THE ORGANISMS OF EUROPEAN STANDARDIZING

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Abstract: The EU' essential politics follows the keeping of the unique market and it is beneficial to the countries which are in process of integration and newly entered in EU to understand and work after European principles. The countries that wish for the fastest integration must have a special interest in the principles of European normalization. These represent the basic elements in a system, which includes, among others, the evaluation procedures of the conformity and supervision of the market.

The European Community and the member states deliver considerable technical assistance to countries in process of integration in order to help them line their technical regulation, their standards, the structures of evaluation of the conformity, procedures, the quality of products and services at the European Community's demand. The assistance offered is done in conformity with the situation and the level of development of each country.

Key words: European standardizing, European Community, EU

The European standards have had a decisive role in building the internal market of the EU, helping in the elimination of technical barriers created by the differences between national standards. The great advantage of the uniform utilization of European standards in the EU and the European Economical Zone leads to the elimination of a multitude of technical national different models.

European standards have been helpful to the governments too, which used them in order to harmonize the regulations concerning the consumers' protection and health, for products that circulate inside the market.

The European Committee plays a very important role in European standardizing.

The organisms of European standardizing are:

1. CEN
2. CENELEC
3. ETSI

1. CEN

CEN is the European organization of multi-sectorial standardizing which is active in all areas, except for electro technique and telecommunications. CEN represents an important provider of European standards and technical specifications. It is the only European organization acknowledged, according to Direction 83/189, for planning, preparation and adoption of European standards in all areas of economical activity, except for electro technique and telecommunications. CEN has a specific responsibility in consequence of The New Approach to define technical details of standards in connection to the European legislation.

CEN is an international association governed by Belgian law. CEN consists of the following members:

- National members of CEN (national organisms of standardizing, which have the power of final decision inside CEN)
- CEN Associated Organisms
- Associates of CEN (represent groups of interests at European level – ANEC, NORMAPME, FIEC, CEFIC)
- Affiliates of CEN (national organisms of standardizing in Central and Eastern Europe which wish to become members of the CEN)
- Corresponding Organizations
- The Management Center of CEN

Organisms which have the power to determine and implement CEN's actions, as:

- General Assembly
- The Administration Council

Organisms which provide the infrastructure of operational activities of CEN:

- Technical Committees
- Work Groups

Providing an efficient infrastructure for the development, maintenance and distribution of some coherent packages of standards and specifications;

Flexibility for the demands of the market and society;

The integration in the production terms solicited by the market;

The conformity with the legislation in force;

The capacity to serve as basis for the evaluation of conformity;

Substantiation on opening, transparence, consensus and coherence;

Offering products and services which are directly bounded by standards and utilization of standards CEN politics in which CEN is concerned in European and international standardizing represents:

- The priority of collaboration with ISO and providing the conformity of international standards with legislative and European market's demands.

- Providing an European platform in order to achieve a coherent position at international level (with The World-wide Commerce Organization)

- Respecting individual responsibilities of each ISO member and coordination of national contributions to subjects of vital interest for Europe.

- Maintenance of the agreement from Vienna with ISO or of some equivalent agreements as instrument of work. The achievement of coherence in European standardizing, in which the legislative demands of CENELEC, ETSI, and CE/EFTA are concerned.

- The development of cooperation with other regional organisms of standardizing and with the countries in process of development, according to European politics.

2. CENELEC

CENELEC is the European organization responsible for standards in the electro technical area. CENELEC means The European Committee of Electro Technical Standardizing. It was founded in 1973 as a non-profit organization and officially acknowledged as Organization of European Standardizing through the Direction of European Committee 83/189/EEC.

CENELEC was founded in 1973, as a result of the extension of the unique market to Denmark, Ireland and Great Britain. It was the result of the fusion of two organizations: CENELCOM and CENEL. Presently, CENELEC is a technical non-profit organization founded according to the Belgian legislation and it consists of the technical committees of 20 European countries. Plus, 15 national committees from Central and Eastern Europe participate in CENELEC's works, under the state of affiliates. Their objective is to achieve the quality of member with full rights of CENELEC. CENELEC's mission is to prepare electro-technical standards, which will help at the development of the European unique market for electrical and electro-technical products by removing commercial barriers, creating new markets and reducing the costs of standards adoption. CENELEC's standards are acknowledged and used in the 15 affiliated states. As a result of The Agreement of Dresda signed with IEC, for which CENELEC adopts international standards as many times as possible, CENELEC contributes in opening to non-European exporters, with the same advantages as European producers. The result of the Agreement of Dresda is that the majority of CENELEC's standards are also international standards, acknowledged, consequently, outside the European territory. CENELEC takes into consideration the producers' opinion and the contribution, settling connections with these through official agreements of collaboration closed with 31 industrial associations. These partners can offer advice and establish priorities for standardizing, can propose and offer the expertise over the legislative consequences and the new standards.

3. ETSI

ETSI is the European organization which activates in the telecommunication area.

ETSI (The European Institute for Standards in Telecommunications) is a non-profit organization, which mission is the production of standards for telecommunications, which are used on the European territory and outside it.

Having the residence in the South of France, ETSI reunites 786 members from 56 countries, in Europe and outside Europe, representing the administrations, network operators, producers, service providers, organisms of research and utilisers. The members, who have the responsibility to approve elaborated standards, decide the working schedule of the Institute. Consequently, the ETSI activities are perfectly lined to the market's necessities, desired by its members. ETSI is an organization, which works after the market's rules; its members, who represent the industry, decide the working schedule and the allocation of necessary resources. ETSI has an important role in the development of a big variety of standards and others technical documentations in telecommunications, data transmissions and IT. The main object of ETSI is to support the global harmonization, by providing a forum in which the main actors can actively contribute. The European Committee and the EFTA secretariat officially recognize ETSI. By international collaborations, ETSI will follow the object's fulfillment of developing standards, which are practical to a global level, also supporting the regulations and undertakings of UE and EFTA. The object of the institute is to produce and maintain the technical standards, as well as others documentations required by the members. As an European organization of standardization, this object will be realized so that it will be supporting the competition on the European market of telecommunications. ETSI is governed by its layouts, which involve status and procedure rules.

ETSI has the role of following:

- The initiation of a continually process of revision, in order to consolidate the ETSI orientation to new standardization domains (m-commerce, IP technologies and services, e-Europe initiatives, etc.).

- The assurance of the necessary measures to consolidate the ETSI position as Standardization Institute of first class, developing standards of international importance which is willing to initiate international co-operations of all kinds, especially for global solutions of standardization.

- The operalization of the ETSI activities for the Internet (e-standardization)

- The definition of the internal activities as a result to the external developments and trends.

- The development of standards and documentations with global practicability, obtained by global collaboration and attending international associations, without ETSI becoming an organization of global standardization.

- ETSI must accomplish the demands of its members, respecting therewith the relevant politics of EU and EFTA.

International organisms of standardization:

1. ISO

The role of ISO has evolved in the first 50 years of existence and it will continue this process in future. By the decisions of the Council, ISO has answered all its members' wishes, which result from the markets solicitations: in this way, ISO has developed new products which would satisfy these necessities.

The international standardization has started in the electro-technical domain: the International Electro-technical Committee has been fond in 1906.

When ISO has been fond in 1947, the main object was to assure recommendations towards its members, to the harmonization of the national standards and in the first 25 years of existence the results of the ISO activity have been published as ISO Recommendations.

AT the beginning of the '70 ISO started to publish the international standards, in an opportune moment, regarding the exceptional expansion of the international commerce, which followed. At the beginning of the '80 has been accepted the fact that the ISO standards had their own validity on the market, appearing

the first signs of the markets' globalization. There have been cases when it was solicited that ISO should develop standards on specific themes, which meant a moving off from the initial mission, the one of harmonization of the global standards.

ISO comprehends a network of standardization institutes from 147 countries, based on a member from each country, having a general secretariate in Geneva which co-ordinates this system.

ISO is an non-governmental organization, whom members are not deputies of the national governments, like in the case of the United Nations. However, ISO occupies a special position between the public sector and the private one.Consequently, ISO can act as a connection organization where it can get to an agreement based on some solutions which not only answer to the demands of the business environment, but also to the group of users.

ISO contains standardization institutes from big or small states, which are industrialized, and are   in train of developing or in transition, from all the regions of the world.ISO is developing standards, which must be congruent with the established demands of the market. Experts from the industrial sectors, business or technical sectors which have solicited those standards and which they will apply realize this work. Those can also join other persons cu the relevant expertise, as well as the reprezentors of the governmental agencies, educational institutes and testing labs.

The main concepts, which substantiate the operational model of the ISO, are Valoare N Parteneriat N Optimizare.

2) IEC

IEC is the international organization responsible for the standardization in the electro-technical domain.

The IEC Objects are:

- the efficient accomplishment of the demands of the global market
- The assurance of the priority and the maxim utilization at an international level of the standards and schemes of evaluation of the conformity.
- The evaluation and the improvement of the products' quality and services covered by standards
- The assessment of the conditions of interoperability of the complex systems.
- The efficient raising of the industrial processes.
- The contribution to the improvement of the health and safety of the population
- The contribution to the environment protection

Standards

The international standards of the IEC facilitate the commercial exchanges at an international level, by the elimination of the technical impediments, succeeding therefore in creating new markets and economical raising.

The IEC standards have a major importance, because they represent the essence of The Agreement of the World Organization of Commerce on The Technical Impediments in Commerce, where more than 100 members of the governments recognize the very important role of the standards on improving the efficency and developing the international commerce.

3) ITU

ITU represents the international organization, which operates in the standardization of the telecommunications.The three sectors of the Union N radio communications (ITU-R), the standardization of the telecommunications (ITU-I), and the developing of the telecommunications (ITU-D) N work nowadays to built and influence the networks and the services of the future.Those activities cover all the aspects of the telecommunications, from the establishment of standards to the facility of the interoperability of the equipments and the systems of a global level, until adopting the operational procedures for the variety if offered services.

The ITU activity has assured the essential base which has facilitated the raising of the telecommunications' industry to a global value of one trillion USD.

Each of the three sectors of ITU act by conferences and meetings, where the members negotiate agreements which are used as basis for the operation of the global services of telecommunications.

The international standardization, European and national all are complementary one with each other. The activity of national standardization is complementary to the process of European and international standardization because the national standardization is aware of the national and local particularities, including those geographic characteristics, cultural and linguistic. This consolidates the capacity of the European and international standardization process to be aware of the local interests and to promote a large participation of all those who are interested. It is important that the national standardization system to assure an effective participation of all interested parts and to reflect the national position.

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