

Report of the European Community for 2003-2005 on the implementation of the Espoo Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context.

The European Community explained its status and competence in relation to the Espoo Convention in its response to the questionnaire issued for the review of implementation 2003. The response made at that time remains largely valid and serves as the European Community's response to the present questionnaire, subject to the following.

Directive 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment and amending with regards to public participation and access to justice Council Directive 85/337/EEC (OJ No. L 156, 25.6.2003, p.17) became effective in the Member States on 25 June 2005.

To the research projects listed in the previous reply should be added the items below, which are available at the following web address:

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-support.htm>

- [Guidelines on the Assessment of Indirect and Cumulative Impacts as well as Impact interactions \(1999\)](#)
- The Relationship between the EIA and SEA Directives (2005).

The European Community has not ratified either of the amendments to the Convention or the SEA Protocol and it has no immediate plans to do so.

The European Union has not undertaken any formal awareness-raising activities on the Convention in the period under review but the European Commission draws attention to its existence when appropriate in replying to questions from Members of the European Parliament or other sources.

The previous reply is attached for convenience.