



QUESTIONNAIRE ON ARTICLE 16 OF DIRECTIVE 2000/12/EC AND CROSS-BORDER MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

1. Do you think that there are obstacles to cross-border mergers and acquisitions in banking in Europe? If yes, please indicate those obstacles and their relative importance.

2. In particular, do you believe that obstacles may arise from national legislation and/or local market structures?

3. Could you assess the role played by EU banking law in mergers and acquisitions in Europe? Do you think that Article 16 (and Article 7 to which it is related) of Directive 2000/12/EC, or the way it is applied, has hindered mergers and acquisitions in Europe?

For questions 1 and 2 and 3, please indicate whether your comments are based on practical experience.

4. Do you think that there is any legal provision that could be amended, deleted or issued in order to remove the potential obstacles to cross-border mergers and acquisitions in Europe?

You are also invited to provide any other comments you may have on the questions raised in the Call for technical advice (No. 1) from CEBS.

All comments should be made in English and, unless the respondent requests otherwise, will be published on the CEBS website at <http://www.c-eps.org/Advice/advice.htm>

Please send comments to qu@c-eps.org by 30 April 2005.