



TWINNING PROJECT

ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST SAFETY AND TECHNICAL QUALITY OF CONSTRUCTION



Austrian Standards Institute
Consulting 



Experience of National Annexes

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Key Abbreviations

- **CEN** European Committee for Standardization
- **CPD** Construction Products Directive (89/106/EEC)
- **EN** Euronorm, i.e. European Standard
- **ENV** European Pre-standard (for subsequent conversion into an EN)
- **I** Informative
- **N** Normative
- **NA** National Annex
- **NCCI** Non-Conflicting Complementary Information
- **P** Principles
- **PPD** Public Procurement Directives

European Law

- Economic and political **integration** between the member states of the EU means that the countries take joint decisions on many matters
- Common policies have been developed in a wide range of fields - from agriculture to culture, from consumer affairs to competition, from the environment and energy to transport and trade

European Law

- The free movement of goods is a cornerstone of the **single European market**
- Objective: to protect health and safety of
 - ✓ users
 - ✓ consumers
 - ✓ workers
- Objective: to protect property and the environment

European Law

- European Directives regulate important industrial sectors:
 - ✓ Machinery
 - ✓ Lifts
 - ✓ Medical devices
 - ✓ Pressure equipment
 - ✓ Packaging and packaging waste
 - ✓ **Construction**
 - ✓ etc

European Integration

- The **Single Market** was formally completed at the end of 1992
- The Member States removed the barriers to trade and turned their common market into a genuine single market in which goods, services, people and capital could move around freely
- On 1985, the European Council adopted a Resolution on a **New Approach** to technical harmonisation and standards to serves the completion of the Single Market

The New Approach

- A new framework for the harmonization of national regulations for industrial products
- Product legislation states the desired outcome through **Essential Requirements** without specifying how it should be achieved
- Definition of Essential Requirements necessary to protect the public goal of health and safety
- Mainly introduced because the traditional method for harmonizing legislation often was too slow and provided very detailed technical specifications

The New Approach

Advantages

- Facilitates the achievement of the Single Market
- Helps to develop flexible and technology-neutral legislation by moving from detailed product specific technical requirements to defining the essential requirements for types of products
- Promotes innovation and competitiveness

European Standards and Laws

- European standardization supports important Community policies such as consumer welfare, environmental protection, trade and the single market
- The EU has, since the mid-1980s, made an increasing use of standards in support of its policies and legislation
- European Standards are developed in one of the European Standards Organizations

European Standards and Laws

- European Standards specify how to meet Essential Requirements set by Laws
- Products made according to (harmonized) European Standards are presumed to comply with the Essential Requirements
- Such products carry the CE mark and have access to the European market

CE mark – What is it?

- The CE (Conformité Européenne) Mark
- A “passport” to enable movement of products throughout Europe
- The CE marking is the manufacturer’s responsibility



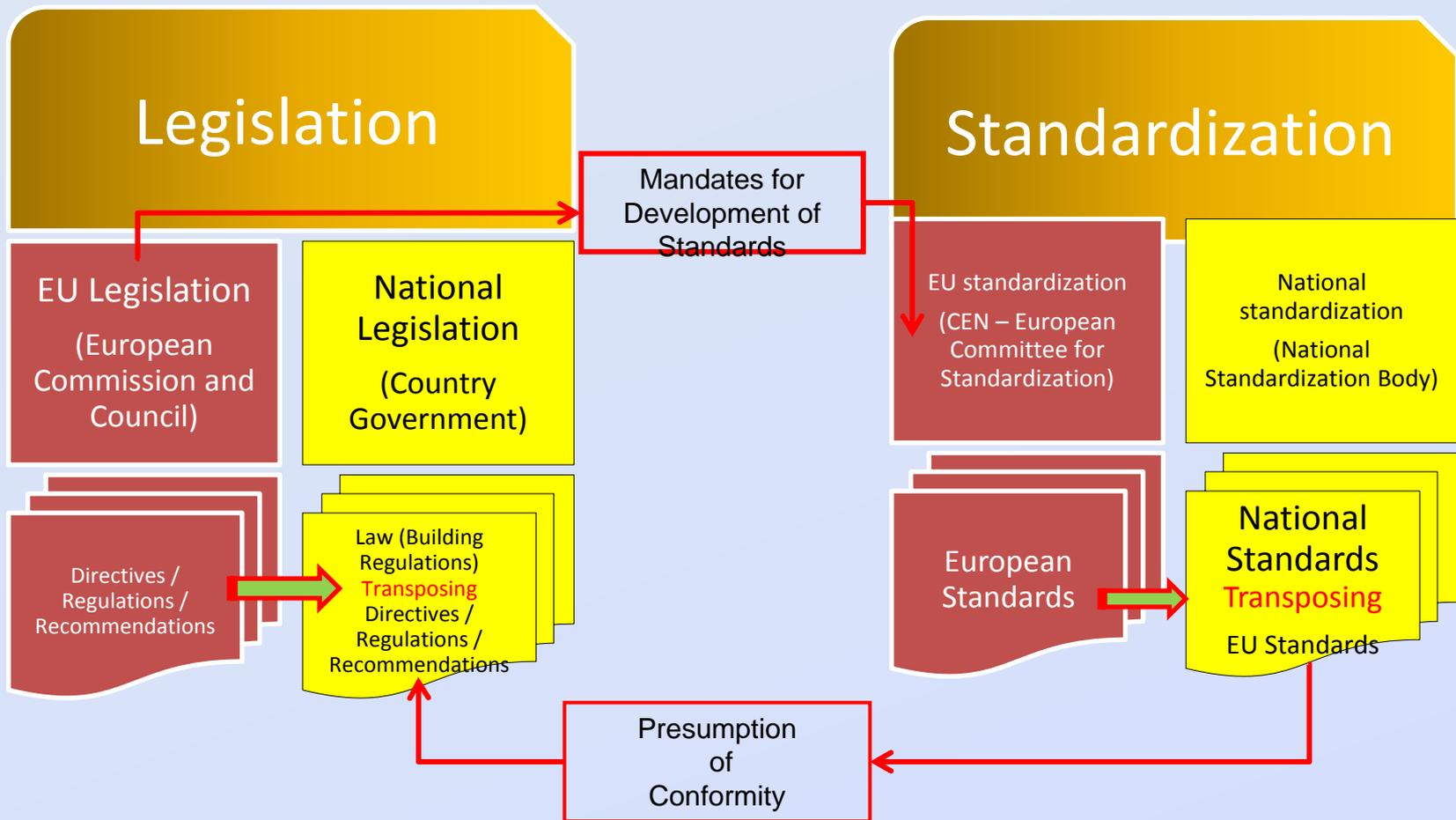
Why European Standards?

- The way to the Single European Market
- Innovation from European research results
- Competitiveness in a global economy
- Simplification of regulation
- Easier access for new Members to the EU

BUT, especially

- 1 European Standard (EN) replaces 31 different national standards in Europe and create access to a market of 490 million

Legislation and Standards (EU and National Level)



Construction Products Directive (CPD)

- The CPD is one of over 20 New Approach Directives which aims to breakdown artificial barriers to trade throughout the European Economic Area.
- Originated with Council Resolution on the New Approach 1985
- Intended for “products placed on the market”

CPD and Essential Requirements

- The CPD contains **six essential requirements** which relate to the performance of the construction works:
 - ✓ Mechanical resistance and stability
 - ✓ Safety in case of a fire
 - ✓ Hygiene, health and environment
 - ✓ Safety in use
 - ✓ Protection against noise
 - ✓ Energy economy and heat retention
- Materials and products which are incorporated into the works in a permanent manner must satisfy the essential requirements

Eurocodes: Benefits of use

- Harmonize the services market in the construction sector
- Encourage and facilitate the marketing and use of materials, structural components and kits
- Ease communication between designers, authorities and clients
- Increase competitiveness of the European civil engineering firms, contractors, designers and product manufacturers in their worldwide activities
- Common design aids (manuals, handbooks, etc.) and software will be prepared and used
- Enhance and be a common basis for research and development in civil engineering
- Lead to a more uniform level of safety (of constructions) in the different European regions

Eurocodes and the National Annex

- *“Eurocodes recognise the responsibility of Regulatory and other Relevant Authorities in each Member State and have safeguarded their right to determine values related to safety matters at National level where these continue to vary from State to State ” – Foreword of EN 1990*

This is through the National Annex

Eurocodes and the National Annex

- A National Annex may contain directly or by reference to specific provisions, information on those parameters which are left open in the Eurocodes for national choice, the **Nationally Determined Parameters (the NDPs)**, to be used for the design of building and civil engineering works **to be constructed in the country concerned**
- It is the responsibility for each Country (either European or the rest of the World to produce their NA)