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## **Press Release**

***European Public Sector Award 2009  
officially launched during the 5<sup>th</sup> Quality Conference***

At the 5<sup>th</sup> Quality Conference in Paris, the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) officially launched the European Public Sector Award 2009 (EPSA 2009).

With an audience of approximately 80 stakeholders from European public administrations, the launch event was opened with a word of welcome by Mr François-Daniel Migeon (FR), Director-General of the Directorate-General for State Modernisation (DGME) and host of the 5QC, who supports the idea of this innovative and stimulating award. Mr Emmerich Bachmeyer (AT), Director-General of the Federal Chancellery of Austria, explained Austria's motivations for supporting and promoting EPSA 2009 and also extended his encouragement to those countries not yet officially supporting the award to become involved. Another important contribution was made by the Bulgarian Minister of State Administration and Administrative Reform, Mr Nikolay Vassilev. Last week Bulgaria became an official member of the European Institute of Public Administration and moreover became an official co-financing partner of EPSA 2009.

EPSA 2009 brings together the most innovative, efficient and best performers from the European public sector. Fifteen European countries, together with the European Commission, are officially supporting the EPSA. The award contest is open to all levels of Europe's public administration. Applicants can submit and thus showcase their innovative achievements, in four thematic fields:

- ❖ **Performance Improvement in Public Service Delivery**
- ❖ **Citizen Involvement**
- ❖ **New Forms of Partnership Working**
- ❖ **Leadership and Management for Change**

Ms Marga Pröhl, Director-General of EIPA, and Mr Alexander Heichlinger, EPSA 2009 Project Leader, announced that the call for applications will be opened on 1 January 2009 (until 20 March) on the EPSA web portal ([www.epsa2009.eu](http://www.epsa2009.eu)), and they invite all European public organisations to participate.

***“Assess Yourself and Learn from the Best – Showcasing and Rewarding European Public Excellence”.***



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**Paris (FR), 21 October 2008**

**Note for the editors:**

More information: Ms Joyce Groneschild, Marketing & Information Coordinator,  
European Institute of Public Administration,  
tel.: +31 (0) 43 3296357; email: [j.groneschild@eipa.eu](mailto:j.groneschild@eipa.eu)

Contact address  
EPSA team: Ms Chaja van Boesschoten, EPSA Programme Organiser  
European Institute of Public Administration,  
tel.: +31 (0) 43 3296341; email: [infoepsa2009@eipa.eu](mailto:infoepsa2009@eipa.eu)  
[www.epsa2009.eu](http://www.epsa2009.eu)

**Partners officially supporting the EPSA 2009:**

European Commission	Luxembourg
Bulgaria	Hungary
Denmark	The Netherlands
Germany	Austria
Spain	Poland
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