



151005 PMBA Final Report

IFLA EUROPE  
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## PROFESSIONAL MOVEMENT BETWEEN ASSOCIATIONS – FINAL REPORT

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### Introduction

The principle concerning the free movement of professional landscape architects within Europe has been accepted for several years and is incorporated both in European Community Law and the Statutes of IFLA Europe. Nevertheless, from time to time difficulties arise which are frustrating. This purpose of this report is to advise the General Assembly of the current situation and to propose a method by which the process of migration can be simplified.

### Legal framework

The legal framework concerning professional movement between associations is defined by two main documents - Directive 2005/36/EC and IFLA Europe Regulations.

Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications came into force in 2007. The Directive is a cornerstone of the EC *Internal Market Strategy for Services* laid out in Lisbon in March 2000 and encapsulates the right to pursue a profession, in a self-employed or employed capacity, in a Member State other than the one in which they have obtained their professional qualifications.

Article 8.10 of the current draft IFLA Europe Regulations state that - *National or multi-national professional associations who wish to become Effective members of IFLA EUROPE shall accept applications for membership from graduates of all landscape architecture programmes in the countries of the European Union and the Council of Europe (specifically programmes recognised by IFLA EUROPE), subject to whatever additional professional practice requirements may be mandatory, suggested, or recommended by the specific associations.*

*(This issue was raised at the GA in October 2014. It was agreed that the Regulations should be modified as noted above – see RECOMMENDATION 3.)*

There is therefore already a desire as well as a legal obligation for member associations to facilitate the ability of professional landscape architects to migrate between associations.



### Discussion:

An analysis of the associations that comprise IFLA EUROPE shows a wide variety of classes of membership. Rights and duties of these classes of membership also differ widely. Some associations have established requirements for a period of post academic training or practice, which they are legally bound by their statutes to maintain.

It would be difficult for IFLA EUROPE to impose a commonality that could be put in place in the relatively short term. Nevertheless, IFLA EUROPE has a responsibility to find a process that will assist professional migration, both in the immediate future, and in the long term.

It is therefore considered that IFLA EUROPE should devise and facilitate a PROCEDURE, rather than adopt another protocol.

### Procedure:

The outline of the procedure would be as follows.

1. A professional landscape architect wishing to migrate to another country would be able to obtain a form obtainable from IFLA EUROPE. This would be used to perform three functions.
  - a. to certify the candidates academic and professional status.
  - b. to act as an application form to the association to be joined.
  - c. to record the process of migration.
2. In cases of difficulty, IFLA Europe may asked by a candidate to intervene or to assist.

A database would therefore be established enabling reporting on the scale of migration and the problems encountered.

The GA is reminded that minimum requirements for a professional landscape architect are as follows.

1. Completion of a 'recognised course', or proof of a Master's degree or equivalent.
2. Minimum of two years post academic professional practice within the applicant's home country, or the country of adoption.
3. Satisfaction that the candidate understands the application of professional rules in that country, justified by the public interest. These may relate to the organisation of the profession, professional standards, including those concerning ethics, supervision, and liability.



### Stages of Migration:

1. The candidate completes the form obtained from IFLA EUROPE.
2. The candidate sends the form to the Association where the candidate is already a member. The Association confirms the candidate's academic qualifications and professional status.
3. The form is returned to the candidate, who sends the form to IFLA EUROPE. The candidate is informed of the registration.
4. The candidate completes the form with the registration number issued by IFLA EUROPE and sends it to the Association in the country where he wishes to migrate and practice. The form is completed by the Association, which will determine the class of membership as well as other requirements such as CPD (continuing professional development), membership fees, professional indemnity insurance and, if the presentation of a dossier, or portfolio, is required, or if an adaptation period under supervised practice is required. The Association may also wish to state a limitation on the privileges relating to membership.
5. The form is returned to the candidate with a copy to IFLA EUROPE.

### **A draft application form attached to this report.**

### Standards and disparity:

It should be noted that some member states professional practice requirements on their own members are considerably more onerous than others. For example, a professional practice examination may be required to be taken and passed before a graduate (post academic) landscape architect is allowed/licensed to practice independently. Moreover, continuing professional development (CPD) may also be a requirement imposed on all practising landscape architects. Candidates wishing to be accepted by other professional associations would be expected to recognise and submit themselves to these criteria. Such requirements should not be considered as obstacles, but simply as a necessary step to practising in that country as a full landscape architect member of the professional association.

Where a candidate considers that a member country is being unreasonable in its requirements and demanding more than is required of its own members, the candidate may ask IFLA EUROPE to review the process and the procedure.

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with the 2005/36/EC Directive on Professional Qualifications, the Presidents' Council, with the full support of the General Assembly at IFLA EUROPE's



General Assembly held in Oslo (Norway) in October 2014, agreed the need for a more cohesive Federation that would strongly support the mobility of professionals in Europe,

The creation of this proposed mechanism, establishes a procedure to assist professional migration for IFLA EU's National Associations Landscape Architects without interfering with the professional rules in each country, or with each National Association membership requirements. It should be recognised, however, that -

1. This process may prove to be only a temporary measure. In the longer term, a European Professional Card in the field of Landscape Architecture may be able to replace this procedure, but this might require the EU to agree modifications to Directive 2005:36, Article 49.
2. Where member associations already have methods for dealing with potential migrants, this procedure should in no way complicate or compromise what already exists. The application form, noted above and included in the appendix, only standardises the process of applying to join another national association. It is there to assist.

#### **Recommendation 1.**

The adoption of the procedure detailed in this report.

#### **Recommendation 2.**

That National Associations revise their statutes, constitutions or bylaws so that membership to their association is not restricted only to nationals of that country, but rather to *graduates of all landscape architecture programmes in the countries of the European Union, member countries of the Council of Europe, or countries not forcibly located in the European Region, empowered to participate in regional activities of IFLA EUROPE because of the importance of their representative character (specifically programmes recognised by IFLA EUROPE).*

#### **Recommendation 3.**

That Article 8.10 of the IFLA EUROPE Regulations be modified as noted in this report.



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**FORM TO ASSIST THE MIGRATION OF  
PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

This form has been produced by IFLA EUROPE to assist the process of migration of professionally qualified landscape architects from one professional association to another between member countries of IFLA EUROPE.

The form is obtainable on line from [www.iflaeurope.eu](http://www.iflaeurope.eu) and may be completed interactively.

Once completed (this must include the ATTESTATION from the professional association that the applicant is currently a member of) a copy of the form **should** be sent to the [secretariat@iflaeurope.eu](mailto:secretariat@iflaeurope.eu) who will date and register the application.

Once the application is registered, the form should to be sent by the applicant to the professional association that the applicant wishes to join. Copies of all correspondence concerning the application between the professional association and the applicant may be sent to IFLA Europe.

On completion of the process the applicant should inform IFLA Europe of the outcome. In cases of difficulties arising, the applicant should contact IFLA Europe immediately.



## APPLICATION

Registration N°

Date:

### PERSONAL DATA

Name

Nationality

Date of Birth

Gender  Male  Female

Identity Card or Passport N°

Preferred Address

Post Code

Town or City

Country

Email

Phone n°

Mobile N°

### MEMBERSHIP DATA

Name of IFLA EUROPE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION COUNTRY

National Association Name

Membership class

Membership N°

Professional Insurance (Company and reference no.)

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS



Qualification awarded (1)

Date

University, School or College (1)

Address (1)

Dates attended - from

to

EQF's (1)

Qualification awarded (1)

Date

University, School or College (1)

Address (1)

Dates attended - from

to

EQF's (1)

Qualification awarded (1)

Date

University, School or College (1)

Address (1)

Dates attended - from

to

EQF's (1)

## **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

Qualification awarded (1)

Date

Awarding Authority (2)

Qualification awarded (2)

Date

Awarding Authority (2)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**



Work Experience (1)

Employers name

Address

Country

Dates

Position held

Work Experience (2)

Employers name

Address

Country

Dates

Position held

Work Experience (3)

Employers name

Address

Country

Dates

Position held

**DOCUMENTS INCLUDED (copies)**

Passport/Identity Card

Resident Permit

Membership of National Association (NA)

Insurance Details

Academic Qualifications

Professional Qualifications

Professional Experience

Attestation from NA

Note: The attestation attached to this form must be completed by your National Association and forwarded with the form.

Signature:

Place and date:



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## ATTESTATION

(Insert name of the professional association)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

hereby certifies that the applicant is a member of the above professional association and that the information provided on the attached form is believed to be accurate. In the doing so, the association also confirms the professional status of the applicant.

Signed (on behalf of the association)

Signature:

.....

NAME IN CAPITAL LETTERS

.....

POSITION OR FUNCTION

.....

Date .....

Place

.....