The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors Why and what for?

DI Rudolf Kolbe, Vice President CLGE, Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants

Did you ever encounter legal problems?

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Code of Conduct for European Surveyors
Why and what for?

- Background
- Development and Contents of the Code
- Special Value and Outlook

What are the backgrounds ?

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Directive on services

- Directive on services in the internal market was adopted in 2006
- Art. 37 encourages the drawing up of Codes of Conduct at community level, particularly by professional bodies, organisations and associations.
- The explicit mention in the Directive means that not only the European Commission but also the European Council – meaning the representatives of all member states – and the European Parliament stands behind the importance of European Codes of Conduct.

Increasing cross border activities

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Internal market for services

- Development of a genuine Internal market for services
- Convergence of professional rules at European level absolutely necessary
- High level of quality of services
- Equal level of protection of clients

Information gives trust

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Information gives trust

- Common set of minimum rules give clients more information about what they can expect from a certain profession not only in their home country but throughout Europe

Trust gives mobiliy

- Working paper of the European Commissions' on "the role of European Codes of Conduct" (2007)
  - enhancing the implementation of free movement of services in the European Union
  - creating a common European basis to help build up an integrated internal market for services
  - boosting mutual trust and therefore facilitate mobility of service providers
  - strengthening the identity of a profession

Self regulation as a Safeguard of quality

Self regulation

- Working paper of the Commission 2007:
  - "One of the less well-known and yet essential features of the Services Directive is the chapter dealing with quality of services, which aims at ensuring the high quality of services **by encouraging, among other things, self-regulation …"**

Code of Conduct for European Surveyors
Why and what for?

- Background
- Development and Contents of the Code
- Special Value and Outlook

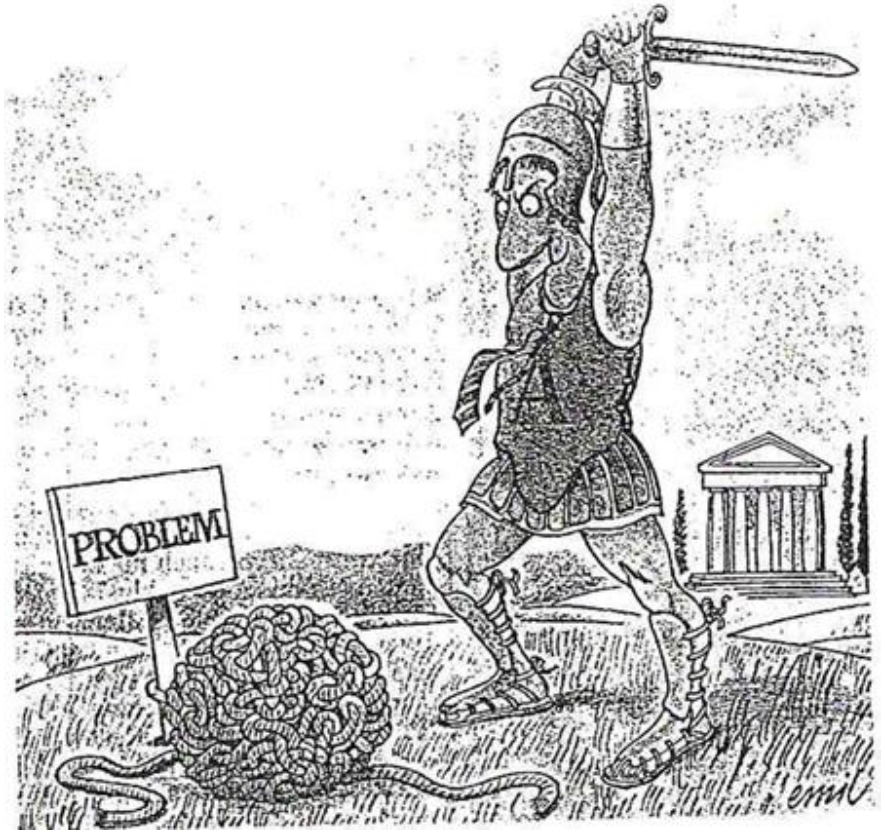
Defining Common Values

- "Common Values of the Liberal Professions in the European Union"
- One of the first European Codes based on Art 37 of the Services
- Served as a whole or in passages also as a model for other European organisations.

Defining Common Values

- It was soon quite clear that a Code of Conduct for European Surveyors had to be developed if they want to stay competitive.
- The Comité de Liaison des Géomètres Européens and Geometer Europas took responsibility for this development

To cut the gordian knot



Content of the code

Content of the code

- The preamble explains what European Surveyors are and what they do.
- The introduction explains the purpose of the code.
- The general principles are covering independency, professionalism, honesty and integrity of surveyors as well as the high quality of their services and their responsibility to future generations.

Content of the code

- Art 3 covers the Relationship to Recipients of Services, including a recognition of the wider responsibility of surveyors, the general public, government and other stakeholders and to their own professional status; the similar responsibilities of employees and collaborators and professional indemnity insurance protection.

Content of the code

- Art 4 is about the relationship with other Surveyors, encouraging the development of a common professional culture.
- Art 5 covers professional qualification and development;
- Art 6 and 7 the monitoring and implementing of the Code and the accessibility.

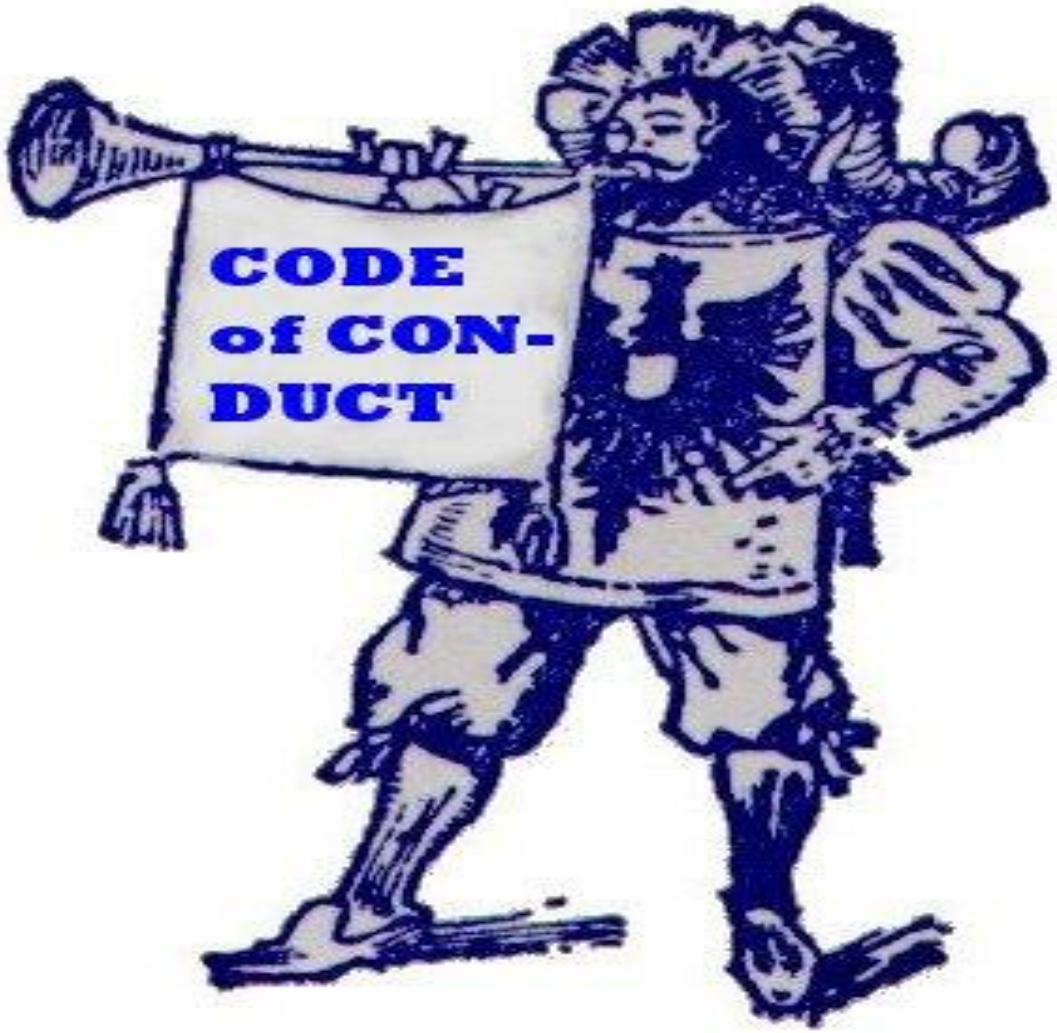
Content of the code

- *CLGE-GE highly recommends that European Surveyors hold professional indemnity insurance. European Surveyors inform their clients about the nature and level of any insurance cover held, or any other form of guarantee which is equivalent, to cover liabilities in the event of adverse effects resulting from errors or omissions made in the provision of surveying services*

Code of Conduct for European Surveyors
Why and what for?

- Background
- Development and Contents of the Code
- Special Value and Outlook

Communicate to our members

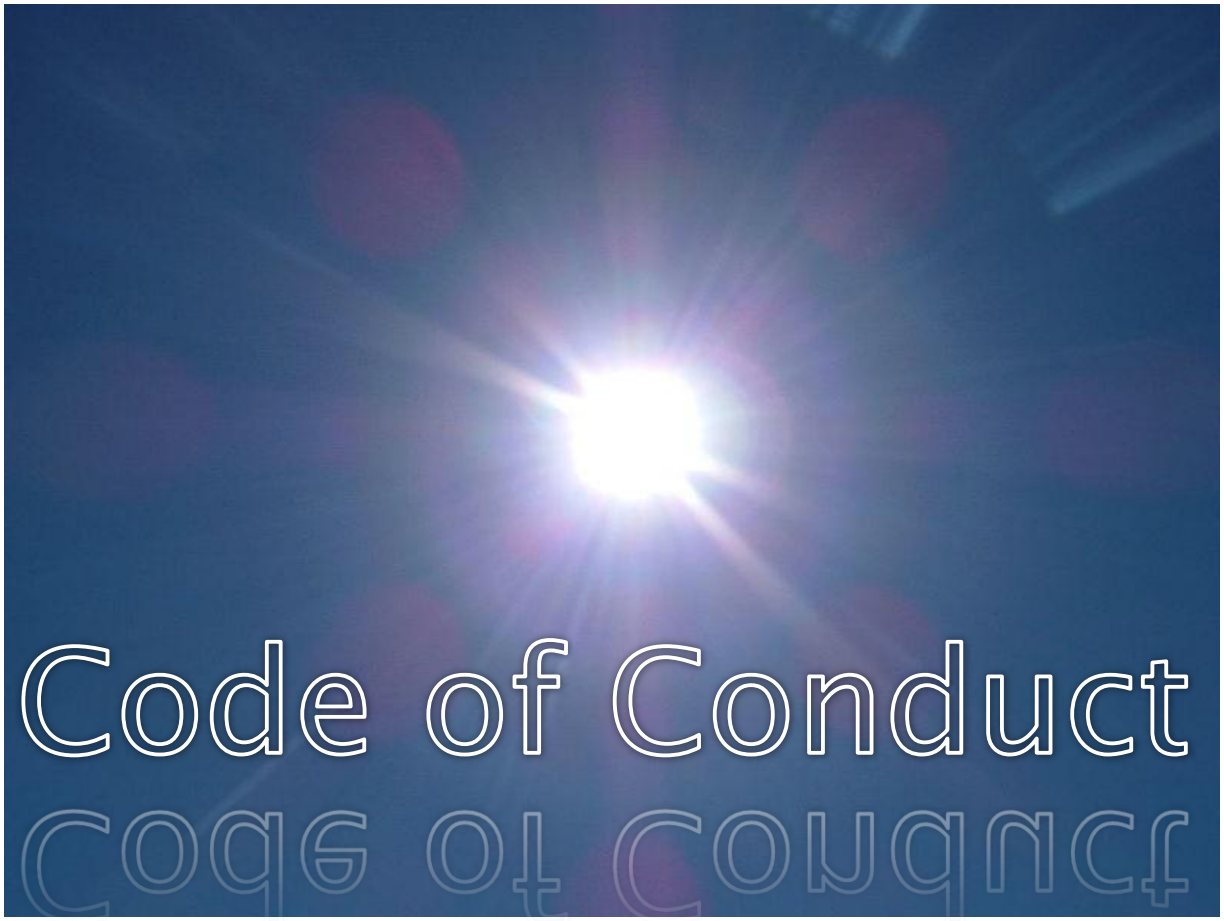


The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Communicate to our members

- Actively using the Code as a marketing tool can give competitive advantages
- The Code is a seal of quality guaranteeing high level services on an European basis.
- The Code can also be a very important help for those of us who actually want to supply services in another country.
- The Code improves the standing of the professional body /association

Bright prospects



The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Thank you for your attention

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

Thank you for your attention

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors
Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE

The Code of Conduct of the European Surveyors

Rudolf Kolbe, CLGE