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VINCENZO ZENO-ZENCOVICH

University of Rome 3

Legal Information As an Essential Aspect of Citizenship

The relationship between law and citizens has significantly changed in the last quarter of century. Legal provisions, increasingly, are no longer simply an order, but offer to citizens access to social services, rights, freedoms, liberties. Enforcement of the legal order requires informed citizens who not only abide by the law but also take full advantage of its provisions.

The sources of the law have multiplied and can no longer be confined to acts of Parliament. This requires a different basic approach to the issues of legal information. The argument is that public authorities are under a positive obligation to inform in a complete and substantial way the "consumers" of their legal products.