The European approach of using standards in support of regional legislation and free circulation of goods/services

Fostering coherence in support of regional & international trade

WTO Committee on technical barriers to trade - Thematic session on standards
Geneva, 14 June 2016

Hervé GAUTHIER, CEN-CENELEC Unit Manager International Cooperation
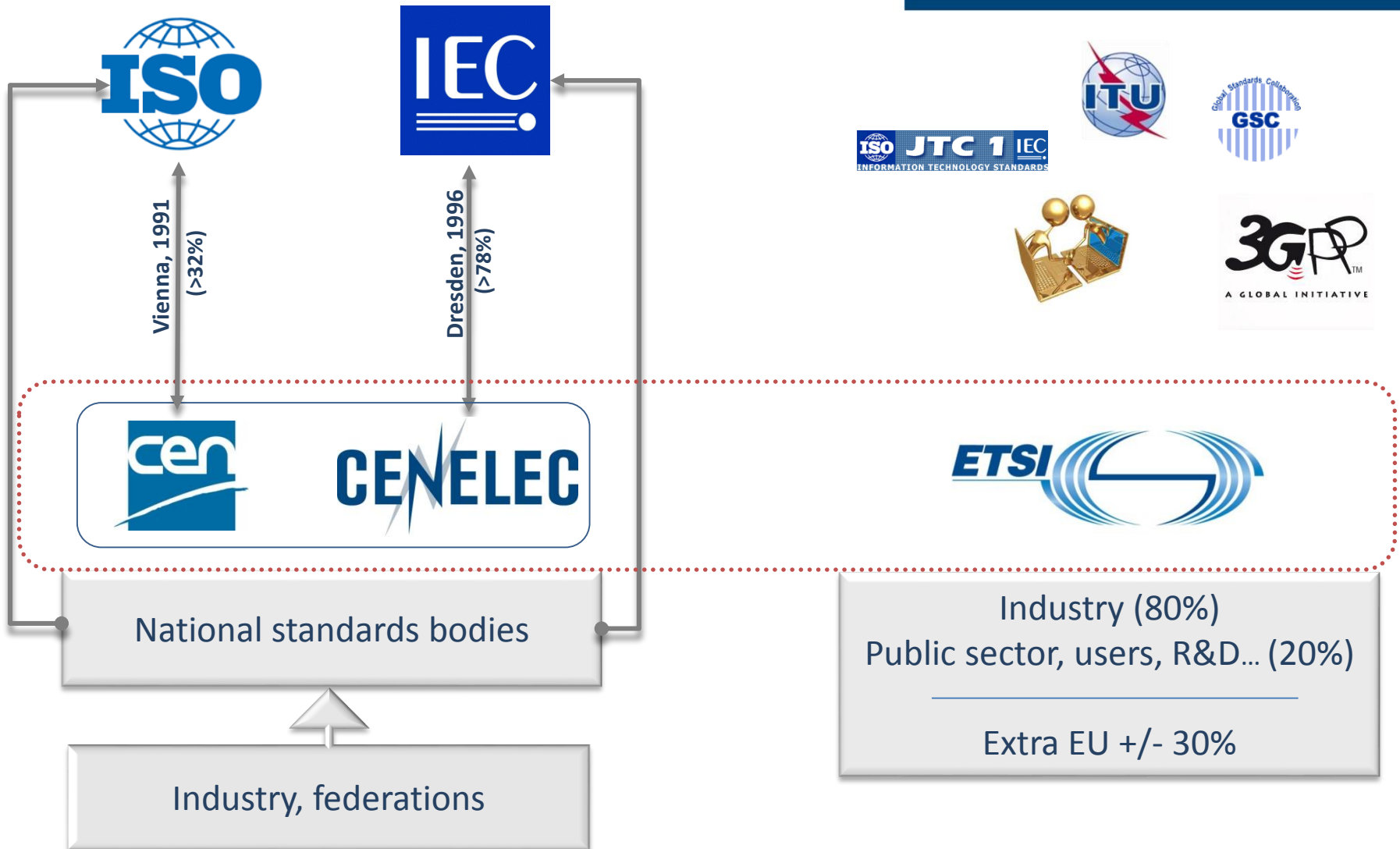
3 ESOs

(i.e. recognized by EU Regulation 1025/2012/EC)

- CEN – European committee for standardization

- CENELEC – European committee for electrotechnical standardization

- ETSI – European Telecom Standards Institute

Forming the framework for the elaboration and publication of European Standards necessary to support the implementation of European legislation and public policies

Similarities and Differences

ETSI network

CEN CENELEC ETSI
EUROPEAN STANDARDS ORGANISATIONS

International SDOs/Organisations

ITU IEC ISO

e.g. UPU, ICAO, UNECE…

Regional Partners

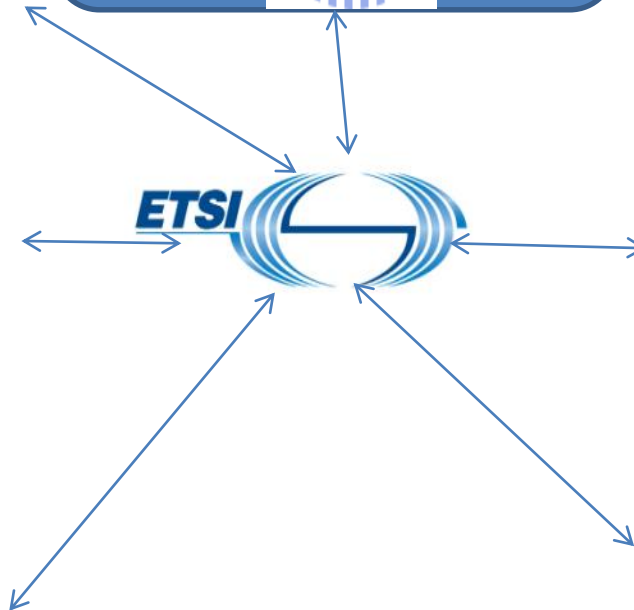APT isacc cccnt

European Partners

cen CENELEC CEPT

Interregional Co-operation

oneM2M GSC 3GPP

ETSI

FORA & CONSORTIA

- BBF
- CAB Forum
- CONTINUA Alliance
- DECT Forum
- DLMS
- DMR Association
- DVB
- ESMIG
- Global Platform
- HGI
- IMS Forum
- IMTC
- IPV6 Forum
- MSF
- NFC Forum
- NGMN
- OGF
- OIPF
- OMA
- TTCA
- UMTS Forum
- Etc…

The Vienna Agreement

- Either CEN or ISO take the lead in drafting a new standard
- Documents are presented for simultaneous approval by both
- ISO members can influence content of CEN standards and vice versa
- ISO respects that CEN deals with a political dimension (EC and EFTA – New Approach)
- **Link with EU legislation**: ISO informed from the first steps of the development of Standardization Requests

32%
of CEN published standards are identical to ISO standards

24%
of CEN standards referenced in the Official Journal of the European Union are identical to ISO standards

48%
of CEN standards currently under development identical to or based on ISO projects

The Dresden Agreement

Undisputed support to the IEC

- Publication and common adoption of International Standards– Paralell Voting

- Ensure rational use of available resources: standardization preferably at international level, once for all

- Acceleration of the standards preparation process in response to market demands

- Barriers to international trade removed in Europe

- Mutual information on national work

- **Link with EU legislation**: IEC informed from the first steps of the development of Standardization Requests

72%
of CENELEC published standards are identical to IEC standards (+ *another 6% based on*)

58%
of CENELEC standards referenced in the Official Journal of the European Union are identical to IEC standards (+ *another 16% based on*)

69%
of CENELEC standards currently under development identical to or based on IEC projects

CEN & CENELEC support to EU legislation and to European industry's global competitiveness
Coherence at all levels

European engagement in ISO & IEC

CEN and CENELEC alignment with ISO & IEC
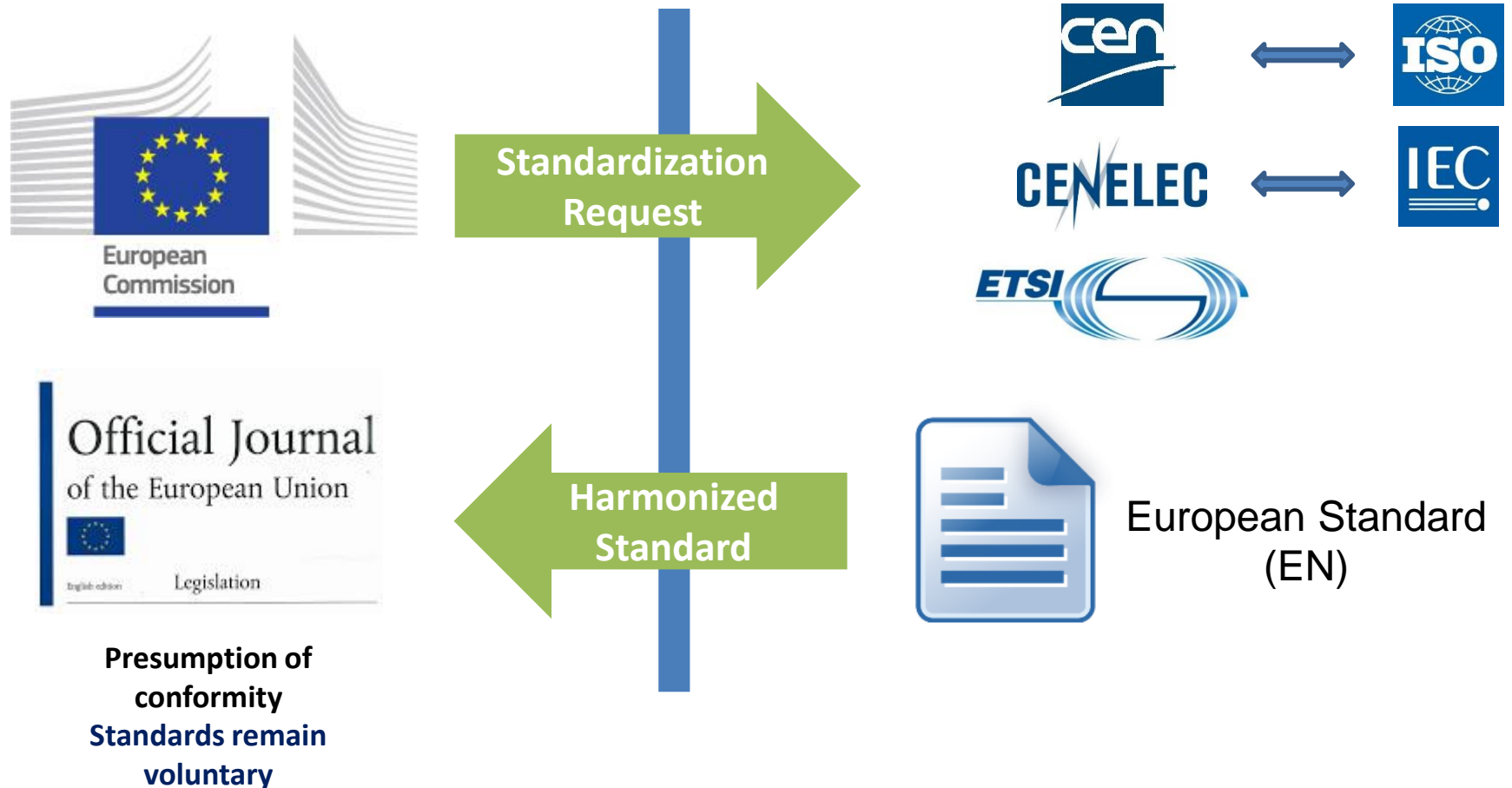
Partnerships & projects supporting strategic cooperation and technical alignment (through ISO & IEC first)

Dissemination of 'home-grown' ENs (complementary tool for technical alignment)

Involvement in EU regulatory dialogues & trade negotiations (promoting the European model)

Legislation & standards, working together
EU Regulation 1025/2012

Standardization Request →

← **Harmonized Standard**

European Commission

Official Journal of the European Union — Legislation

Presumption of conformity
Standards remain voluntary

European Standard (EN)

European Internal Market

SINGLE TEXT

EN

European Standard

One Standard

(Some) Key assets of the European approach

- **Standards as a co-regulation tool**
  - Legislation focusing on essential requirements, stakeholders agreeing by consensus on concrete ways to produce safe/compliant products and services
  - ⇒ PPP approach – "*a single platform serving multiple policies*"
- **Early notification of stakeholders**
  - European Commission AUWP / ESOs' WP / Standardization Requests
  - ⇒ Stakeholders know in advance when & where to contribute
- **Indirect references to standards**
  - Market relevance
  - Flexibility & support to innovation
  - ⇒ A powerful lever for the EU Digital Single Market
- **Strong connection with international standardization work**
  - 2 approaches, but a shared commitment to international solutions
  - ⇒ Openness of the EU market / Global competitiveness of EU industry & SMEs

Further reading

- [CEN-CENELEC Guide 30](#) *European Guide on Standards and Regulation - Better regulation through the use of voluntary standards - Guidance for policy makers*

- [Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards to support public policy](#)