

TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Declaration for the Protection of Engineers Chambers

Dear All, / To Whom It May Concern,

The European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) is concerned about the fact that, over the last years, political bodies of some EU member states and candidate countries are undervaluing the importance, function and purpose of the Engineers Chambers. Without intending to bring out individual cases, where this is evident, we are concerned about the disrespect, shown by the leading political bodies, towards the professional chambers opinions and their exclusion from the dialogue concerning the adoption of any key regulations.

As a result of this exclusion, laws are adopted, which are not the result of the professional consideration of facts. The importance of the Chambers, which are the professional bodies whose primary function is to protect public interest and the interests of professionals, in the fields of engineering activities, is marginalized and undermined, and eventually, making it impossible for them to operate and exist. Engineering professional organizations, are among the most important European Institutions, incorporating and transmitting the best professional practices, built through the years of their experience.

Specifically, as a result of the adoption of such laws that do not have the support of the profession, the application of various Directives of the European Parliament and of the Council is diminished. For example, Directive 2006/123/EC, dated December 12th 2006, concerning the prescribing of professional liability insurance. Also, Directive 2013/55/EC, dated November 20th 2013, requiring the recognition of professional qualifications of those whose services present a direct and particular danger to the health or safety of users or third parties.

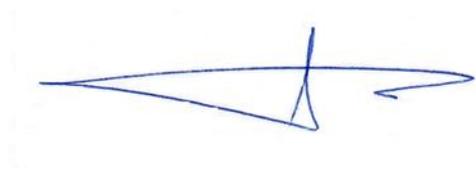
The intention and desire of ECCE is that the European Parliament may adopt a resolution on the necessity to enhance the collaboration of Engineers Chambers with the European Parliament, by working together for the best possible outcome and strengthening the role of professional engineering bodies in the EU member states and candidate countries. Also, respecting their views and positions in topics relevant to spatial planning, construction and provision of services, and enhancing their participation in any stakeholder discussion, in order to prevent potentially enormous and already visible risks, due to misplanned land management and limited sustainable resources, that must be managed in a high-quality and multidisciplinary manner.

In this view, we would like to refer to the **B5 0247/2001 “European Parliament resolution on scale fees and compulsory tariffs for certain liberal professions, in particular lawyers, and on the particular role and position of the liberal professions in modern society”** which clearly

recognizes the importance of the liberal professions and identifies that they are one of the pillars of pluralism and independence in society, and, fulfil roles in the public interest.

Should you require any clarifications or have any questions, ECCE is at your disposal for further cooperation on this and other topics.

Sincerely,



Aris Chatzidakis
President of ECCE