

Proposed ACE – CALA MRA (architectural services)



ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE

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Subgroup meeting, 10 February 2017



Introduction

- **Who are the parties of agreement?**
- **What motivated them to negotiate?**
- **MRA: Structure & Eligibility (Scope of Application)**
- **Difficulties and solutions**
- **Next steps & Implementation**



Who are the parties of MRA?

Architects Council of Europe (ACE)

- the representative organisation at European level;
- Members - Competent Authorities + professional associations
- 44 Member Organisations in 32 countries

Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities (CALA)

- Umbrella body for Provincial and Territorial Licensing authorities in Canada



Motivation for negotiating

Development of International Standards

- UIA (“*Union Internationale des Architectes*”) Accord on International Standards of Professionalism, Beijing 1999, Berlin 2002, Durban 2014
- UNESCO-UIA Education Charter (Barcelona 1996, Tokyo 2011);
- 11 paragraphs of PQD art. 46;
- Both advocate Education (5 yrs), Traineeship (2 yrs) +

Earlier dialogue

- 2003-2005, 2008 (FR-QUE) ... and CETA



MRA: structure & eligibility

Template - 1998 Accountants Agreement

Cf. Annex X Y of Professional Services Chapter of CETA

Core eligibility requirement

- period of academic education
- period of Traineeship



Difficulties & solutions

Variations in Education & training

- Education / training varies in content / duration in EU28;
- we proposed a Compensatory Mechanism expressed in terms of post recognition experience - e.g. 5 years
- It can be adjusted upwards/downwards if education & training exceeds or falls short of the international norm (5 + 2)



Difficulties & solutions (2)

Example -

- international benchmark: = 5 + 2 (education + traineeship);
 - + period of post-recognition experience: say 5 years;
 - = total commitment of 12 years (5 + 2 + 5)
- those with longer education and training (e.g. 6 + 2) will only require 4 years of post-recognition experience
- those with shorter education and training (e.g. 5 + 1, 4 + 2, 5 + 0) will require 6 or 7 years of post-recognition experience



Difficulties & solutions (3)

Recognition under the EU Directive

- We propose that any EU architect / EU national with “Directive Rights” - i.e. a diploma listed in Annex V of the PQD or acquired rights listed under Annex VI - would satisfy the education requirement and be eligible under this recommendation;
- stress eligibility for those “licensed, registered or *otherwise recognised as an architect*” - so that countries with *ex post* regulation are not excluded;



Difficulties & solutions (4)

Recognition under the EU Directive

A qualifying *Architect* from the EU shall:

- Comply with any jurisdictional registration/licensing requirements (including requirements for practical experience);
- Submit a signed declaration indicating the candidate has met the requirements outlined in this Agreement and is not subject to any on-going disciplinary action;
- Submit a letter from the EU Jurisdiction confirming that the candidate meets the requirements set down in Section 46 of the EU Directive 2005/36/EC (see Appendix) or version of this Directive currently in force, the date of his/her registration/licensure and confirming that s/he is a member in good standing.
- Successfully undertake 10 hours of Continuing Education to satisfy Domain Specific Knowledge requirements in online pre-registration course prior to becoming licensed;
- Pay the required application fees.



Difficulties & solutions (5)

Scope of application (Canada)

- Canadian architects
- Any Architect qualified under another MRA is not eligible under this Agreement (e.g. US citizen able to work as an architect in Canada under US/Canada MRA is not covered)

A qualifying *Architect* from Canada shall:

- Comply with any jurisdictional registration/licensing requirements (including requirements for practical experience);
- Submit a signed declaration indicating the candidate has met the requirements outlined in this Agreement and is not subject to any on-going disciplinary action;
- Submit a letter from the Canadian jurisdiction confirming date of registration/licensure and is a member in good standing;
- Pay the required application fees



Difficulties & solutions (6)

Domain Specific Knowledge

- Instead of an interview, candidates for licensure in Canada undertake 10 hours of CPD beforehand to demonstrate an ability to reference Building Regulations, Contract Administration, Construction Documents etc.
- EU MS may reciprocate if they wish;
- Other requirements: language (cf. Quebec law)



Difficulties & solutions (7)

Revision of the MRA

- item 7: the MRA provides for the possibility to review its content based on mutual agreement of the both bodies whereby any of the jurisdictions or MS has the opportunity to review or withdraw from the MRA
- in the event of withdrawal, all licenses/registrations granted to Architects pursuant to this Agreement to the date of withdrawal shall remain valid as long as renewal obligations are met, but new applications from Architects from these jurisdictions will not be considered.



Next steps & Implementation

Next steps

- 2/16 MRA approved by ACE AGE;
- 11/16 MRA discussed at the meeting of EU Competent Authorities (ENACA);
- 10/17 MRA to be signed in Montreal;

Thank you for your attention



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