

## Faktenblatt

### Liberal Profession – Definitions

#### 1. BFB-General Assembly of 1995:

"Members of the liberal professions provide services of intellectual and ideational character, based upon their particular professional qualification and in view of their personal, responsible and professionally independent capacities to the common interest of their customers as well as towards the general public.

The professional occupation is in general subject to specific professional regulation, bound to state law or based upon autonomous regulation of its own professional representation, which guarantees and ensures continuous professionalism, quality and client-confidentiality".

#### 2. European Court of Justice (Case 267/99)

"The liberal professions mentioned in Annex F(2) to the Sixth Directive 77/388 are activities which involve a marked intellectual character, require a high-level qualification and are usually subject to clear and strict professional regulation. In the exercise of such an activity, the personal element is of special importance and such exercise always involves a large measure of independence in the accomplishment of the professional activities."

#### 3. Directive 2005/36/EC on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (recital 43)

"Liberal professions, [...] are, according to this Directive, those practised on the basis of relevant professional qualifications in a personal, responsible and professionally independent capacity by those providing intellectual and conceptual services in the interest of the client and the public."

Brussels/Berlin, October 2017