

СЪД НА ЕВРОПЕЙСКИТЕ ОБЩНОСТИ  
TRIBUNAL DE JUSTICIA DE LAS COMUNIDADES EUROPEAS  
SODNÍ DVŮR EVROPSKÝCH SPOLEČENSTVÍ  
DE EUROPÆISKE FÆLLESSKABERS DOMSTOL  
GERICHTSHOF DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFTEN  
EUROOPA ÜHENDUSTE KOHUS  
ΔΙΚΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΤΩΝ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΩΝ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΩΝ  
COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
COUR DE JUSTICE DES COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES  
CÚIRT BHREITHIÚNAIS NA gCÓMHPHOBAL EORPACH  
CORTE DI GIUSTIZIA DELLE COMUNITÀ EUROPEE  
EIROPAS KOPIENU TIESA



EUROPOS BENDRIJŲ TEISINGUMO TEISMAS  
AZ EURÓPAI KÖZÖSSÉGEK BÍRÓSÁGA  
IL-QORTI TAL-ĠUSTIZZJA TAL-KOMUNITAJIET EWROPEJ  
HOF VAN JUSTITIE VAN DE EUROPESE GEMEENSCHAPPEN  
TRYBUNAŁ SPRAWIEDLIWOŚCI WSPÓLNOT EUROPEJSKICH  
TRIBUNAL DE JUSTIÇA DAS COMUNIDADES EUROPEIAS  
CURTEA DE JUSTIȚIE A COMUNITĂȚILOR EUROPENE  
SÚDNY DVOR EURÓPSKÝCH SPOLOČENSTEV  
SODIŠČE EVROPSKIH SKUPNOSTI  
EUROOPAN YHTEISÖJEN TUOMIOISTUIN  
EUROPEISKA GEMENSKAPERNAS DOMSTOL

Press and Information

## INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS No 37/09

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### **ENTRY INTO AN ARRANGEMENT WITH SPAIN TO ALLOW THE USE OF "CO-OFFICIAL" LANGUAGES IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH SPANISH CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS**

In its conclusions of 13 June 2005, the Council of the European Union stated that allowing citizens the possibility of using additional languages (whose status is recognised by the Constitution of a Member State) in their relations with the institutions of the European Union was an important factor in strengthening citizens' identification with the Union's political project.

Following those conclusions and at the instigation of the Spanish authorities, the Court of Justice of the European Communities has today concluded an administrative arrangement with the Spanish Government in order to allow the use, in communications between the Court of Justice and citizens, of languages other than Castilian (Spanish) which have official status in Spain ("co-official languages").

Under the arrangement, Spanish citizens, residents of Spain and undertakings established there will now be able to send written communications to the Court of Justice of the European Communities in one of those languages and receive an answer from the Court in the language used. That will not be possible, however, for communications of a judicial nature, those relating to the application of a legal text and those whose purpose is, directly or indirectly, to obtain an advantage (for example, a grant), a benefit (for example, the award of a contract) or a post (for example, a job application).

Under the administrative arrangement, persons wishing to send a communication to the Court of Justice of the European Communities in one of the "co-official" languages will have to send their communication to the Office for Official Languages at the Spanish Ministry for Regional Policy. That Office will translate the communication into Castilian (Spanish) in order to allow the Court of Justice to reply in Spanish. The Office for Official Languages will then translate the Court's reply into the "co-official" language in which the original communication was sent and forward the reply and the translation to the sender.

Any direct or indirect costs which the Court of Justice incurs as a result of the implementation of the administrative arrangement will be borne by the Spanish Government.

The arrangement will apply from the date on which the Spanish Government informs the Court of Justice that the Office for Official Languages within the Ministry for Regional Policy is in a position to supply translations.

*Languages available: FR, ES, EN*

*This information for the press is also available on the Court's internet site*

*<http://curia.europa.eu/en/actu/communiques/index.htm>*

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