

**Balance of Competences Review**  
**Free Movement of Services**

**Discussion Event**  
**Prague, 22 January 2014**

*NB: the following views were expressed by meeting attendees.*

- There has been good progress in creating a single market for services, especially in Member States that have joined the EU within the past decade. In particular, the application of the *acquis* in the area of mutual recognition of professional qualifications has played a significant role in creating a market for professional services.
- Further deepening of the single market for services is only part of a broader programme of integration in the single market, but in many Member States, the focus is still on manufacturing and goods.
- To achieve further market integration, implementation of existing legislation will be as important as new proposals, but this has a number of potential consequences, including for example stronger enforcement powers for the European Commission.
- In many cases, businesses do not fully realise how EU law allows them to provide to provide cross-border services. For those businesses that do trade in services, there is often a lack of awareness of the facilities able to provide assistance if they run into difficulties.
- Although there has been much discussion of the digital single market in recent years, it is still unclear where Europe should act in this area, and if so, what should be done.