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Building Control Report

Study into Self Confirmation in Building Control in Europe

Consortium of European Building Control

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The Consortium of European Building Control (CEBC) is a pan-European body that represents the profession of Building Control across Europe.

Its membership encompasses government departments, professional bodies and Institutions, and private companies

The consortium meets as a body twice a year at locations around Europe. A theme is chosen for each meeting depending on the country to be visited. A typical meeting may include a technical site visit and papers given linked to a particular theme.

At recent meetings, members have debated the following topics :

- Philosophy of Control
- Fire Safety engineering
- European Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings
- Innovations in Timber Framed Building Construction
- Access to buildings legislation
- CE Marking and market surveillance
- Snow loading on buildings
- Effect of climate change on the built environment
- Building Insurance and Liability
- Qualifications of Building Professionals
- Web based solutions

Each meeting also allows members to debate issues developing in their respective countries and to be able to share information and experiences. This has been particularly important on subjects such as defects in construction products and durability.

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Consortium of European Building Control (CEBC)
Study into Self Confirmation in Building Control in Europe.

Executive summary

The purpose of this study is to provide information on self confirmation (self certification) within the building control systems of Europe. The information may be of particular use to architects, developers and contractors who work across national boundaries.

Most building works of any significance are required to be carried out to meet certain essential minimum standards of health and safety. Dependent upon the type of work being carried out there may also be additional essential requirements, for example relating to energy efficiency and accessibility. Building Control is the process whereby compliance with these standards is verified.

Verification that building works satisfy required minimum standards is generally achieved through one of two methods. Firstly it may be through independent inspection. This may be by central or local government or other municipal agencies, or, by other government approved or registered persons (Approved Inspectors in England and Wales). In this method, the persons responsible for verification that the works satisfy relevant legislation have not carried out work themselves, they are independent from those carrying out the actual work. This form of verification is referred to as third party verification.

In some countries, verification may however be confirmed by the person or persons who carry out the work. This form of verification is referred to as self confirmation or self certification. The designer or constructor will certify that their work meets all relevant codes and regulations and in such cases no further confirmation by the building control body is considered necessary.

Each country throughout Europe has its own national building standards and each country legislates as to how compliance with those building standards is ensured and is verified.

The study has revealed that there is a wide variety in the extent and application of self confirmation throughout Europe with circumstances ranging from virtually full self confirmation to full verification by member state or municipality.

Methodology

The Consortium of European Building Control (CEBC) has collected information from member countries on the extent of self confirmation throughout Europe. Discussions took place at meetings of the consortium leading to the circulation of a questionnaire to each country. The results from the questionnaire have been collated within tables in appendix 1. The completed questionnaires have been reproduced within appendix 3 and 4 of this report

Findings

From CEBC's Building Control Report 1 (BCR1- Building Control Systems in Europe), it was confirmed that of twenty one countries surveyed, building plans are required to be approved by the building authority in 19 countries. Six countries also permit approval of building plans by private independent experts.

Inspection of work may be carried out by Building Authority (municipality or state), or by other private independent expert. In eight countries the building owner, architect or builder may certify that the work is complete. In England and Wales the Local Authority or private expert (Approved Inspector) may certify that the work is complete. A similar situation exists in Spain where a Technical Architect or Technical Engineer is required to certify that works comply.

An advantage of self certification is well demonstrated by the FENSA scheme which covers replacement windows in England and Wales. The FENSA scheme came into existence in England and Wales when replacement windows came under the control of Building Regulations in 2002. At that time, it was estimated that there were around 2 million individual replacement window contracts each year. It would have been unrealistic to expect the 400 or so local authorities and Approved Inspectors to cope with such a sudden increase in workload. Accordingly, self-regulation by other approved bodies was the most realistic option for dealing with the work.

FENSA is an acronym for the Fenestration Self-Assessment Scheme. It has been set up by the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF) and other industry bodies with Government encouragement in response to the current Building Regulations for England and Wales. Several limited scope self certification schemes already exist in England and Wales. These cover specific items of work such as the installation of gas, oil or solid fuel heat producing appliances, replacement windows, domestic electrical installations etc. (interestingly in some European countries DIY electrical work is unlawful).

Suggestions have been made recently that wider self-certification or self confirmation might be beneficial. Governments are seeking to reduce regulatory burden and bureaucracy yet at the same time, they are under some pressure to increase the scope of controlled functions. This is not simply to satisfy European directives, but a world-wide recognition that it is the construction and day to day use of our buildings that contribute most significantly to CO_2 production and climate change. Customer's expectations are also constantly increasing and their greater demands may well require greater control of the quality and standard of work.

It is generally accepted that a benefit of third party confirmation is that it provides independent confirmation that the works satisfy relevant requirements. It is the independence of the building control body that is significant. Being independent of the designer, contractor or client allows the building control body to act purely from an ethos which seeks to ensure the building is indeed healthy, safe, accessible etc. Being truly independent the building control body does not risk coming under commercial pressure to sign off an otherwise unsuitable building. It has however been suggested that this independent intervention may cause delays to the work, will add to the cost and perhaps be considered to be an unnecessary process if the work is to be designed and constructed by suitably competent qualified persons.

Self Certification can apply at various stages of a construction project, at the design stage, during construction or at completion of the work.

Design stage self-certification operates in part in Scotland where approved, qualified, structural engineers may certify their design work.

I would add here that there is currently some debate in the UK surrounding overall assessment of structural design. The tendency for individual structural elements (frame, foundations, pre-cast elements etc) to be designed by their respective specialist subcontractors is common but questions are being asked, notably by the standing committee and structural safety www.scoss.org.uk/CROSS/index.asp as to who of anyone assesses the building as a whole. In this respect, a third party check is considered essential.

Self confirmation exists to varying degrees in several countries. There are however considerable differences in how the systems operate.

In Austria plans must be submitted to the building Authority but self confirmation of the construction and completion stage may be made by licensed architect, engineer or master builder. The building authority may still have the right to inspect the work.

In Croatia self confirmation is currently limited to 'less complex buildings'. Such confirmation must be made by a chartered Architect or Engineer who must undergo additional training, have at least three years experience, pass a state examination and be registered with the Chamber of Architects and Engineers. There are however, plans to consider widening the scope to include 'family dwellings'. In Lithuania it is felt that building design and construction should be controlled very closely, as the consequences of defects can be collapse, loss of life, can be severe. Accordingly only very minor works and repairs can be self confirmed.

In Cyprus a Supervisor Engineer must be nominated by the building owner before work starts. This person, who must be a member of the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber, is responsible for the construction of the work, based on the design and the conditions of the building permit. He/she will provide a certificate to the building authority that the work has been executed in accordance with the design and any conditions of the permit. The building authority also has the right to inspect the work. In Spain, it is compulsory to have an architect or technical architect to inspect and certify works.

Self confirmation does not exist in Belgium, the Czech Republic, France (except for M&E works), Iceland and Northern Ireland. Self certification is not permitted for residential buildings in Finland but does apply to all other uses. One benefit suggested is that there are many small municipalities in the country, which individually, do not have adequate resources to undertake full building control activity. Self-certification, by a registered person, therefore provides additional capacity.

Norway on the other hand introduced a system in 1997 whereby self-confirmation was an integral part of the quality system of accountable bodies and supplemented by third party control. The role of local authority building control reduced to surveillance of control being performed by accountable bodies. This does not appear to be successful for two reasons. The local authorities do not exercise their right to compel the use of third party control where needed and the functioning of quality systems not being adequate.

There has been an increasing call from the public and the political level to strengthen the role of building control. Although the basic principles of the system still apply, there are plans to introduce

compulsory third party verification for building elements where defects are most likely to occur and the consequences are serious.

Outside the scope of our current research (but still perhaps relevant) is news of a similar situation in New Zealand. They too apparently abandoned third party control in the early 90's in favour of increased self confirmation. There have since been a considerable number of failures of building systems in particular with regard to weather tightness and the scandal of leaky homes' has arisen. This is now costing millions of dollars to rectify. And, as homeowners seek to hold designers, materials manufacturers and builders responsible, the tendency for compensation to have a short shelf life has increased.

The purpose of the current investigation was to gain an understanding of the extent of self confirmation currently permitted in responding counties. This includes information on the elements of the work (design, construction, installation) which can be self confirmed, and the persons (architects, engineers, electricians etc) who are approved to self confirm such work.

Appendix 1: Summary Table

Question	Design phase							
	(Apart from very minor works) Does self certification exist in your country?	Is the whole building self certification?	Is this structural design self certification	Is this limited to certain parts of the design	Drainage?	Energy efficiency?	Heating and Ventilating?	Other?
Austria	Y (1980's)	[3]						
Belgium	N							
Croatia	N	N						Y
Cyprus	Y (2002)							
Czech republic	N	N	N		N	N	N	
Denmark	Y	Y	Y	N				
England & Wales	Y	N	N	Y			Y	Y
Estonia	Y (1998)	Y	Y	Y	N			Y
Finland	Y [1] (1996)	Y						
France	Y [2]	N	N	Y [5]	N	N	Y	
Germany	Y houses	Y						
Iceland	N							
Ireland	N	N	N		N	N	N	N
Italy	Y	N		Y				
Latvia	Y (1996)	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y [6]
Lithuania	Y	Minor Work	N		N	N	N	Y
The Netherlands	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Northern Ireland	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Norway	Y (1997)	Y	Y	N	Y		Y	Y
Poland	Y (1994)	Y	Y		Y			Y
Romania	N	N [4]	N		N	N	N	
Scotland	N	N	Y		N	Y	N	N
Slovakia	Y (1995)	Y	Y		Y		Y	Y
Slovenia	Y (2003)	N	N		N	N	N	N
Spain	Y(Always)	Y	Y	N				
Sweden	Y (1995)	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

1 (Finland) Not residential
2 (France) Except for Mechanical and Electrical
3 (Austria) must submit plans to building authority
4 (Romania) self certification for family dwelling in the countryside
5 (France) Mechanical and electrical
6 Gas

	Question
	What qualifications or membership of professional bodies or organisation is required by the person providing certification?
Austria	
Belgium	
Croatia	
Cyprus	
Czech republic	
Denmark	Approved certified engineer (state control system
England & Wales	
Estonia	
Finland	
France	
Germany	
Iceland	
Ireland	N/A
Italy	
Latvia	Various see sheet
Lithuania	
The Netherlands	
Northern Ireland	N/A
Norway	
Poland	
Romania	
Scotland	
Slovakia	
Slovenia	
Spain	
Sweden	

	Construction phase										
26 nations	Does your country permit self certification of parts of the work on site?	Foundations	Superstructure	Drainage	Replacement windows	Boiler installation	Chimneys and flues	Electrical installation	Other	Air testing
Austria	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Belgium	N									
Croatia	N									
Cyprus	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Czech Republic	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Denmark	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
England & Wales	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Estonia		N	N	N	N	Y		Y		
Finland	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
France	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Germany										
Iceland	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Ireland	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Italy					Y	Y		Y	Y	
Latvia	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
Lithuania		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	
The Netherlands	N									
Northern Ireland	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Norway	Y all	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Poland	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Romania	Y[7]	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N		
Scotland	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y		
Slovakia	Y								Y	
Slovenia	N	N	N	N		N	N	N		
Spain	N / Y									
Sweden	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		

[7] Romania self certification for family dwelling in countryside

	If Self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry our any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion?
Austria	Has right to inspect
Belgium	
Croatia	Yes
Cyprus	
Czech Republic	
Denmark	
England & Wales	No
Estonia	Some spot checks
Finland	Yes
France	N/A
Germany	
Iceland	
Ireland	No
Italy	
Latvia	No
Lithuania	
The Netherlands	Yes
Northern Ireland	N/A
Norway	Yes
Poland	
Romania	Yes
Scotland	No
Slovakia	Yes
Slovenia	
Spain	
Sweden	Random

[8] Finland Yes for electrical

	Completion phase		
	If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	If yes, who can certify satisfactory completion	Does your country permit self certification of completion
Austria	No		Y
Belgium			N
Croatia			N
Cyprus	Yes	Supervisor engineer	Y
Czech republic	Yes		N
Denmark	Yes random	Certified persons	Y
England & Wales			N
Estonia			Y N
Finland	Yes		Y[8] N
France	No	M&E contractor	N
Germany			Y houses
Iceland		N/A	N
Ireland	No		N
Italy			
Latvia	Yes	See sheet	Y
Lithuania			
The Netherlands	All		N
Northern Ireland	N/A	N/A	N
Norway	Spot checks		Y
Poland			Y
Romania			
Scotland	Yes. Verifier either accepts or rejects	Relevant person	Y
Slovakia		Authority issues	N
Slovenia	Authority can inspect	*	Y
Spain			Y
Sweden	Yes random	Quality assurance	Y

Appendix 2: Where self confirmation is permitted, who is authorised to confirm?		
Country	**Permitted (Y/N), or Partial (P)**	**Who is authorised to confirm?**
Austria	Y	Architect, Engineer or Master Builder (licensed)
Belgium	N	-
Croatia	N	(except that for less complex buildings, a member of the Chamber of Architects and Engineers may certify)
Cyprus	Y	Supervisor Engineer (member of Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber) nominated by the owner before construction begins
Czech Republic	N	Member of Chamber of Authorized Architect, authorized Engineers and Technicians
Denmark	Y	Approved and Certified Engineer (a state controlled system)
England & Wales	P	Members of government approved Competent Persons schemes, FENSA, CORGI, NAPIT etc
Estonia	Y	Registered persons
Finland	Y	Not residential buildings, See national building code for persons authorised to certify
France	P	M&E installations only, contractors complete a COPREC questionnaire (Comité Professionnel de la Prévention et de Contrôle Technique dans la Construction)
Germany	P	Prufengineer
Iceland	N	-
Ireland	N	-
Italy	N	Very limited self confirmation permitted on family dwellings

Country	Permitted (Y/N), or Partial (P)	Who is authorised to confirm?
Latvia	Y	Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union. Specialist Certification Centre of Latvian Association of Energy Construction
Lithuania	N	Except of simple repair works only.
The Netherlands	N	Not for buildings. Self confirmation of materials only
Northern Ireland	N	-
Norway	Y	Building Enterprises
Poland	Y	Person having a building licence
Romania	Y	
Scotland	Y	Appropriately qualified structural engineer member of approved scheme (structural design only)
Slovakia	Y	Member of Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineer (Authorised Civil Engineer) Member of Slovak Chamber of Architects (Authorised Architect)
Slovenia	Y	(<5000m² & 10m high) Member of Chamber of Architects or Chamber of Engineers
Spain	Y	Engineer, Technical Engineer or Architect
Sweden	Y	Competent and experienced person

Appendix 3: Extent of whole building confirmation.

Country	Building type	State/region/ municipality confirms: Design (D) Construction (C) and Completion (E) of work	Other independent expert (state approved but appointed by owner/developer), can confirm.	Self-confirmation is permitted (by person carrying out the work)	No control required
England & Wales	Single family dwellings	D C E	D C E	Not whole buildings, only certain elements	No
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	D C E	As above	No
	Other building uses	D C E	D C E	As above	No
Finland	Single family dwellings	D C E	Electrical installations	No	
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	Electrical installations	No	
	Other building uses	D C E	Electrical installations	No	
Ireland	Single family dwellings	No			No control required, random monitoring of 15% by local authorities.
	Multiple family dwellings	D: fire safety only			As above.
	Other building uses	D: fire safety only			As above
France	Single family dwellings	No	D C E (if is insurance taken out optional)	Not whole buildings only certain elements	Yes if insurance is not taken out.
	Multiple family dwellings	D C fire safety only	D C E	As above	No all dwellings are controlled
	Other building uses	DC fire safety	D C E	As above	All are controlled
Germany	Single family dwelling	No		D C E	
	Multiple family dwellings				
	Other building uses	D C E	D C E		
Italy	Single family dwellings	D C E		Very limited	
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E		Very limited	
	Other building uses	D C E			

Netherlands	Single family dwellings	D C E	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	
	Other building uses	D C E	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	Pilot D C (not yet legal)	
Norway	Single family dwellings	No	Yes D C E	Yes D C E	
	Multiple family dwellings	No	Yes D C E	Yes D C E	
	Other building uses	No	Yes D C E	Yes D C E	
Poland	Single family dwellings	D	No		No
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	No		No
	Other building uses	D C E	No		No
Romania	Single family dwellings	D C E	D C	Not whole buildings only certain elements	
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	D C	As above	
	Other building uses	D C E	D C	As above	
Scotland	Single family dwellings	D C E	No[9]	No although substantial number of exempted buildings	All are controlled
	Multiple family dwellings	D C E	As above	As above	All are controlled
	Other building uses	D C E	As above	As above	All are controlled
Slovenia	Single family dwellings	D C	E	No	N/A
	Multiple family dwellings	D C			
	Other building uses	D C			
	Single family dwellings				
	Multiple family dwellings				
	Other building uses				
	Single family dwellings				
	Multiple family dwellings				
	Other building uses				

[9] Scotland has Certification of Design for structure and Energy by Certifiers approved by Scottish Minister, and Certification of construction for electrical work. This is not self confirmation, Certifiers are approved by Scottish Ministers and subject to audit.

Appendix 4: Country tables.

Austria	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y 1980's		Architect/engineer/master builder- rigid licensing system

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	Must submit plans to building authority
Structural design:			
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self confirmed.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this confirmation?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		See control by bodies, Plus Local authority has the right to inspect (if conditions permit)
What parts:	All		
Foundation construction	Y		
Superstructure	Y		

Drainage installation	Y		
Replacement windows	Y		
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		
Chimneys and flues	Y		
Electrical installation	Y		
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this confirmation?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		'completion announcement' or 'completion confirmation'
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	The client, contractor or developer can sign		
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

Belgium	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	(only for construction products)

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self confirmed)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self confirmed: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*	No, only for construction products		
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self confirmed.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	
What parts:			
Foundation construction			
Superstructure			

Drainage installation			
Replacement windows			
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation			
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

Croatia	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self certification existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	explanation: not as a rule; see below for exception
Exception of the rule:	Y		note: self certification is limited to buildings described as “less complex buildings”

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	explanation: not as a rule; see below for exception
Structural design:			included in whole building design (above)
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			included in whole building design (above)
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)	Y		chartered architect or engineer (professional status based on at least 5 years of education on faculty in construction field, three years of experience, state exam and membership in Chamber of architects and engineers) is qualified to produce a whole building design for buildings described as “less complex buildings”

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self certification of parts of the works on site?		N	explanation: not as a rule, see below for exception
What parts:			
Foundation construction			included above
Superstructure			included above
Drainage installation			included above
Replacement windows			included above

Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			included above
Chimneys and flues			included above
Electrical installation			included above
Other, please specify	Y		contractor's person responsible for execution of works on "less complex buildings" certifies his own work; this person must have at least professional status based on finished secondary school (4 years of education) in construction field, five years of experience and state exam
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	explanation: not as a rule, see below for exception
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	see above		
Exception of the rule:	Y		chartered architect or engineer (professional status based on at least 4 years of education on faculty in construction field, three years of experience, state exam and membership in Chamber of architects and engineers) is qualified to produce a statement of complying with regulations for buildings described as "less complex buildings"
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
Benefits exists, there is a room for self certification where public interest is low ranked.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
The problem is perception (in Croatia) that if no third party is involved then there is no responsibility of the person(s) involved in self certification; control mechanism is too weak to protect customers.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)
There are existing plans, to widen the self certification to the buildings described as "family dwellings".

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No

Cyprus	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		2002

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:			
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		A Supervisor Engineer is nominated by the owner before the construction begins. This person, responsible for the construction of the work based on the design and the conditions of the building permit, must be a member of the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber and have 1 year of certified experience.
What parts:			
Foundation construction			included above
Superstructure			included above
Drainage installation			included above

Replacement windows			included above
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			included above
Chimneys and flues			included above
Electrical installation			included above
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self certification of completion?	Y		
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	A Supervisor Engineer (Architect, Civil Engineer) provides a certificate to Building Authority, that the work was executed according to the design and the conditions of the building permit. This person must be a member of the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber and have 1 year of certified experience.		
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
In general, if self certification exists, the Supervisor Engineers are responsible for the execution of works according to the design and the conditions of the building permit, and the Building Authorities should be able to issue building permits and completion certificates faster, and concentrate more on the building control.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Special attention should be given for some categories of structures.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)
Planning for expanding self certification for certain categories of structures (under discussion).

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No.

Czech Republic	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	All phases allowed to be carried out by authorised persons which are members of Chamber of Authorized Architect, authorized Engineers and technicians

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?			
What parts:			

Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify		N	

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

Denmark	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		
Structural design:	Y		Approved and certified engineer- a state control system
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			All parts for some buildings
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		
What parts:	Y		
Foundation construction	Y		None- random check by municipality

Superstructure	Y		None- random check by municipality
Drainage installation	Y		Certified persons
Replacement windows	Y		Certified persons
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		Certified persons
Chimneys and flues	Y		Certified persons
Electrical installation	Y		Certified persons
Other, please specify	Y		Water
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			Random

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	Certified persons installations of drainage, electricity, chimneys and gas/oil/water		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		Random control

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Control also means knowledge, which the authority can spread, no control, no spreading of knowledge

Are the any plans to expand self certification? (If yes, what areas are being considered?)
Not at the moment

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No

England & Wales	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		Since 1985

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design: Whole building structural design		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*	N		
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design		N*	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design	Y		
Other parts of the design (please state which)		Design associated with fabrication and installation tasks carried out under a competent person scheme (see below).	
If self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?	See below, on competent person schemes.		

Construction phase: Specific elements which can be self certified.	Yes	No
Does your country permit self certification of parts of the works on site?	Y	
What parts:		
Foundation construction		N
Superstructure		N
Drainage installation		N*
Replacement windows	Y	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y	
Chimneys and flues **(excluding masonry)**	Y*	
Electrical installation	Y	

Construction phase: Specific elements which can be self certified.	Yes	No
Does your country permit self certification of parts of the works on site?	Y	
What parts:		
Foundation construction	N	
Superstructure	N	
Drainage installation	N*	
Replacement windows		Y
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		Y
Chimneys and flues **(excluding masonry)**		Y*
Electrical installation		Y

Other, please specify:
The schemes, as advised on CLG website, are:

Replacement Windows and Doors - Installation of replacement windows, rooflights, roof windows or doors in an existing dwelling
Heat Producing Gas Appliances and Associated Heating and Hot Water Systems - Installation of heating or hot water service system connected to a heat producing gas appliance or associated controls.
Combustion Appliances – Oil - Installation of:
a) an oil fired combustion appliance which has a rated heat output of 100 kilowatts or less and which is installed in a building with no more than three storeys (excluding any basement) or in a dwelling
b) oil storage tanks and the pipes connecting them to combustion appliances
c) heating and or hot water service systems connected to an oil fired combustion appliance.
Combustion Appliances - Solid Fuel - Installation of:
a) solid fuel burning combustion appliance which has rated heat output of 50 kilowatts or less which is installed in a building with no more than three storeys (excluding any basement) or
b) heating and hot water service systems connected to a solid fuel burning appliance.
Electrical Safety in Dwellings
(a) Full competence schemes
(b) Defined competence schemes - schemes are designed primarily for those who do electrical installation work as an adjunct to or in connection with their primary work activities - for example, gas installations, plumbing, kitchen or bathroom fitting, heating installation, security systems.
Plumbing, Heating Systems and Hot Water Service Systems (Non Dwellings) - Installation of a heating, hot water service system, mechanical ventilation or air conditioning system, or associated controls in a building other than a dwelling.
Plumbing, Heating Systems and Hot Water Service Systems (Dwellings) - Installation of a heating or hot water service system or associated controls in a dwelling.
Ventilation and Air Conditioning (Dwellings) - Installation of an air conditioning or ventilation system in an existing dwelling which does not involve work on systems shared with other dwellings.
Ventilation and Air Conditioning (Non Dwellings)
- Installation of a heating, hot water service, mechanical ventilation or air conditioning system, or associated controls, in a building other than a dwelling.
Ventilation and Air Conditioning (Commercial kitchens) - Installation of a commercial kitchen ventilation system which does not involve work on systems

shared with parts of the building occupied separately. Lighting Systems, Electric Heating Systems and Associated Controls - Installation of a lighting system or electric heating system or associated electric controls. Air Pressure Testing of Buildings CO2 Emission Rate Calculations Sanitary conveniences, washing facilities or bathrooms in a dwelling - Installation of a sanitary convenience, washing facility or bathroom in a dwelling which does not involve work on shared or underground drainage. Installation of wholesome cold water supply. Installation of non wholesome cold water supply to sanitary convenience. Installation of system to produce electricity, heat or cooling by microgeneration or from renewable sources. Insertion of cavity wall insulating material into cavity walls of an existing building installation of replacement covering to flat or pitched roof (does not include solar panels)		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?		N0 The work of organisations or individuals accepted as members of a scheme is not normally subject to Building Control inspection, although Local Authorities retain rights to inspection and enforcement.
If self certification of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?	Varies according to scheme requirements for demonstrating competence The rationale is to authorise, on the basis of risk to health and safety, schemes members adjudged sufficiently competent in their work to self-certify that their work has been carried out in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Building Regulations. If a company or individual chooses to join a competent persons scheme, they are first vetted to ensure they meet the conditions of membership, including appropriate and relevant levels of competence. If they meet these conditions they are classified as 'competent persons'.	

Completion Phase		
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion		No, except items completed by a Competent Person.
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work?	Installers registered with an authorised Competent Person Scheme.	
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N Not normally (see above).
If self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?	Relevant self certification bodies have their own eligibility criterion.	

Possible disadvantage: the likely cost of adequate professional indemnity insurance for self certified

Estonia	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		It has been used on different technical areas for about 10 years (1998).

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		Generally this is responsibility of the person, designing the building, but there shall be issued building permit by the local government. Municipality may require conformity assessment of the design by third party, except simple construction works. Persons, performing assessment, should be authorised via registration process.
Structural design:	Y		Same as previous.
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)	Y		
Heating and ventilation design	Y		
Other parts of the design (please state which)	**Y**		Is partly applicable in the field of fire safety systems, where the design is being performed by authorised enterprisers.

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?			
What parts:			
Foundation construction		N	

Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	Local government is issuing building permit. (This is actually issue of rural planning.)
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		Self certification is applicable in most cases. As installations are divided into groups, the most complicate ones need third party certification (by authorised via accreditation procedure private companies). Installers are authorised to perform these works via registration procedure.
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation	Y		Self certification is applicable in most cases. As installations are divided into groups, the most complicate ones need third party certification (by authorised via accreditation procedure private companies). Installers are authorised to perform these works via registration procedure.
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			Spot checks are being performed by Technical Inspectorate (State Surveillance Authority), but it can't be considered being part of certification procedure. Some municipalities may perform spot checks.

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		In some specific areas as electrical and some other installations depending on group (regarding potential danger) of the installation.
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	In case of simpler (smaller) buildings the owner does not have any additional responsibilities.		
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			Generally inspection of the building can't be considered being conformity assessment of the building as there are checked mainly rural planning issues. In specific technical areas no inspection by municipality is carried out.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)

It is used to some extent in all technical safety areas and will be expanded.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?)

COMMENTS:
The higher the risk caused by the building or installation, the heavier shall be the conformity assessment and certification procedure. Therefore it is reasonable to divide buildings and installations into groups depending on their potential risk.

Municipalities and governmental bodies should not carry out conformity assessment and certification as in this case they have to take appropriate responsibility and to replace possible losses in case of accidents. As municipalities and governmental bodies shall perform State Surveillance activities, contradiction of interests appears, when they perform certification.

It will be reasonable to handle rural planning issues and construction safety issues separately, as there are being checked completely different issues. Dealing with planning issues is clearly task of the municipalities, but in construction safety field the person performing the works should have full responsibility about the results. He has also responsibility to perform and order appropriate conformity assessment and certification (from third party – authorised via accreditation Inspection Body), when required.

Finland	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		1996

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		Answer: The self certification is not allowed in residential building. In all other buildings self certification can be used. The building control authority can intervene if some misuses are reported. Self certification can cover all elements in building. In approved supervision plan the details are determined.
Structural design:			
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification? Answer: It is on the decision of local building control authority which are the qualifications of persons and organisations. In National Building Code of Finland (part A1) there are many definitions for this purpose.
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		N. B. The residential building is excluded from self certification.

What parts:	Y		
Foundation construction	Y		
Superstructure	Y		
Drainage installation	Y		
Replacement windows	Y		
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		
Chimneys and flues	Y		
Electrical installation	Y		
Other, please specify	Y		
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:	Y	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	(partly yes; for instance the electric installations; the lifts etc.)
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		In self certification cases the municipality always have the final inspection.

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
In Finland there are many small municipalities. They don´t have enough resources for proper building control activities. But also in bigger municipalities there can be such demanding projects that it is better to have self certification.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Self certification has been used very often. On yearly basis there are some ten cases in the whole country. System has functioned well. Damages which in Finland in recent years have in building occurred are not connected with self certification.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)
The new A1 code (Finnish National Building Code) is quite new (1.9.2006). Now experiences are collected and no actual plans to expand self certification.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) See above.

France	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	Explanation: such procedure is generally not part of regulatory certification that relies on third party assessment
Exception of the rule:	Y		Note: self certification is limited to completion of M&E services Such procedure is only contractual and can be used in case of dispute

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*		N	
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	
What parts:		N	

Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify		N	
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?		NA	

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	explanation: not as a rule, see below for exception
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	Contractors for exception below		
Exception of the rule:	Y		Contractors in charge of M&E services fill out a questionnaire "COPREC" stating that:: • Installations are completed • Results of Performance tests are satisfying and comply with relevant standards and contract's specifications
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
Provide the owner with a commitment from the contractor for correct execution of his contract

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification? No.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?) No

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No

Ireland	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self- confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self- confirmation exist in this country?		N	

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self- confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self- confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self- confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	
What parts:			
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	

Replacement windows		N	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify		N	
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?		N	

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self- confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self- confirmation of completion?		N	
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self-certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

Are the any plans to expand self-certification? (If yes, what areas are being considered?)
There have been some murmurings about self-Certification

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self-certification? (If yes what items and why?)
GENERAL COMMENT and EXPLANATION
In Ireland, self-certification does not form part of the statutory Building Control process at present. The Building Control Act makes provision for the introduction of self-certification, but to date this section of the Act has not been given legal effect.

Over time, however, a form of self-certification has evolved by professional Architects, Engineers, etc., for construction projects. This is a private arrangement between clients/building owners and their designers. It is not a statutory certificate, is not submitted to the Local Building Control Authority and does not become a public record. This certification exists to facilitate the sale and/or legal conveyance of a building and is also required by most lending agencies to secure a mortgage for the property. Many contractual arrangements between clients and their building designers require such a certification.

Italy	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self certification existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self certification exist in this country?	Y		Very limited for dwellings

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self certification of parts of the works on site?	Y		
What parts:			
Foundation construction			
Superstructure			
Drainage installation			
Replacement windows	Y		
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		Heat producing gas and combustion appliances
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation	Y		
Other, please specify	Y		Water systems Ventilation and Air conditioning Systems Installation of Solar/Photovoltaic panels Finishing's (internal/external floorings
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does you country permit self certification of completion?			
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

Latvia	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		14 years

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers* - certification of building specialists for management of construction projects Latvian Architects Union certification of architects
Structural design:	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers* – certification of building specialists for design of building structures
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*	No		
Specific items of the design work			*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union* *Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian Association of Energy Construction* *Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers*
Drainage design	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union* certification of building specialists for design of

			piped water and drainage systems
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union* certification of building specialists for design of heating supply and ventilation systems
Other parts of the design (please state which)	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union* certification of building specialists for design of local gas supply systems
			Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union certification of building specialists for design of main oil and gas supply systems
			Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian Association of Energy Construction- certification of electrical engineers for design of electrical systems building
			Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers – certification of building specialists for building technological equipment designing
			Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers – certification of building specialists for geotechnical engineering investigation

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Y	N	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of*

site?			*Civil Engineers –* certification of building specialists for construction management and construction supervision
What parts:			
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union-* certification of building specialists for management of construction of piped water and drainage systems
Replacement windows		N	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		*Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union –* certification of building specialists for construction management of local gas /oil supply systems
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation	Y		*Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian Association of Energy Construction-* certification of electrical engineers for construction management of electrical systems building
Other, please specify			*Building Specialists Certification Body of Latvian Association of Civil Engineers –* certification of specialists for restoration works management and supervision
			Building Specialists Certification Centre of Latvian heating, gas and water technology Engineers Union certification of building specialists for construction of heating supply and ventilation systems
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:			If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?			
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	All specialists carry out inspection on completion of works and State building inspectors and local government inspectors too. The Ministry of Economics shall grant, register and withdraw the right to control construction, including accessibility of environment, to State and local government building inspectors.		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?

Solidity and stability, fire safety, safety in use, hygienic and harmlessness to human health and the environment, energy efficiency, acoustic requirements of the structure in general and separate parts thereof.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification? No

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?) Tendency to expand.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No

Lithuania	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		30+ years

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		
What parts:		N	
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	

Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify	Y		Self certification is permitted in case of simple repair. Simple repair in Lithuania is, for example, reinforcement of lintels; changing discrete stairways; caulking doors, windows, other niches in internal walls; windows glazing.
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		The institutions of building control carry out checks in case of complaint about simple repair.

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
Self certification makes procedures less complicated.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Bad design or defects in construction can cause very serious consequences fall of the building, loss of people and so on. Because of that in Lithuania dominates attitude, that building design and construction is such area which should be controlled very closely by the third independent party and in which self certification can exist only exercising simple works which bad exercise can cause not essential consequences.

Are the any plans to expand self certification? (If yes, what areas are being considered?) No.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No.

The Netherlands	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		1992

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		
What parts:			
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	

Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation	Y		
Other, please specify **Use of materials as part of a construction**	Y		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		Yes they do check

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	No, in Netherlands there is no certificate of completion required.
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			The municipality does carry out all inspections of design, construction and completion, apart from electrical and gas installations. Only certified installers may install.

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?

Avoiding delays and extra costs in the process. The professional assume more responsibility that makes him to be more accurate in his work. Perhaps the designer and constructor has more responsibilities.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Till now we have not any experience with self certification of major design and construction but there are many projects and studies to realise self certification in, let us say, five years.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)
Yes, design, construction en completion of all kind of buildings. In future a certified engineer may be allowed to confirm his own work as well as other peoples work.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?)
No in contrary. See above

Northern Ireland	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			Certain classes exempt from Building Regulations e.g. certain conservatories and porches < 30m^2 and replacement windows (installer/developer effectively ensures adequacy without applying to Building Control Authority).

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	
What parts:			
Foundation construction			
Superstructure			
Drainage installation			
Replacement windows			

Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation			
Other, please specify			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			N/A

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits? N/A

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification? N/A

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)
The Building Regulations Act/Order is under review and when published will determine if and when self certification will be introduced and to what extent e.g. Structural stability, Electrical work etc.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?)
To be determined by the revised Act/Order

Norway	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		1997

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		Goes for all phases, - design – construction – completion. Building control design and construction in Norway was privatised 10 years ago. The Planning and Building Act require that every building project that require a building permit shall have an accountable applicant,
Structural design:			
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			Designer, contractor and also accountable controller for both design and execution. The design and the execution have to be checked and approved either by operator control/self certification or undergo independent 3rd party verification.
Specific items of the design work			A quality system is compulsory for all the accountable
Drainage design			enterprises. Building enterprises shall show an
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			approval from central building authority or apply for a l
Heating and ventilation design			local approval. The approvals are divided into three
Other parts of the design (please state which)			complexity classes.

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		See Design phase
What parts:			
Foundation construction			

Superstructure			
Drainage installation			
Replacement windows			
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation			
Other, please specify			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		Local authority building control perform surveillance to ensure that accountable firms have adequate competence, planning and execution of the control work is real and documented in compliance with the code, spot tests, etc.

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		See Design phase.
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	The accountable controllers.		
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		As part of surveillance and spot tests.

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits? Time saving.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification? Local authority building control surveillance/inspection show that self certification does not work as intended. There is evidence that self certification have caused problems like insufficient compliance with the regulations. It goes for designers as well as contractors.

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?) No.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) To achieve better quality buildings it seems necessary to require independent 3rd party certification.

Poland	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		*Since 1994*

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		*According to regulations of Act of Building Law a designer is obliged to ensure that an architectural-building design is verified in terms of its compliance with regulations, including those concerning technical matters by a person having a building licence for designing without limitations in the relevant speciality or by a building expert.* *The above obligation does not apply to:* *1) the scope covered by verification and expertise on the basis of the specific regulations,* *2) designs of buildings with a simple structure, which do not create threat to their users and the neighbourhood, such as: one-family residential buildings and small residential houses, small farmer buildings, livestock buildings, warehouses, retail and service buildings.* *According to the act a designer and a person verifying design must attach to the building design a declaration that the design has been made in accordance with current requirements of law and the rules of technical knowledge.* *The scope and form of building design is defined in ordinances the Minister of Infrastructure.*
Structural design:	Y		*whole*
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work	Y		*whole*
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)	Y		*All elements of building design detailed in the relevant ordinances, i.e. brunch designs, for example: of electric or water supply, air-*

			condition, heating etc. are subjected to verification mentioned above

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		*A form of self certification of the course of the building work is a building journal (an official document issued at the request of investor by the authority competent to issue the building permit). It is designated for registration of the building work progress, all events and circumstances taking place during the performance of work and being of importance for the technical appraisal of correctness of works realization, demolition or assembly of the building structure. The above entries in a building journal are kept in order of events and circumstances.* *A building journal is kept separately for each building structure, requiring a building permit.* *Moreover, in Poland, investor's interests may be represented by an inspector of the investor's supervision with suitable building licence.* *In the relevant ordinances there are defined types of buildings, construction of which requires establishing an inspector of the investor's supervision and the list of building structures as well as the criteria for a body to be followed when imposing the obligation to establish an inspector of the investor's supervision.* *The essential duties of an inspector of investor's supervision include:* *1) representing an investor on a construction site through performing the inspection of conformity of the works with a design and a building permit, the regulations and the principles of technical knowledge,* *2) control the quality of the completed works, incorporated construction products and, in particular, the prevention of using faulty construction products not allowed to be used in construction,* *3) control and approval of the construction works already*

			covered or deteriorated, participation in tests and technical approval of installations, technical equipment and chimney ducts, preparation and participation in approval operations of the completed buildings and putting them into use, *4) confirmation that construction works have in fact been completed as well as the removal of defects and also, at the investor's request, verification of a construction site's accounts.*
What parts:			
Foundation construction	Y		*In range of registration to building journal*
Superstructure	Y		*as above*
Drainage installation	Y		*as above*
Replacement windows	Y		*as above*
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		*as above*
Chimneys and flues	Y		*as above*
Electrical installation	Y		*as above*
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			*In Poland building control authorities operate within the framework of the united government administration (not municipal) and its tasks are performed by the authorities of building control of basic (district),region and central level. They are allowed to control building works during their performance as well as after completing. They have right to issue administrative decisions concerning controlled construction, imposing fines and requesting to professional self-government for instituting legal proceedings in cases of a professional liability of people performing an independent technical function in construction.*

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		*It concerns the whole building structure.* *The investor is obliged to inform building control authorities on the completion of a building according to a building permit. The investor is obliged to attach, to the notification on the building construction completion a statement signed by the construction*

			site manager on compliance the construction of a building with a design and with the conditions of the building permit and regulations. *Control authority in cases specified in the act perform an obligatory control of the constructed building.*
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	*Construction site manager (building work managers), inspector of the investor's supervision and designer (within the framework of author's supervision on the building construction) as well as control building authorities can certify completion of the work.* *The certifying of work completion by the construction site manager (building work managers), inspector of the investor's supervision and designer according to author's supervision on the construction of building may be executed only by people holding an independent technical functions in construction. These functions can be performed by persons with appropriate technical education and professional skills, adapted to a given type, degree of complexity of activity and other requirements associated with performed function, called "building licence" issued by a professional self-government body, after supplying a documentary evidence of suitable professional practices and passing the exam. These persons must be registered in the central register of people holding an independent technical functions in construction and be members of a professional self-government chamber.*		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			*According to the Construction Law regulations the competent building control authority performs, upon the request of investor, the mandatory inspection of the construction in order to confirm that it was conducted* *in compliance with the requirements and conditions specified in the building permit.* *The inspection includes verification of:* *1) compliance of the building structure with the land development plan,* *2) compliance of the building structure with the architectural and building design within the scope of:* *a) characteristic technical parameters: cubic capacity, building area, height, length, width and number of storeys;* *b) construction of visible structural components of the constructional layout of the building structure;* *c) geometry of the roof (slant angle, height of tie beam and layout of roof slopes);* *d) performance of building facilities;*

			e) basic elements of building and installation equipment, ensuring the use of building structure in accordance with its designation; *f) ensuring the conditions necessary for the building structure to be used by disabled persons, in particular persons using wheelchairs – with respect to public utility objects and multifamily residential buildings;* *3) building products of particular importance for safety of the construction and fire safety;* *4) if the building permit imposed a duty to demolish the existing building objects, whose further use was not envisaged, or provisional building objects – the performance of this duty if the time limit for demolition specified in the permit has lapsed;* *5) Restoration of order at the building site.*

If self certification exists, what do you think the main benefits are?

Forms of self certification accepted by regulations of Polish building law allow to limitation of appearance of irregularities within building process as well as safety threat of executing building structures.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?

Self certification shall appear during performing independent technical functions in construction consisting in activity concerning the necessity of professional assessment of technical occurrences or individual solving of architectural, technical and organizational problems. Persons performing independent technical functions in construction are responsible for executing these functions according to regulations and the rules of technical knowledge and for proper accuracy during performing works, suitable organization, safety and quality of works.
In case of public utility buildings self certification shall be performed together with certification executed by government authorities.
Doubts submitted by professional environment concern in particular the effectiveness of self certification of building designs.

Romania	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?		N	

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N[10]	
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self confirmed: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	
What parts:			

[10] Self certification for family dwelling the countryside

Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows	Y		
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues	Y		
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self certification of completion?			
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

Scotland	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		Since 1992

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design		N	
Structural design:	Y		Fully qualified and appropriately experienced structural or civil engineer who is a member of the scheme run by a body set up by the professional institutes and approved by Scottish Ministers (since 2005).
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which) Energy	Y		Various (to be confirmed) since 2007

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		
What parts:			
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	

Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows		N	
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation	Y		Fully qualified and suitably experienced electricians who are members of a scheme run by either SELECT or NICEIC and approved by Scottish Ministers (since 2005).
Other, please specify			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?		N	

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	Relevant person must submit the completion certificate. RP is the person who commissions the work, usually the owner, but may be a tenant with a repairing lease, and includes developers who have not sold a building on.		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		The verifier (currently the local authority) must make reasonable enquiry that the certified work is in accordance with the building warrant and the Scottish building regulations

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?

People with specialist skills, when trained to take account of other parts of the regulations, are best placed to know when work is done properly. It can speed up approvals (as certificates are submitted either with applications for building warrant before work starts or with completion certificates, and verifiers must accept the certificates without further checks of the matters covered).

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?

Elaborate schemes to keep certifiers fully responsible, and up to date, are needed. Audits and other aspects of such schemes have a significant cost (but should be much less than the benefits).

Are the any plans to expand self certification?(If yes, what areas are being considered?)

In theory, since 2005 any part of the design or construction work can be certified. In practice, the criteria to be met to run the approved schemes have proved difficult for interested parties to meet, and we have only structural design and electrical certification schemes up and running so far. There was a structural scheme before, since 1992, and there always was a form of electrical certification (though it was not self certification as it was checked – in theory) since the Scottish system was introduced in 1964. However a variety of professional and industry bodies are in discussion with the SBSA and further schemes are expected.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?)
At the outset we did not envisage whole building self certification, as we always want structure certified by the approved engineers. However small building work may eventually be considered, subject to strict limitations – perhaps based on the structural guidance for small buildings which is being reintroduced into our Technical Handbooks in May 2007.

There is also the general point that we do not consider our scheme to be unqualified 'self' certification. The approved certifiers are all subject to ongoing audits, and the schemes will include checks by others for large projects (e.g. the structural scheme includes a check by another engineer outside the design team for larger projects). There is also the aspect that the relevant person must certify overall compliance, and is expected to have suitable contract arrangements in place with the approved certifiers to cover responsibility. Finally, there is still the acceptance by a verifier, which usually includes a site inspection and can be expected to discourage any significant flaunting of regulations.

Slovakia	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		15 years

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		Member of the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineer (Authorized Civil Engineer) Member of the Slovak Chamber of Architects (authorized Architect)
Structural design:	Y		Member of the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineer (Authorized Civil Engineer) Member of the Slovak Chamber of Architects (authorized Architect)
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			Structural analysis - Member of the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineer (Authorized Civil Engineer)
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design	Y		
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design	Y		
Other parts of the design (please state which) Gas installation desing, electrical installation desing	Y		Private independent experts (part of structural design)

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		Except cases, when a third party evaluation is needed
What parts:			According to the construction type

Foundation construction			
Superstructure			
Drainage installation			
Replacement windows			
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation			
Other, please specify	Y		Certificate of construction products
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?	Y		

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?		N	
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	Completion phase - the building authority issues the permit to use the building		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?		N	

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
Speed of the process, responsibility and adequacy confirmation for the work, project

Slovenia	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		1st January 2003

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		For less demanding construction works (less than 5000 m^2 and less than 10 m in height) a responsible designer (registered architect or engineer which is a member of the Chamber of Architects of Chamber of Engineers) sign the statement in which he certifies that all parts of design satisfies all relevant codes. Authorities have right to check all or any part of the design. For simple construction works no design or permit is needed
Structural design:		N	
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified: For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work		N	
Drainage design		N	
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)		N	
Heating and ventilation design		N	
Other parts of the design (please state which)		N	

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self confirmation of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	

What parts:		N	
Foundation construction		N	
Superstructure		N	
Drainage installation		N	
Replacement windows			This point is a bit problematic. Other parts in this section can be considered for new buildings while this point clearly speaks of replacement. I suggest that this point is omitted.
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)		N	
Chimneys and flues		N	
Electrical installation		N	
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		Only for one-dwelling buildings, if the investor appends a declaration by the responsible designer and the supervisor that the building has been constructed in accordance with regulations (codes)
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	Responsible (and registered) designer and the (registered) supervisor. (Supervisors can be all registered architects and engineers)		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			Authorities have right to carry out inspection before issuing Certificate of Completion

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
Since architects and engineers are licensed authorities are supposed to trust them. That makes procedures shorter and cheaper. State is not directly involved in many procedures and many disputes are solved without interference of the authorities.

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification?
Bad design or defects in construction will not show immediately but after couple or many years and responsibilities of the people involved in construction process would be difficult to search for. Knowing that there is no control and that results of bad work do not show quickly can lead to bad workmanship. Architects and engineers are licensed at the beginning of the career and nobody checks their competence later.

Are the any plans to expand self certification? (If yes, what areas are being considered?)
Both options (expanding or reducing self certification) are currently on the table. Later developments suggest that self certification is possible in the area of boiler installation, HVAC systems and electrical installation when maintenance or replacement takes place. Before such system can be adopted a system of demonstrating adequate qualifications has to be established.

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?)
There is a possibility that authority granting building permits is strengthened with architect and engineers which would enable random checks of the designs.

Spain	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		Always for building design.

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		Depending on type of building the professional will be the following: -Architect for buildings type a) Administrative, health, religious, residential, educational and cultural buildings
Structural design:			
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design			
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)			
Heating and ventilation design			
Other parts of the design (please state which)			

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?		N	Not in new building construction or even in rehabilitation or existing buildings, but it's possible in not important refurbishment of dwellings.
What parts:			
Foundation construction			

Superstructure			
Drainage installation			
Replacement windows			
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)			
Chimneys and flues			
Electrical installation			
Other, please specify			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?			
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)* ***Compulsory to have and architect or Technical architect to inspect and certify works- this is not the design architect, they sign off the works.***			
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?			

Sweden	Yes	No	If yes, for how long has self confirmation existed? (actual year or 5, 10, 20, 30+ years)
Does any form of self confirmation exist in this country?	Y		1995

Design phase: (Elements of the design that can be self certified)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of the design is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Whole building design	Y		NONE but in general the responsible person must be competent and have experience of such work
Structural design:	Y		NONE but in general the responsible person must be competent and have experience of such work
Certain parts of the structural design *Please state which parts of the structural design can be self certified:* *For example roof trusses, steel frame, pile or raft foundations etc.*			All parts
Specific items of the design work			
Drainage design	Y		None
Energy efficiency design (Carbon index)	Y		None
Heating and ventilation design	Y		None
Other parts of the design (please state which)	Y		None

Construction phase: (Specific elements which can be self certified.)	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of elements of construction is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of parts of the works on site?	Y		All parts
What parts:			
Foundation construction	Y		NONE but in general the responsible person must be competent and have experience of such work
Superstructure	Y		- " -
Drainage installation	Y		- " -

Replacement windows	Y		- " -
Boiler installation (Gas/ Oil/ solid fuel)	Y		Certificate for gas installation
Chimneys and flues	Y		- " -
Electrical installation	Y		Certificate for electrical installation
Other, please specify			
If self confirmation is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any checks, site inspections, review of plans or inspection on completion of that work?			A consultative meeting before construction starts and random control procedure

Completion phase:	Yes	No	If yes and self certification of completion is permitted, what qualifications (or membership of professional body or authorisation organisation) are required by the person providing this certification?
Does your country permit self confirmation of completion?	Y		
If yes, who can self certify completion of the work? *(Architect, contractor, engineer, owner, other)*	A certified or approved quality assurance supervisor who does it on behalf of the building owner		
If self certification is permitted, does the municipality also carry out any inspection on completion of work?	Y		The municipality approves the quality assurance plan and have a random control procedure.

If self certification exists, what do you think are the main benefits?
To consider where risks are in a building-project and then make a control of that and document it before things are built in

Are there any drawbacks or problems with self certification? Sometimes people think there is to much paperwork

Are the any plans to expand self certification? (If yes, what areas are being considered?) NO

Are there any plans to restrict or reduce self certification? (If yes what items and why?) No plans to restrict self certification but there are plans to make the municipality's supervision better.

NOTES

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Consortium of European Building Control