

# **Electronic Signatures: the approach of the European Union**

## **Directive 1999/93/EC**

Claire SION

**European Commission - DG Information Society**



# Directive 1999/93/EC

## Underlying Principles

- **technology neutral**
- **non-discrimination**
- **party autonomy / contractual freedom**
- **no harmonization of national civil law**



# Directive 1999/93/CE

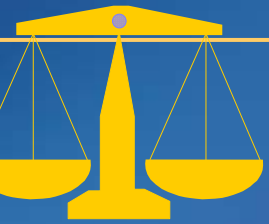
## Market access

No prior  
authorisation



Voluntary  
accreditation

# Directive 1999/93/EC



## Form Conditions

→ For:

- Qualified Certificates (Annex I)
- Certification service providers (Annex II)
- Requirements for secure signature-creation devices (Annex III)



# Directive 1999/93/EC

## Legal Recognition

Electronic  
Signature



Non  
discrimination

Adv. Electronic  
Signature



Fulfil form  
requirements in  
National laws

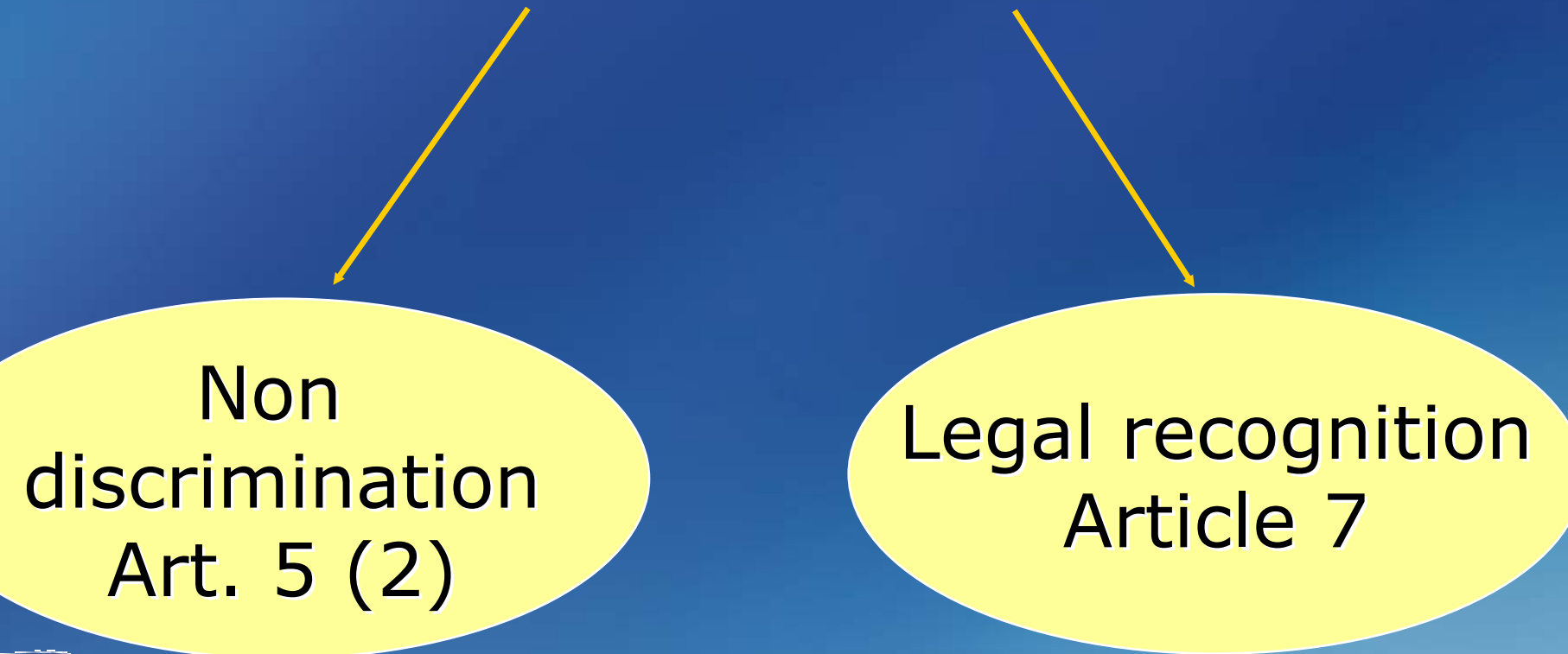




## Liability

- Principle of negligence
  - Revised burden of proof
  - Minimum liability rules

## Third country certificates



## Time-frame

**19 january 2000: Entry into force of the directive**

**19 july 2001: Implementation into national laws**

**15 march 2006: Report on the operation of Directive 1999/93/EC on a Community framework for electronic signatures**







**For more Information:**

**<http://www.europa.eu.int/i2010>**

**or contact**

**[claire.sion@ec.europa.eu](mailto:claire.sion@ec.europa.eu)**

