



**Activity Title and Number:** Study assignment on the globalisation and regulation of the legal profession; A372-C1

**Beneficiary:** Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

**Location and Date:** Germany, Romania, Greece; 23 November 2014 to 04 December 2014

**Stakeholders:** All China Lawyer’s Association, provincial justice bureaus and lawyers’ associations, German Federal Bar, German Bar Association, Ministry of Justice of Romania, National Association of the Romanian Bars, The Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights of Greece, Athens Bar Association, law firms

## Brief Activity Report

### Relevance and Impact

Increased global trade and investment exchanges between China and the rest of the world calls for the further liberalisation of China’s legal services. China’s legal services industry is an integral part of the country’s judicial system. Regulatory restrictions limit the current market access of foreign law firms seeking to operate in China. China’s intention to liberalise the legal services market will allow foreign law firms to operate in China and will ensure a more internationalised market. Following upon the seminar on the globalisation and regulation of the legal profession ([A342-C1](#)), EUCTP II organised a study assignment for the Chinese Ministry of Justice to assist China’s reform efforts by drawing on the EU’s deep experience regulating and liberalising its legal services market.

### Activity Description

Ten senior officials from MoJ, its local branches and lawyer associations led by Mr. SUN Yong, Director-General of the International Legal Cooperation Center (MoJ) participated in the study assignment.

The meetings with the Ministries of Justice of Germany, Romania and Greece and with the bar associations of the same countries gave delegates a general introduction to these countries’ legal systems and the supervisory systems over lawyers as well as on the reforms, development and current situation of these countries legal industry and basic data. These meetings also touched upon the liberalisation process of legal services in these countries and cross-border cooperation between German, Romanian and Greek lawyers. Finally, the meetings with law firms in each of these countries provided delegates with successful examples of liberalisation and globalisation processes in the European Union.



*Chinese officials meet with representatives from German Bar Associations in Berlin*

### Results and Dissemination

This study assignment is part of an ongoing and successful cooperation between the EC and the Chinese Ministry of Justice. Discussions are underway to establish future cooperation topics:

- Cooperation or joint operation between Chinese and foreign law firms.
- Chinese law firms to use services provided by foreign lawyers,
- Representative offices of foreign law firms in China to hire Chinese lawyers;

Finally, delegates came to the conclusion that Chinese law firms needed to be further specialised.