

COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF CIVIL ENGINEERS OF OF PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

DECLARATION OF RIO DE JANEIRO

10. CICPC Meeting

"IN DEFENSE OF THE FUTURE"

The undersigned, on the occasion of the celebration in Rio de Janeiro - Brazil, of the 10th General Assembly of the CICPC-CEPC (Council of Professional Associations of Civil Engineers of Portuguese language and Castellana have all decided and agreed and decided this Declaration of Rio de Janeiro:

A COMMON DESIRE

The common cultural body of the countries and territories of Portuguese and Spanish official language, in a total of thirty-two and with a speaking population of 900 million people, makes natural dialogue necessary on an equal footing among its institutions in order to be able to show common proposals before the international community

The objectives to be achieved, reinforced by its redefinition as Sustainable Development Goals of the UN - United Nations , establish the satisfaction of the basic needs of the populations and the development process for the improvement of the ditions of life, finding in Civil Engineering, a fundamental tool for its achievement through concrete measures.

For this concretion, it is necessary to establish solid and stable alliances among those who have so much in common.

The common premises of the member organizations included in the Declaration of Lisbon of March 2008, of the conception of Civil Engineering as a public service profession open to multidisciplinary collaboration, developed on a training of excellence of at least 5 years with a good foundation generalist managed its regulation through Professional Associations of Civil Engineers, offering continuous training to its professionals and encouraging ethical practice through the establishment of a Code of ethics and deontology, which guarantees the public interest through protection against professional impersonation; the efficiency in the use of resources and their protection and the reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change can be extrapolated to the global level.

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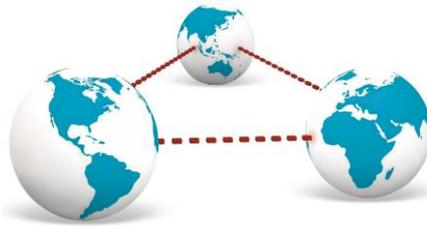
ENGINEERING IN THE FUTURE

In statements of previous meetings of the CICPC-CEPC, the concern that civil engineers share for sustainable development, climate change and the circular economy is mentioned. Therefore, it offers its technological capacity and experience to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and its 169 goals, reflected in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development of the UN, approved by the General Assembly of September 2015

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in this Cancun meeting, held on 26 April 2018, the CICPC-CEPC has focused particularly on these aspects:

- **ethical practice of professional activity and independence of technical action.**
- **Sustainable Development Goals of the UN - Challenges for Civil Engineering**



- **Gender equality in civil engineering**
- **Collaboration frameworks established by member Associations:**
 - **Professional mobility;**
 - **Bet on the dignity and qualification of the engineer;**
 - **Gender equality:**
 - **Involvement of young engineers and attractiveness for engineering careers;**
 - **Support to engineers from countries in complex situations.**

In this regard, the CICPC-CEPC states:

ON ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND TECHNICAL INDEPENDENCE

That ethics, understood as moral and intellectual honesty, is an indivisible part of professional practice and that its absence contributes to the poverty of a profession, company or nation, to the loss of sources of work, to the maldistribution of wealth, and to the lowering of the quality of life of the inhabitants, reaching the extremes of putting life at risk. For this reason, professional malpractice should be prosecutable regardless of the jurisdiction in which it is incurred, making the communication of deontological sanction extensively to the competent authorities in each case.

ABOUT ACADEMIC AND GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES

That without prejudice to the duty to train future generations of professionals inculcating ethical principles as well as technical knowledge, governmental or academic authorities should not have the exclusive power to define the professional competence field of engineering civil. The increase of necessary knowledge is not an excuse for the segmentation of the professional competence field of civil engineering, although it is understandable the need for continuous professional training on the requirement of technical updating required by the profession. The active and joint participation of the professional associations is desirable for the creation of good study plans that should contemplate the basic principles and also the new developments.

The involvement of politicians in defending the quality of teaching as a requirement and distinctive mark is recommended.

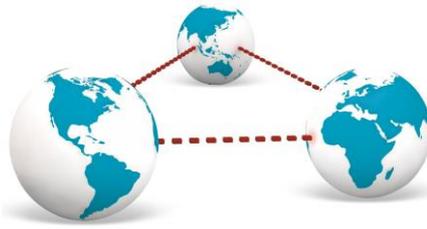
The execution of public works requires special skills and competences that are acquired through the study of civil engineering. The lack of professionals in periods of heavy investment in infrastructure in different countries, generates less compliance with the rules regarding the control of professional practice and even the discussion of possible proposals for professional deregulation. It is the duty of the authorities to ensure that the professionals involved in public and private works are properly registered and practice the profession legally ensuring fair and fair competition. as a guarantee of conception, execution and proper use.

ON GENDER EQUALITY IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

The incorporation of women in the professional activity of civil engineering is heterogeneous in the different member countries, although it is generally observed that the incorporation of women in the sector has increased in the last years. This trend must be maintained and encouraged also in those countries in which the participation of women is not yet important, recognizing equality of opportunities and professional recognition.

ON CLIMATE ALTERATIONS AND THEIR MITIGATION AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE URBAN SPACE

The repercussion of the climatic alterations expected falls on the scope of direct competition of the civil engineering. The professional community itself must be aware of its key role in adapting and mitigating risk, so



that this active role can be transmitted to society itself. This mitigation and adaptation can only be carried out by the contribution of the global, national and local institutions in their commitment to this initiative.

Since half of the world's current population lives in urban areas and it is expected that by 2050 it will reach two-thirds, it is necessary to address the achievement of a sustainable urban space as established by the New Urban Agenda of the UN-Habitat, for the that it is necessary to implement disaster reduction and management policies and their mitigation, increasing their resilience and the ability to respond to natural and anthropogenic hazards. This dimension of this new urban agenda falls principally on the discipline and profession of civil engineering.

DECLARATION

Accordingly, the undersigned associations ratify the previous Declarations in a whole and further declare that:

1. It is of the utmost importance to defend the Civil engineering profession, especially against all invasions of other unqualified professionals and also to reinforce its prestige.
2. It is of the utmost importance that schools and councils promote the continuous ethical training of civil engineering professionals, promoting the accountability and transparency of professional practices.
3. Universities, with the collaboration of Professional Associations, are obliged to update the training contents to respond to new challenges and technological advances, promoting attractiveness for Civil Engineering careers.
4. The incorporation of women into the profession must be encouraged in an equitable manner, eliminating barriers and obstacles to inherent problems, encouraging their active participation in the challenges of engineering.
5. The promotion of the participation of the group of young engineers in union and representation activities, in response to new challenges and the rejuvenation of the profession of civil engineer.
6. Governments must demand and enforce the rules that ensure the legal practice of the profession, such as proper registration in the corresponding professional registration, given our great responsibilities related to risk management, the safety of people and property, and the environment.
7. The professional mobility of civil engineers should allow the temporary or permanent legal practice, allowing the growth of professionals and companies, whether local or from other countries, always privileging those of developing countries.
8. The precarious professional activity of civil engineering in Venezuela stands out, being worthy of recognition and solidarity of the members of the CECPC-CICPC, whose mobility and integration are established through the Venezuelan College of Civil Engineers - CIV.
9. Any action to adapt and mitigate risks arising from climate change, requires prior collection of a continuous and reliable source of previous data on which to make possible estimates of risk and the appropriate action for adaptation or mitigation.

Rio de Janeiro, March 14, 2019