



**CONSEJO GENERAL DE COLEGIOS OFICIALES DE
PERITOS E INGENIEROS TECNICOS INDUSTRIALES**



**UNIÓN DE ASOCIACIONES
DE INGENIEROS TÉCNICOS
INDUSTRIALES DE ESPAÑA**

Madrid, 10 December 2003

In accordance with established deadlines, on 27 November 2003, the European Parliament's Legal Matters and Domestic Market Commission voted on the amendments to the proposed directive on acknowledgement of professional qualifications 2002/0061 (COD). The Commission approved the contents of amendments *numbers 79* (article 20, paragraph 1), *117* (article 45 b "Engineer training") and *140* (Annexe V.7 b.2 [new]) proposed by European Member of Parliament Estefano Zappalà, which curtails the competences of Member States, and totally modifies the general framework provided for Engineering studies in Europe.

From the very start of this legislative process, the association of Spanish Technical Engineers has demonstrated its disapproval and disagreement with Mr. Zappalà's position, because his amendments have a severely distorting effect on European engineering as a whole.

As the situation progresses and against the interests of the majority of the members of the organisation that represents European Engineering, i.e. The European Federation of National Engineering Associations, (E.F.N.E.A), the aim of these amendments is to substitute the general system that determines the length of engineering studies, and to define the minimum education as " four years

of full-time study, or seven years of studies, at least three of which would be full-time at university or at a comparable centre of education".

The General Board of Official Colleges of Experts and Industrial Technical Engineers (C.O.G.I.T.I. in Spanish) and the Union of Spanish Associations of Industrial Technical Engineers (U.A.I.T.I.E in Spanish) propose that the members of the European Parliament should consider this new definition of Engineering Studies in great depth, for it is contrary to the present situation in Europe and Spain, where for over half a century university education in Engineering has lasted three years.

In view of the coming vote on this directive proposal at the European Parliament session in Strasbourg in January 2004, the association of Spanish Technical Engineers would ask for special consideration of this matter and we are confident that it will receive the same.

Yours faithfully.

Manuel León Cuenca
President of the General Board of Official Colleges of
Industrial Technical Engineers.
President of the Union of Spanish Associations of
Industrial Technical Engineers.