

## CHAPTER 3

### RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION OF PROFESSIONAL TITLE

The aim of this chapter is to establish the degree of legal protection offered by each member country to civil engineering qualifications. It is generally considered that protection of title protects the public by limiting the use of these titles to appropriately qualified persons. In some countries protection of title is conferred directly by the state, in others the title may be awarded through an appropriate professional body.

The following two questions were asked of ECCE members.

*3.1 Is there any legislation in your country that obliges you to have a certain qualification in order to carry out the profession of civil engineer?*

*3.2 Is the title of "civil engineer" or "Graduate Engineer" or similar, protected under law.*

| <b>COUNTRY</b>   | <i>Question 3.1<br/>Is there any legislation in your country that obliges you to have a certain qualification in order to carry out the profession of civil engineer?</i>  |
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|                  | <i>Question 3.2<br/>Is the title of "civil engineer" or "Graduate Engineer" or similar, protected under law</i>  |
| <b>Croatia</b>   | <p><b>Legislation:</b> According to the Building Law (passed in 2003), the professionals employed in construction industry must meet formal requirements for the performance of various professional duties. In this respect, formal qualification is combined with the number of years of professional experience.</p> <p><b>The title "Civil Engineer" or "Graduate Civil Engineer"</b> is protected by law and may be obtained only after completion of high-school studies (for Civil Engineers) or university studies (for Graduate Civil Engineers).</p> <p>All engineers exercising relevant duties in the construction (site managers, chief project engineers), design (chief designers, chief project engineers), review/auditing (reviewer), or supervision activities, are required to pass the state examination.</p> |
| <b>Cyprus</b>    | <p><b>Legislation:</b> According to Cyprus legislation, in order to practice as a civil engineer you have to be registered with and be a member of The Cyprus Technical Chamber. To register as a civil engineer one has to hold an approved university degree (after 4 years education) plus 1 year of practical training. Applications for registration are examined by the Cyprus Technical Chamber.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> The title "civil engineer" is protected by the law.</p>   |
| <b>Czech Rep</b> | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Only engineers or technicians with the appropriate authorisation issued by the Chamber may use the designations certified engineer or certified technician</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Both levels of degree - Master of Science and Bachelor of Science - are protected by law.</p>   |
| <b>Estonia</b>   | <p><b>Legislation:</b> At the present time (2003) Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees have official recognition and are protected under law.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Civil engineer and applied engineer are protected.</p>   |

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| <p><b>Finland</b></p> | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Regulations and guidelines in the national building code of Finland given by the Ministry of the Environment contain minimum requirements of qualification for designers concerning education and working experience.</p> <p>The Finnish certification-company FISE Ltd. assesses and awards these qualifications on the basis of professional education and work experience.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Regulations and guidelines in the national building code of Finland given by Ministry of the Environment contain minimum requirements of qualification for designers concerning education and working experience.</p> <p>Finnish certification-company FISE Ltd assesses and awards these qualifications on the basis of professional education and work experience.</p> <p>Only those graduated from a University or polytechnic as M.Sc or B.Sc. are entitled to use the title of Engineer.</p>   |
| <p><b>France</b></p>  | <p><b>Legislation:</b> There is no legislation which requires one to have a specific qualification in order to carry out the Profession of Engineer, thus the title of Civil Engineer is not protected under law.</p> <p>Educational establishments which deliver this recognised Diploma, must have a special Accreditation delivered by a Commission “Commission des Titres d’Ingénieurs (CTI)”.</p> <p>CTI was created under law on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1934 in order to assess quality of education, then deliver a report to Ministries in charge of Education Establishments.</p> <p>CTI comprises representatives of Professors, Directors, high level public Personalities, Industry representatives, Representatives of professional Organisations (CTI comprises CNISF representatives).</p> <p>Accreditation is delivered to Engineers High Schools for a maximum period of 6 years.</p> <p>At European level, CTI is Member of ESOEPE, the European Standing Observatory for the Engineering Profession and Education.</p> <p>On the other hand, Firms can name as “Engineers” some of their employees having demonstrated recognised professional qualification</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Only the title of “<i>Ingénieur Diplômé de l’Ecole de .....</i>”, is very officially recognised, very generally corresponding to a 5-year graduation in Engineer High Schools or Universities Systems.</p> <p>There is no legislation which requires one to have a specific qualification in order to carry out the Profession of Engineer, thus the title of Civil Engineer is not protected under law.</p> |
| <p><b>Germany</b></p> | <p><b>Legislation:</b> The title of (civil) engineers is given on request by a government of the Länder (ministry of education/trade and commerce). The education required for this is study at an institution of higher education of at least 4 years’ length of education: this must be finished with the “Dipl. Ing.” awarded by the university.</p> <p>It should be noted that up to the present time it is hoped how to judge the qualification of a Bachelor degree to become an engineer.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> The word “Engineer” is protected by law of the Bundesländer in any word combination. The qualification “Diplom-Ingenieur” (Dip.-Ing./Dipl.-Ing.(FH)) is legally recognised.</p>   |

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| <b>Hungary</b>     | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Yes, there is legislation.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Yes, degrees are protected by law in Hungary.</p>   |
| <b>Ireland</b>     | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Yes, there is legislation.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> There is protection of title in Ireland.</p>  |
| <b>Italy</b>       | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Article 167 of the Royal Decree 31 August 1933, n. 1592 "Testo Unico delle leggi sull'istruzione superiore" (<i>Act on the laws concerning the academic education</i>) provides that any academic title can be awarded only by Universities and by Istituti Superiori (High Level Institutions). As the academic title has therefore a legal value, its abuse is punishable by article 498 of the Codice di Procedura Penale (<i>Code of Criminal Procedure</i>).</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> For further information relevant to the protection of title, please see Chapter 1.</p> |
| <b>Lithuania</b>   | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Both levels of degrees (Bachelor and Master of Science) have official recognition.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Both levels of degrees (Bachelor and Master of Science) are protected by law.</p>   |
| <b>Poland</b>      | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Yes, there is legislation.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Yes, degrees are protected by law in Poland.</p>  |
| <b>Portugal</b>    | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Yes, there is legislation. In order to carry out the profession you must be registered in the Ordem dos Engenheiros</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Degrees are protected by law in Portugal. The title 'civil engineer' is protected.</p>   |
| <b>Romania</b>     | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Is there any legislation in your country that obliges you to have a certain qualification in order to carry out the profession of civil engineer?</p> <p>Diplomas issued by the Universities to graduates of the five year programmes (engineers) and three year programmes (engineers - college) entitle the bearers to practice the profession of civil engineer.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Is the title of "civil engineer" or "Graduate Engineer" or similar, protected under law.</p> <p>However there is no law to protect the title and practice of the profession.</p>     |
| <b>Russia</b>      | <p><i>No response has been given to this section.</i></p>  |
| <b>Slovak Rep.</b> | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Degrees of civil engineers are at present generally recognized. Certain professions require degrees together with a certificate of training (practice).</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> The degrees of civil engineers, authorization, professional qualifications and similar diplomas issued by accredited and recognized institution are protected by law.</p>  |

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| <p><b>Turkey</b></p>         | <p><b>Legislation:</b> Although the legislation related to civil engineering profession in Turkey has a long past, there are serious lacks in many associated issues. Qualification for an engineer following the undergraduate program is one of the important lacks. No legislation is applied for being qualified engineer in Turkey. Recently, there has been draft works about the subject, and hopefully a law concerning the obligation of qualification after undergraduate education will be achieved.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> Ministry of Prosperity provides laws for civil engineering profession, but there are defective applications and absences that result in twisted progress in profession. As a result of these legislation lacks, graduate engineer and civil engineer titles are same under law. Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers plays a forcing role in legislation system for the profession and aims to accomplish a pact on recognition and protection.</p> |
| <p><b>United Kingdom</b></p> | <p><b>Legislation:</b> The engineering profession as such is not regulated, anyone may call himself a civil engineer and practice.</p> <p><b>Protection of title:</b> The protected titles in the UK are “Chartered Engineer”, “Incorporated Engineer” and “Engineering Technician”. In order to use these titles, engineers will have to undergo a professional review with one of the licensed engineering institutions in the UK. It is necessary to be a Chartered Engineer in order to carry out certain works, especially in the public sphere.</p> <p>The protected titles are given by the professional institutions under licence from the Engineering Council. The Institution of Civil Engineers carries out the reviews and awards membership and the appropriate title to civil engineers.</p>  |