



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Council resolution on the management of intellectual property in knowledge transfer activities and on a Code of Practice for universities and other public research organisations - "IP Charter Initiative"

*2871st COMPETITIVENESS
(INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY and RESEARCH) Council meeting
Brussels, 29 and 30 May 2008*

The Council adopted the following resolution:

"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

RECOGNISES the importance of effective management and protection of intellectual property, the promotion of knowledge transfer across Europe and the efficient dissemination of scientific and technological innovations in the European Research Area in order to maximise the socio-economic impact of public research efforts,

RECALLS the work undertaken in the context of the "Intellectual Property Charter" Initiative of the 2007 German Presidency endorsed by the European Council in June 2007, the Commission's Communication entitled "Improving knowledge transfer between research institutions and industry across Europe" of 4 April 2007, its own conclusions on "Knowledge transfer and the use of intellectual property in the European Research Area" of 25 June 2007, and the European Council conclusions of March 2008; RECALLS the work of CREST in the context of the Open Method of Coordination (OMC);

P R E S S

WELCOMES AND SUPPORTS the Commission's Recommendation on the management of intellectual property in knowledge transfer activities and Code of Practice for universities and other public research organisations, included in the Annex to this Resolution, as one of the policy initiatives taken by the Commission to follow up its Green Paper entitled "The European Research Area: New Perspectives" ,

INVITES Member States to actively support the Recommendation, and to promote the effective take-up of the Code of Practice by universities and other public research organisations, while fully respecting their autonomy in dealing with IPR;

CALLS UPON all universities and other public research organisation to pay due regard to the content of the Commission's Code of Practice and to implement it according to their specific circumstances, including appropriate flexibility for contract research ;

INVITES the Commission to apply the principles laid down in the Recommendation of the Code of Practice in relevant EU policies and instruments;

INVITES Member States and the Commission to establish, in partnership, light and effective governance arrangements, including the monitoring and evaluation of the take up and impact of the Recommendation and Code of Practice, on the basis of indicators, the exchange of best practices with active involvement of stakeholders, which could lead to the definition of further guidelines on specific issues of common interest where justified;

RECOMMENDS to the Heads of State and Government to endorse this Resolution at their next summit meeting."
