

ECCE BRIEF ACTIVITY REPORT

OCTOBER 2017 – MAY 2018

by Włodzimierz Szymczak, ECCE Acting President

&

Maria Karanasiou, ECCE General Secretary

Tallinn, 31 May 2018





- The 66th ECCE General Meeting was held on 4th October 2017, in Vienna, Austria, hosted by the by the Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants / Section for Chartered Engineering Consultants / Federal Expert Group for Civil Engineering.
- During the 66th ECCE General Meeting the General Assembly confirmed that Włodzimierz Szymczak will continue his role as Acting President until the end of this term of office (October 2018).
- The Position Paper on “Infrastructure and water management” was endorsed by the General Assembly as ECCE Position Paper.





European Council
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66th ECCE General Meeting

4 October 2017, Vienna, Austria

(2)



3rd European Engineers' Day "Concerns (1) about Engineering Excellence" 5 October 2017, Vienna



- The “3rd European Engineers’ Day” was an event co-organized by a number of European Engineering Organizations on a regular basis: The European Council of Engineering Chambers (ECEC), the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI) and the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) together with the European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAE).
- About 150 participants from all over Europe discussed the questions: *What is “engineering excellence”? Does the EU need it? Will it be available in the future? What are encouragements and hindrances for its occurrence?*
- Speakers from various backgrounds approached the question of securing the availability of engineering excellence in the future from different angles.





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3rd European Engineers' Day "Concerns (2) about Engineering Excellence" *5 October 2017, Vienna*



AFTER VIENNA



ECCE participates in the 12th WCCE (1)

General Assembly ,

18-20 October 2017, Antalya, Turkey



- ECCE as International Member to the World Council of Civil Engineers was invited to attend the 12th WCCE General Assembly that was hosted by the Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers.
- ECCE's representative to WCCE is Mr. Gorazd Humar who participated in the WCCE ExCo meeting and General Assembly meeting on behalf of ECCE.
- Mr. Gorazd Humar delivered a presentation regarding ECCE activities presenting the ECCE initiative to mark 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers. He presented the scheduled events for 2018 inviting also the WCCE members to be part of this celebration.
- The WCCE GA has focused on consolidating WCCE as a global partner with the UN system on the principles presented in the Madrid Declaration which stated the commitment of civil engineering towards the achievement of UN's Sustainable Development Goals and our profession's role in such achievement.
- ECCE's participation in several initiatives that are to be developed jointly with UNESCO is under discussion.





ECCE participates in the 14th ECEC (1)

General Assembly ,

21 October 2017, Skopje, FYROM

- ECCE was invited to participate in the 14th General Assembly of the European Council of Engineers Chambers that was hosted by the Chamber of Certified Architects and Engineers of FYROM and its President Prof. Dr. Mile Dimitrovski.
- ECCE was represented in this event by its Vice President/Treasurer Mr. Dimitar Natchev.
- In his speech ECCE Vice President/ Treasurer highlighted the need of paying particular attention to the role and the achievements of civil engineering in our society, as well as the need for mobility and regulation of the profession.
- During this event the 4th ECEC medal was presented to WFEO Past President Eng. Marwan Abdelhamid .





ECCE participates in the EAMC ExBo meeting, *28 November 2017, Rome, Italy*

(1)



- On November 28 the meeting of the EAMC ExBo was held in Rome adjacent to the General Assembly of WFEO. ECCE is a member of EAMC and participated to this meeting represented by its Vice President/ President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis.
- The ExBo approved the minutes of its previous meeting, the financial matters on the agenda and discussed the report by the General Secretary Nicola Monda.
- The main topic was the report and planning of Technical Committees. The accent was given to the collaboration with students and women engineers in Arabic countries.
- The next General assembly will be in Beirut, Lebanon in the beginning of May.





ECCE participates in the 25th General Assembly of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers (Opening event of 2018 EYCE), *2 December 2017, Nicosia, Cyprus*

- The opening event of the 2018 EYCE was held on December 2, 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus at Filoxenia Conference Centre.
- The event took place during the 25th General Assembly of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers and the celebration of the 25th anniversary since its establishment, in the presence of the Minister of Interior, the ECCE President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis and all the previous presidents of the Association.
- The participants expressed their appreciation for the decision of ECCE to celebrate Civil Engineering and to highlight the fundamental role of Civil Engineers in society offering their services with pride.
- The President elect of ECCE gave a speech titled “The professional who shaped the modern world. The birth of the science of construction, a small retrospective and current thought”.





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ECCE participates in the 25th General Assembly of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers (Opening event of 2018 EYCE),

2 December 2017, Nicosia, Cyprus

(2)



ECCE participates in the ECF meeting, *16 January 2018, Brussels, Belgium*

- ECCE is a member of the European Construction Forum (ECF) and was invited to participate in the first ECF meeting after a period of inactivity.
- ECCE was represented in this meeting by the ECCE Vice President/ President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis and by Paul Coughlan (ICE).
- ECCE used to participate in the ECF meetings in the past represented by Mr. Karlheinz Zachmann but without being very active.
- After a long time of no activity, it was an attempt to revive the idea of collaboration of the various organizations representing the construction industry in Europe, in a scheme like a construction Forum where no other links than common interest and unanimity lead our actions. The idea is to make the voice of construction sector more loud and influential.
- The organizational rules of ECF were discussed and the leading role of FIEC was accepted.
- It was decided to form a small working group to prepare a new manifesto of construction industry digitalization. Paul Coughlan was appointed member of this group. The manifesto is now ready for final adoption.



ECCE participates in the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP BUDMA 2018,

30 January – 2 February 2018, Poznan, Poland

- The inauguration of the European Year of Civil Engineers (EYCE) in Poland was officiated by the ECCE Acting President Włodzimierz Szymczak, during the opening ceremony of the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP BUDMA 2018.
- It is the oldest, biggest and most prestigious construction industry event in Poland. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives of the government of the Republic of Poland.
- BUDMA attracts tens of thousands of professionals interested in innovative solutions in the construction sector, exchange of experiences, gaining expertise, and above all business meetings every year.
- During his speech at the opening ceremony of the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP Budma 2018, Włodzimierz Szymczak stressed the challenges ahead of the construction industry in the coming years, such as urban sprawl, the digital revolution providing us with huge amounts of data, fighting environmental degradation, and climate change. Szymczak also described the events organised as a part of the European Year of Civil Engineers and encouraged listeners to participate in them.





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ECCE participates in the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP BUDMA 2018,

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ECCE participates in the Balkan Engineering Forum (BEF), *21 May 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria*

(1)



- On 21 May 2018, the Balkan Engineering Forum “Regional cooperation for sustainable and consolidated European perspective of engineering organizations in the Western Balkans” was organized in Sofia, Bulgaria as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.
- The event was organized by the Union of Civil Engineers in Bulgaria, ECCE, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria /MRDPW/ and Bulgaria’s EU Council Presidency.
- ECCE Vice President/ President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis participated in this event representing ECCE and addressed a speech titled “Civil engineers. The profession that gave shape to the modern world - a brief historic review and some current concerns”.

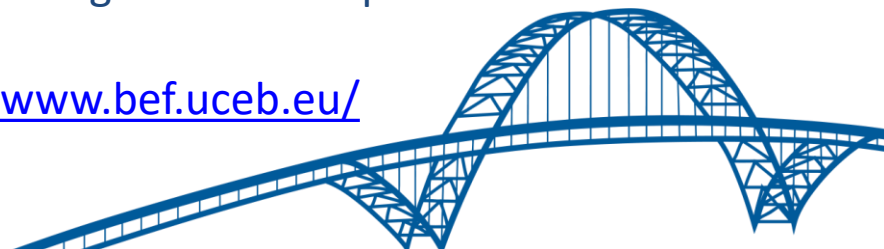


ECCE participates in the Balkan Engineering Forum (BEF), *21 May 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria*

(2)



- BEF brings together leaders of European Engineering Councils and Engineers Chambers and Associations from Balkan countries to exchange good practices and concerns of their organizations, debate the engineering contribution to the so-called “Connectivity Agenda” and seek common interests in many areas, such as strengthening of regional cooperation, education, recognition of professional qualifications and transport, infrastructure and digital connectivity of Balkan countries.
- Forum Objectives: to contribute to deepening regional cooperation and developing good neighborly relations between the engineering organizations of Balkan countries; to contribute to achieving the goals and tasks of the two priorities of Bulgaria’s EU Council Presidency: “European perspective and connectivity of the Western Balkans” and “Digital economy and skills needed for the future”; to share experiences and best engineering practices and to contribute to raising the role of profession of engineer in Europe.
- Further information can be found at <http://www.bef.uceb.eu/>



ECCE participates in the Balkan Engineering Forum (BEF), *21 May 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria*

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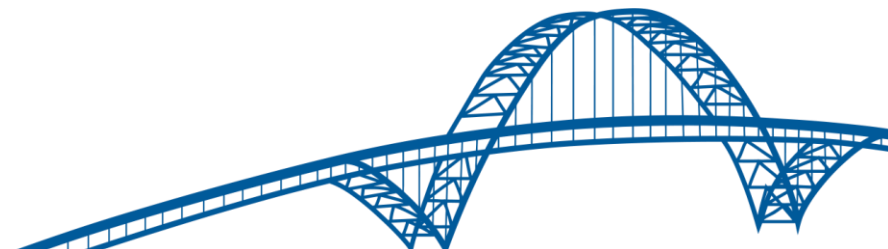
ECCE participates in the Balkan Engineering Forum (BEF), *21 May 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria*

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The ECCE Executive Board held 5 skype meetings since the 66th ECCE GM in Vienna on the following dates:

- 24 October 2017
 - 7 December 2017
 - 20 December 2017
 - 22 February 2018
 - 2 March 2018
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- The ECCE ExBo decided to invite Mr. Paul Coughlan (ICE) to participate as an invited guest in the ExBo meetings acting as a liaison for the optimal organization of the 68th ECCE General Meeting that will take place in October, in London.



The main topics of the ECCE ExBo work over the past months are the following:

- ECCE internal issues – resignation of the ECCE President Massimo Mariani
- ECCE Membership
 - Resignation of CNI from ECCE
 - Resignation of EPSILON SA from ECCE Associate Membership
 - Negotiations with the Russian Society of Civil Engineers for continuation of their membership in ECCE
 - Negotiations regarding Ukraine's membership to ECCE
 - Negotiations with potential new ECCE Associate Members
- ECCE's relation with other European and International organizations
- Finalization of ECCE Position Paper *“Appropriate regulation for the practice of civil engineering in Europe”*
- Proposals for new ECCE Position Papers
- FEANI Engineers Europe Advisory Group
- European Construction Forum Manifesto on the Digitalization of the Construction Sector
- ECCE's participation in the World Construction Forum 2019
- Madrid Declaration: Water, the future we want
- ECCE financial issues



- On 13 October 2017 ECCE President Massimo Mariani sent a resignation letter to ECCE. ECCE ExBo accepted his resignation and decided to continue with the status of ECCE Acting Presidency of Włodzimierz Szymczak until the next elections in October 2018.
- On 21 December 2017, CNI Italy resigned from ECCE by the decision of the new Executive Board of CNI due to the fact the CNI represents all sectors of engineering and not only civil engineers.
- The Greek company EPSILON SA resigned from the status of ECCE Associate Member
- After negotiations over the past months the Russian Society of Civil Engineers restored its membership as Full ECCE Member paying its debt since 2015.
- Ongoing negotiations with Ukraine about continuing its membership to ECCE as Full ECCE Member represented by a new organization that will be established in the near future.
- University for Business and Technology, School of Civil Engineering, Kosovo has applied to join ECCE as Associate Member.



ECCE's relation with other European and International organizations

ECCE is currently member to the following organizations:

- World Council of Civil Engineers (WCCE) with an annual fee of €2,500. ECCE's representative to WCCE is Mr. Gorazd Humar.
- Engineering Association of Mediterranean Countries (EAMC) with an annual fee of €1,000. ECCE's representative to EAMC is Mr. Aris Chatzidakis.
- European Civil Engineering Education and Training (EUCEET) Association with an annual fee of €400. ECCE's connection with EUCEET Association is Prof. Iacint Manoliu.
- European Construction Forum (ECF). ECCE's representatives in ECF are Mr. Aris Chatzidakis and Mr. Paul Coughlan.

ECCE is related with Agreements of Cooperation with the following organizations:

- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE)
- Korean Society of Civil Engineers (KSCE)
- The Council of Engineering & Technology (CET) India



ECCE's relation with other European and International organizations

- ECCE has been cooperating since many years ago with the European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC) co-organizing the 1st, 2nd and 3rd European Engineers' Day, cooperating for the Common Training Platform project and in other circumstances.
- ECCE has cooperated also with the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI) in the organization of the 2nd and 3rd European Engineers' Day.
- ECCE ExBo has identified the need to nurture the bond of ECCE with other European and International organizations and to revitalize the relationships that have not been active.
- Also, the need for establishing a connection with China and Australia has been identified.



- The ECCE Position Paper *“Appropriate regulation for the practice of civil engineering in Europe”* has been finalized and approved by the ECCE ExBo and is now ready for adoption by the ECCE General Assembly.
- The proposal for a new ECCE booklet titled *“The history and the role of civil engineers through the centuries”* that was submitted to the ECCE ExBo by Mr. Platonas Stylianou from Cyprus has been approved by the ExBo. A working group lead by Aris Chatzidakis has been formed and work has already started.
- The proposal for a Position Paper *“The need for Structural / Seismic Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings in parallel with Energy Efficiency Improvements”* was submitted to the ECCE ExBo by Mr. Platonas Stylianou from Cyprus and has been discussed by the ECCE ExBo.



- ECCE received an invitation from FEANI to participate in the Engineers Europe Advisory Group (EEAG).
- EEAG is a consortium that is being developed by FEANI with the participation of various stakeholders such as other professional organizations in the engineering field, academic organizations, industry/employer organizations and policy makers (MEPs).

Objectives:

Identify and promote common themes and work items towards a closer understanding between the stakeholders. This will relate to:

- General-issues: future job prospects and requirements, professional roles of engineers in society, engineers as a liberal profession, etc.
- Educational issues: STEM, curriculum development, CPD, LLL, VET, accreditation, etc.
- Political issues: preparation of common positions regarding forthcoming EU regulation, etc.
- Societal issues: digitalisation, industry 4.0, green economy, etc.



Goals:

- Through cooperation with industry and other stakeholders ensure a single voice of engineers in Europe, being heard by the EU and obtaining institutional weight as a profession and an Organization (become the principal contact for the EU regarding engineering topics).
- Pro-active involvement of policy makers will increase the impact of common statements and provide input and know-how to the network of National Members.
- A side effect may in the longer run result in easier participation as project partner in EU-funded projects (ERSASMUS+) and/or in an increased number of FEANI “Associated” Members.

How:

- The name will amplify that not merely the input from industry will be looked for (which would be the case if it was entitled “FEANI Industry Advisory Group”), but also those of other equally valid stakeholder groups. Screening and inventorying the agenda items with the highest priority of the other stakeholder groups, will enable the identification of three to four major work items or projects to get started with.



Meetings and Membership:

- Membership of this EEAG will consist of the key officers of FEANI (President, Vice, Treasurer, SG and NMF-Chair) together with one or two representatives of the various stakeholder organizations who wish to engage (totaling a consortium of some 15 to 20 participants). At least two meetings p.a. will be targeted. Depending upon the subject matters identified, work may continue in smaller sub-groups and involve other FEANI NM representatives on a volunteering basis.
- The ECCE ExBo has discussed ECCE's potential participation in the EEAG. ECCE ExBo identified that this is an important initiative and has a positive overall approach towards ECCE's participation in the EEAG. However, serious concerns have been expressed regarding how much the voice of ECCE will be heard by FEANI. In this context a letter has been addressed to the FEANI President expressing our concerns.
- A kick-off meeting of the EEAG is planned for 11 June, in Brussels which ECCE has been invited to attend to. ECCE ExBo discusses the potential participation of ECCE in this meeting as this will be a good opportunity to get a better understanding of the Terms of Reference of the EEAG.
- ECCE GA will be asked to ratify ECCE's participation in the EEAG



ECF Manifesto on the Digitalization of the Construction Sector

- ECCE is participating actively in the meetings of the European Construction Forum.
- Mr. Paul Coughlan is a member of the working group which has developed a Manifesto on the Digitalization of the Construction Sector.
- The text of the Manifesto has been decided upon and approved by the ECCE ExBo.
- The Manifesto will be co-signed by FIEC, Committee for European Construction Equipment (CECE), Construction Europe Products, European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA), European Builders Confederation (EBC), European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA), GCP Europe, IFMA, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and European Union of Developers and House Builders (UEPC).
- The expenses for the design work for the Manifesto will be divided among the co-signing associations and each association will order a desired number of printed copies.
- ECCE GA will be asked to ratify the Manifesto.



- ECCE has been invited by the Dean of the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering of the University of Ljubljana Prof. Dr. Matjaž Mikoš and by the President of the Slovenian Chamber of Engineers Mag. Črtomir Remec to participate as co-organizer of the Word Construction Forum 2019.
- The World Construction Forum 2019 “Buildings and Infrastructure Resilience” will be held from 8 – 11 April 2019, in Ljubljana, Slovenia and will be accompanied with the Annual Meeting of the WFEO Executive Board.
- The Forum will be organised under the auspices of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) by the Slovenian Chamber of Engineers and the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering (UL FGG). The Forum is dedicated to the centennial of the organized integration of chartered engineers in Slovenia into chambers and to the centennial of the foundation of the University of Ljubljana and its Technical faculty, forerunner of UL FGG.



- A few hundred participants, engineers, politicians, researchers, scientists and entrepreneurs from all over the world will present and exchange their opinions about resilience of buildings and infrastructure, a major challenge of the 21st century.
- Cooperation brings no financial burden for ECCE.
- It is foreseen that the President of ECCE (in our case it will be the current ECCE Vice President/ President Elect) is a member of the Honorary Committee and ECCE's logo is used on the Event's website as well as in all flyers, brochures, booklets, etc.
- ECCE is also committed to disseminate the information regarding the WCF 2019 to its members and contacts.
- ECCE Acting President has replied positively to this invitation as it is expected that ECCE's involvement in this event will be beneficial for ECCE having the opportunity to present and promote itself to the participants of the Forum and will also contribute to the success of such an important event for engineering.
- ECCE GA will be asked to ratify ECCE's participation in the WCF 2019.



Madrid Declaration 2018

Water, the future we want

(1)



- In March 2016, within the framework of an International Congress of Civil Engineering, more than 40 national and international engineering organizations including ECCE signed the Declaration of Madrid, "FROM WORDS TO FACTS: CIVIL ENGINEERS, FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND ACTIONS FOR CLIMATE".
- In March 2018, two years later, as a sign of this commitment, and in the context of a conference organized by the Association of Civil Engineers and the Spanish Engineering Institute, in a coordinated manner with the Ordem Engenheiros from Portugal, and within the commitment of the WFEO, WCCE, FEANI, ECCE, CICPC-CEPC, CICCPC and AICCP - to meet the challenges of engineering for climate change adaptation and mitigation solutions, we have focused on the field of water, one of the most sensitive sectors for sustainable development and the adaptation to it.



Madrid Declaration 2018 Water, the future we want

(2)



- ECCE ExBo has decided to sign the Madrid Declaration as it considers it as a very significant document that aims to urge all the sectors involved in the field of water, and political leaders and authorities, to contribute their actions and decision-making capacity to create the appropriate political, economic and social framework, enhancing the resources applied as well as the exchanges of knowledge and cooperative actions, that will make possible the FUTURE THAT WE WANT IN THE FIELD OF WATER.
- ECCE GA will be asked to ratify the Madrid Declaration 2018



- An initiative of ECCE, the issuing of periodic e-journal.
- The goal is to bring together periodically the European Civil Engineers and to be aware of their problems and their realizations, organizing a forum of ideas and of news.
- The e-journal may also act as a mean to send ideas for discussion in Brussels.
- Next ECCE e-journal will be in JUNE 2018
- Find the ECCE e-journals at our website
<http://www.ecceengineers.eu/newsletter/index.php?id=621>

GET INVOLVED WITH THE ECCE E-JOURNAL BY SENDING YOUR IDEAS AND NEWS!





THANK YOU

