

Regulation and accreditation of surveying professions – USA and UK - challenges going forward

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SUMMARY

Surveying professions play an important role in ensuring the preservation and protection of land and property rights.

Governments across the world are changing their approaches to protect the public. Some keep leaning toward market deregulation with the aim to encourage an individual's right for private entrepreneurship, reduce market entry and reduce transaction costs. Some others promote more stringent rules aiming to bring more order to the land management system and to increase market efficiency.

These regulatory changes result in changes to the regulation of the surveying professions. Professional regulations currently operate on the following levels:

(1) legal regulatory requirements:

- a. national laws;
- b. regional or state laws;

(2) professional self-regulation:

- a. compulsory membership to professional organisations with special national or regional status;
- b. voluntary membership to professional

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organisations.

Each impose different requirements in terms of minimum educational outcomes, professional skills and behaviours, evidence of practice, and professional training.

In this session we will discuss and compare the UK and USA approaches to regulation of surveying professions and the role of professional organisations in protecting the society to ensure safety, welfare and fairness in real estate transactions and land and property management. Additionally, we will encourage participation to gather information about surveying profession regulation and accreditation trends throughout the other parts of the world and how FIG can address the long-term challenges of the surveyor professional.

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