational set ups, professional structures and legal interpretations of the treaty articles making it difficult to suggest a Europe-wide approach to meeting these challenges,” says CLGE Vice President for GI, Rob Mahoney.

“This report, which benefits from the international working group’s knowledge and experience, provides a sound starting point for anyone wishing to understand the impact of EU legislation on cadastral surveyors. Both private and publicly appointed surveyors will find it an invaluable document when seeking to work beyond their national borders.”

The report found that whilst national borders represented few restrictions for professional surveyors in Europe, there were specific situations where a detailed knowledge of a country’s legal framework is essential – particularly when carrying out work related to the cadastral system. It also says that those thinking of working in another country should consider practical implications such as language skills and

the transfer of educational qualifications and examines the effect of developments including the Bologna process and the European Commission's Small Business Act on the activities of surveying practices and licensed surveyors.

President of EuroGeographics, Dorine Burmanje adds: "This report is an excellent example of European cooperation with experts from the public and private sectors working together to share knowledge and experiences. It meets the demand to extend the previous work carried out by EuroGeographics and the CLGE as well as raising awareness of the potential impacts of legislation among our respective members.

"We hope that surveying professionals across Europe will benefit from this insight into how other countries are meeting or planning to meet new legislation. We now propose to build upon this report by collecting examples of professionals who have successfully made the step across borders as well as by adding further reports from other EU Member States."

The report, which can be downloaded at the EuroGeographics webpage (<http://www.eurogeographics.org/sites/default/files/ImpactEULegislationOnCadastralSurveying2010.pdf>) concludes that each country should examine for itself the relevant EU treaty articles from its own national perspective. Depending on the national context, the impact of the EU legislation may differ, which can only be evaluated with a detailed 'internal' know-how of the local legislation and structures.

Ends

For more information about the report or CLGE please contact CLGE Secretary General, Jean-Yves Pirlot tel, +32 475 45 39 90, email jean-yves.pirlot@geometre-expert.org.

For further information about EuroGeographics, please contact Executive Director, Dave Lovell tel, +33 676 396 241 (mobile), email dave.lovell@eurogeographics.org

Notes to Editors

About the report – Impact of EU Legislation on Cadastral Surveying

The report was compiled by a working group established by EuroGeographics and its strategic partner, the CLGE. It was launched at the CLGE's General Assembly and Cadastral Surveyor – Paving the Way to the Future Conference, organised by the National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration of Romania (ANCPI - a member of EuroGeographics) in Bucharest from 6 to 8 May 2010.

Typical activities of cadastral surveyors

An earlier report by EuroGeographics, CLGE and GE (2008) identified eight main activities that cadastral surveyors typically carry out. These are:

1. Cadastral (technical) field measurements
2. Marking of parcel corners
3. Advice / consultancy for the landowner
4. Validation, getting approval on cadastral plans from relevant authorities
5. Land price valuation
6. Registration of updated cadastral data to cadastral database
7. Defining restrictions on land use
8. Preparation (correction) of territorial planning documents

EU Legislation

Four articles of the Treaty Establishing the European Community (also referred to as EU treaty) have an impact on the cadastral surveying profession and are the focus of the report on the Impact of EU Legislation on Cadastral Surveying:

- Art. 39: Freedom of movement, but not for employment in public sector, i.e. activity is in state monopoly
→ **activity mainly carried out by civil servants**

- Art. 45: Freedom of establishment, but not for activities connected to official authority,
→ **activity is carried out by publicly appointed professionals**

- Art. 43: Freedom of establishment, regulated by professional agreements incl. mutual recognitions
→ **activity can be exercised by private sector professionals acting on behalf of state authorities**
- Art. 49: Freedom to provide services
→ **activity is not regulated, employment regulated by free market**

About EuroGeographics

EuroGeographics is the membership association and voice for the European national mapping and cadastral agencies. It brings together 53 members from 43 countries who invest around €1.5 billion in the development of geographical information each year and use cutting-edge technology to create, manage, maintain and make available authoritative national databases.

EuroGeographics provides a forum for sharing information and best practice and a platform for creating pan-European harmonised datasets. It is a powerful partner for European policy-decision makers and institutions and a reliable provider of authoritative geographic information for civil protection, risk management, enterprise, transport, housing, regional development and much more.

To find out more about EuroGeographics, please visit www.eurogeographics.org. To see our members' geographical information in action, please visit our showcase at www.youtube.com/eurogeographics

About the CLGE (the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors)

The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE) is the leading representational body for the surveying profession in Europe. It promotes the profession in the EU and in the surrounding Council of Europe countries.

Surveying includes cadastral surveying which provides security to land and property title and thus underlies the economic base of our societies. Moreover, geospatial information is now ubiquitous in our lives and the surveyor plays a fundamental role in this field.

Our mission is to represent and promote the interests of the geodetic surveying profession in the private and public sector in Europe, especially:

- The creation of permanent forum for European geodetic surveyors, who are committed to European co-operation;
- The promotion and exchange of technical, scientific, educational and organisational know-how with the European states; and
- The provision of assistance to member countries, to national associations and EU institutions on request.

To find out more about CLGE please visit www.clge.eu or download our leaflet http://www.clge.eu/documents/other/GLGE_flyer_221109_lowres.pdf