



“Services of general interest and the single market: Contradiction or conciliation?”

A need for a SGI – friendly single market

PROGRAMME

CEEP Conference

4th of December 2007

9:30- 17:15

Husa President Park Hotel
Bd Roi Albert II, 44
1000 Brussels

**CEEP - EUROPEAN CENTRE OF ENTERPRISES WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND OF
ENTERPRISES OF GENERAL ECONOMIC INTEREST**

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Working languages: English, German, French, Italian (passive), Spanish (passive)

- 9:00 – 9:30 Registration of participants and a welcome coffee
- 9:30 – 10:00 Opening of the conference
- Rainer Plaßmann**, Secretary General of CEEP
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Jörgen Holmquist**, Director General, DG Internal Market and Services, European Commission
- Discussion with the audience
- 10:40 - 12:30 **Session 1: The place of services of general interest in the Reform Treaty and the Single Market Review**
- How to balance the need for more legal certainty for Services of General Economic Interest at Community level and respect of the principle of subsidiarity?
- How to introduce a horizontal legal framework in harmony with sectoral Community regulation?
- Moderator:** **Juan Pedro Marín Arrese**, Chairman of the CEEP Enterprise, Internal Market and Competition Committee
- Speakers:** **Evelyn Gebhardt***, Member of the European Parliament
- Heide Rühle**, Member of the European Parliament
- Marcel Haag**, Head of the Unit of Strategic Objective Solidarity, General Secretariat, European Commission
- Discussion between speakers and possible questions from the audience
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30

Session 2: Conditions for a successful integration of services of general interest into the single market concept

Respect of principle of subsidiarity expressed by the establishment of the rights of public authorities to define services of general economic interest and determine how they are to be provided

Safeguard of the general interest in the case of conflict with the internal market and competition rules

Set of fundamental principles, governing Services of General Economic Interest

IPPP and in-house solutions

Moderator: **Michael Schöneich**, Vice-Chairman of the CEEP Local Enterprise Committee

Speakers: **Alexander Radwan**, Member of the European Parliament

John Monks, Secretary General of ETUC

Arnhild Dordi Gjønnnes, Chair of the BusinessEurope Public Procurement Group

Pierre Bauby, Special Adviser of the General Secretariat of CEEP on Services of General Interest

Discussion with the audience

15:30 -15:45

Coffee break

15:45 -17:00 **Session 3: Social and health services facing single market and competition law**

What's next after their exclusion from the services directive?

How to take on board Social Services of General Interest which have their own specificities as regards to Services of General Economic Interest?

How to balance the very specific mission of health care services and the internal market rules?

Moderator: **Laurent Ghékière**, Chairman of the CEEP Services of General Interest and Statistics Committee

Speakers: **Bernadette Vergnaud**, Member of the European Parliament

Jérôme Vignon, Director of Social Protection and Integration directorate, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission

Bernard Merkel*, Public Health Directorate, Head of the Unit on Policy Analysis and Development, DG Health and Consumer Protection, European Commission

Godfrey Perera, Secretary General of HOSPEEM

Discussion with the audience

17:00-17:15 **Concluding remarks:**

Andrzej Malinowski*, Vice-President of CEEP