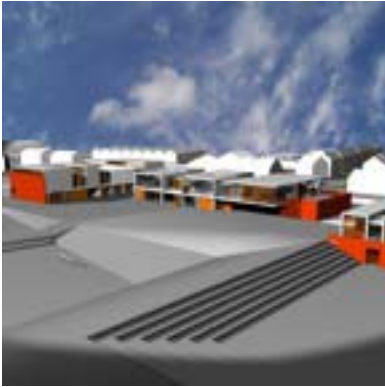




Public Consultation on the Professional Qualifications Directive

Brussels 21 February 2011



Background + Context

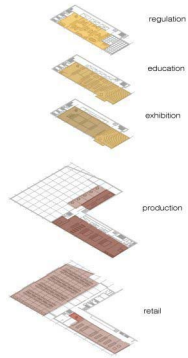
- Architect's Directive came into existence in 1985
- Was concerned primarily with two issues
 - Duration: Minimum 4 years
 - Content: 11 points
- This Directive dealt with the education of Architects in Schools of Architecture





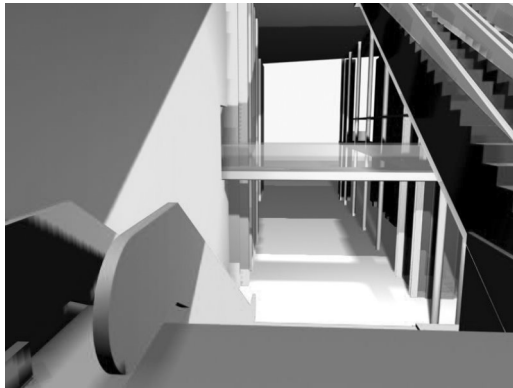
Advisory Committee on the Education + Training of Architects

- Advised the Commission throughout the life of the Architect's Directive
- There are substantial similarities now to the standard of Architectural Education across the EU



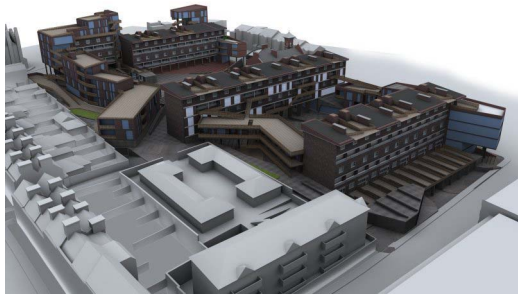
Professional Qualifications' Directive

- Deals with access to the Profession in addition to the Education of the Architect
- Its notifications must include any additional requirements (post graduation) to allow the Architect to carry out independent Architectural Practice



Architectural Education in Europe

- There are substantial differences between EU Member States on what is required to access the Profession.
- Some Member States require nothing additional after graduation from a School of Architecture
- At least 22 Member States have additional requirements
- These requirements vary considerably from Member State to Member State



Duration

- Directive requires minimum of 4 years in Education. Most Schools of Architecture require minimum of 5 years.
- The complexity of Architectural Education has increased immeasurably since the introduction of the Architect's Directive in 1985.
- In global terms, a minimum of 4 years is perceived as an inferior qualification



Content

- The content described in the 11 points has broadly stood the test of time
- The wording of the 11 points has been such that, contemporary subjects such as sustainability, energy conservation and new technical developments, can be deemed to be covered by those points



The Bologna Process

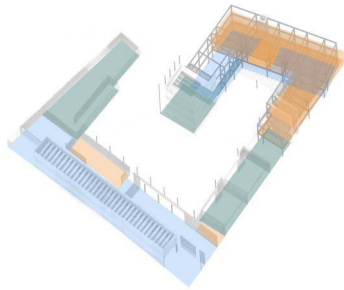
- More than 75% of the Schools of Architecture are now delivering a three-plus-two, Bachelors/Masters education in Architecture
- This relates precisely to the aspiration that the Directive should change the minimum duration to 5 years
- The Bachelors/Masters cycles allows for considerable mobility among Architectural Students across the EU



Notification



- Until now, the process has worked, although cumbersome
- It could be streamlined. There is need to introduce some harmony in the additional requirements, over and above the formal education part of the notification.
- Schools of Architecture are not always clear about the need for the notification process in order to ensure mobility for their graduates
- The relationship between Schools of Architecture and the Competent Authorities in Member States differs enormously



Future Difficulties

- Individual Member States often penalise Architectural Graduates in their mobility, by their requirements for access to the Profession
- Graduates of Architecture often find it difficult to acquire supervised Practice in order to comply with their Member States notification
- The acquiring of supervised practice in a Member State other than the one providing the formal education is problematic and the processes associated with it are unclear

On a Positive Note



- Significant experience regarding architectural education across the EU has been gained since the introduction of the Architect's Directive in 1985
- A network of both Educators and Professional Architects is already well established and dialogue regarding issues and difficulties occurs on a continuous and regular basis
- In addition to representative Bodies for Educators and Professionals, a Joint Working Party between EAAE + ACE has been functioning for more than 6 years
- The work of this Body is primarily concerned with the transition period between Education and access to the Profession