

Italy

A few words about the country

Every year, Italy attracts millions of tourists because of its monuments, museums, artists, its natural environment and its historical and artistic heritage.

Cities like Milan, Venice, Ravenna, Ferrara, Bologna, Florence, Siena, Rome, Naples and Palermo are considered as artistic centres worldwide.

Italy extends on a surface of 301,245 square meters and hosts 57,844,017 residents.

The official language is Italian; however, people who live near the borders may speak German, French or Slovakian. Rome is the capital and the seat of the Italian Government. Milan, Naples, Turin and Genoa are some of the main cities. There is a relevant unbalance as regards the structure of the population per region. The urban centres are densely inhabited, while the opposite is observed in the rural regions. [2], [4]

The Euro is the official currency of Italy since the 1st of January 2002.

The political system of Italy is parliamentary Democracy. The President of the Italian Republic is the state leader and represents the nation's unity. The President is elected for a period of seven years by the Parliament. [2]

From an administrative point of view, Italy is divided in 20 regions, 103 provinces and 8,101 municipalities. The regions vary significantly as regards the landscape, the population density, the economic activities and resources, and of course, the traditions and dialects characterizing them. [3]

The climatic conditions vary depending on the region. The climate of northern Italy is alpine, central and southern Italy are characterized by hot summers and mild winters, while the climate of the islands is Mediterranean. [4]

The big urban centers present intense cultural activities, while the theatres, ballets, operas and cinemas constitute a significant part of the Italian cultural life. [2]

Conditions and quality of living

Cost of living

The cost of living varies per area. Thus, it is higher in the big urban centers and in the touristic regions than it is in the other regions. In June 2003 the inflation amounted to 2.7.

Generally speaking, a 1,381€ fall of the average Italian family's purchase capability has been recorded since the 1st of January 2003. [3]

The average amount that was spent per family and per month in 2001 in northeastern Italy amounted to 2,520 and it was approximately one and a half times higher than the amount spent in Sicily and Sardinia. Moreover, south Italy presents the highest economic unevenness, even though a reduction has been observed during the last years.[5]

Save for the differences as regards the cost of living among the regions, especially the increased cost of living in the North, such differences are also observed among the cities. Some of the most expensive cities of Italy are: [3]

- Naples, 3.5% above the average.
- Rome, 3.1% above the average.
- Turin, 3% above the average.

Finding residence

Houses to rent or to purchase can be found through ads in the local newspapers or weekly magazines. Information and assistance are extended by the Municipality and by the employer. You may also address special agencies, rendering their services against fee. In small urban centers, seeking announcements posted up in shops and bars can be quite effective. [3]

Generally, it is difficult to find a residence in big and touristic cities. [3]

The rents are extremely high and the market is saturated. For an long stay it is preferable to buy a house than to rent one. In order to find reasonable prices, one must move away from the urban centers. [3]

The contracts remain in force for a minimum period of 4 years and in case the lessee wants out, he must find a substitute lessee. The Italian law protects the lessee, provided that some requirements are met and, in case of a foreigner, as long as he has ensured a stay permit. [3]

As regards the purchase of residence, there are numerous real estate agencies dealing with the sale and purchase of real estate. There is also the national magazine "Ville e casali" that is published every month in English and in Italian and supplies related information.

Useful information is also available at:

<http://www.primitaly.it/villeecasali/>

Learning the language

A good idea for someone who is willing to live in Italy is to learn Italian at his place of residence. There are Italian institutes in many cities (Istituto Italiano di Cultura), organizing Italian language courses.

For learning Italian in Italy, there are numerous schools and universities.

The internet site of the Ministry for Education University and Scientific Research hosts a list of the centers teaching Italian (Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca www.miur.it/0002Univer/0023Studen/0059Studen/0370Impara/index_cf2.htm)

Some of the most important Italian language centers are indicated below

Università per stranieri di Perugia
<http://www.unistrapg.it/>

Università per stranieri di Siena
<http://www.unistrasi.it/>

IcoN - Italian Cultur on the Net
<http://www.italicon.it/>

Italica
<http://www.italica.rai.it/principali/lingua/comune.htm>

Università degli studi di Ancona
<http://www.unian.it/html/clad.htm>

Università degli studi di Bergamo
<http://www.unibg.it>

Università degli studi di Bologna - Cilita
<http://www.cilita.unibo.it/>

Università degli studi di Bologna - Clifo
<http://www.clifo.unibo.it/>

Università degli studi di Cassino
<http://www.unicas.it/gaeta2001/index.htm>

Università degli studi di Firenze - Centro di cultura per stranieri
<http://www.unifi.it/unifi/ccs/>

Università degli studi di Firenze - Centro linguistico di ateneo
<http://www.cla.unifi.it/>

Università degli studi di Genova
<http://www.unige.it/centrint/>

Università degli studi de l'Aquila
<http://www.univaq.it/>

Università degli studi di Lecce
<http://www.bussola.unile.it/italianoperstranieri>

Università degli studi di Milano
<http://studenti.unimi.it/foreign/gargnano.htm>

Università degli studi di Parma
<http://www.unipr.it/arpa/cla/>

Università degli studi di Roma Tre
<http://w3.uniroma3.it/didattica/dipartimenti/ling/progetti/certifica-it.asp>

Università degli studi di Trento
<http://www.gelso.unitn.it/wwwsegr/cialwww/>

Università degli studi di Udine
http://web.uniud.it/crin/corso_di_italiano_perstranieri.htm

Università degli studi di Urbino
<http://www.uniurb.it/CorStran/index.htm>

Università degli studi "Ca' Foscari" di Venezia
http://helios.unive.it/~cli/tab_ital.htm

Corsi di cultura e lingua per gli italiani all'estero
<http://www.esteri.it/polestera/dgrc/corsipe.htm>

Istituti italiani di cultura all'estero
<http://www.esteri.it/lafarnesina/indirizzi/cultlist.htm>

Lettorati e Dipartimenti di italianistica all'estero
<http://www.esteri.it/polestera/dgrc/lettorati.htm>

Scuole italiane all'estero Sezioni italiane presso scuole straniere all'estero Scuole europee
http://www.esteri.it/polestera/dgrc/borse_di_studio/elscuole.htm

Società Dante Alighieri
<http://www.soc-dante-alighieri.it/>

Università per Stranieri "Dante Alighieri" di Reggio Calabria
<http://www.calnet.it/ricerca/unisdarc/>

Education

The body that is competent for the education system in Italy is the Ministry for Education, Universities and Scientific Research (Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca).[3]

The school year normally begins in mid September and ends in mid June. Schools are open six days per week. [3]

The attendance of nursery school classes (Scuola materna) is optional for children between 2.5 and 5 years old. Such classes are organized in schools supervised by the State, the Province and the Municipality. There are tuition fees, the amount of which is regulated depending on the economic status of the parents. [3]

The compulsory education is free of charge for all children between 5.5 and 14 years old and comprises the primary education (scuola elementare) and the first cycle of the secondary education (scuola media). The duration of the primary education is 5 years, while the duration of the first cycle of the secondary education is 3 years. The school textbooks are supplied by the Municipality free of charge. [3]

The secondary education consists of two successive cycles, junior high schools (Scuola media), the duration of which is 3 years, and high schools (scuola superiore), the maximum duration of which is 5 years, and is characterized by the possibility given to the students to select the orientation they wish to follow. [3]

The graduates of the secondary education are entitled to carry on with their studies in the third grade education with their graduation certificate.

The third grade education in Italy is divided in the following sectors: [3],[6]

- University education, including universities, polytechnic schools and university institutes.
- High artistic and music education including academies and conservatories.
- Superior technical education.

In compliance with P.D. 144 (norma della legge n.144 del maggio 1999) the university education consists of two successive courses of study, the basic diploma (Laurea), the duration of which is 3 years or 180 academic credits (CFU), and the specialized diploma

(Laurea Specialistica), the duration of which is 2 years or 120 academic credits (CFU).[6],[7]

Exceptionally, there are some diplomas that lead directly to the award of the integrated courses' specialized diploma, without the acquisition of a three-year diploma (such are the Pharmaceutics, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Architecture and Medicine diplomas). [6],[7]

The Internet site of the Ministry of Education supplies a quantity of information concerning the registration of children in schools, the lists of all schools of all grades in every region, the duration of school holidays and the necessary information for all education procedures in Italy.

Useful links are available at:

<http://offertaformativa.miur.it/corsi/>

<http://sito.cineca.it/>

<http://universo.murst.it>

<http://www.eurydice.org>

Working conditions

Finding work, employment process

Every European citizen is entitled to live and work in Italy. One and one's family enjoy the same benefits and conditions with the Italians. [2]

Within a maximum time period of 8 days from one's arrival, one shall appear before the Foreigners' Service (Questura) and submit an application for a stay permit of a maximum duration of 3 months. For a period exceeding 3 months one is supplied with a stay card (carta di soggiorno), which is valid for 5 years, is issued by the Foreigners' Service and is renewable. [3]

One may work as an independent professional or under a contract of employment. The independent professionals must register at the corresponding bureau of their sector and start their business.

The unemployed shall address the Employment Center (Centro Impiego) where they shall be registered in the relevant catalogues.

As regards the seeking of work, there are firms and organizations that are specialized in personnel employment matters, have advisors who are specialized in labor legislation matters and publish work offers on the internet. [3]

Useful links are available at:

<http://cesop.it> (Centro Servizi per L' Orientamento Professionale, CESOP)

<http://confindustria.it> (Confindustria)

<http://bancalavoro.it> (Banca Lavoro)

<http://www.jobonline.it> (Job on line)

<http://www.lavoro.org/welcome.asp>

<http://www.cestor.it> (Centro Studi Orientamento)

For workplaces, information on the living and working conditions, as well as for links to other useful information, one may visit the site <http://europa.eu.int/eures> of EURES. On the same site one may record one's CV and make it available to eventual employers around Europe. [3]

Specializations presenting high demand

The construction industry constitutes the most developed sector in Italy, while the development of tourism, trade, car trade, wooden furniture and specialized firms, is also forecasted. The information technology offers many opportunities to people who have the corresponding knowledge.[1]

In firms employing at least 10 employees it is observed that at least 84% of those firms use the Internet, while 100% of the firms use PCs [5].

The electronical and computer science engineers are the engineers with the highest demand, while the construction sector offers job positions to civil engineers, usually under contracts permitting the rendering of services. Generally, the entire country has a lack of product design engineers, designers engineers and production technicians.[1]

Unemployment

Unemployment rates

Based on the quarterly research on the unemployment, carried out by the Statistic Service of Italy for October 2003, the unemployment in Italy is indicated in Table 1. [8]

Table 1

Gender and geographical areas	Levels	Absolute changes since June 2003	Rate (%) of changes since June 2003
Italy			
Manpower	24,173,000	89,000	0.4
Employed	22,121,000	198,000	0.9
Agriculture	1,129,000	7,000	0.6
<i>Industry, fuels and energy products</i>	5,261,000	46,000	0.9
<i>Buildings and constructions</i>	1,802,000	13,000	0.7
<i>Services</i>	13,929,000	123,000	0.9
Unemployed	2,052,000	-100,000	-4.7
Unemployment	8.5	-0.4	
North			
Manpower	11,817,000	52,000	0.4
Employed	11,359,000	70,000	0.6
Unemployed	458,000	-19,000	-3.9
Unemployment	3.9	-0.2	
Center			
Manpower	4,811,000	60,000	1.3
Employed	4,515,000	74,000	1.7
Unemployed	296,000	-14,000	-4.4
Unemployment	6.1	-0.4	
South			
Manpower	7,545,000	-23,000	-0.3
Employed	6,247,000	45,000	0.7
Unemployed	1,298,000	-68,000	-5.0

Unemployment	17.2	-0.8	
--------------	------	------	--

The number of employed women in 2001 amounted to 47.3% of Italy's manpower.[5]

Unemployment benefits

In Italy, all employees are entitled to receive an unemployment benefit, save for the trainees who lose their job unwillingly. There are different types of unemployment benefits. Some of the allowances are the following:

- The regular benefit. It is granted for six months (180 days) and covers 30% of the last wage amount. All public and private firm employees are entitled to get the regular benefit, provided that they have been insured against unemployment for at least two years, and they have been recorded as unemployed in the unemployment catalogues of the relevant work centers (Centri per l'Impiego) of the Municipality or the Community where they reside, or at the headquarters of the Istituto nazionale della previdenza sociale (INPS) by filling in the form DS.21. After the employee is paid all 180 days, or gets another job position, or establishes a firm, or is removed from the catalogue of unemployed because he refused a job offer suggested by the work center (Centri per l'Impiego), the benefit is no longer granted.[3]
- The special benefit for employees of the building sector. It is granted for a period of 90 days, while in some cases it may be granted for a period up to six months (180 days), and covers approximately 80% of the wage amount. [3]
- The mobility benefit. It is paid to employees who have been placed in a state of mobility by the company that used to employ them. It is granted for a period of 12 to 48 months and depends on the area and the age of the beneficiary. [3]
- The unemployed is entitled to receive family allowances for the family members he supports. [2],[3]
- The temporary unemployment compensation (CIGO). It is of a transitory nature and granted during temporary difficult periods to firms and employees. [3]
- The extraordinary temporary unemployment compensation (CIGS). It is granted in extraordinary cases, e.g. economic risk, privatization cases, etc, as well as to firms with a limited number of employees.[3]

Useful information is available at:

Ministero del Lavoro e della Politiche Sociale

Direzione Generale per l'impiego - Div. II

Dr.Fornari Gino
Via Flavia, 6
00187 Roma
Tel: (+39 6) 468 32 397
Fax: (0039 6) 478 87 18184
<http://www.welfare.gov.it/>

Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza Sociali (INPS)

<http://www.inps.it/>

Employees' rights

Working hours

The maximum work duration on a daily or weekly basis shall not exceed the limits defined by the labor law or the collective labor agreement. With P.D. 66 of the 8th of April 2003 the working hours were readjusted for the private as well as the public sector and some matters were regulated, such as those concerning the maximum period of stay in the working area, the holidays, the special working conditions, etc [3].

The flexible working hours were adopted in 2001 by 27% of the firms, while in the building sector the above rate reached 31% [5].

The average of working hours was 40.5 hours per week in 2002, ranking Italy in the last but one position among the other countries, with Britain occupying the first position with 43.9 working hours per week.[9]

Detailed elements are supplied in Table 2.

Table 2.

Country	Working hours per week for 2002
Britain	43.9
Portugal	41.9
Spain	41.8
Germany	41.4
Belgium	41.4
Sweden	41

Netherlands	40.7
Italy	40.5
France	38.9

Useful information is supplied at:

- sistema nazionale per l'incontro tra domanda ed offerta di lavoro
<https://e-labor.minwelfare.it>

Wages

The wages are usually paid on a monthly basis, but there are some professions (e.g. construction workers) the wage of which is defined on an hourly basis. They are adjusted voluntarily, upon an agreement between the employer and the employee, provided that the employer conforms to the laws (e.g. he observes the professional ranking, overtime hours, etc).[2],[3]

There is no legally defined minimum limit, although the minimum pay is defined per case by the collective labor agreements being:

The national labor agreements

The provincial labor agreements

Usually, the payment is made in cash, although in some cases, the payment can be wholly or partially settled against the supply of goods, products or services.[3]

The wages for 2001 were not affected by the unemployment or by the inflation increase that reached 2.7.[5]

Holidays

The Italian legislation per annual work holidays foresees 12 national holidays on an annual basis. The first of the year, the 6th of January, the 25th of April, Monday after Easter, the 1st of May, the 2nd of June, the 15th of August, the 1st of November, the 8th of December, the 25th of December, the 26th of December, and the local name days of patron saints, celebrated at a local level. During those special days, the employees are regularly paid.[2],[3]

Leaves

For every service year, the employees are entitled to take a paid leave, the duration of which is generally foreseen in the collective agreements. The paid leave period is defined based on the professional category, the seniority, etc, and it generally lasts from four to six weeks.[3]

Useful information on the employees' rights may be supplied by:

The representatives of the company's personnel (Ispettorato del lavoro).

The workers' association.

THE REGULATED PROFESSION OF ENGINEER

The Royal Decree n. 2537, 1925 provides for the object and the limits of the Engineers' profession which is protected by law because of its direct relevance on the health and safety of citizens and the environment.

Articles 51 and 52 of the above mentioned Royal Decree read in fact:

Article 51

The Engineering profession is concerned with the project, the management and the esteem relevant to works of mining, of transforming and utilizing materials directly or indirectly necessary to construction and industry, to works relevant to roads and transports, of flows and communication to construction of any kind, to machineries and industrial plants, as well as in general to the application of physics, geometrical surveys and esteem operations.

Article 52

The works relevant to the civil building as well as the geometrical surveys and the relevant operation are activities reserved to the Engineering as well as Architectural professions. However, the works of civil building bearing a remarkable artistic character and the restoration and repair of the buildings as to Law 20/6/1909, n. 364, relevant to antique buildings and fine arts, are reserved to the Architectural progression, but the technical part may be pursued both by Architects and by Engineers.

Further provisions fix the competences of the Engineers enrolled in the Albo relevant to specific activities concerning the safety of buildings, structures and plants in particular.

Representation of engineers

The self-regulatory system of the Engineers' professional category (Ordine degli Ingegneri) works at two autonomous levels: C.N.I. (Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri) operates at the national level, while **103 provincial Orders** (Ordini provinciali) operate at the local one. C.N.I. has the precise task to issue opinions and orientations, thus conforming the activities on the national territory, without prejudice to the necessary difference deriving by different territorial locations and relevant economic and social requirements.

The Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri (C.N.I.) is regulated by Law 1395/23, by the Royal Decree 2537/25 and by the Royal Decree 382/44 of the Italian legal system. It is the body institutionally representing the significant interests of the Engineers' professional category at the national level.

The Council is a public body by law in compliance with a specific legal provision. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice and is located in Rome. Its board (*Consiglio*) is constituted by eleven Councillors whose appointment is ratified by a decree of the Ministry of Justice following the results of a regular election by all the boards (*Consigli*) of the provincial Orders. The Councillors' mandate lasts three years and expires when the new elected Council takes actual office. Each Councillor is entrusted by the Consiglio to deal with a particular sector of its activities; he/she has to report to C.N.I. and may propose deliberations he/she deems necessary.

C.N.I. is institutionally the second degree Court relevant to petitions and claims of the members against decisions of the Consigli of the Order; C.N.I. gives its opinion concerning parliamentary bills and regulations relevant to the profession on request of the Ministry of Justice; C.N.I. is the referent of the Government in matters relating to professional fees.

C.N.I. performs a primary role promoting, developing and enhancing Engineers' activities to increase their incidence in the society where they operate and is more and more active in pursuing the development of their technical and cultural knowledge and of a higher and higher

social and political recognition of the leading role Engineers have in the processes of evolution and changes.

Consiglio Nazionale Ingegneri (C.N.I.)

Via IV Novembre 114

I - 00187 ROMA

Tel. : +39 06 697 6701

Fax : +39 06 697 67050

Email esteri@cni-online.it

<http://www.tuttoingegnere.it>

Professional qualification, bodies and ways it is granted

The provincial Orders are entrusted by Professional Law (1923) to safeguard the title and the professional practise. For this purpose, they keep the Register (Albo) in which each professional shall compulsorily enrol to practise (article 1, Law 29 April 1938, n. 897).

The legal provisions (Law 24 June 1923, n. 1395 as concern the title and the professional practice, and Royal Decree 23 October 1925, n. 253, as concerns the profession of Engineer) provide for the Engineers' professional system whose main structure is formed by the Council of the Order in each Province capital (at present, 103).

The registration in the Albo (*Register*) is compulsory and governed by the following institutional framework: article 1, law of the 29th of April 1938, L. 897, law of the 24th of June 1923, L. 1395, and royal decree of the 23rd of October 1925, L. 253, as regards the engineer's profession and the recent D.P.R. of the 5th of June 2001, L. 328, amending the structure of the Albo.

The enrolment in the Register is unavoidable because of the prominent interest the society has to ascertain the requirements of the professionals' technical knowledge and formation. To be enrolled, it is necessary to hold the relevant academic title and have successfully sat for a special State Exam qualifying to practise professionally. It is important to note that the State Exam is sanctioned by Article 33 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic, reading "A State Exam is provide [...] for the qualification to the professional practise".

At present, more than 145,000 Engineers are enrolled in the Register; some of them practise free profession, others are employed in enterprises or in public and private Bodies.

The recent D.P.R. 5 June 2001, n. 328 modifies the structure of the Register which is now divided into two sections, each of one is subdivided into three sectors.

Section A concerns Engineers holding the Laurea Specialistica fit for the relevant sector (civil-environmental, industrial or computer science) and who have successfully sat for the State Exam (articles 1, 3, 5 47 of the Decree).

Section B concerns Engineers holding the Laurea fit for the relevant sector (civil-environmental, industrial or computer science) and who have successfully sat for the State Exam (articles 1, 3, 5 48 of the Decree).

Once Engineers have passed their qualification State exams, they are enrolled in the appropriate sections and sectors of the Albo (*Register*) maintained by the Ordine Provinciale degli Ingegneri (*Provincial Order of Engineers*) holding the territory jurisdiction over the place where the professionals reside or have their professional domicile.

Addresses and useful information on the Provincial Orders are at disposal on the site of the Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri at the page:

<http://www.tuttoingegnere.it/web/ITA/CNI/Ordini1/index.htm>

THE ALBO

The maintenance of the Albo is only one of the tools to safeguard the profession. The provincial Orders hold, in fact, an essential control and discipline power on their members to

restrain possible abuse and defaults they might be responsible of, thus safeguarding the profession against behaviours in contrast with *professional code of ethics* members have to follow.

THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ORDERS

The provincial Orders represent the local level of the Engineers' professional organization. Each Order is a juridical person by public law, grouping the members residing in the Province where the Order is located.

The bodies of the Orders are:

- The Members' Assembly, responsible for the election of the Board and the approval of the estimated budget and final balance sheet.
- The Council of the Order, the executive body in charge of all the institutional functions.

The Council elects within its members, the President, who is the legal representative of the Ordine, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The number of the Councillors varies from 5 to 15, depending on the number of members. They serve for two years.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ORDINE

Each provincial Council of the Order is, furthermore, in continuous contact with the local administrative authorities to give his opinion on matters relevant to the profession and to urge provisions they deem as necessary.

In particular, the Council of the Order:

- guarantees members' discipline who have to carry out their duties with integrity and diligence; takes disciplinary measures; insures that no abuse is made of the title of Engineer and that no unlawful profession is practised, filing, in the positive, complaints with juridical authorities;
- decides the annual contribution each member shall give to the Order, enabling the financial self-government of the structure;
- gives its opinions on request of the public Administrations on professional-related issues.

Furthermore, each Order can fix the fees, its members have to keep, for those Engineering services not having the fee fixed at the national level.

Legislation

The legal framework governing the exercise of the engineers' profession is indicated below. [13]

- Law°1395 of the 24th of June 1923 (professional rights)
- Law n°2537/1925 (regulations concerning the exercise of the architect's and the engineer's profession)
- legislative decree n° 382/1944 (legislative provisions applied in the professional associations, the national chambers and the national boards)
- Law n°143/1949 (supplementary law concerning the fees system)
- Law n° 447/1995 (acoustic pollution)
- Law. n° 46/1990 (plants safety)
- Law n°818/84 (fire prevention)

- Legislative Decree n° 494/96 (safety and health in mobile sites)
- Legislative Decree n° 626/94 (safety and health of workers at working sites)
- D.P.R. n° 328/01 (sectoralization of the Albo and new provisions for the State Exam)
- EU directive 89/48/CE (recognition of diplomas)
- EU directive 2001/19/CE (amendments to the previous one)

Engineers Studies – diplomas – specializations

Italy was the first nation in the European Union to implement the Bologna Declaration and to reform its academic system with Law 19 October 1999, n. 370.

The courses already started before the reform will continue up to their end according to the old system, while universities may only activate courses according to the new system. The academic titles awarded with the old academic system keep their legal value to all intents and purposes.

Didactic Autonomy

The Regulations of 3 November 1999 provide for the implementation of the didactic autonomy of universities, which is the first goal of the Reform: each university disciplines now the didactic system of its courses, which means, in facts, the definition of the name and the formation objectives of titles, the general framework of the formation activities to include in the curricula, the number of credits for each formation course and relevant unavoidable formation activities, and the final rules to award relevant titles.

Courses are grouped into classes according to their level, qualifying formation objectives, and relevant unavoidable formation activities.

At the national level, the Ministerial Decree of 4 August 2000, relevant to the Laurea Courses, and the Ministerial Decree 28 November 2000, relevant to the Laurea Specialistica, define the formation objectives and the relevant formation activities unavoidable to achieve them. These ministerial decrees define for each class the minimum number of credits for each formation activity.

The Italian system of higher education meets the European model as outlined in the European Declarations of La Sorbonne and Bologna. The new Italian academic system provides, in fact, for the following structure of titles:

- the three-year Laurea, whose objective is to ensure an adequate knowledge of scientific general methods and contents as well as the acquisition of specific professional competence;
- the two-year Laurea Specialistica, after the first level degree Laurea, whose objective is to supply an advanced formation to perform high qualified activities in specific scopes;
- the specialization courses, whose objective is to supply knowledge and competence to perform particular professional activities and may be activated according to EU specific provisions of law or directives;
- the research doctorate, and the award of the relevant title, is regulated by article 4, Law 2 July 1998, n. 210.

Finally, universities may activate, in compliance with their didactic regulations, scientific, high level Master courses which may be attended by students after the completion of the Laurea or Laurea Specialistica courses, not bearing however any legal value.

Didactic Revision of Universities

The academic didactics is now more concentrated on the students' needs. The credit system was, therefore, adopted with the following characteristics:

- one credit corresponds to 25 working hours of the students;
- the average full-time work of one academic year corresponds to 60 credits;
- credits corresponding to one formation activity are awarded after a successful exam;
- the total or partial recognition of the credits acquired by students willing to continue their studies in another course in another university or to change their course in the same university depend on the didactic structure receiving these students, according to procedures and criteria previously established in the didactic regulations;
- universities may recognize acquired professional knowledge and competence as academic credits, certified according to the relevant regulations in force.

The Italian educational programs for engineers and supplied by universities, polytechnic schools and university institutes which are public institutes governed by private law and administratively subject to the Ministry for Education University and Scientific Research.

Ministry for Education, University and Scientific Research

Piazzale Kennedy, 20 - 00144 ROMA

tel : 00 39 06 59 911

fax : 0039 06 5816353

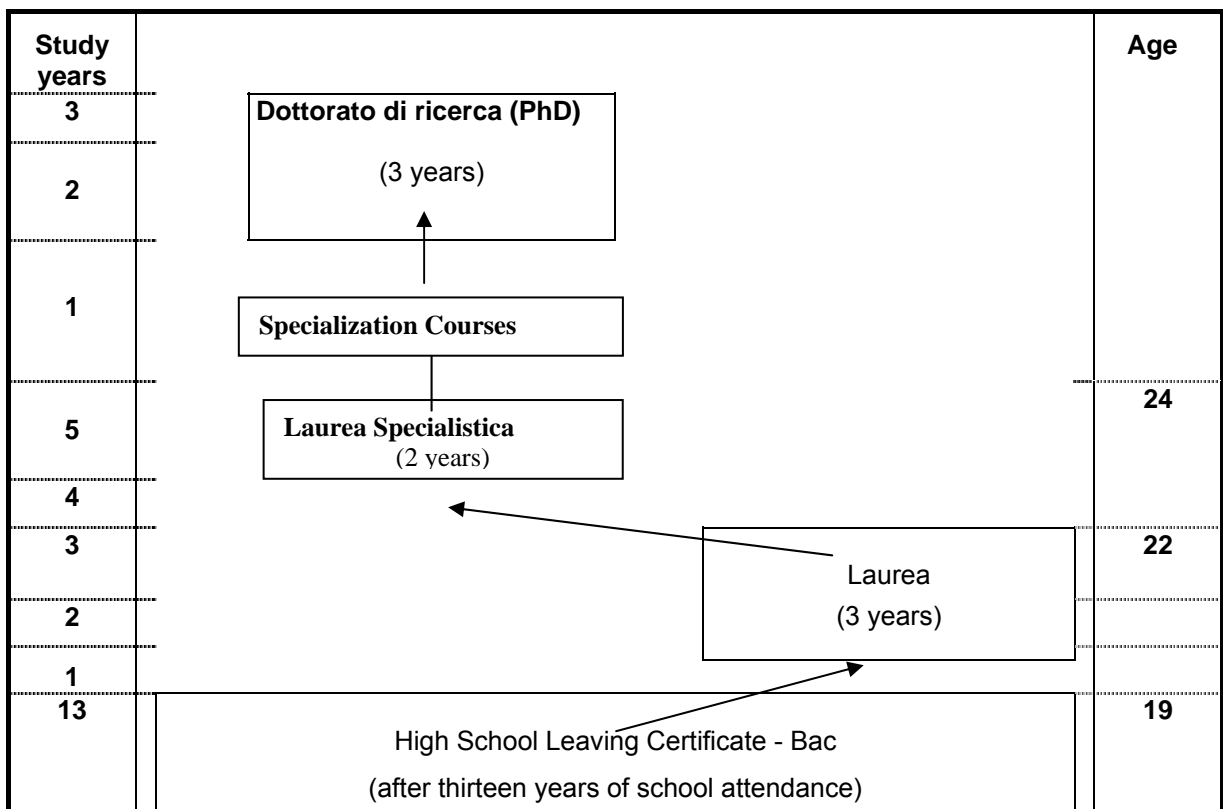
<http://www.miur.it>

The addresses of the 40 Engineers Faculties in Italy are the following ones:

1. Università di Ancona <http://www.ing.unian.it/>?
2. Politecnico di Bari <http://www.poliba.it/>?
3. Università della Basilicata <http://www.ing.unibas.it/index.htm>
4. Università del Sannio <http://www.ing.unisannio.it/>?
5. Università di Bergamo
http://www.unibg.it/struttura/struttura.asp?cerca=ingegneria_intro
6. Università di Bologna <http://www.ing.unibo.it/Ingegneria/default.htm>
7. Università di Brescia <http://www.unibs.it/atp/page.1010.0.0.0.atp?node=31>
8. Università di Cosenza <http://csics.unica.it/~servgen/>
9. Università di Cagliari <http://www.unical.it/portale/strutture/facolta/ingegneria/>
10. Università di Castellana <http://www.liuc.it/didattica/ing/default.htm>
11. Università di Cassino <http://www.ing.unicas.it/>?
12. Università di Catania <http://www.ing.unict.it/>
13. Università di Ferrara <http://www.unife.it/facolta/facolta-300076.htm>
14. Università di Firenze <http://www.ing.unifi.it/>?
15. Università di Genova <http://www.ingegneria.unige.it/>?
16. Università dell'Aquila <http://www.ing.univaq.it/>?
17. Università di Lecce <http://www.ing.unile.it>
18. Università di Messina <http://www.unime.it/?>
19. Politecnico di Milano <http://www.polimi.it/?>
20. Università di Modena <http://www.ing.unimo.it/?>
21. Università di Napoli 2° <http://193.206.103.214/>
22. Università di Napoli 1°
http://www.unina.it/didattica/facolta/facolta.jsp?codFacolta=16&cod_afferenza=00016000
23. Università Navale Napoli <http://www.ingegneria.uninav.it/?>
24. Università di Padova <http://www.ing.unipd.it/>

- 25. Università di Palermo <http://www.unipa.it/pagine/facolta.htm#ingegneria>
- 26. Università di Parma <http://www.unipr.it/www.php?info=Facolta&tipo=ingegneria>
- 27. Università di Pavia <http://www.unipv.it/ingegneria/>
- 28. Università di Perugia <http://www.ing.unipg.it/?>
- 29. Università di Pisa <http://www.ing.unipi.it/?>
- 30. Università di Reggio C. <http://www.ing.unirc.it/portale/>
- 31. Università di Modena <http://www.ingre.unimo.it/?>
- 32. Università di Roma 1° <http://w3.ing.uniroma1.it/?>
- 33. Università di Roma 2° <http://www.ing.uniroma2.it/?>
- 34. Università di Roma 3° <http://www.uniroma3.it/?>
- 35. Università di Salerno <http://www.ingegneria.unisa.it/>
- 36. Università di Siena <http://www.ing.unisi.it/?>
- 37. Politecnico di Torino <http://www.polito.it/?>
- 38. Università di Trento <http://www.ing.unitn.it/?>
- 39. Università di Trieste <http://www.ing.univ.trieste.it/?>
- 40. Università di Udine http://www.uniud.it/general/frame/frameset_strutturorgani.htm

SIMPLIFIED SCHEME OF ENGINEERS' FORMATION



Diplomas' recognition and equivalence

Recognition of the professional titles being awarded to European citizens in countries of the European Union.

In order to obtain the recognition of an Engineering professional title got within the European Union to pursue the profession in Italy, it is necessary to follow the procedure relevant to the recognition of the professional titles as provided by the Legislative Decree n. 115, 27 January 1992, implementing the Directive 89/48/EC as modified by the Legislative Decree n. 277, 8 July 2003 implementing the Directive 2001/19/EC.

The Directive 89/48/EC provides for a general system of recognition of high education diplomas sanctioning professional educations of at least three-year duration for the purpose of facilitating the freedom of establishment and the free services supply by European citizens, relevant to a general system of recognition.

In compliance with this legislation it is possible to apply for recognition by the Ministero della Giustizia (*Ministry of Justice*) filling the application form at disposal on the site of the Ministry www.giustizia.it, enclosing the necessary documentation as required.

If some gaps are found in the knowledge of basic disciplines required to pursue the profession in Italy when examining the single application forms, candidates may be applied the adaptation measures, consisting in aptitude test or in an adaptation training aiming to the fill the gaps.

The possible knowledge of some disciplines by the candidates – both under form of studies or of professional experience – are taken into consideration, if duly proved, to lower the adaptation measures.

Representation of architects

The National Board of Architects (Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori) is supervised by the Ministry of Justice and is structured into Regional Boards (Ordini Provinciali). The Regional Boards elect the National Board.

The National Board of Architects institutionally represents the significant interests of the professional category of architects at a national level.

The National Board of Architects acts as an advisor to the Parliament and the government with reference to professional matters concerning the architects.

It consists of the following departments: [11]:

DCA

Department

[Contabile Amministrativo](#)

President: [Giuseppe Antonio ZIZZI](#)

e-mail: direzione.cnappc@awn.it

DCL

Department

[Competenze e Lavoro](#)

President: [Luigi COTZIA](#)

e-mail: competenze.cnappc@awn.it

DCU

Department

[Cultura](#)

President: [Pierluigi MISSIO](#)

e-mail: cultura.cnappc@awn.it

DEE

Department

[Europa ed Esteri](#)

President: [Leopoldo Emilio FREYRIE](#)

e-mail: esteri.cnappc@awn.it

DFR

Department

[Formazione e Ricerca scientifica](#)

President: [Renata BIZZOTTO](#)

e-mail: formazione.cnappc@awn.it

DIC

Department

[Informazione e Comunicazione](#)

President: [Giorgio MARCHETTI](#)

e-mail: comunicazione.cnappc@awn.it

DIN

Department

[Interni](#)

President: [Gianfranco PIZZOLATO](#)

e-mail: interni.cnappc@awn.it

DLP

Department

[Lavori Pubblici](#)

President: [Massimo GALLIONE](#)

e-mail: llpp.cnappc@awn.it

DOM

Department

[Ordinamento professionale e Magistratura](#)

President: [Nevio PARMEGGIANI](#)

e-mail: ordinamento.cnappc@awn.it

Useful information is supplied on the internet site of the

Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori

Recognition of diplomas

Architects

Studies – diplomas – specializations

The Italian educational programs for architects are integrated within the context of the third grade education studies and supplied by universities, polytechnic schools and university institutes.

The entry into superior schools is permitted further to a selection based on examinations. The duration of studies is 5 years and the graduates are awarded an architect's diploma (Dottore in Architettura). [11]

There are 17 Schools of Architecture, which are public institutes governed by private law and administratively subject to the Ministry for Education University and Scientific Research.

Those are: [11]

Università degli Studi dell'Aquila - Dipartimento di Architettura <http://dau.ing.univaq.it/>
Facoltà di Architettura di Camerino
<http://www.unicam.it/university/faculty/architettura/frame.htm>
Università degli Studi di Catania - Facoltà di Architettura sede di Siracusa
<http://www.unict.it/farch/>
Università degli Studi di Chieti Facoltà di Architettura <http://www.unich.it/offerta/diparch.htm>
Facoltà di Architettura di Ferrara <http://www.unife.it/architettura>
Facoltà di Architettura di Firenze <http://www.arch.unifi.it/>
Facoltà di Architettura di Genova <http://www.arch.unige.it/>
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II - Facoltà di
Architettura <http://www.architettura.unina.it/>
Facoltà di Architettura di Napoli II Ateneo <http://www.unina.it/nwe.html>
Università degli Studi di Palermo - Facoltà di Architettura <http://archlab.unipa.it/>
Università di Parma - Facoltà di Architettura <http://relpub.ceda.unipr.it/facolta/architettura/>
Università degli Studi di Pavia Facoltà di Ingegneria <http://www.unipv.it/webing/>
Facoltà di Architettura di Reggio Calabria <http://www.unirc.it/architettura/>
Università degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza - Prima Facoltà di Architettura
<http://www.arc1.uniroma1.it/>
Università degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza - Facoltà di Architettura Valle Giulia
<http://w3.uniroma1.it/vallegiulia/>
Università degli Studi di Roma La Sapienza - Facoltà di Ingegneria <http://w3.ing.uniroma1.it/>
Università degli Studi di Roma III - Facoltà di Architettura
<http://w3.uniroma3.it/didattica/sfacolta.asp?codice=17>
Università degli studi di Trieste - Facoltà di Architettura <http://www.univ.trieste.it/~archit/>
Politecnico di Bari - Facoltà di Architettura <http://www.poliba.it/Architettura/poliba.htm>
Politecnico di Milano - Dipartimento di Architettura e Pianificazione <http://www.diap.polimi.it/>
Politecnico di Milano - Prima Facoltà di Architettura Milano Leonardo <http://www.arch.polimi.it/>
Politecnico di Milano - Prima Facoltà di Architettura Milano Leonardo sede di Mantova
<http://pcsiwa12.rett.polimi.it/~mantova/>
Politecnico di Milano - II Facoltà di Architettura Milano Bovisa <http://www.arch2.polimi.it/>
Politecnico di Milano - III Facoltà di Architettura Milano Bovisa
<http://www.polimi.it/facolta/frameset3arcmibov.html>
Politecnico di Milano - Facoltà di Architettura sede di Como <http://www.polimi.it/design>
Politecnico di Torino - Facoltà di Architettura <http://www.archi.polito.it/>
IUAV - Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia <http://web.iuav.unive.it/iuav/>

Ministry for Education University and Scientific Research

Piazzale Kennedy, 20 - 00144 ROMA
tel : 00 39 06 59 911
fax : 0039 06 5816353
<http://www.miur.it>

Profession exercise license, bodies and ways it is granted

All architects graduates of a superior school, are registered in the National Board of Architects in order to have the authority to sign. The National Board of Architects is supervised by the Ministry of Justice and it is structured into Regional Boards in which the architects are registered. The law governing the professional rights and obligations of architects is "Act n° 1395 of the 24th of June 1923 " [11]

Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori

Via Santa Maria dell'Anima 10 - 00186 ROMA
tel : 00 39 06 688 99 01
fax : 00 39 06 687 95 20
e-mail : cnarchitetti@archiworld.it
<http://www.archiworld.it>

Ministry of Justice

Via Arenula, 70 - 00186 ROMA
tel: 0039 06 68.851
fax: 0039 06 6875419
<http://www.giustizia.it>

Diplomas' recognition and parity

A file is submitted including an application for recognition application along with the translated diplomas, to the following service, which must reply within 4 months.

Carlo FINOCCHIETTI, Director (French speaking)
Silvia CAPUCCI, Deputy (English speaking)
CIMEA - Fondazione Rui
36, Viale XXI Aprile
I-00162 Roma
Tel: +39-06-86.32.12.81
Fax: +39-06-86.32.28.45
E-mail: cimea@fondazionerui.it (C. Finocchietti)
E-mail: capucci@fondazionerui.it (S. Capucci)
<http://www.fondazionerui.it>

Labor relations

Architects, Engineers

The architects and engineers may work as independent professionals, cooperating with companies of the public and the private sector. Their competence consists in designing buildings, structures and installations, commissioning expert's reports, designing or supplying technical construction support as regards matters related to the design, the supervision and the construction. The planning of urban design constructions and designs, the land use designs, the landscape design, the interior, furniture, accessory or object design, as well as the rendering of services related to the assessment of real estate constitute some of the fields that fall within the scope of the architect's profession. [12], [14]

The architect is the exclusive competent in buildings of historic and artistic interest, historic areas and restorations. [12]

The pays of the architects and engineers of the private sector are adjusted in agreement with the employer, while for the architects and engineers of the public sector, such pays are governed by the collective labour agreements. [14]

For the design and construction of private and public works there is a legal framework that defines the minimum engineer fee. The latter is applied in public works, however, in private works, the competition leads to reductions. [14]

The Monitoring Service of the Ministry of Public works supervises the public works. As regards the private works, there is no corresponding body. [14]

It is possible for an engineer or an architect to undertake the design of a public work, provided such engineer or architect is registered in the local board. No special skills are required. [14]

One may be informed on the tenders by the Official Gazette of Public Works. [14]

In order to undertake the construction of public works, one must be registered in the Register of Public Works' Constructors. The tenders for the construction are published in the local press and in the Official Gazette of Public Works. [14]

For information with reference to the legislation applied in the construction of public works, a foreign architect may address the local board. [14]

Legislation

The legal framework governing the exercise of the architect's profession is indicated below. [13]

- act n°1395 of the 24th of June 1923 (professional rights)

- act n°2537/1925 (regulations concerning the exercise of the architect's and the engineer's profession)
- legislative decree n° 382/1944 (legislative provisions applied in the professional associations, the national chambers and the national boards)
- act n°143/1949 (supplementary law concerning the pays' system)
- act n°341/90
- act n°818/84
- legislative decree n° 494/96
- legislative decree n° 626/94
- Relevant directives of the European Union:
 - **inserire 89/48**
 - 85/384
 - 89/440 D.L.406/1991
 - 92/50 D.L.157/1995
 - 90/531 D.L.158/1995
 - 93/38 D.L. 494/1996
 - 92/57

Security

Every employee in Italy has the same rights with the Italian employees as regards the social security allowances. There is a system of agreements between countries that minimizes the unequal treatment of foreigners. [3], [2]

Before visiting Italy, it is advisable that European citizens are supplied the relevant E forms. E111 form ensures access of its holder to emergency medical services. [3]

According to the Italian social security system, the health allowances comprise free hospital care, medical care and coverage up to 90% of the price of medication supplied under medical prescription. The tests performed by specialized doctors and the medical tests are paid by the insured person, however, the relevant fee depends on the type of the test. [2]

The body managing the Italian health system is the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale (SSN)). As soon as the stay permit (permesso di soggiorno) is issued and the security contributions are paid (directly by the employer to the INPS - Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza Sociale) it is necessary for one to register at the "Azienda Sanitaria Locale" (ASL) of the community of residence in order to be given a national health number (tessera sanitaria). [2]

At a national level, one may call 118 for emergency and first aid services. [3]

As regards salaried employees, their registration in the register of the National Social Welfare Institute (Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza Sociale. INPS) is made by the employer, who undertakes to proceed to all necessary actions [2].

The National Social Welfare Institute (Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza Sociale INPS) regulates all social security matters, such as illness, disability, retirement, motherhood, etc. The Institute's bureaus are dispersed throughout the country and divided in regional and provincial directions, branches and local sub-centers. Before addressing the bureau, it is useful to contact the telephone number 16464 for information on the bureaus' working hours and addresses. Information is supplied in French, English, German, Russian, Spanish, Polish and Arabic. [3]

The organizations that are competent for disability, old-age and survival pensions are the following:

- INPS: For salaried employees, generally, and for independently employed people (cultivators directly exploiting agricultural areas, salaried employees, farm workers, technicians and merchants)
- ENPALS: Salaried employees occupied in the show business industry
- INPDAI: Directors of industries
- INPGI: Reporters
- National Fund of people exercising an independent profession: doctors, pharmacists, veterinaries, engineers, architects, measuring surveyors, lawyers, economists, business administrators, labour advisors, notaries, custom clearers, accountants.[ψ]

For the independent engineers and architects registered in the Albos, the competent social security body is the National Engineers' and Architects' Welfare Fund (CASSA NAZIONALE DI PREVIDENZA PER GLI INGEGNERI ED ARCHITETTI).

CASSA NAZIONALE DI PREVIDENZA PER GLI INGEGNERI ED ARCHITETTI

Via Salaria 229, 00199 Roma.

Tηλ. +(39)06.832741

www.inarcassa.it/index.asp

Ministero del Lavoro e della Politiche Sociale

(Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare)

Via Castelfidardo 43, 00185 Roma.

Tel. +(39)06.46832524 / Fax +(39)06.4819727

<http://www.welfare.gov.it/>

ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DELLA PREVIDENZA SOCIALE (INPS)

(National Social Welfare Institute (INPS))

Via Ciro il Grande 21, 00144 Roma.

Tel. +(39)06.59051

<http://www.inps.it/>

Taxation

The Ministry of Economy and Finance (Ministero dell' Economia e delle Finanze) is in charge of the taxation system of Italy. Taxes (tributi) are divided in two general categories, and distinguished in tasse (duty and public service taxes) and imposte (taxes adjusted based on the income and main profits, etc).

The duty and public service taxes (tasse) concern particular payments to special services and are frequently compulsory, e.g. the T.A.R.S.U. tax for the collection of urban garbage and wastes.

The income taxes (imposte) represent the most significant category of taxes, given that they supply 90% of the state income. Such taxes are:

- imposte sul reddito (income taxes)
- imposte sul patrimonio (taxes on capital and property)
- imposte dirette (direct taxes)
- imposte indirette (indirect taxes)
- imposte personali (personal taxes)

The taxation system is mainly based on the self-evaluation principle. The tax liable persons calculate and pay the due taxes to the finanziaria Amministrazione (income authority), also supplying the necessary data in order for the latter to check the accuracy of the declared amounts. [3]

The income tax is progressive (between 10% and 51%), while the income from capital is taxed on a lump-sum basis (e.g. 12.5% for interests from state notes and 27% for interests from active accounts). Reductions are foreseen as regards medical expenses, security contributions and other expenses.

All Italy residents must pay the total of the income tax, regardless of the state of origin. If the income originates from another member-state it shall be taxed in compliance with the formalities foreseen in the bipartite fiscal contract signed between the said country and Italy. [2]

The tax calculated on the basis of the estimated annual income is collected by the employer, while the due balance is calculated at the end of the year. The salaried employees are not obliged to submit an income statement, unless they also have other income sources. [2]

The income obtained under employment contracts outside Italy are taxed in a different way and may imply further reduction in the following two cases:

- ❑ Over a period of 12 months (not necessarily of the same calendar year) the employer resides in a foreign country for more than 183 calendar days.
- ❑ The dependent employee works exclusively abroad.

The independent professionals must submit a tax return statement and directly settle the tax. As independent professionals, the engineers may achieve reduction of the income they present from the exercise of their activity. They are subject to value added tax and must keep accounting books. [13]

Useful addresses

Finding residence	
	http://www.primitaly.it/villeecasali/
Learning the language	
Ministry for Education, Universities and Scientific Research	www.miur.it/0002Univer/0023Studen/0059Studen/0370Impara/index_cf2.htm
Education	
	http://universo.murst.it
	http://offertaformativa.miur.it/corsi/
	http://sito.cineca.it/
	http://www.eurydice.org
Working conditions	
Centro Servizi per L' Orientamento Professionale, CESOP	http://cesop.it
Confindustria	http://confindustria.it
Banca Lavoro	http://bancalavoro.it

Job on line	http://www.jobonline.it
Fionline	http://www.fionline.it
Centro Studi Orientamento	http://www.cestor.it
EURES	europa.eu.int/eures
Unemployment, benefits	
Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale (INPS)	http://www.inps.it/
Ministero del Lavoro e della Politiche Sociali	http://www.welfare.gov.it/
Representation of engineers	
Consiglio Nazionale Ingegneri (C.N.I.)	http://www.tuttoingegnere.it
Engineers: studies, diplomas, specializations	
Ministry for Education, Universities and Scientific Research	http://sito.cineca.it/strutture/struttura.html
Engineers: diplomas' recognition and parity	
Ministry of Justice	http://www.giustizia.it/professioni/info_gen_estero.htm
Engineers: profession exercise license (for Provincial Orders addresses only)	
Consiglio Nazionale Ingegneri (C.N.I.)	http://www.tuttoingegnere.it/web/ITA/CNI/Ordini1/index.htm
Representation of architects	
Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori	http://www.archiworld.it
Architects: studies, diplomas, specializations	
Ministry for Education, Universities and Scientific Research	http://sito.cineca.it/strutture/struttura.html

Architects: diplomas' recognition and parity	
	http://www.fondazionerui.it
Architects: profession exercise license	
Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori	http://www.archiworld.it
Insurance	
CASSA NAZIONALE DI PREVIDENZA PER GLI INGEGNERI ED ARCHITETTI	www.inarcassa.it/index.asp

Bibliography references

- [1] "Country Career Guide: Italy" <http://overseasdigest.com/country/Italy.htm>
- [2] "Dialogue with the citizens: Italy" <http://europa.eu.int/scadplus/citizens/el/it/>
- [3] "Living and working: Italy" EURES
<http://europa.eu.int/eures/main.jsp?acro=lw&parentId=0&catId=490&lang=el&countryId=FR>
- [4] «World encyclopedia Atlas" rev. (Athens: CIL Hellas, c1999) 94
- [5] ISTAT "Annual report 2001: Diversity in the Differences: Synthesis". (ISTAT, 2002)
- [6] "The new University system in Italy" Information brochure of the Italian Institute of Thessaloniki
- [7] Leray, Nicole, Geneviere Laviolette, and Tony Raban "From PhD to employment" (FEDORA, 2000) 130
- [8] "Quarterly Labour force survey: October 2003" Research of the Italian Statistic Service. <http://www.istat.it/English/Press-rele/In-calenda/Ott03labour.htm>
- [9] "Les chiffres de l'Europe sociale" L'Express n.2732 (13-11-2003) 82
- [10] Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri <http://www.tuttoingegnere.it/web/ENG/>
- [11] Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori
<http://www.archiworld.it>
- [12] "International Professional Practice: Italy" (Collegi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya, 2000)
http://www.coac.net/internacional/praprof_w.htm
- [13] "Architects in Italy" (National Board of Italian Architects, 2003)
<http://www.archieuro.archiworld.it/>
- [14] Answers to the questionnaire of the Ordine Degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori Della Provincia Di Milano