

## **Italian Province and University Do Research on European Legal Forms**

### **The European EEIG Information Centre Welcomes Dr. Alessio Bartolacelli**

As readers of our Website and the EWIV/EEIG/GEIE eJOURNAL know, both EEIG and EGTC are instruments the EU has created to provide an easier cooperation between economic subjects operating in different EU Countries: private and public bodies for EEIG, public bodies for EGTC. These ways of cooperation are often set up by entities operating in areas very close to borders, because of their own transnational nature; when it doesn't actually happen, it can be useful to discover why, and to investigate whether something can be changed to modify the existing situation.

This is the main idea of the project GEIE/GECT-TN, approved by the Autonomous Province of Trento (Italy), in the frame of the "Trentino – FP7 – People – Marie Curie Action – Cofund" project, co-funded by the same Province of Trento and EU.



The proposing researcher is Dr. Alessio Bartolacelli, Ph.D., Research Fellow at the Faculty of Law of the University of Trento, mainly in the area of transnational Business and Commercial Law. The project is focused on both EEIG, in almost all its features, and EGTC, as concerns its "private law aspects"; this means, in particular, the area of internal governance of groupings and relationships between their members.

The development of the project - which will lead, during the next two years, to the publication of working papers and studies about the different areas of the research - is sub-divided into many sections:

The first fundamental step is the formation of a good knowledge base about the phenomenon of European Groupings. In order to do that, Dr. Bartolacelli asked the Europäisches EWIV-Informationszentrum at Libertas - Europäisches Institut of Rangendingen in Baden-Württemberg/Germany to be host partner of the project. The EWIV-Informationszentrum, thus, is partner of the University of Trento and will host the researcher during his working stays in this multi-annual project. The researcher will take advantage of the extremely well assorted library and of the Europe-wide unique databases about the EEIG and EGTC set up last years by the Center. Dr Bartolacelli has thus obtained, during August 2011, the status of "visiting scholar" at the Juristische Fakultät (Law Faculty) of the renowned University of Tübingen. Such recognition gives him the possibility of widening the net of research centers involved in the project; besides, he has been given the opportunity to take advantage also of the University Library of Tübingen and its legal databases.

Once the knowledge base about the legal framework (EU Regulations and Member States' implementation laws) is formed, travels to the most significant EEIG and EGTC are going to be planned to verify on field their organizations and specific peculiarities (structure, objectives, results, employees etc.). Specific attention will be reserved to the analysis of the socio-economic context where the groupings are set in. The comparison of results of such a research with official data provided by Province of Trento about the context of that area will help to understand whether the

lack of EEIGs in the Province of Trento is only due to the Italian legal framework of the legal forms or if more reasons are present.

As far as the EGTC is concerned, it is remarkable that the same Province of Trento, with the Province of Bozen and the Austrian region (“Land”) of Tirol, has set up a grouping on June 14<sup>th</sup> 2011. This constitution is in the meantime an opportunity and a challenge for the project. The opportunity consists in looking at a grouping in its starting time; the challenge is to find out solutions, possibly already implemented in different groupings, or even new ones, that can be used by this grouping as well.

The final goal of the project is to make easier the use of these two tools provided by the EU to private and public bodies. For such a purpose, guidelines and specimen agreements will be prepared. It will be possible, too, analyze specific existing EEIG and/or EGTC projects and to organize seminars and workshops about the constitution of European groupings.

If ever you have any questions, suggestions, remarks or other contributions to this project, please call Dr. Bartolacelli at LIBERTAS/European EEIG Information Center or just write him an e-mail under [alessio.bartolacelli@gmail.com](mailto:alessio.bartolacelli@gmail.com). He speaks Italian, English, German, Portuguese and Spanish.