



IRISH CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN LAW  
TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN 2

Director of the Centre  
Mary Robinson SC

Telephone: 772941  
Facsimile: 682618

## Memo to Practitioners

European Community law is no longer a specialist subject for the few. It is becoming a necessary part of every Irish lawyer's framework of reference in offering professional services. The penetration and relevance of Community law will increase ten-fold as the proposals for the internal market in 1992 are implemented. The implications for the general practitioner are enormous: an Irish client will be able to buy a German car over the telephone from a Dutch dealer, insure it with a U.K. insurance company and pay for it, also on the telephone, with a French credit card. In short, in a frontier-free market of 320 million people with free movement and open access of persons, goods and capital, very few people in Ireland will be unaffected. They will need legal advice and lawyers will cross national borders to provide it.

To be competitive Irish lawyers must be familiar with the substantive law of the EC and with the procedures available to raise defences and enforce rights under Community law. For many practitioners who have not studied EC law this will pose a particular challenge, and, for those who have, it will be necessary to keep abreast of the rapidly developing legislative programme.

By the beginning of this year 206 legislative proposals had been put forward in areas of company law, taxation, financial services, safety and health at work, agriculture etc. To meet this enormous challenge the Irish Centre for European Law has been set up at Trinity College Dublin. The Centre is a charitable company drawing its membership from legal practitioners, academic lawyers and the many sectors affected by European law.

The Inaugural Conference of the Centre, on 8 July 1988, will analyse the consequences of the internal market for Irish lawyers and, more immediately, the Irish legislation implementing the Judgments Convention which came into operation on 1 June 1988 with general effects no Irish lawyer can ignore. Speakers will include Commissioner Peter Sutherland SC, Dr. John Temple Lang, Mr. John Murray SC, Attorney General, Mr. Seamus MacKenna SC, Chairman of the Bar Council and Mr. Thomas D. Shaw, President of the Law Society.

For details of the conference, and of membership please write to:

**Mary Robinson SC,**  
**Irish Centre for European Law,**  
**Trinity College, Dublin 2.**