



Item 26-Discussion on Development of Materials on the Global Marketplace

In a global planning-market expectations towards the range of services and the competence of the architects may differ considerably in the different countries. As a rule these expectations are oriented by the pattern of services that is usually offered by the respective domestic professionals.

The range of the expected service reaches from the all inclusive package comprehending

- A design that considers topographic and city-planning border-conditions, functional, security-relevant, building-legal as well as ecological aspects and last but not least the art of building.
- The generation of the building permit for the project
- Execution-drawings in which all structural, construction-, physical, technical and other parameters have been competently and finally solved.
- Implementation of the procurement process from preparations to contract-awarding
- Responsible supervision of the building execution with competent mastering of all legal implications and finally
- After completion supervision of the finished building for a contractually defined period

Everything steered by a stringent process-management with especially cost- and schedule-control

And – unrestricted liability of the architect for everything

At the other end of the scale we may find countries, where expectations towards the competence of the architects are restricted to the mere design, perhaps with some non-technical details to ensure that the built result resembles the design-drawing.

It must not be concealed, that many architects in countries with a traditionally very comprehensive range of services do increasingly dream of getting rid of the “hard components” of this professional image.

These considerable differences have been formed over a long period of time. The reasons are plentiful, social structure, climate, the prevailing state-philosophy, structure and competence of the particular building-craft (or building-industry) and the strength of the profession within the political theatre being some of the many factors.

Semantic problems make navigation in this ocean of different expectations even more difficult. Behind identical terms different meanings are hidden.

The diversified role of the architects in the planning- and building-process in the different UIA member-countries should be analysed and shown.

An architect who wants to export his services must know what is expected of him in the country of destination before he makes an offer.