



# Third European Engineers' Day

Concerns about  
Engineering Excellence

Haus der Ingenieure, Vienna

05 October 2017





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# SCOPE

Engineers' impact is visible in every aspect of human life: Through increasingly more sophisticated inventions, techniques and equipment Engineers enhance and irrevocably change society. Overcoming the challenges of today's societal developments will thus, to a considerable degree, depend on the availability of excellent engineering solutions.

The European Engineers' Federations ECEC, FEANI and ECCE, together with ENAEE want to draw attention to the importance of securing the availability of excellent engineering solutions in Europe. Although the need for engineering excellence is increasing, the current approaches to safeguard and enforce its broad availability seem to be insufficient or even counter-productive.

The "3rd European Engineers' Day" on 5 October 2017 will analyse existing developments and approaches that can either enhance or hinder engineering excellence. It will offer expert opinions but also a forum for critical dialogue and participation.

# AGENDA

- 09.00 – 10.00 Registration**
- 10.00 – 10.30 Opening by the Presidents of the organizing Committee ECEC, FEANI and ECCE**  
ECEC President Črtomir Remec  
FEANI President José Manuel Perreira Vieira  
ECCE Vice-President/President-Elect Aris Chatzidakis  
**The need for excellence in engineering going forward – Videomessage**  
*Violeta Bulc, EU Commissioner for Transport*

## Morning session

*Each speech is followed by a 10 minute Q&A*

- 10.30 – 10.55 Engineers in the Single Market - recent initiatives of the European Commission**  
*Hubert Gambs, Director «Modernisation of the Single Market», Directorate General for Internal Market, Entrepreneurship and SME's, European Commission*
- 10.55 – 11.20 Should the EU be reengineered?**  
*Philippe de Buck, Senior Executive advisor at Hill & Knowlton strategies, Former Director General of BusinessEurope, Member of EESC*
- 11.20 – 11.45 Challenges and perspectives of the construction industry in Europe**  
*Jean-Louis Marchand, President of the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC)*
- 11.45 – 12.15 Coffee Break**

## Afternoon Session

*Each speech is followed by a 10 minute Q&A*

- 12.15 – 12.40 Providing the right engineering skills in Europe to better meet companies' needs**  
*Maxime Cerutti, Director for Social Affairs at BusinessEurope*

- 12.40–13.05 Educating Engineers: Seeking Excellence in Engineering and Distinction in Problem Solving**  
*Ioannis Golias*, Rector of the National Technical University of Athens
- 13.05–13.30 Myth or Reality: The economic effect of (de)-regulating the Engineering profession**  
*Leo Chini*, Head of the Research Institute for Liberal Professions, Vienna University of Economics and Business
- 13.30–14.30 Lunch & Networking Break**
- 14.30–15.30 Round Table Discussion**  
*Michaela Ragoßnig-Angst* (Chartered Engineering Consultant for Surveying, Chair of the Division of Consulting Engineers of the Chamber of Architects and Engineers Vienna/Lower Austria/Burgenland), *Rudolf Kolbe* (Member of EESC, President of CEPLIS), *Bernard Remaud* (President of the European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education ENAEE), *Paul Cougħlan* (Institution of Civil Engineers, Director Chair of the European Region at ARUP), *Ernesto Fernández Polcuch* (Chief of Section for Science Policy and Partnerships in the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO)
- 15.30–16.00 Final Statements of Presidents ECEC, FEANI, ECCE**

**Moderation of the Conference:**

*Ms Jacki Davis, MDC*

- 19.00 Evening Programme**  
Cocktail Reception at the City Hall of Vienna,  
Doors open at 18.30 - Entrance  
Lichtenfelsgasse 2, 1010 Wien



## Ms. Violeta Bulc

Violeta Bulc is the EU Commissioner for transport, having been appointed to the office in November 2014. Ms. Bulc brings a diverse set of expertise and professional experiences to the role. As Commissioner, Ms. Bulc has already placed priority on digitalisation, decarbonisation and innovation in transport.

As noted academic, author, systems architect and entrepreneur, Ms. Bulc has long had a high profile in her homeland of Slovenia. In the corporate sphere, she held various positions in the telecoms industry, including Telekom Slovenia and Telemach. She has also been the owner and CEO of Vibacom, engaged in work on sustainable and innovative business solutions.

Immediately prior to her appointment to the European Commission, she was the Deputy Prime Minister of Slovenia, with ministerial responsibility for development, strategic projects and cohesion.



## Mr. Hubert Gambs

Hubert Gambs is Director of the Directorate E “Modernisation of the Single Market” at the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SME’s at the European Commission.

Gambs was born in Austria, where he earned a Master’s degree in law at the University of Innsbruck. His professional career at the European Commission has started almost 20 years ago in the Directorate-General for Competition as Case handler. In 2004, he became Member of the cabinet of Mr Franz Fischler, from 2004 to 2010 he was Member of the Cabinet of Mrs Benita Ferrero-Waldner. 2010 he became Head of Cabinet of Mr Johannes Hahn until 2014, when he acted as Director for the «Mediterranean and Black Sea» at the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, until 2016 he was appointed as Director at DG GROW.

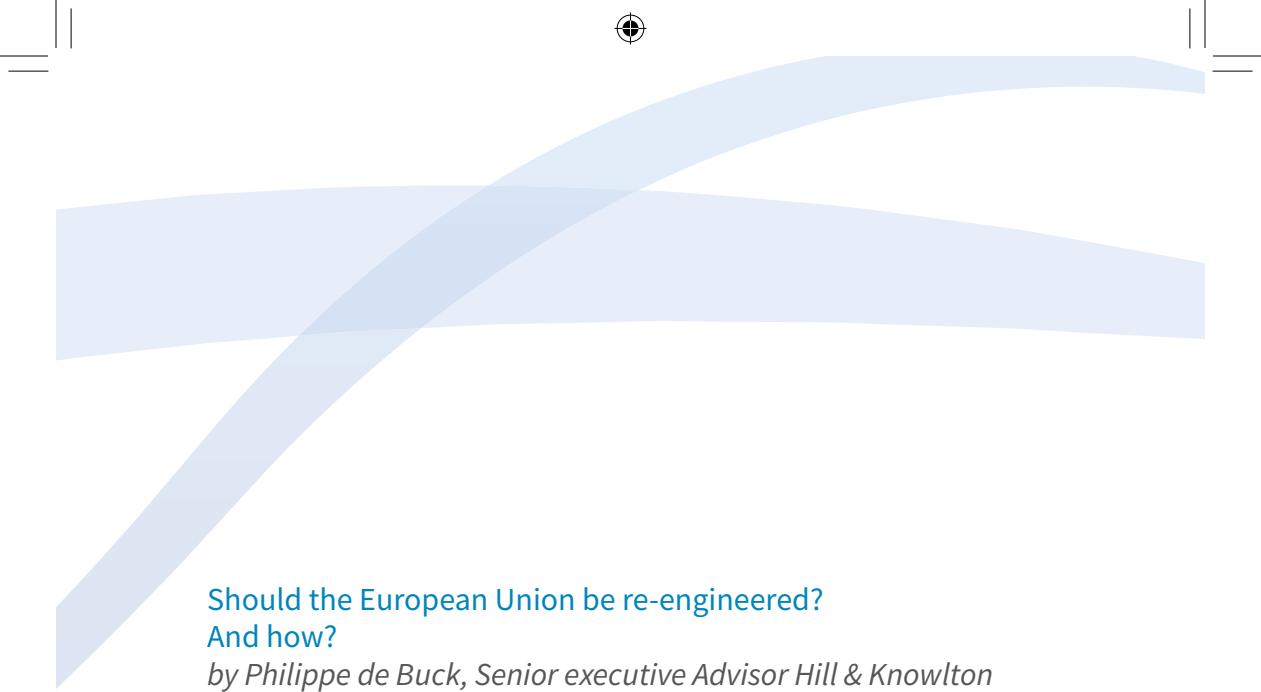


## Mr. Philippe de Buck

From 2002 to 2012 Philippe de Buck was Director General at BusinessEurope, the cross sectoral EU business organisation.

Mr. de Buck was previously CEO of Agoria, a Belgian multi-sector federation for the technology industry, from 1987 to 2001, after holding other management positions within the federation since joining it in 1971. He is a member of the Board of Directors of ING Belgium and until 2015 he has been member of BASF Antwerp, Chairman of the Fund of Patronage of ING Belgium and member of the Board of the Queen Elisabeth College of Music. He is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Brussels-based think-tank European Policy Centre and Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges.

Mr. de Buck holds a PhD degree in law from Leuven University (KUL) and a postgraduate course at the Ecole Supérieure de Sciences Fiscales (ICHEC) in Brussels.



## Should the European Union be re-engineered? And how?

*by Philippe de Buck, Senior executive Advisor Hill & Knowlton  
strategies, Member of the European Economic and Social  
Committee*

The assets of the EU are still strong but the policies are questioned: are the proposals of President Juncker the right ones?

The world is changing as well as the geopolitics: are there any opportunities for the EU?

To what extend can Brexit be well managed?

EU Industry is lagging behind but technology offers great opportunities in many ways for more engineers. Are we on the right track?

Business organisations are part of the EU model: is there a way forward?

The purpose is not to answer all the questions or to offer recipes. The purpose is to steer a debate that is very much needed in current circumstances to reinforce the European Union.



## Mr. Jean-Louis Marchand

Jean-Louis Marchand is a graduate engineer of the École Polytechnique and the École Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications. After starting his career at the General Direction of Telecommunications (now Orange), he joined Cochery-Bourdin-Chaussé, now Eurovia, a Vinci subsidiary where he served as Deputy Chief Executive Officer. Among other posts, he is Business Member of the Bureau of the FNTP (National Federation of Public Works) and since June 2016 he was elected President of the European Construction Industry Federation, FIEC.



## Challenges and perspectives of the construction industry in Europe

by Jean-Louis Marchand, President of the European Construction Industry Federation - FIEC

FIEC represents, via its 29 national Member Federations in 26 countries, construction enterprises of all sizes, which undertake all forms of building and civil engineering activities, in which engineering role is core to its activity.

Even in those countries where a lack of public funding is no longer an issue, the ageing workforce, together with the difficulty of attracting young people are key challenges that construction firms have to face. In order to address such challenges, providing adequate and continuous education and training on new disciplines and innovative techniques is a priority for construction firms and for the long term sustainability of the construction industry at the global level.



## Mr. Maxime Cerutti

Maxime Cerutti was appointed Director of BUSINESS-EUROPE's Social Affairs department in January 2012. He is responsible for a diverse portfolio of social affairs and labour market policy issues as well as the day-to-day management of the department. He also coordinates BUSINESS-EUROPE's engagement as a social partner in the context of the European social dialogue. Maxime joined BUSINESS-EUROPE in November 2007 as social affairs adviser. Prior to this, he worked between 2005 and 2007 as a policy officer at the European Youth Forum in Brussels. He started his professional career with a six-month internship at the French ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris, where he followed the work of the EU Council on Employment and Social Affairs. Graduated in European law and political science, Maxime holds a Master degree from Sciences Po Paris, a double law degree from the university of Bordeaux in France and the university of Canterbury in the UK, and he participated in a summer session at the University of California at Berkeley in the United States. His mother tongue is French. He speaks English fluently, is at ease in Italian, and is a basic user of German and Spanish.



## Providing the right engineering skills in Europe to better meet companies' needs

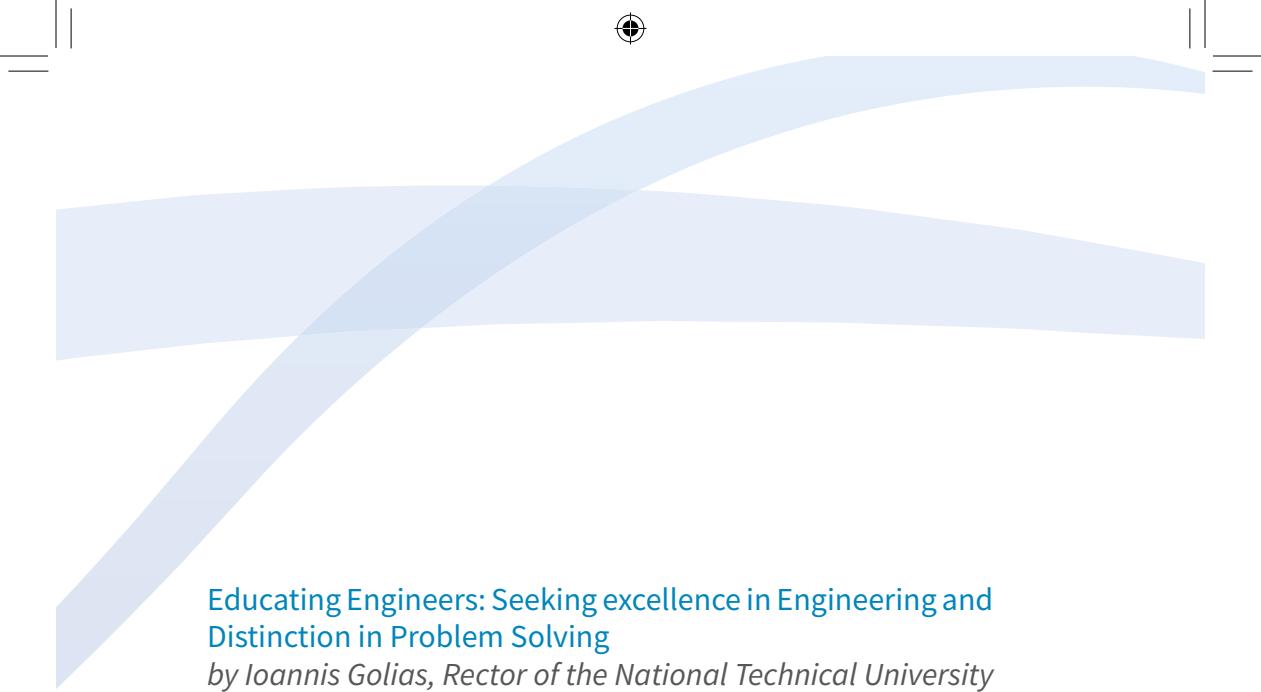
*Maxime Cerutti, Director for Social Affairs at BusinessEurope*

Rapidly changing economic realities entail a growing demand for skilled and qualified people. Engineers in particular are high in demand across industrial sectors. In parallel, job profiles are changing and new ones are emerging in response to digitisation. This impacts upon company's skills requirements and how they go about ensuring that they have an appropriately skilled and competent workforce. Central to achieving this is the development and strengthening of business-education partnerships at various levels and across different education and training pathways. Improving the attractiveness and quality of Scientific, Technological, Engineering and Mathematics – STEM - skills will be an important driver for future prosperity in Europe. This particularly concerns upper secondary and tertiary levels, for example in the form of delivering apprenticeship opportunities or through university-business cooperation.



## Mr. Ioannis Golias

Professor PhD Ioannis Golias is a civil engineer specialist in Transportation and Traffic Engineering, holding a M.Sc. in Transport and a PhD by the University of London. Former caretaker Minister of Productive Reconstruction, Environment and Energy, his career in public service has developed since the late 90s. He currently holds the office Rector of the National Technical University of Athens, participating in all national academic degree accreditation procedures for engineers in several EU member states.



## **Educating Engineers: Seeking excellence in Engineering and Distinction in Problem Solving**

*by Ioannis Golias, Rector of the National Technical University of Athens*

The University education of an engineer that will have a leading role in the global development effort of the future goes well beyond the usually short-sighted, tailor-made provisional demands of the current market.

Knowledge and skills acquired by an engineering degree should of course be those required by the graduate to excel in the current and expected in the future engineering issues. However, they should also prepare engineers to play protagonistic roles in the various activities concerning the strategic design and the implementation efforts in economic development activities, by combining a profound methodological background with problem recognition and solving skills in diverse areas, where the continuously accelerated technological development will change radical the «environment» in the coming decades towards multidisciplinary approaches.



## Mr. Leo W. Chini

Leo Chini has worked in the field of liberal professions for more than thirty years. He is Head of the Research Institute for Liberal Professions and has been an Honorary Professor at the Institute for Small Business Management and Entrepreneurship since 2000. He is Managing Partner at a number of consultancy companies, member of the supervisory board at several corporations and member of a variety of assessment advisory councils. Leo Chini is also Controller of the welfare fund of the Medical Chambers for Vienna and Salzburg and a member of the Verein für Sozialpolitik (German Economic Association), the Studiengesellschaft für Mittelstandsfragen e.V. (Association of Medium-sized Companies) and the Working Group for Company Pension Schemes. He is Editor of the magazine *Aufsichtsrat aktuell*, a magazine containing expert information for the responsible management and consultation of companies.

His expertise in the field of liberal professions is evident in many publications and based on a long-term research activity in the field of regulated liberal professions.

## **Myth or reality: The economic effect of (de)regulating Engineering professions**

*by Prof. Leo W. Chini, Head of the Research Institute for Liberal Professions*

The deregulatory approaches in regard to professional regulation are based on the European Commission's firm belief in the positive economic effect of such measures. Therefore it is necessary to examine existing studies on the topic critically. Many of them have broad and non-specific approaches that do not consider specific requirements of different categories of services.

The Research Institute for Liberal Professions at the Vienna University of Economics and Business has conducted a study on the impact of de-regulatory measures on liberal professions in Austria. It led to results that did not confirm the European Commission's thesis.

An especially important aspect for all studies is the preliminary question, how legal restrictiveness is measured adequately. In its communication on reform recommendations for regulation in professional services the European Commission has presented a new indicator measuring the intensity of restrictiveness of national regulation as regards access to and exercise of regulated professions. It is a composite indicator because considering a large number of restriction types, from regulatory form and qualification requirements to exercise restrictions such as limitations on multidisciplinary activities, corporate structure restrictions, and other entry restrictions such as the compulsory membership to professional organisations and brings them into one figure. The level of restrictiveness of every measure is assessed and quantified. The composite indicator gives an assessment of the cumulative restriction level of all these measures taken together.

As deregulation is a potential hazard to service quality the Research Institute for Liberal Professions has critically looked into the structure and the impact of the indicator using the example of national regulation for architects and civil engineers.

# Round Table Discussion Participants



**Michaela Ragoßnig-Angst**

Graduated Consulting Engineer for Surveying  
Chair of the Division of Consulting Engineers  
of the Chamber of Architects and Engineers  
Vienna/Lower Austria/Burgenland



**Bernard Remaud**

President of the European Network of  
Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAE)

## Ernesto Fernández Polcuch

Chief of Section for Science Policy and  
Partnerships in the Natural Sciences Sector  
of UNESCO



## Rudolf Kolbe

Member of EESC  
President of the European Council of Liberal  
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## Paul Coughlan

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