



WP3.5 Conditions for greater mutual recognition

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Mechanisms of Policy Convergence

Mechanism	Stimulus	Response
Imposition	Political demand or pressure	Submission
International harmonization	Legal obligation through international law	Compliance
Regulatory competition	Competitive pressure	Mutual adjustment
Transnational communication		
- Lesson-drawing	Problem pressure	Transfer of model found elsewhere
- Transnational problem-solving	Parallel problem pressure	Adoption of commonly developed model
- Emulation	Desire for conformity	Copying of widely used model
- International policy promotion	Legitimacy pressure	Adoption of recommended model
Independent problem-solving	Parallel problem pressure	Independent similar response

Source: (Holzinger & Knill, 2005:780)

Theoretical expectation of Policy Convergence mechanisms

Mechanism	Factors affecting convergence scope	Factors affecting convergence degree	Expected convergence direction
Imposition	Reach of the imposing actor (individual country vs. international institution)	(by definition full convergence to imposed model)	No prediction possible
International harmonization	Number of member countries	Degree of legal specification	Upward shift for minimum harmonization
		Capacity to enforce compliance	Persistence for total harmonization
Regulatory competition	Market economy Trade-related policies	Trade dependence	Upward or downward shift for product standards
			Downward shift for process standards
Transnational communication	Apart from information about policy choices of other countries no particular restrictions apply	Degree of existing similarity (number of adopters)	Upward shift in case of policy promotion
		Cultural linkages	For other mechanisms no prediction possible
		Degree of model specification	
		Similarity of policy legacies	
		Degree of inter-linkage into transnational networks	
Independent problem-solving	Number of countries that recognize similar problem	Degree of existing similarity across countries	No prediction possible

Source: (Holzinger & Knill, 2005:793)

Discussion

What potential facilitating factors could affect the convergence of construction insurance policies specifically ?