

# **ROLE OF THE LEGAL REVISERS AT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

## **OUTLINE**

### **Introduction: Drafting of EC legislation**

- Commission proposal: Drafting, checking, translation
- Council: Working groups
- European Parliament: MEPs

### **Role of Commission legal revisers**

- Checking drafts
- Giving drafting advice
- Training
- Information
- Developing rules and models
- Simplification: repeals, codification

### **Basis for work on drafting**

- Declaration 39
- Interinstitutional Agreement on common guidelines for the quality of drafting of Community legislation
- Joint Practical Guide for the drafting of Community legislation

### **Basis for work on simplification**

- Interinstitutional Agreements
- Better lawmaking: Repeals, Simplification
- Codification
- Recasting

### **Key components**

- High-level authority
- Clear responsibility
- Training
- Information
- Monitoring

## **RULES RELEVANT TO THE DRAFTING OF LEGAL ACTS**

**Declaration No 39 on the quality of the drafting of Community legislation**,  
adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference in Amsterdam on 2 October 1997  
(OJ C 340, 10.11.1997, p. 139)

**Interinstitutional Agreement of 22 December 1998 on common guidelines for the quality of drafting of Community legislation**  
(OJ C 73, 17.3.1999, p. 1)

**Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2003 on better law-making**  
(OJ C 321, 31.12.2003, p. 1)

### **Joint Practical Guide**

signed on 16 March 2000

Accessible from:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/techleg/index.htm>

### **Interinstitutional Style Guide**

<http://publications.europa.eu/code/en/en-000100.htm>

## **CODIFICATION AND RECASTING**

**Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 December 1994 on an accelerated working method for official codification of legislative texts**  
(OJ C 102, 4.4.1996, p. 2)

**Interinstitutional Agreement of 28 November 2001 on a more structured use of the recasting technique for legal acts**  
(OJ C 77, 28.3.2002, p. 1)