



Dear colleagues!

At the end of last year the European Commission has presented proposals that will considerably influence the profession of Chartered Engineers in Europe: The whole system of public procurement as well as the system of professional recognition is currently modernized.

Some of the positive aspects in those proposals – like for example the measures for better SME participation to public procurement procedures or the final concept of a “professional card” which is now meant to be a digital certificate issued by competent authorities only – clearly show that the on-going activities of the ECEC are not in vain and that we have already achieved some good results.

Due to the numerous different interests on European level these results are of course only compromises, so there is still a lot to do for us.

Let's see this as a motivation for the forthcoming meetings with the European Commission and the European Parliament on the ECEC positions on Professional Recognition and Public Procurement.

To enforce the activities of the ECEC all member organisations are asked to promote the ECEC positions on the Public Procurement Directive and on the Professional Qualifications Directive and to inform their Members of European Parliament and their national competent authorities about them.

With warm regards,
Josef Robl

NEWS FROM EUROPE

Modernization of the European Public Procurement legislation:

The modernization package on the European Public Procurement legislation was presented in December 2011.

Some of the many points in the proposals are measures to enhance access to Public Procurement procedures for SME, changes in

the negotiated procedure, a new innovative procedure, the possibility of strategic procurement, the use of life-cycle costs as award criteria, a new governance system etc. The ECEC has already reacted - the ECEC position was finalized in March 2012 and can be found here:

<http://www.ecec.net/statements/>

ECEC President and Board are now arranging meetings with competent EC members and with the rapporteur/shadow rapporteurs in the competent IMCO Committee of the European Parliament.

Discussions are on-going in the working group of the European Council as well as in the European Parliament. Already in December the report of the IMCO committee on PP will be adopted in the plenary session.

Modernization of the Professional Qualifications Directive:

The proposal for the modernization of the system of professional recognition in Europe was presented in December 2011.

Some of the many points in the proposal:

An accelerated professional recognition via a digital “professional card” in the IMI is foreseen. The five qualification levels of Art.11 are kept but only as a benchmark and they can also be described with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Instead of the Common Platform there is going to be a new system of common training principles that can lead to a kind of “automatic recognition”. The European Commission also wants to introduce – based on some decisions of the European Court of Justice – a partial access to the profession. The ECEC has already reacted - the ECEC position was finalized in March 2012 and can be found here:

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competent IMCO Committee of the European Parliament.

Discussions are on-going in the working group of the European Council as well as in the European Parliament. Already in December the report of the IMCO Committee on PQD will be adopted in the plenary session.

Freedom of Services:

The European Commission – with the help of the member states – is currently doing a so-called „coherence-test“ to see how the Services Directive and similar instruments are really working in practice. Depending on the results of the test the Commission will decide on the necessity of further measures. Already now in some member states a reduction of the number of regulated professions has been started / is in planning.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/services/services-dir/mutual_evaluation_en.htm

Public consultation on financial support for energy efficiency in buildings:

Until 18 May 2012 participation in the European Commission's survey on the question, why the saving potential in spite of the measures that were already taken / see

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm) could by far not be reached yet, is open.

Based on the results of this public consultation the financial support measures will be adopted.

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/consultations/20120518_eeb_financial_support_en.htm

NEWS FROM THE ECEC MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

- **Serbian Chamber of Engineers**

**ICDM - International Conference
On Damage Mechanics
Belgrade, Serbia 25 - 27 June 2012**

The main objective of the International Conference on Damage Mechanics (ICDM) is to bring together leading educators, researchers and practitioners discussing and exchanging

ideas on recent advances in damage and fracture mechanics.

This inaugural conference will provide a forum for scientists and practicing engineers alike to present the latest findings in their research endeavour and at the same time to explore future research directions in the fields of damage and fracture mechanics. The inauguration of the ICDM is also considered timely as it coincides with the 20th anniversary of the founding of the International Journal of Damage Mechanics.

For more information please see:

www.icdm.rs Contact: info@icdm.rs

- **Slovenian Chamber of Engineers**

Dear ECEC members,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the World Engineering Forum which will be held from 17 to 21 September 2012 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Engineers, politicians, researchers, scientists and entrepreneurs from all over the world will meet to exchange their opinions about the sustainable construction of buildings and infrastructure, a major challenge of the 21st century. A special program will be devoted to Disaster/Risk Management and Young Engineers. Keynote speeches will be given by highly respected speakers from across the world.

Please do tell your friends and colleagues about this event and invite them to come to Ljubljana with you. It is no doubt, that the forum will be a memorable and valuable experience from professional and business points of view.

Be part of World Engineering Forum 2012!

For more information please see:

www.wef2012.si.

WEF 2012 Organising Board

- **Slovakian Chamber of Civil Engineer**

**Civil Engineers Celebrated the 20th
Anniversary of the Renewal of Their
Chamber**



Chartered Civil Engineers Contribute to the Quality of our Everyday Life in Slovakia:

Engineers yesterday, today and tomorrow and their important role in our society – this was the main theme of the Day of Slovak Engineers which the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers SKSI organized on March 16, 2012, in Bratislava.

“The Construction Sector in Slovakia has achieved a great progress in recent years, and the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers has played an important role in this progress,” declared the First Lady of the Slovak Republic Mrs. Silvia Gašparovičová, who held the auspices of the Day of Slovak Engineers. Over 250 participants attended the event, including the highest representatives and experts of the European Council of Engineers Chambers ECEC, European Council of Civil Engineers ECCE, Engineering Chambers and Associations from Germany, Bavaria, Saxony, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Bulgaria, Greece and Montenegro. Participants at the Day of Slovak Engineers also included the representatives of the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, representatives of Municipality of the Capital City Bratislava, representatives of Slovak organizations and companies from the construction industry, honorable guests and Chartered Civil Engineers - Members of the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers.

Dušan Majdúch, SKSI President, and Štefan Kolcun, SKSI Vice-President, granted Honorary Awards to those Slovak Chartered Civil Engineers who personally contributed to the renewal of the Chamber 20 years ago. Honorary Membership was also granted to Josef Robl, President of the European Council of Engineering Chambers and to Dimitar Natchev, President of the Chamber of Engineers in Investment Design KIIP Sofia from Bulgaria.

Chartered Civil Engineers build the future of Europe on the Danube

Civil engineers aim to enhance a sustainable development of the Danube Region and Europe

through cooperation in macro-regional projects. This was the purpose of the meeting of the highest representatives of civil engineers' chambers from Slovakia, Bavaria, Austria, Saxony, Hungary and the representatives of the European Civil Engineers' Council (ECEC), Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Danube Knowledge Cluster and Construction Cluster of Slovakia on 17 March 2012 in Bratislava.

At the meeting on 17 March 2012 the participants discussed the possibilities for mutual cooperation of European engineers in order to enhance the development of the Danube Region through macro-regional projects focused on transport infrastructure, sustainable environment and cultural heritage of the Danube Region and funded from CF and EU Structural Funds.

- **Polish Chamber of Engineers**

In 2012 the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers celebrates its 10th anniversary. On this occasion the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers Jubilee National Congress will be held during which in occasional speeches will be presented the history, present and future of local engineers in Poland and Europe. There will also be an opportunity to celebrate our anniversary in a less formal form of socializing. The meeting of the National Congress will take place on 10.11.2012 in the Ballroom of the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The event will involve 350 persons; in addition to the national delegates will be invited to the numerous guests representing the Polish government and administration and scientific and technical organizations and guests from abroad representing the engineering organizations.

ECEC DATE PREVIEW 2012

Saturday, 30 June 2012, ECEC EB, FYROM
Saturday, 29 September 2012, ECEC EB, Cyprus
Friday, 16 November 2012, ECEC EB, Austria
Saturday, 17 November 2012, ECEC GAM, Austria