

Dear Sir,

On 12 January 2004 we were informed of amendments 197, with regard to 21 quáter (new) and 205, Annexe V.7 b.1 (new) presented by speakers Francesco Fiori and Stefano Zappalá on behalf of the group PPE-DE.

This directive acknowledges professional qualifications, but in its draft version, it reaches intolerable limits with the amendments that have been presented as a treacherous surprise, defending corporative interests without any qualms, in an attempt to bypass the general interests of the E.U., ploughing up and destroying basic engineering sectors on its way, in Spain and in other Member States.

A directive of such significance cannot be allowed to fall into such rhetorical and unjust definitions, limiting and rendering useless the regulatory and legislative capacity of Member States and their respective Universities.

We do hope that the current Irish Presidency will reconsider this matter, and start over in a more coherent and rational manner, so that it will be developed at the same pace as the university reforms in order to achieve convergence of the European Space of Higher Education for all member states.

The group of 400,000 Spanish Technical Engineers categorically opposes the presentation of the aforementioned amendments, and would ask for measures to be taken to resolve this matter in a more reflexive way.

Yours faithfully,

Signed Manuel León Cuenca