

30 YEARS OF ECCE HISTORY

1985
2016



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1985

Yrjö Matikainen
Honorary President of ECCE

2016

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In memoriam

Vassilis Economopoulos



ECCE HISTORY

1985–2016

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Introduction to ECCE

Dear friends – ECCE members past, present and future,

Civil engineering is undoubtedly one of the world's oldest and greatest professions.

Thirty years ago, civil engineers from Spain and the United Kingdom established the European Council of Civil Engineers as an expression of their deep beliefs that the co-operation of European civil engineers is the significant value important not only for engineers but also for European Society.

How prophetic this vision turned out to be cannot be overstated!

The fact that the organisation has been developing for all these years, which is pretty uncommon these days, is tangible evidence that it is still alive and has a significant value for civil engineers nowadays. Not only is it valuable today but also it has great prospects for the future.

Going through the photographs we used in this publication, I realised I hadn't got to know many of those who had been building this organisation for years. Many of them have passed away.

This book is a kind of tribute to all those people.

We are trying to summarise here the past 30 years, beginning the next chapter at the same time. We still have a lot of work ahead of us. There is no way we can rest on our laurels and become complacent. We have to find ways to have a more substantial impact on:

- education of civil engineers at each stage of their professional career
- conditions for practising the profession of the civil engineer
- sustainable development in the construction industry
- all the other factors that contribute to raising the position of civil engineers in our society, bearing in mind that it is a profession in the public trust.

It fills me with immense pride to be the president of European Council of Civil Engineers.

With great respect to all of you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, located below the text 'With great respect to all of you,'. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'Włodzimierz Szymczak'.

Włodzimierz Szymczak

ECCE President 2014–2016



Sir John Derrington
first President of ECCE (1985–1989)

1. John Derrington and the Creation of ECCE, 1985–1989

In 1985 four civil engineering societies, the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos, **Spain**, the Institution of Civil Engineers, **United Kingdom**, the Greek Chamber of Engineers, **Greece**, and the Ordem dos Engenheiros de Portugal, **Portugal**, created the European Council of Civil Engineers – ECCE.

The reasons to create European-level co-operation among civil engineers were described in this initial declaration about the ECCE:

ECCE was created in 1985 through the common belief among European civil engineers that they are better placed to advance Europe's built environment and protect its natural environment by working together. At the same time European Union was developing bigger and towards deeper co-operation and ECCE pioneers wanted to be well organized for that development so that the EU Institutions could recognise ECCE as the single voice for the Civil Engineering profession. ECCE will work both at a pan-European and national level to advise European Union and national governments and industry and to foster uniformly high professional standards throughout the region. It also works with the world's other major professional civil engineering associations, particularly those in the US and Japan.

The first President of ECCE was Sir John Derrington, the acting President of the Institution of Civil Engineers (President 1984–1985). Sir John Derrington died in 2008 at the age of 86.

Sir John enjoyed a long and distinguished career with the company Sir Robert McAlpine. He joined Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons in 1941 and became head of the company's design group. His division concentrated on the company's activities in architectural, structural and mechanical services design. His particular interest was the use of concrete in new applications and he was a pioneer of its use in offshore structures. His career as a chartered civil and structural engineer was distinguished. He was awarded a CBE, and Fellowship of the Royal Academy of Engineering. He was also President of the Institution of Structural Engineers 1979–1980 and President of the Offshore Engineering Society 1987–1990. In 1992 he established the 'Safety in Construction' medal for the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE). This is awarded annually to the author of the paper published by ICE for a project, or feature within a project, which best describes the measures taken to safeguard the health and safety of the construction team, the user and the public.

The first Secretary General (SG), in the years 1985–1989, was **José Luis Juan-Aracil** from Spain.



José Luis Juan-Aracil

In the first few years, ECCE activity was mainly related to contact between and meetings of the founding leaders, and discussion of matters of consequence for each participating country and for the EU. A lack of documentation makes it hard to recall these activities. Meetings took place in London, Madrid and Porto.

At that time there were no articles or rules for ECCE co-operation. Those were only developed in 1993.



2. José Medem, 1989–94

The next President, elected in 1989, was **Professor José Medem**, from Spain. His presidency time was 1989–94. He took an active role in acquiring members for the ECCE.

Graham Hornby from the ICE office took over the secretariat for the years 1989–94. He created the system of membership fees based on population, GDP and membership of the EU.



José Medem



Graham Hornby

During 1991 ECCE issued the first volume of its book *Civil Engineering Profession in Europe*. The work was carried out by Greek colleagues.

ECCE had a meeting in Copenhagen (8 May 1992) during the Nordic meeting (which included RIL, Finland; DIF, Denmark; SVR, Sweden; NIF, Norway; and maybe Iceland). DIF was a member of ECCE and they arranged the ECCE meeting and the Nordic meeting at around the same time, with some hours of meeting together. At that time there were only four persons from ECCE and four persons from Nordic societies; the Nordic societies were invited to join ECCE.

The RIL and SVR participated in ECCE's next meeting in Brussels (20–21 November 1992). There were 16 persons, according to RIL's *Rakennusinsinööri* magazine. The participants were from 12 countries: Spain, UK, Portugal, Greece, France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Czech Republic and Hungary. The meeting's theme was 'How to influence Parliament and the EU Commission to pay better, and more efficient, attention to education and environment matters'.

The operations of José Medem and Graham Hornby were fruitful and the ECCE family was growing.



ECCE general meeting in Brussels (1992)

After participating for the second time as an observer, Finland (RIL) became a member of ECCE, but Sweden (SVR) did not, due to unfavourable economic conditions.

During these years the leaders discussed the rules and the structure of the ECCE family. The most economical solution was to create ECCE with the characteristics of a small company under the UK Companies Act, 1985. At the end of 1993 (16 December 1993) the first memorandum (six A4 pages) and the bylaws of ECCE (21 pages) were signed by R. T. Severn from ICE, witnessed by D. I. Blockley from the University of Bristol. After the acceptance of the articles by Companies House, all the shares of the company were sold to ECCE members for £1. In 1994 ECCE started to follow these bylaws.



3a. Gerard Baron, 1994-96

According to new articles, the highest decision belongs to the **General Committee (GC)**, which decides budget, accounts, members, Executive Committee members and strategic matters. GC is the meeting of the delegates of each member society of ECCE – one delegate per member. Each delegate may have one adviser with him/her. Two GC meetings per year are obligatory. Decisions will be made by a majority of delegates entitled to vote: one vote per delegate. In reserved matters (articles, budget, membership fees), voting will be according to the fee paid by each member to ECCE, that year.



Gerard Baron



John Whitwell

It was decided that the new organ, the **Executive Committee (ExCo)**, would take care of activity between GC meetings, with the help of a secretariat. ExCo would hold its meetings in combination with GC meetings.

The ExCo members for 1994-1996 were elected thus:

➤ Gerard Baron	France	President
➤ José Medem	Spain	Past President
➤ Hermann Sturm	Germany	Vice President
➤ John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General
➤ Diana Maxwell	UK	Deputy Secretary

In the Lisbon meeting ECCE held elections and discussed future development. In London a meeting took place with discussion of the structure of ECCE activity.

Gerard Baron took an active role in getting more members and in creating a 'meet and discuss' process, with a view to creating a really active society, with working power and influence on real matters.

ECCE held its first meeting in Finland in 1995. The participants were eight member countries and there were observers from five countries. As in Copenhagen, RIL organised a Nordic meeting in the morning before the ECCE meeting, in RIL's office. Denmark, Sweden, Finland and, as invited guests Estonia (Urmo Kala) and Latvia (Valdis Bundulis) participated. The Lithuanian president of the Lithuanian Society of Civil Engineers could not come.

In Helsinki, the GC changed the articles for the first time and took away from the articles the necessity of the appointment of auditors. One of the main topics at the Helsinki meeting was the new Drinking Water Directive. Professor Risto Laukkanen was asked to speak as keynote speaker about this matter, from the Finnish point of view. The meeting was on the subject of clean water supply and waste water treatment in each participating country.



ECCE meeting, Helsinki (1995)

During the Helsinki meeting ECCE created for the first time four task forces (TFs):

➤ Environment	Chair	Mike Cottell
➤ Education and training	Chair	Vassilis Economopoulos
➤ Research and Development (R&D)	Chair	Yrjö Matikainen (Gerard Baron)
➤ Quality	Chair	Hermann Sturm



In matters of R&D Yrjö Matikainen divided activities with ECCE President Gerard Baron so that Gerard took responsibility for participating in the meetings of the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation (ECCREDI), which was created in 23 February 1995. During the Helsinki meeting Matikainen made a proposal to conduct a study in Europe about the obstacles to and the practice of working in another European country. This led to the rewriting of *Civil Engineering Profession in Europe*, completed in Greece in 1995.

The next meeting was in Istanbul (20–21 October 1995). Here the main themes were the transfer of the directive security and health matters in construction sites to national regulation, environmental matters and the situation of small and medium enterprises, the Commission's declaration that 1996 would be the Year of Lifelong Learning, and the combined transports and Info 2000 project. The first reports from the ECCE TFs were presented. Also reports were given on relations with other European and international organisations, such as FEANI, WFEO, Civil Engineering European Courses (CEEC), SEFI, ECIS and the Crane Group (the European Parliament group on the built environment, comprising MEPs with knowledge of construction matters).



ECCE leaders, Istanbul (1995)

The 24th meeting of ECCE was held in Athens (8–9 November 1996) and was hosted by the Association of Civil Engineers of Greece. One of the main topics of discussion was the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Development, which would allocate European R&D funding for the period 1999–2004.



Through ECCREDI, ECCE had already submitted proposals for key areas of funding to DG (Directorate General) XII, the Directorate for Research within the European Commission; detailed comments were currently being submitted to the Construction Unit of DG (Industry) to assist them in promoting the subject within the Commission.

On the wider scene, ECCE was pleased to welcome representatives from Cyprus, the Czech Republic and Slovenia. Members were also interested to learn of President Gerard Baron's visit to Brussels earlier that year to attend Commissioner Bangemann's round table meeting on the reconstruction of Bosnia. Regular contact was made with the European Commission and technical responses were submitted on Commission proposals which would affect the role of professional engineers.

ECCE members reviewed the promotion of the Trans-European Networks to civil engineers and examined the possibility of setting up a seminar in the Mediterranean region in 1997 or 1998.

Highlights from the TFs

Education and Training: Vassilis Economopoulos

ECCE has a statute which expresses ECCE's aim of shaping the content of future civil engineering courses. It was felt that ECCE should make recommendations on courses to CEEC.

Quality Management and Certification: Hermann Sturm

The target of ECCE is to have an ECCE seal of good quality through an independent company of consultants.

Environment: Mike Cottell

ECCE has submitted consultation papers to the European Commission, the European Parliament, ECOSOC and the Committee of the Regions on drinking water and ground water.

R&D: Yrjö Matikainen

European competitiveness is dependent on Europe's technological know-how. Better co-ordination and information exchanges between Community and national research policies are needed. ECCE's March 1996 position paper mainly agreed with the Commission's opinions but stressed the importance of including in the programme building and environmental technology.



3b. Gerard Baron, 1996–99

During the meeting in Athens on 9 November 1996 the new ExCo for 1996–1999 was elected:

➤ Gerard Baron	France	President (until 1998)
➤ José Medem	Spain	Past President
➤ Hermann Sturm	Germany	Vice President
➤ António Ado da Fonseca	Portugal	Vice President (President after 1998)
➤ Theodoros Voudiklaris	Greece	Member
➤ John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General

In Spring 1997 ECCE published the first issue of **ECCE News**, prepared by Diana Maxwell. This was ECCE's first written document. After that, Diana Maxwell also started to write the **Year in Review** reports of ECCE activities.

ECCE News

Spring 1997

ECCE was founded in 1983 and seeks to promote the highest technical and ethical standards for the profession throughout Europe.

Athens Meeting

The 24th meeting of the European Council of Civil Engineers was held in Athens on 8th and 9th November and was hosted by the Association of Civil Engineers of Greece. One of the main topics of discussion at the Athens meeting was the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Development, which will allocate European R&D funding for the period from 1999 to 2004. Through ECCREDI, ECCE has already submitted proposals for key areas of funding to DG XII, the Directorate for Research within the European Commission; detailed comments are currently being submitted to the Construction Unit of DG III (Industry) to assist them in promoting the subject within the Commission.

On the wider scene, ECCE was pleased to welcome representatives from Cyprus, the Czech Republic and Slovenia, all of whom have expressed interest in becoming members of the organisation. Members were also interested to learn of President Gérard Baron's visit to Brussels earlier this year to attend Commissioner Bangemann's Round Table on the Reconstruction of Bosnia. Regular contact is made with the European Commission and technical responses are submitted on Commission proposals which member organisations feel would affect the role of the professional engineers.

ECCE members are currently reviewing the promotion of the Trans-European Networks to civil engineers and examining the possibility of setting up a seminar on the Mediterranean in 1997 or 1998. In 1997, ECCE members hope to update a guide to the civil engineering profession in Europe which was originally issued in April 1991 and reviewed in 1995.

ECCE Events

The Association of Finnish Civil Engineers, RIL (Suomen Rakennusinsinöörien Liitto RIL) is to host a world-wide ECCE symposium on Computers in the Practice of Building and Civil Engineering from 2nd to 5th September 1997 in Lahti, Finland, 100 km north east of Helsinki on Lake Vesijärvi.



Links with other organisations

ECCE participates in the Crane Group, the European Parliament inter-group on the built environment, most recently in December 1996 when it discussed the Green Paper on Public Procurement. Consultation is in Progress. ECCE is a member of ECCREDI, the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation. It also maintains regular contact with ECIS, the European Centre for Infrastructure Studies. More recently, ECCE has made links with EBCP, the European Council of Building Professionals.

Who's Who in ECCE


The President of ECCE from 1996 to 1999 is Gérard Baron, an active member of the Anciens Elèves de l'École des Ponts et Chaussées in France. ECCE Vice Presidents are António Adão da Fonseca of the Ordem dos Engenheiros of Portugal; Past President of ECCE Professor José Medem of the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos of Spain; Hermann Sturm of the Deutsche Sektion des ECCE; and Theodoros Voudiklaris of the Association of Civil Engineers of Greece. The ECCE secretariat is provided by the Institution of Civil Engineers. John Whitwell, Deputy Secretary of Qualifications and External Affairs at ICE is ECCE Secretary General and Diana Maxwell, European Affairs Manager, is the Deputy Secretary.

The Importance of Influencing the European Institutions

R&D Task Force Chairman, Mr Yrjö Matikainen, has stressed the importance of influencing the development of the 5th Framework Programme (5FP). The Commission will publish its official proposal in Spring 1997. 5FP will begin in 1999. The budget for 5FP will be 16-20 MECU over 4 years. ECCE has collected from members a list of possible evaluators for research programmes in civil engineering and construction for the Commission's use. See R&D Task Force news overleaf.

The year 1997 was a successful one, with the Czech Republic, Romania, Cyprus and Slovenia joining ECCE.

ECCE developed for the first time web pages within the ICE's website, and, in 1998, the ECCE's own website at www.eccenet.org. The aim of ECCE was then reformulated:

A large, light blue watermark consisting of a stylized 'C' and 'E' is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text.

The European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) was created in 1985 out of the common concern of the professional bodies for Civil Engineers in Europe that the Civil Engineers working together across Europe could offer much more to assist Europe advance its built Environment and protect the natural environment.

At EU level, ECCE aims to promote the highest technical and ethical standards, to provide a source of impartial advice, and promote co-operation with other pan-European organisations in the construction industry.

ECCE also advises and influences individual governments and professional institutions, formulates standards and achieves a mutual compatibility of different regulations controlling the profession, and formulates standards for a European Code of Conduct of the Civil Engineering Profession and disciplinary procedures applicable throughout the EU.

ECCE formulates guidelines to maintain and raise standards of civil engineering education, training and professionals' competence, as well as assisting in achieving mutual compatibility of Euro codes, standards and regulations in the related industry and encouraging and improving levels of safety and quality in the industry.

ECCE is active in such areas as the environment, R&D, education and training, ethics, continuing professional development, transportation and liability, as well as organising workshops and conferences.

One of the first ECCE Symposiums, organised by RIL, was held in Lahti, Finland (3–5 June 1997) on the theme 'Worldwide ECCE Symposium on Computing in the Practice of Building and Civil Engineering'. ECCE President Gerard Baron was invited as the ECCE representative and his valuable contributions, especially during media sessions, were very productive and led to complimentary articles in Finnish newspapers. Stephen Vincent also participated in the symposium.



ECCE ICT symposium, Lahti (1997)



ECCE GC in Bucharest (1998)

On 22 May 1998 ECCE GC approved in Bucharest the bylaws containing supplementary information on the responsibilities of the main players in ECCE, financial resources and procedures in elections, and rules for admission of members and procedures for membership application. ECCE had been growing since the start of 1985 and by the end of 1999 it had 16 members.

The increasing number of participants was creating problems for the national meeting organiser. This topic was discussed in a meeting in 1998. Discussions also took place on how to organise the work of TFs more efficiently, using ICT tools, because ECCE member societies (or delegates) were neither very communicative, nor very proactive

in taking positions. ECCE created a new ICT TF in 1999, chaired by Stephen Vincent.

'Competitiveness in the construction sector' was one of the main topics at the Munich meeting (2-3 October 1998). ECCE was well informed and active in this subject, creating a position paper in October 1998. At the end of the Munich meeting, Gerard Baron, who wanted to give up the position of President, proposed António Adão da Fonseca to be the new President; António duly became Acting President during the last year of Gerard's planned time. During 1998 ECCE issued the next volume of *Civil Engineering Profession in Europe*.

António Adão da Fonseca attended a meeting of the Crane Group at the European Parliament in Brussels. The Crane Group looks at all issues related to construction, to enable members of the European Parliament to increase their awareness of technical issues for decision-making.

At the GC meeting in Dublin (7-8 May 1999) there were 29 participants from 13 countries, including one representative from the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE) and Karlheinz Zachmann from the European Commission. During this period, the GC decided to go on with the six TFs. Attention was paid to public relations and promotion of ECCE and a newsletter and an ECCE brochure was published. The agreement with JSCE was ratified.



Dublin meeting (1999)



4. António Adão da Fonseca, 1999–2002



António Adão da Fonseca

During the meeting in Nicosia a new Executive Committee was elected:

➤ António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	President
➤ Gerard Baron	France	Past President
➤ Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	Vice President
➤ Carl-August Gunther	Germany	Honorary Treasurer
➤ Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Member
➤ Iacint Manoliu	Romania	Member
➤ Alberto Dussman	Italy	Member
➤ John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General

António Adão da Fonseca took an active role in reforming the TF system with the aim of achieving better productivity and generating ECCE public relations and promotional material. Following on from the work of Mike Cottell, António wrote the ECCE 'Code of Professional Conduct,' which was accepted in Rome on 5–6 May 2000.

The President was active also in writing guidelines for co-operation with different pan-European and international organisations.

The President developed a membership fee system on the basic work of Graham Hornby and Gerard Baron and it was accepted in London on 27 October 2000. The President also created standard procedures for acceptance and reimbursement of travelling costs by ECCE.



ECCE meeting, Porto (11 May 2001)



ECCE 1999 Year in Review

An excellent writer, Diana Maxwell edited the newsletter: the *Year in Review*. The former Vice President of ECCE Hermann Sturm was nominated by the GC as Honorary Vice President on 20 October 2001.



London meeting (2000)

ECCE continued to have five TFs, on Education, the Environment, Professional Recognition, Information Technology (IT), and R&D. It also had working groups on topics including Liability, Procurement and Continuing Professional Development.

During that period a considerable number of ECCE co-sponsored conferences were held. RIL Finland organised, and ECCE co-sponsored, an international symposium, 'Construction in Russia today' (15–16 March 2000) with senior Russian and Finnish representatives.

The international symposium 'Integrated life cycle design of materials and structures' (ILCDES) was held in 2000, and ECCE Vice President Carl-August Gunther wrote about it in the 2000 *Year in Review*.

ECCE Romanian member Union of Associations of Civil Engineers of Romania (UAICR), with Iacint Manoliu (Romanian delegate and EUCET Secretary General), organised a EUCET–ECCE international conference in 2001 in Sinaia, Romania.

Finnish member organisation RIL hosted the second international ICT symposium with ECCE co-sponsorship in June 2001. Participants came from a wide range of countries to discuss and debate the role of IT in construction.

Karlheinz Zachmann, the Head of the European Commission's Construction Unit, who later ran the Construction Contact Point, brought to the ECCE meeting valuable information about what was going on in the Commission, especially in the Construction Unit.

The European Commission Competitiveness in Construction report was brought before the Council of Ministers in November 1999. In the course of 1999 ECCE played an active role in supporting the Commission's activities in relation to improving competitiveness in the sector.

ICE member David Leonard, who had participated in a number of construction IT projects, together with ECCE Deputy Secretary Diana Maxwell and Jan Venstermans of ECCREDI, co-authored a report on IT as a factor of construction competitiveness.

During 1999–2001 ECCE acquired many new members, including Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Russia, Slovenia, and Slovakia. By the end of 2001 ECCE had 22 members and the work of the TFs was becoming more productive.

ECCE's Estonian member EEL celebrated its ten-year anniversary in 2001. Urmo Kala of EEL wrote an account of it for 2001's Spring/ Summer newsletter.

In summer 2001 John Whitwell stepped down from the post of SG and Diana Maxwell was elected to continue as SG. In spring 2002, she was nominated for a European Women Achievement Award in the UK for her work in promoting Europe over many years.



Diana Maxwell



ECCE in Helsinki (2002)

ECCE was invited to be a member of the European Construction Forum (ECF) (October 2001). ECCE President Fonseca and SG Diana Maxwell participated in a meeting dealing with public procurement, energy efficiency and other issues of importance for construction.



5. Yrjö Matikainen, 2002–2005



Yrjö Matikainen

➤ Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	President
➤ António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	Past President
➤ Carsten Ahrens	Germany	Vice President
➤ Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Honorary Treasurer
➤ Iacint Manoliu	Romania	Member
➤ Georges Pilot	France	Member
➤ Diana Maxwell	UK	Secretary General



Fonseca, Maxwell, Ahrens, Matikainen, Economopoulos, Pilot (Athens 2002)



Yrjö Matikainen made ECCE's first yearly business plan, for the year 2002. In his subsequent work he concentrated on creating a strategic plan, to facilitate the GC's strategic decision-making and its guidance of the organisation's activities. The yearly business plan would be based on that strategic plan. The first ECCE strategic plan was discussed to some extent in Madrid on 4 April 2003, following which discussion the President made a survey of members' interests and formulated a document that was proposed in Tallinn (2005), and accepted for the years 2005–2010 in Istanbul on 11 November 2005. Also a demand to ECCE's TFs was made: only those TFs which had business plans could stay on for the next year.

The second goal of the President was to give more power to ECCE member delegates, specifically to enable them to elect a president. Existing articles allowed only ExCo members the power to elect persons to the posts of President, Vice President and Honorary Treasurer. And the third goal was to continue to promote a high level of education and knowledge in civil engineers.

At the beginning of the discussion the idea was that ECCE articles needed only minor changes. ECCE started to alter the articles at the meeting in Helsinki on 8 June 2002, charging a small group comprising Vassilis Economopoulos, Yrjö Matikainen and António da Fonseca with the task of making a proposal. Many delegates were surprised at the complexity of ECCE articles and bylaws and it was felt desirable for presidents to have a shorter time in office and also that there should be a president elect. During the election on 12 November 2005 a more democratic system was accepted: every member had the right to propose a candidate for a post on ExCo, and the GC would vote for the president.

ECCE continued the work of the main TFs: Education Chair Iacint Manoliu, Professional Recognition Chair Carsten Ahrens, Environment Chair Santiago Hernandez, R&D Chair Olavi Tupamäki, and IT Chair Stephen Vincent. Working groups on liability, transport and civil engineering heritage were in place. A new group, the Presidents/Chief Executives Forum, was accepted, chaired by Jyrki Keinänen. A contact person (rapporteur) from ExCo was given to every TF.

Also co-operation continued with many international organisations such as ECCREDI, SEFI, ECF, FEANI, WFEO, ECBP, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and JSCE. The President had negotiations with ECBP about merging ECBP and ECCE, but the draft agreements did not lead to any resolutions. ECCE participated actively in the European Commission working group on e-commerce in 2002–2004, with the involvement of David Leonard and Diana Maxwell (the latter was the rapporteur).



One difficult issue with strongly divided opinions was the creation of a World Council of Civil Engineers (WCCE). At the 36th meeting José Medem made a proposal, supported by Fonseca and Economopoulos, to create an international council of Civil Engineers. Discussion continued during the 38th meeting, and a three-step solution was agreed on. ECCE's contribution would be to set up the draft Articles of Association for WCCE, accepting the assistance of the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos Canales y Puertos (CICCP), whose members were participating in a working committee comprising Medem, Fonseca, Ahrens and Coackley. ECCE's ExCo wanted more detailed information at the 39th meeting, and the 40th meeting (in Zagreb) accepted the proposal of ExCo to give strong support for the philosophy of WCCE and added Murt Coleman and Vassilis Economopoulos to the working committee. During ECCE's 42nd meeting, on 13 November 2005, 12 ECCE members and three American societies agreed to create the WCCE, and the formal foundation of the World Council of Civil Engineers was in Mexico City on 22 July 2000, with José Medem elected as President.

The Environment TF, chaired by Santiago Hernandez, worked on sustainability in construction, and during the GC meeting in Madrid on 5 April 2003, the 'ECCE Ethical Commitment to Sustainable Engineering' was accepted.



ECCE Moscow (2004)



ECCE in Zagreb (2004)

In Brussels on 21 October 2004, ECCE, with EFCA and the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE), arranged a seminar on 'Public Procurement,' introducing the new directive. ECCE's President participated in the ECF presidents' meeting in Brussels on 9 October 2003 where the main topics were the construction products directive, CE marking and the European Single Market strategy for services.

Georges Pilot was an active ECCE representative in ECCREDI and he was nominated as a member of the ECCREDI steering group in early 2005. In this capacity he had some influence on European Technology Platforms.

On 30 June 2004, in Finland, Yrjö Matikainen met the President of ASCE, Patricia Galloway, and on 14 June 2005 he met the new ASCE President, William P. Henry, in Rome, where ASCE and ECCE, with CNI, signed the document 'Combating Corruption

in Engineering and Construction'. Also during this period a co-operation agreement between ECCE and ASCE was signed. The President of ECCE – as a member of ASCE – started to inform members of ExCo about the activities of ASCE and IABSE.

Thanks to contributions from various people, and in particular to the diligence of Diana Maxwell and Carsten Ahrens, the new version of *Civil Engineering Profession in Europe* was printed in Slovenia and published in 2005 with the help of Branko Zadnik.



ECCE Ethical Commitment to Sustainable Engineering (2003)



EEL's Urmo Kala
at the Tallinn meeting (2005)



ECCE, Istanbul (2005): Gülay Özdemir (first left),
the first woman in the new ExCo



6. Richard Coackley (2005–2008)

During the meeting in Istanbul, a new Executive Board (ExBo) was elected:



Richard Coackley

➤ Richard Coackley	UK	President
➤ Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	Past President
➤ Carsten Ahrens	Germany	Vice President
➤ Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Hon. Treasurer
➤ Murt Coleman	Ireland	Member
➤ Jiri Plicka	Czech Republic	Member
➤ Gülay Özdemir	Turkey	Member
➤ Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General

Richard Coackley continued to lead ECCE and its ExCo in a democratic fashion. In the years 1990–1999, ExCo had existed because the articles stated that it was a necessity. Now, however, the essential nature of ExCo's work had become obvious. ExCo meetings lasted half a day, and in December 2005, because there was habitually so much to be discussed, Richard Coackley set up teleconference meetings for ExCo to take place between the GC ones. ExCo also began to hold extra face-to-face meetings.



ECCE, Prague (2006)



Diana Zlatňanská

In Istanbul in 2005 Secretary General Diana Maxwell informed ECCE that she was planning to leave, and ExCo started to seek candidates for the SG position. In Prague at the ExCo meeting, Diana Zlatňanská of Slovakia was elected as the new SG.

President Coackley and ExCo decided to change the structure of the TFs. There would be five ECCE standing committees (SCs):

1. Education and Training
2. Professional Recognition and Mobility
3. Environment and Sustainability
4. Knowledge and Technology
5. Development and the Business Environment.

Under each SC there might also be TFs, for compact projects with a time limit.

The new SCs got the following chairs:

1. Iacint Manoliu
2. Fernando Branco
3. Marc Bonazountas
4. Georges Pilot
5. KarlHeinz Zachmann.

During the Brussels GA meeting on 12 November 2006, participants visited the European Parliament, where Andrea Joyce made a presentation on behalf of the ACE, which has a permanent position in Brussels.



ECCE ExCo at the European Commission (2006)

Discussion on redrafting the articles took place 2002–2005. New ExCo member Murt Coleman redrafted the articles and ExCo discussed the changes in the course of many meetings.



Finally, at the meeting in Brussels, ECCE approved the new articles concerning the bylaws. Some significant changes had been made: thenceforth a president elect would automatically become the next president; the power to elect members was given to the delegates of ECCE members, in the General Assembly; and the SG lost his or her voting rights. The new articles were implemented at the next elections in Larnaka on 18 October 2008. Also, ExCo changed its name to ExBo.



Meeting in Brussels with Greek Commissioner Stravos Dimas (2006)

During the meeting in Hungary (18–19 May 2006) a new TF structure was accepted. ExBo informed those present of the changes in the website, and new models for letters and business cards.

Richard Coackley and Georges Pilot represented ECCE in Brussels in June 2006 at ECCREDI's tenth anniversary conference, which was focused on EU action programmes – primarily CIP and R&D FP7 (Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development).

The second ECCE meeting in Romania took place 11–12 May 2007 with a welcome address by Panaite Mazilu, President of the UAICR. This meeting included reports from SCs, three Romanian technical presentations, and the introduction of a new website, www.ecceengineers.eu, developed by Carsten Ahrens. The business plan for 2007 was accepted. ECCE was also invited as co-sponsor of the WCCE–TCCE (Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers) congress 'Earthquake and tsunami,' chaired by Professor Tugrul Tankut.



The new ECCE website

The TF on civil engineering heritage got a new Chair, Gorazd Humar, from Slovenia. After that meeting ExBo nominated Professor Asko Sarja as Chair of the SC on knowledge and technology.

Richard Coackley participated in the second international conference, 'The environment – sustainable water resource management', which took place in Athens, organised by ACEG (2007).

The main theme at the ECCE meeting in Athens (19–20 October 2007) was climate change. Presentations addressed the Athens Metro, reports from SCs, co-operation with other societies and the business plan and budget for 2008.

ECCE's first meeting in Latvia was in Riga (23–24 May 2008) with welcome addresses by Martin Straume, President of the Latvian Association of Civil Engineers, and the Minister of Environment, Raimonds Vejonis. The main issues were associated with the development of infrastructures. ECCE accounts and membership fees for 2007 and election procedures were approved.

The last meeting during this period was in Larnaka (17–18 October 2008) with the main theme being 'Water – supply and demand'. ECCE's business plan and budget for 2009 were approved.



7. Vassilis Economopoulos, 2008–2010

During the meeting in Larnaka, a new Executive Board was elected:



Vassilis Economopoulos

➤ Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	President
➤ Richard Coackley	United Kingdom	Past President
➤ Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Vice President/President Elect
➤ Helena Soimakallio	Finland	Vice President/Hon. Treasurer
➤ Murt Coleman	Ireland	Member
➤ Fernando Branco	Portugal	Member
➤ Jiri Plicka	Czech Republic	Member
➤ Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General

When President Vassilis Economopoulos and ExBo started their mandate, ECCE was in quite a good state, but one of the worries was that Germany would leave ECCE. The President started his work by presenting his ideas about civil engineering education as a basis of future discussions. Vassilis Economopoulos was honoured as Honorary Member of the ECCE member society of Cyprus.



Members of the new ExBo: Branco, Economopoulos, Humar, Coleman and Soimakallio

New ExBo contact persons (rapporteurs) for SCs were decided. The President gave an introductory presentation, 'Competitiveness of provided design services', at the meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria (2008). He was active in acquiring new members, and in getting associate members to accord with new articles of ECCE.

ECCE and the European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC) continued their co-operation by setting up together a working group on the Small Businesses Act with ECCE represented by Gabor Szöllösy acting as Chair. The first meeting of that group was in 2009 in Vienna, where an ECCE-ECEC common position was determined. ECCE and ECEC Presidents met on 25 February 2009 with directors of DG Enterprise, Sylvia Vlaeminck (Head of Unit ENTR E.3) and Isabella Augustin.



ECCE and ECEC Presidents

On 26 February 2009 the presidents of ECCE, ECEC, EFCA, FEANI, and SEFI attended a meeting hosted by EFCA, where codes of conduct, upgrade of engineering educational systems, and promoting the profession in society were discussed.

Gülay Özdemir represented ECCE at WCCE's General Assembly and ExCo meeting in Brazil on 20 November 2008.

An ExBo meeting was held in Brussels on 12 December 2008; alongside a meeting with Pamela Brumter, Head of the Unit 4 Regulated Professions of DG Internal Market and Services at the EU Commission. During this meeting, in the liaison office of BAK, BIngK, BAIK, and ECEC, the possibility of ECCE using their premises was discussed.



During the ECCE meeting in Ljubljana, which began with a welcome address by Branko Zadnik, President of IZS Section of Civil Engineers, the Union of Civil Engineers in Bulgaria and the Civil Engineers Chamber of Montenegro were accepted as ECCE members.

The theme of the meeting was 'Bridges connect people and nations' and seven presentations were given. An annual membership fee for ECCE associate members was defined as 850 €.



ECCE Ljubljana (2009)

During the Ljubljana meeting of ECCE, the former R&D TF Chair and past president Yrjö Matikainen was proclaimed as ECCE Honorary President.

The next meeting of ECCE was in Helsinki (16–17 October 2009) with a welcome address by Professor Ralf Lindberg, President of RIL. The first associate member, ADK Consulting Engineers SA of Greece, was accepted.

A new TF on 'Public Relations and Promotion' was proposed, to be chaired by the ECCE President. The GA approved the nomination of a Special Secretary (later chosen as Maria Karanasiou) to help the SG and the President.



Ralf Lindberg, President of RIL (left) in Helsinki (2009)



Special Secretary Maria Karanasiou



The ECCE family in Helsinki (2009)



ECCE's 25th anniversary in London (2010)



ECCE's 25th anniversary in Zaragoza (2010)



Gorazd Humar, Engineering Heritage in Europe book

President Elect and TF Chair Gorazd Humar informed the meeting that *Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe*, a volume of 384 pages, was ready and printed. The first copy was given to the host country. The President thanked the editorial board, editor-in-chief Gorazd Humar, Branko Zadnik and Nick Zygouris for their excellent work.



Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe book cover

8. Gorazd Humar, 2010–2012

During the meeting in Zaragoza the new Executive Board was elected:



Gorazd Humar

➤ Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	President
➤ Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Past President
➤ Fernando Branco	Portugal	Vice President / President Elect
➤ Teemu Vehmaskoski	Finland	Vice President / Hon. Treasurer
➤ José Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
➤ David Howell	UK	Member
➤ Nicos Stylianou	Cyprus	Member
➤ Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General (until 2011)
➤ Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General (since 2011)

During the 52nd ECCE General Assembly in Zaragoza, Spain, a new ECCE Executive Board was elected. Gorazd Humar took the ECCE Presidency and Fernando Branco became President Elect.

The general economic and market crisis that started at the end of 2008 brought many changes, especially in the construction sector, which was hit by its consequences more than other sectors were. Unemployment started to grow and many big construction companies in Europe faced serious financial problems. Many of them went bankrupt. The employment of young civil engineers was reduced to a minimum, and interest in studying civil engineering dropped significantly. This in turn had an impact also on programmes of many faculties of civil engineering.



The 53rd ECCE General Meeting in Malta (2011)



Maria Karanasiou, ECCE Secretary General

At the same time efforts in European society supported by the European Commission on Sustainable Development were becoming more and more intensive. A sense of collective responsibility for the future started to develop and grow. An international conference entitled Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment was organised in Valletta, Malta on 5 May 2011, with the 53rd ECCE General Assembly. ECCE organised it in collaboration with the Maltese Association of Civil Engineers, Kamra tal – Periti. The conference was managed by Vincent Cassar. In Malta, Maria Karanasiou from Greece was nominated as a new ECCE SG in place of Diana Krizova (formerly Diana Zlatňanská).

As the protection and conservation of cultural heritage had been a topic of interest at most ECCE General Assemblies, ECCE's executive board, in collaboration with TCCE and WCCE, decided to organise an international conference on this theme. The conference, entitled 'Seismic Protection of Cultural Heritage,' was organised together with the 54th ECCE General Assembly, which took place on 31 October – 1 November 2011 in Antalya, Turkey. The main topics were: conservation of cultural heritage, seismic vulnerability of monuments and evaluation criteria, seismic repair, innovative techniques and materials. Professor Tugrul Tankut from TCCE was the person in charge of the conference. There were many echoes in the media, as the conference took place just a few days after a strong earthquake in Turkey which caused many casualties as well as economic damage.



54th ECCE General Meeting in Antalya (2011)

Due to big changes in the construction sector after 2008, ECCE developed a new strategy to face the situation. ECCE considered it a pressing matter to inform the decision-making bodies at European level in Brussels about the problems in the construction sector caused by the crises. With ECEC, ECCE organised a new international conference in Brussels, entitled 'The First European Engineers' Day,' which took place in Brussels on 8 December 2011. The purpose of the conference was to make a comprehensive presentation of the role of civil engineers in society and to illustrate how they were facing the economic crisis. The key speaker was Maria Damanaki, European Commissioner. Many members of the European Parliament and other senior EU officers attended the conference too. The second part of the conference was dedicated to the topic of engineering quality and public procurement.

During the 55th ECCE GAM, held in Vilnius, Lithuania, the ECCE ExBo dedicated most of its attention on preparation of the new ECCE strategic plan. The draft of the plan was prepared by President Elect Fernando Branco. ECCE GAM approved the new ECCE book project *Footbridges in Europe*. The project was managed by the TF on civil engineering heritage. The Lithuanian Chamber of Civil Engineers awarded in Vilnius the ECCE President Gorazd Humar and the ECCE Past President Vasilis Economopoulos in recognition of their contributions in developing ECCE.



55th ECCE General Meeting in Vilnius (2012)

In terms of new ECCE members, the ECCE President and ExBo focused their efforts on enlarging the number of ECCE members, especially when Germany decided to leave ECCE. On 28 February 2012 the Italian Council of Engineers (CNI – Consiglio Nazionale Ingegneri) sent a letter to ECCE expressing a wish to reactivate their membership of ECCE. CNI started, with activities in all ECCE working bodies. In Vilnius the Russian Chamber of Civil Engineers decided to reactivate its ECCE membership too. And ECCE adopted an additional two new members: were Georgia and Serbia.



ECCE President Gorazd Humar participated in September 2012 in Nagoya, Japan, in the international conference on management of natural disasters organised by JSCE. Contacts between ECCE and JSCE were established and JSCE decided to participate at ECCE book projects. A draft of collaboration agreement was prepared at that time, following the visit of the JSCE President to Lisbon for the ECCE GAM in May 2013.

The 56th ECCE GAM took place in Dubrovnik, Croatia, organised by the Croatian Chamber of Civil Engineers (HKGI). Two new ECCE SCs were established. One concerned associate members; it was chaired by Vassilis Economopoulos and its aim was to attract individuals or other organisations to become ECCE associate members. The SC chaired by Carsten Ahrens was nominated as an SC on Environment and Sustainability. Asko Sarja, the Chair of the SC on Knowledge and Technology, and Vice Chair Ruben Paul Borg presented their plan for the year 2012–2013.



Szymczak, Robl, Colon, Economopoulos, Branco, Abdelhamid, Humar (Dubrovnik 2012)



56th ECCE General Meeting in Dubrovnik (2012)

9. Fernando Branco, 2012–2014

During the Dubrovnik Meeting a new Executive Board was elected:



Fernando Branco

➤ Fernando Branco	Portugal	President
➤ Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Past President
➤ Włodzimierz Szymczak	Poland	Vice President / President Elect
➤ Vincentas Stragys	Lithuania	Vice President / Hon. Treasurer
➤ Jose Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
➤ Nick Zygouris	Greece	Member
➤ Massimo Mariani	Italy	Member
➤ Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General

ECCE in Brussels 2012–2014

ECCE declares that the solution for European civil engineers facing the economic crisis is **The 3 Is – Investment, Innovation and Internationalisation**, producing several publications with this motto.

- ECCE was accepted for the first time to the **High-Level Tripartite Forum for the Construction Sector in Europe**. ECCE worked within the ‘Thematic Group 1 – Stimulating investment in building renovation, infrastructure and innovation’. ECCE had regular meetings in Brussels related to its contribution to the discussion of EU funding for the construction industry.
- ECCE was active in the discussion of new **directives**, participating in meetings in Brussels on the EU directives on professional recognition and mobility and on procurement.



- ECCE promoted the **Engineers Image** with the preparation of the second European Engineers' Day, co-organised with ECEC and FEANI.
- ECCE participated in the **sixth International Presidents' Meeting** hosted by the Technical Chamber of Greece.
- ECCE participated in the meeting for sustainable assessment of construction products in Europe and the ECF.



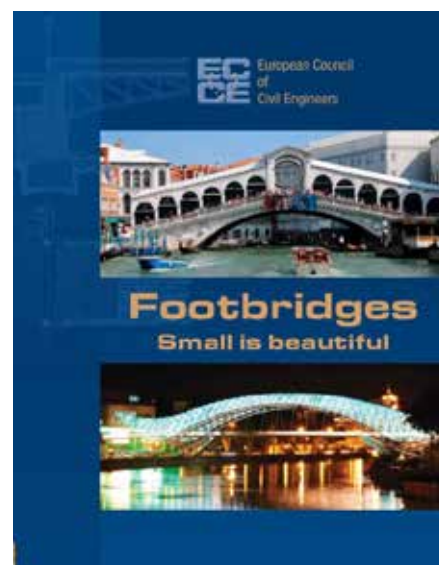
ECCE strategy for construction in Europe



Presidents' Meeting (Athens 2013)



The first issue of the ECCE e-journal



Book cover: *Footbridges – Small is Beautiful*



Lisbon conference (2013)



57th ECCE General Meeting in Lisbon (2013)

Inside ECCE

- The new **ECCE Newsletter/eJournal** was launched, to be published three times a year, with news from the European Commission, updates on ECCE activities and news from countries that were ECCE members. The e-journal is sent all over the world and is prepared by the Secretary General, Maria Karanasiou.
- ECCE's book **Footbridges – Small is Beautiful** was published, organised by Gorazd Humar within his TF on heritage.
- Maria Karanasiou renovated the **ECCE website**; it became more user-friendly. Conference presentations were now available on the website.
- A new General Assemblies organisation was implemented at the Lisbon meeting (2013), to be permanently associated with the presentation of a parallel **international conference**, open to local civil engineers.
- The main conferences during this period were (they can be seen on the website):
 - Changes in Civil Engineering (Lisbon, 2013)
 - Water Management in Europe (Nicosia, 2013)
 - Seismic Design and Rehabilitation of Buildings (Tbilisi, 2014)
 - Modern Solutions in Bridge Construction (Warsaw, 2014)
- The first steps to implementing **individual associate members** with access to an **ECCE Card** were discussed within the ExBo.
- Discussion of an update of the **bylaws** to accept individual members began during the General Assemblies.



58th ECCE General Meeting in Nicosia (2013)



59th ECCE General Meeting in Tbilisi (2014)



60th ECCE General Meeting in Warsaw (2014)



President F. Branco receives a diploma from the Polish Government

International co-operation

- Co-operation with other European and international engineering organisations as well as support for the CNI Initiative for the co-operation of Mediterranean Engineers (European and Arab Countries)
- Agreement of co-operation with the ***Korean Society of Civil Engineers***
- Agreement with the ***Georgian Society of Civil Engineers*** to support their research centre in seismic studies and rehabilitation
- Agreement of co-operation with ***JSCE***. ECCE was invited to and participated in the 100 years celebration instead of JSCE.
- Joining these associations, the idea of a United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture (***UNESCO***) ***International Day of Civil Engineering*** was launched.



Co-operation with JSCE (Lisbon, 2013)



10. Włodzimierz Szymczak, 2014–2016

During the meeting in Warsaw, the new Executive Board was elected:



Włodzimierz Szymczak

➤ Włodzimierz Szymczak	Poland	President
➤ Fernando Branco	Portugal	Past President
➤ Massimo Mariani	Italy	Vice President / President Elect
➤ Vija Geme	Latvia	Vice President / Hon. Treasurer
➤ José Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
➤ Dimitar Natchev	Bulgaria	Member
➤ Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Member
➤ Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General

From the very beginning of his presidency Włodzimierz Szymczak made it his priority to:

- modernise the ECCE internal structure including the existing SCs and TFs
- review, update and change the ECCE bylaws
- foster and develop membership of ECCE and review financial standing of ECCE
- strengthen co-operation with EU authorities and European and world organisations of civil engineers
- develop co-operation with construction companies and support the SMEs sector in Europe
- create an active and positive attitude in members towards taking part in developing our organisation
- strengthen the importance and position of the profession of the civil engineer in society.



ECCE in Brussels 2014-2016

The second **European Engineers' Day** was held on 20 November 2014 in Brussels, with great success. The European Engineers' Federations ECCE, ECEC and FEANI, with EFCA, ENAEE, CLGE and the Council of Association of Long Cycle Engineers (CLAIU), organised this unique event wishing to extend public knowledge and appreciation of the engineering profession, of engineers' education and professional concerns, and of engineers' capacity to solve problems arising in a changing world. The event was attended by 150 participants from industry, academia and professional organisations and it was the first time the federations had come together to make such an appeal. Large numbers of ECCE members shaped the outcome of the event by giving speeches, lectures and their voice in open discussion.

- The civil engineering profession fulfilled its rightful status as a *Public Trust Profession*.
- **The success of the European economy** depends on whether we can unlock the potential of the SMEs sector, and on our ability to release the energy slumbering in it, and whether we will be able to successfully create a political and social climate for promoting and supporting entrepreneurship in our countries: these two ideas were brought up by ECCE at the event's keynote discussion.
- After the intervention of ECCE at the European Commission our organisation was invited to take part in TTIP negotiations.
- ECCE has continued its involvement in the works of the **High-Level Tripartite Forum for the Construction Sector in Europe** within 'Thematic Group 1 – Stimulating investment in building renovation, infrastructure and innovation'.
- The initiative on establishing 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers was adopted. Development of that idea started after ECCE's GA in Madrid.

Internal ECCE matters

- The ECCE bylaws were reviewed, updated and changed, after a year of discussion and consultation (the final decision was taken at the 62nd GM in Prague). Some of these new bylaws opened ECCE up to individual associate membership (ExBo received its first applications from individuals soon after this).



➤ A new strategy for ECCE was presented to the members by ExBo during the 62nd GM in Prague and finally adopted by the 63rd GM in Madrid. The most important aims of this strategy were to:

- fulfil our members' expectations of ECCE in the best possible way
- make ECCE more creative, effective, more visible and influential in Europe
- encourage the energy and involvement of ECCE members

by:

- terminating the ECCE SCs during the 63rd ECCE General Meeting, in March 2016
 - focusing less on SCs and more on the production of solid, high-quality position papers to be presented to Brussels. In this way ECCE will boost its visibility and our goal of influencing EU authorities will become more achievable.
 - establishing ECCE's permanent representation in Brussels to support these plans and efforts.
- Guidelines for ECCE position papers were adopted and the whole procedure was started at the beginning of 2016.
- The open discussion on ECCE's financial standing, level of membership fees, predicted income and expenditures in context of planned activity was initiated in Prague and continued in Madrid. The final round of the discussion and conclusions are planned for the 64th GM in October 2016, in Athens.
- *European criteria applied to the assessment of works tenders* was adopted as an official position paper of ECCE. This document, being in fact the proposal for enhancing the European Public Procurement Law, was disseminated to all our members and partners. ExBo quickly received positive feedback on this position paper.
- In 2015 ECCE celebrated its 30th anniversary. On this occasion our founding members – Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (CICCP, Spain) and ICE – were awarded with special honorary diplomas.



- The ECCE annual report was established. The first edition of that report, in a hard copy, was launched in 2015.
- To celebrate the 30th anniversary, it was decided that this very book would be published, and presented in Athens at the 64th ECCE General Meeting.
- ECCE continues to issue the e-journal, trying to make each edition better than the last.

ECCE membership

- ECCE as a whole and the President in particular paid great attention to the task of developing membership of ECCE.
- Over a dozen direct meetings with potential new members, and with members who had suspended or cancelled their membership in ECCE in previous years, took place.
- Recovered members were ICE, the Russian Association of Civil Engineers, and the Romanian Association of Civil Engineers (as an associate member).
- New members were the Association for Information Technology in the Construction of Ukraine (UACIT, Ukraine) as Full member, Association of Civil Engineers of Costa Rica as Associate member, EPSILON (Greece) as Associate member.
- At the time of writing talks at a different stage of progress are ongoing with Austria, Germany, Finland, Netherlands, Moldova, and Ireland and with a few large construction companies.
- All these efforts ought to be continued to the full extent in the future.

International co-operation

- ECCE continues its co-operation with all international partners with whom we have signed an agreement of co-operation (ASCE, Korean Society of Civil Engineers, and JSCE).
- We have just started our co-operation with India by signing an agreement of co-operation with the Council of Engineering and Technology, India.
- We are co-operating with the ECEC (Common Training Principles for Engineers) EU project; we were represented in its workshop held at the end of June, in Vienna.



- We are involved in TTIP negotiations through our representative from CICCIP, and we co-operated with the Texas Board of Engineers during our General Meeting in Madrid.
- Our president was at the ASCE 2015 Convention, and met with the presidents and senior managers of ASCE.
- We are establishing contacts and co-operation with Lassonde School of Engineering, York University, in Toronto, Canada.
- We support the Engineering Association of Mediterranean Countries (EAMC) by our membership in it and our representative is in the Board.
- We gave Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries' engineering associations our logo and our representative in 2015 and also 2016. We signed the Madrid Declaration.
- The round table meeting in Athens was given the honorary patronage of ECCE, and our President attended it. A separate meeting was attended by the Secretary General of ECCE and the President of the Greek Association of Civil Engineers, and took place in the new ECCE Office in Athens.
- The ECCE President was awarded the title Honorary Senator during an event at which an honorary award was given to the European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker within the European Senate Meeting of the Network/Group of the Associations of SMEs, 'We Entrepreneurs' that was held on 16 April 2015, in Dusseldorf/Neuss.
- We participated in the 24th Bavarian Day of Engineering organised in Munich by The Bavarian Chamber of Civil Engineers and met with its President.
- ECCE gave its honorary patronage to the 'Polish Infrastructure 2016' conference, in February 2016, in Warsaw. The ECCE President was invited as special guest and delivered a speech.
- ECCE gave its honorary patronage to the third International Ecological Forum that was held in September 2016, in Poland. The ECCE President was invited to participate as a special guest and lead a discussion panel.



Jean-Claude Juncker and Włodzimierz Szymczak at the event for the Honorary Award to EC President Jean-Claude Juncker (2015)



ECCE President Włodzimierz Szymczak and ECCE Past President Vassilis Economopoulos



Branco, Broyd, Szymczak, Economopoulos, Baveystock (Meeting at ICE, London 2015)



61st ECCE General Meeting in Naples (2015)



62nd ECCE General Meeting in Prague (2015)



63rd ECCE General Meeting in Madrid (2016)

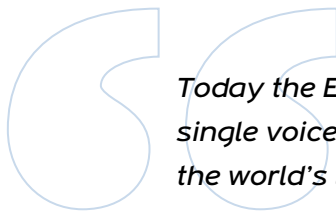


ASCE President Robert Stevens and ECCE President Włodzimierz Szymczak



Conclusion

In the course of 25 years ECCE has grown from a small four-member discussion forum to an important player with members from many countries in Europe, from Portugal to Georgia. It is worldwide renown, and keeps civil engineers' issues on the table, influencing the European Parliament and the European Commission.



Today the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) is the most powerful single voice for the Civil Engineering profession in Europe, making it one of the world's leading influences on the built and natural environment.

The Council represents the majority of the professional civil engineering associations in individual European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries. Its European members represent over 500,000 professional civil engineers. No other organisation speaks as loudly for the European Civil Engineering profession.

ECCE was created in 1985 through the common belief among European civil engineers that they are better placed to advance Europe's built environment and protect its natural environment by working together. The EU Institutions now recognise ECCE as the single voice for the profession. The Council works both at a pan-European and national level to advise governments and industry and to foster uniformly high professional standards throughout the region. It also works with the world's other major professional civil engineering associations, from the USA to the Far East





ECCE presidents (apart from Richard Coakley, who is missing from this photo) from 2002–2018: Y. Matikainen, G. Humar, W. Szymczak, F. Branco, M. Mariani, and V. Economopoulos



Be an ECCE Member (EUCivEng) - ECCE Individual Membership



The European Civil Engineer

The profession of the Civil Engineering is mostly performed where the construction is being made, in Europe or in any part of the world.

Today, within the European Union, construction companies have activities in many countries, so civil engineers have to move to foreign countries and to work all over Europe.

To allow this professional movement EU published a Directive on Professional Mobility, to facilitate the recognition of Civil Engineers across Europe.

Nevertheless the Directive considers under this title, professionals with quite different academic or professional backgrounds, what can lead to unclear situations for society.

The EU Directive on Mobility proposes the creation of a European Database of Civil Engineers, interconnected through national organizations.

ECCE appeared in 1985 to promote the quality of Civil Engineering with a professional recognition where academic/professional quality is guaranteed by the national organizations.

ECCE as representative of those organizations, and to promote quality in professional recognition, is opening its membership to individual members, allowing for their image recognition as European Civil Engineers.

Join ECCE, be a EUCivEng!

May I become an Individual ECCE Member?

Yes, although ECCE is an association of national organizations, individual civil engineers may also be Individual Associate Members, with access to all the information and discussion forums, but they may not vote in ECCE General Assemblies.

Being an ECCE individual member you will have the reference EuCivEng

And you get also the ECCE membership card!



- The ECCE card identifies you, through your national organization, as a Professional of Civil Engineering in your country and a EUCivEng in ECCE.

- It is expected that in the future the card will allow an automatic civil engineering identification across Europe, according to the EU Mobility Directive, when national organizations implement their database of Civil Engineers.

What do I get as an ECCE Individual Member?

► If you just want to be an ECCE member, you will receive:
The e-journal and all relevant information from EU Commission

► If you want to come to our meetings, you will get:

Participation in 2 International conferences per year;

Participation in 2 General assemblies per year;

Participation in Brussels Engineers Day each 3 years;

To be in contact with civil engineers across Europe (EU and nonEU)

► But if you want to be really active,

You are welcome to participate in the discussion forums or to propose position papers to be submitted to Brussels.

Join us now!

Become an ECCE Member (EUCivEng)

Instructions on how to become an Individual Associate Member can be found on our website at the following link:

http://www.ecceengineers.eu/news/2016/ecce_card.php?id=41



APPENDIX

Names and dates

1. ECCE General Meetings

No	DATE	VENUE	COUNTRY
1-14 ¹	1985-1991		
15	1992	Copenhagen	Denmark
16	1992	Brussels	Belgium
17	1993	Munich	Germany
18	1993	Paris	France
19	1994	Lisbon	Portugal
20	1994	London	United Kingdom
21	1995	Helsinki	Finland
22	1995	Istanbul	Turkey
23	1996	Madrid	Spain
24	1996	Athens	Greece
25	1997	Paris	France
26	1997	Prague	Czech Republic
27	1998	Bucharest	Romania
28	1998	Munich	Germany
29	1999	Dublin	Ireland
30	1999	Nicosia	Cyprus
31	2000	Rome	Italy
32	2000	London	United Kingdom
33	2001	Porto	Portugal
34	2001	Ljubljana	Slovenia
35	2002	Helsinki	Finland
36	2002	Athens	Greece

37	2003	Madrid	Spain
38	2003	Munich	Germany
39	2004	Moscow	Russia
40	2004	Zagreb	Croatia
41	2005	Tallinn	Estonia
42	2005	Istanbul	Turkey
43	2006	Budapest	Hungary
44	2006	Brussels	Belgium
45	2007	Bucharest	Romania
46	2007	Athens	Greece
47	2008	Riga	Latvia
48	2008	Larnaca/Famagusta	Cyprus
49	2009	Ljubljana	Slovenia
50	2009	Helsinki	Finland
51	2010	London	United Kingdom
52	2010	Zaragoza	Spain
53	2011	Valletta	Malta
54	2011	Antalya	Turkey
55	2012	Vilnius	Lithuania
56	2012	Dubrovnik	Croatia
57	2013	Lisbon	Portugal
58	2013	Nicosia	Cyprus
59	2014	Tbilisi	Georgia
60	2014	Warsaw	Poland
61	2015	Naples	Italy
62	2015	Prague	Czech Republic
63	2016	Madrid	Spain
64	2016	Athens	Greece

1. The first 14 ECCE General Meetings between 1985 and 1991 have no registered records.



2. ECCE Presidents 1985–2016

1 John Derrington	UK	1985–1989
2 José Medem	Spain	1989–1994
3 Gerard Baron	France	1994–1999
4 António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	1999–2002
5 Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	2002–2005
6 Richard Coackley	UK	2005–2008
7 Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	2008–2010
8 Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	2010–2012
9 Fernando Branco	Portugal	2012–2014
10 Włodzimierz Szymczak	Poland	2014–2016

3. ECCE Secretary Generals 1985–2016

1 José Luis Juan-Aracil	Spain	1985–1989
2 Graham Hornby	UK	1989–1994
2 John Whitwell	UK	1994–2001
3 Diana Maxwell	UK	2001–2006
4 Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	2006–2011
5 Maria Karanasiou	Greece	2011–present

4. ECCE Special Secretaries

Diana Maxwell	UK	1994–2001
Maria Karanasiou	Greece	2009–2011

5. Members of ExCo/ExBo

1994–1996

Gerard Baron	France	President
José Medem	Spain	Past President
Hermann Sturm	Germany	Vice President
John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General

1996–1999

Gerard Baron	France	President
José Medem	Spain	Past President
Hermann Sturm	Germany	Vice President
António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	Vice President (President after 1998)
Theodoros Voudiklaris	Greece	Member
John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General

1999–2002

António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	President
Gerard Baron	France	Past President
Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	Vice President
Carl-August Gunther	Germany	Vice President/Honorary Treasurer
Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Member
Iacint Manoliu	Romania	Member
Alberto Dussman	Italy	Member
John Whitwell	UK	Secretary General
Diana Maxwell	UK	Secretary General (since 2001)



2002–2005

Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	President
António Adão da Fonseca	Portugal	Past President
Carsten Ahrens	Germany	Vice President
Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Vice President / Honorary Treasurer
Iacint Manoliu	Romania	Member
Georges Pilot	France	Member
Diana Maxwell	UK	Secretary General

2005–2008

Richard Coackley	UK	President
Yrjö Matikainen	Finland	Past President
Carsten Ahrens	Germany	Vice President
Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Honorary Treasurer
Murt Coleman	Ireland	Member
Jiri Plicka	Czech Republic	Member
Gülray Özdemir	Turkey	Member
Diana Maxwell	UK	Secretary General (until beginning of 2006)
Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General (since beginning of 2006)

2008–2010

Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	President
Richard Coackley	UK	Past President
Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Vice President / President Elect
Helena Soimakallio	Finland	Vice President / Honorary Treasurer
Murt Coleman	Ireland	Member
Fernando Branco	Portugal	Member
Jiri Plicka	Czech Republic	Member
Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General



2010–2012

Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	President
Vassilis Economopoulos	Greece	Past President
Fernando Branco	Portugal	Vice President / President Elect
Teemu Vehmaskoski	Finland	Vice President / Honorary Treasurer
David Howell	UK	Member
José Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
Nicos Stylianou	Cyprus	Member
Diana Zlatňanská	Slovakia	Secretary General (until 2011)
Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General (since 2011)

2012–2014

Fernando Branco	Portugal	President
Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Past President
Włodzimierz Szymczak	Poland	Vice President / President Elect
Vincentas Stragys	Lithuania	Vice President / Honorary Treasurer
José Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
Nick Zygoris	Greece	Member
Massimo Mariani	Italy	Member
Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General

2014–2016

Włodzimierz Szymczak	Poland	President
Fernando Branco	Portugal	Past President
Massimo Mariani	Italy	Vice President / President Elect
Vija Geme	Latvia	Vice President / Honorary Treasurer
José Francisco Saez Rubio	Spain	Member
Gorazd Humar	Slovenia	Member
Dimitar Natchev	Bulgaria	Member
Maria Karanasiou	Greece	Secretary General



6. Task Forces and Standing Committees Chairs

Environment (2006: SC Environment and Sustainability)

1995-1997	Mike Cottel
1997-1999	David Green
1999-2000	Carmen de Andres
2000-2006	Santiago Hernandez
2006-2011	Marc Bonazountas
2012-2016	Carsten Ahrens

Education and Training (2006: SC Education and Training)

1996-2000	Vassilis Economopoulos
2000-2002	Gerard Baron
2003-2016	Iacint Manoliu

Research and Development (2006: SC Knowledge and Technology)

1995-1999	Yrjö Matikainen
1999-2001	Guy Benattar
2001-2004	Olavi Tupamäki
2004-2007	Georges Pilot
2007-2012	Asko Sarja
2012-2016	Ruben Paul Borg

Quality

1995-1998	Hermann Sturm
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Information Technology

1999-2004	Stephen Vincent
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Professional Recognition (2006: SC Professional Recognition and Mobility)

1999–2001	John Whitwell
2001–2006	Carsten Ahrens
2006–2012	Fernando Branco

Civil Engineering Heritage

2003–2005	Nick Zygoris
2004–2016	Gorazd Humar

Public Procurement

2000–2001	David Green
2001	Vassilis Economopoulos

Continuing Professional Development (merged with Education in 2000)

1999–2000	Vassilis Economopoulos
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Transport

1993	Vassilis Economopoulos
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Development and Business Environment

2006–2012	KarlHeinz Zachmann
2012–2015	Hamish Douglas

Associate Membership

2012–2015	Vassilis Economopoulos
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7. ECCE Members

Country Initial Membership

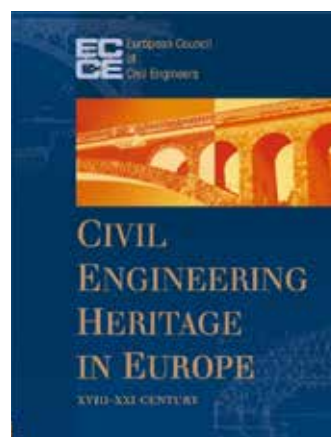
Belgium	1989
Bulgaria	2009
Croatia	2001
Cyprus	1997
Czech Republic	1997
Denmark	1990
Estonia	1999
Finland	1993
France	1986
Germany	1992
Georgia	2011
Greece	1985
Hungary	2001
Ireland	1999
Italy	1986
Latvia	2005
Lithuania	2001
Malta	2008
Montenegro	2009
Poland	2000
Portugal	1985
Romania	1997
Russia	2000
Serbia	2012
Slovakia	2001

Slovenia	1997
Spain	1985
Turkey	1996
Ukraine	2016
United Kingdom	1985

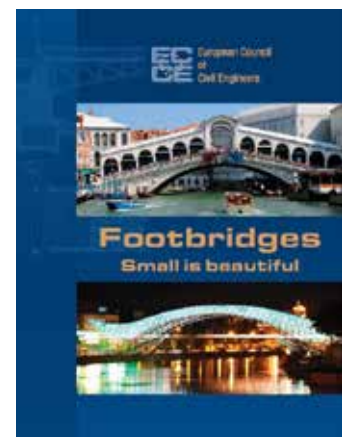
8. ECCE Books



Cover for Civil Engineering Profession in Europe



Cover for Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe



Cover for Footbridges - Small is beautiful



European Council of Civil Engineers
www.ecceengineers.eu