The European Geodetic Surveyors Act

An introduction to a new ID for Geodetic Surveyors in Europe and in the World

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SUMMARY

Spatial data and their records are of great importance for the operation and functioning of states, their structure and legal order, hence they are of great significance for societies as a whole. Given that the basis of these data and records are primarily geodetic products, it is undeniable that geodesy, geoinformatics, the geodetic science and profession, i.e. geodetic activities, have a real and extremely important impact on all areas of social and economic life and on the development of Europe.

With the aim of increasing the awareness and understanding of the meaning and role of geodetic surveyors, as well as bolstering a more active participation in solving problems the whole European society is facing, CLGE, as a leading surveyors association, initiates the development of a complete Policy which will determine the place, role and task of Geodetic Surveyors in the future development of Europe: The European Geodetic Surveyors Act (EGSAct).

With this statement CLGE expresses its willingness to:

- 1. develop a framework of guidelines for geodetic policies leading towards the adoption of a European Geodetic Surveyors Act,
- 2. Encourage cooperation within the geodetic profession, but also with other institutions and sectors of the society, in the interest of the geodetic profession and the society as a whole.
- 3. Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of geodetic surveyors, geodesy and geoinformatics as well as their role in the development of the Europe,
- 4. Advocate the achievement of qualitive solutions in geodesy with maximum effects for the society, and to encourage the evaluation of European geodetic heritage and achievements,
- 5. Initiate procedures that would enable the application of the adopted geodetic policy guidelines, as well as to star further activities on the acceptance and inclusion of geodetic policies in the societal and economic areas to which it applies.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Recent priorities in Europe demonstrate an almost historic need for collaboration, cooperation and reinforced harmonisation between countries, whether or not they are members of the EU. However, every surveyor may observe that what constitutes the legal and technical basis of their profession (private property rights, spatial planning...) remains the prerogatives of each state. Land management, in the broad sense, has largely escaped to convergence and harmonisation of regulations and standards that were conducted in Europe over the past 65 years in most of legal, economic and even technological sectors.

2. EGSAct Objectives

This situation should not prevent our profession from edicting a European Geodetic Surveyor's Act (EGSAct) which would define the core competences, qualifications, profile and expertise of a professional geodetic surveyor, anywhere in Europe.



Objectives

Define the core competences, qualifications, profile and expertise of a professional geodetic surveyor, anywhere in Europe



Portrait of the European Property/Geodetic Surveyor

- Education level
- Licences/authorisations Validity period
- Affiliation (enrolment, if any)
- Modes of practice (civil servant, individual, company...)
- Activities
- Quality Control
- Liability
- Professional insurance
- Continuous Professional Development, lifelong learning (CPD)

EGSAct will then provide support to any CLGE Member association, should they require

assistance for national regulation issues, whether in a proactive or defensive approach. The European Geodetic Surveyors 'Act - an Introduction to a New ID for Geodetic Surveyors in Europe and in the World (12115)

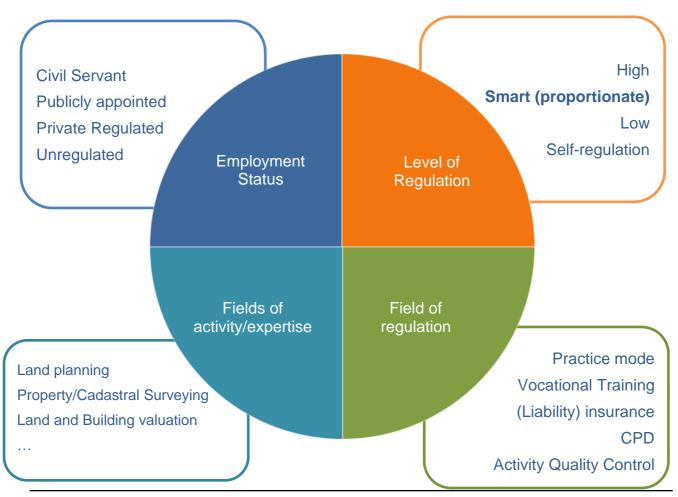
Viadimir Krupa (Croatia), Jean-Yves Pirlot (Belgium) and Florian Lebourdais (France) in the World with comparable professional profiles.

EGSAct will:

- outline a set of guidelines and best practices that ensure a national professional organisation is following all relevant national and European laws and regulations;
- help member associations to protect their cohesion and reputation from internal breaches or from external threats that may originate from sister/related professions, from their national supervisory bodies or from the European regulator (in the case of a Member State);
- provide a healthy path of communication between member associations and any national public authority that acts as a supervisory body, and not shy away from taking corrective action when the compliance program isn't respected.

EGSAct will demonstrate that our profession is essential to serve the general interest and will address the following audiences on both European and National levels:

- Public authorities: government, administrations, elected officials;
- Related professions: notaries, architects, land planners, real-estate developers;
- General Public: civil society, individuals, medias.



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The figure hereabove shows important areas of research that will be covered by EGSAct. Additionally the authors will emphasise the way the States, who guarantee geodetic and especially property surveying proceed. The models encompass systems with civil servants only, publicly appointed surveyors, regulated surveyors and auto-regulated or non-regulated free-lance surveyors. The existence and operations of professional chambers will be of particular importance.

3. EGSAct METHODOLOGY

To achieve these objectives, it is proposed to have a project-oriented approach, as our recent experience on other matters (condominium management, GISCAD-OV project) has shown that it is efficient.

First steps of EGSAct Project consist in:

- Setting-up a Task Force with contributors from voluntary Member associations who wish to bring their experience in this area and contribute directly to the project,
- Collecting and compiling national case studies and experiences, based upon the "Portrait of the European Property Surveyor" on every aspect that is or should be regulated, in our opinion,
- Enriching internal contributions from surveying profession with multidisciplinary team associating economists, lawyers, sociologists, etc.

EGSAct will thus reveal the socioeconomic role and weight of the sector, and prove that the regulation of the profession does not affect free competition between professionals, to the benefit of the consumer.

4. CONCLUSION

With this tool, CLGE will demonstrate that the geodetic sector requires a high level of skills to make the best use of the expertise available to our profession and to meet the immense environmental, social, economic and technological challenges facing us at the beginning of the 21st century.

Our goal is the development a framework of guidelines for geodetic policies leading towards the adoption of the European Geodetic Surveyors Act.

For this endeavour we encourage cooperation within the geodetic profession, but also with other institutions and sectors of the society, in the interest of the geodetic profession and the society as a whole.

Our goal is to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of geodetic surveyors, geodesy and geoinformatics as well as its role in the development of Europe and the World. We advocate the achievement of the qualitive solutions in geodesy with maximum effects for the society, and to encourage the evaluation of European geodetic heritage and achievements.

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