

Engineers Europe Advisory Group

Inauguration event of Engineers Europe Advisory Group (EEAG) took place on 11th of September 2018.

Ambition of the “Engineers Europe Advisory Group” is to become the leading voice of European engineers.

What we know about EEAG?

BEFORE INAUGURATION EVENT

- a) FEANI General Assembly approved the “Engineers Europe” concept as the cornerstone of their new FEANI Strategy.

According to the strategy EEAG will be a consortium and expected to be an instrument that will be providing advice to the FEANI Executive Board.

- b) ECCE was asked to join EEAG.

c) ECCE's concerns:

- it is not clear the nature of cooperation;
- how is guaranteed the principle of equal partnership among its participating organizations;
- in which way all voices of members of EEAG are heard and opinions are taken into consideration;
- we would like to suggest that the EEAG does not focus merely on the topics of education and mutual professional recognition but to lay emphasis also on the construction sector as this is the main industry in which the majority of our members are occupied.

ExBo decided to observe the situation and not to hurry with joining EEAG.

On 11th of June the first „Stakeholder Consulting Meeting” of the “Engineers Europe Advisory Group” was hold. ECCE participated as observer.

Participants of Stakeholder Consulting Meeting:

- BEST – Board of European Students of Technology;
- CESAER – Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research;
- EFCA – European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations;
- EU STEM Coalition – (STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics);
- EYE – European Young Engineers;
- SEFI – European Sociaty of Engineering Education;
- FEANI;

- Philippe DE BUCK – (If I understood correctly he was hired for 6 months in order to discuss with different parties? In his opinion too many PPs from different organisations are prepared, under FEANI could be set better focus with smaller amount of PPs.);
- Schuman Associates – Apparently they were engaged as advisor or consultant by FEANI in order to get grants or financial support for project based activities;
- Peter VAN DER HIJDEN – Higher Educational Expert – private advisor, former EU official. He was engaged by FEANI as consultant to lead today's workshop;
- ENAEE – European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education.

Peter VAN DER HIJDEN led the workshop, where different topics were listed, discussed and then prioritized.

Top three topics were:

- Branding (how to attract young people);
- Digital shift;
- Industry connection.

FEANI informed that on 11th of September inauguration of EEAG will take place.

INAUGURATION

Inauguration event was divided into two sessions:

1) Academic session „The future of work, support future European industrial competitiveness, challenges of an ageing workforce“;

2) Round Table Discussion on the specific issues of Digitalisation.





Presentation were given among others:

- Commissioner Mariya GABRIEL (EU Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society);
- Ms Themis CHRISTOPHIDOU (Director-General for Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission DG Education).

After sessions the Engineers Europe Advisory Group logo was revealed and Letter of Intent was signed by those members who decided to join EEAG:

[..\ExBo\FEANI inauguration 11.09.2018>List of Signatories EEAG.pdf](#)

According to Letter of Intent FEANI's three major areas where EEAG's role and vision specifically will be focused:

1) Fostering stronger relations between academia, profession and industry including STEM;

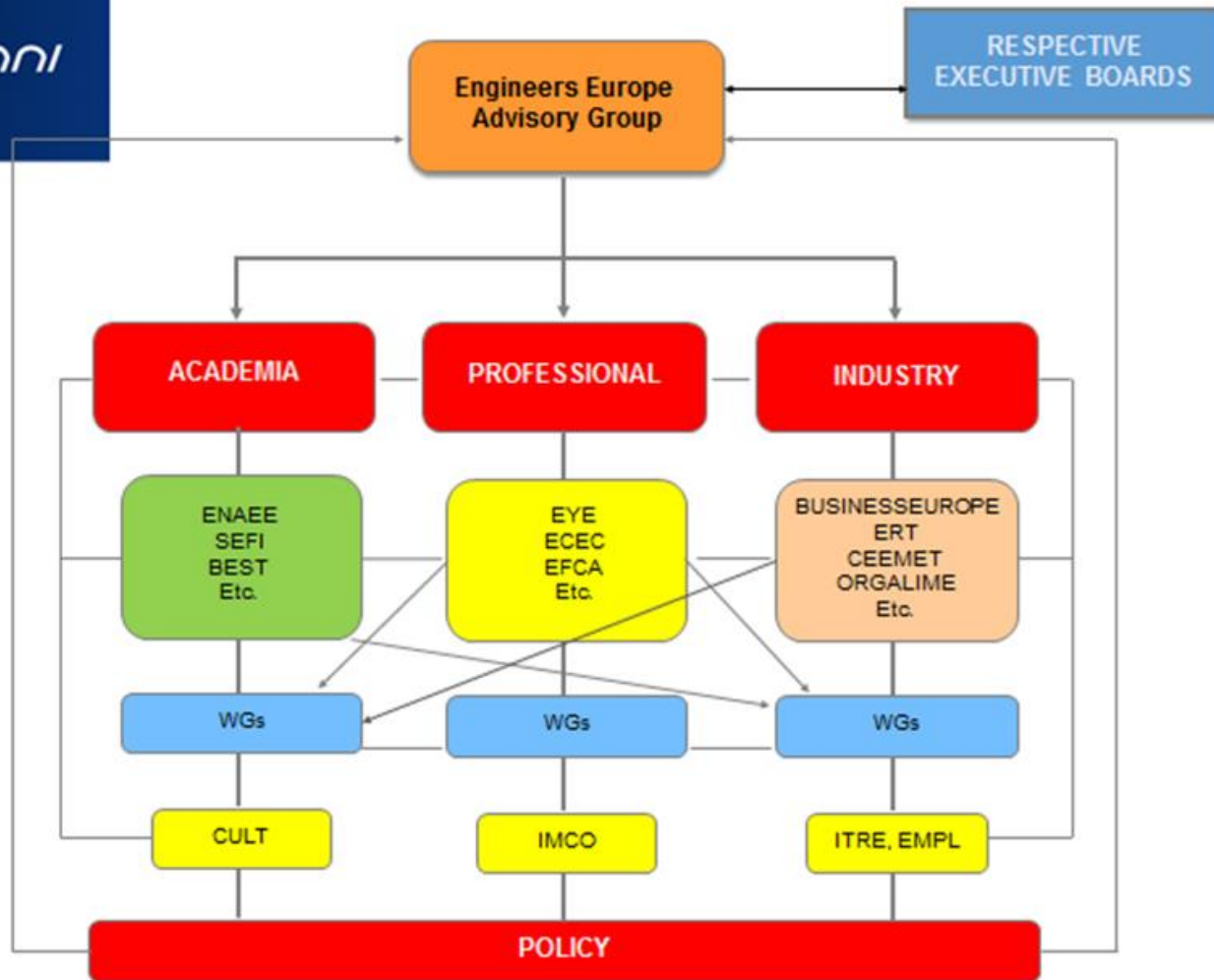
2) Reinforcing the branding of the engineering profession and increasing its visibility;

3) Emphasizing the digital dimension as a common denominator connecting these areas.

This event was reflected also in The Parliament Magazine.



2019



EEAG, 11 June 2018
© Dirk G. BOCHAR

EEAG will gather twice a year but what its input to FEANI will be and how it would be considered or approved by FEANI is not clear.



AFTER INAUGURATION EVENT

Negotiations between FEANI and ECCE has not been after inauguration of EEAG.

Next steps of ECCE should be discussed.

In summary I would suggest to keep following EEAG work as observer. It would be useful to develop and maintain contacts with members of EEAG. Also we should discuss with other associations who rejected joining EEAG in order to find out their positions.