Economic and Monetary Policy

Introductory remarks

Article 4 TEU: the basis for Chapter 17

Economic policy

- <u>based on</u> close coordination of Member States' economic policies, internal market, common objectives
- in accordance with the principle of an open market economy with free competition.
- including single currency, ... single monetary policy ..., primary objective to maintain price stability and to support the general economic policies
- <u>quiding principles</u>: stable prices, sound public finances and monetary conditions and a sustainable balance of payments

Characteristics of Chapter on Economic and Monetary Policy (EMP – Ch. 17)

- The legal basis is, in quantitative terms, rather limited scope.
- It covers, however, major issues of economic policy (which are sometimes controversially discussed).
- It is a rather "young" acquis, as it basically only started to enter into force in 1994.

EMP and economic criteria for accession

- Compliance with the chapter on EMP is in substance closely linked to progress in meeting the Copenhagen economic criteria for accession
 - being a functioning market economy
 - being able to withstand competitive pressure in the Single Market ...
- Progress in both areas mutually reinforce each other and has to go in parallel

Economic and Monetary Policy: administrative capacity

- Compliance with chapter 17 requires sufficient capacity in planning and conducting economic, fiscal and monetary policy
- In particular demand on: Ministries of Economy and Finance, Central Bank, Statistical Office
- Pre-accession surveillance procedure and technical assistance support candidate countries in this respect

Economic and Monetary Policy and pre-accession surveillance

- Pre-accession surveillance:
 - Fiscal notifications
 - Pre-accession Economic Programmes
 - Economic dialogues (bilateral / multilateral)
 - COM economic forecasts
 - Annual Progress Reports

