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## EDITORIAL

*Dear readers,*

*The EFCA Bulletin looks at Federation matters only.*

*News on European policies and rules that impact on our industry and relevant EU data platforms and networks is presented on EFCA's LinkedIn page, pending the launch of the revised EFCA website in August 2019.*



You are invited to regularly visit the EFCA page on [LinkedIn](#).

*The EFCA secretariat wishes all Bulletin readers relaxing summer holidays.*

## EFCA Conference 2019 hosted by ACEI in Dublin



The 10 May 2019 conference was attended by over 200 delegates from 24 countries.

Speakers from many different walks took to the floor including futurist Rohit Talwar, Jaap de Koning (Manager Branch Office Amsterdam at Witteveen+Bos and Chair EFCA Internal Market Committee) and Elisa Maceratini of the FIDIC Diversity Task Force.

Futurist Rohit Talwar advocated for a 'Very Human Future', keeping humanity at the centre of the agenda. Companies that are making major investments in innovation and technological possibilities should also provide for training and mentoring, ensuring that technological advances serve humanity.

Jaap de Koning demonstrated how seven UN Sustainable Development Goals are integrated and implemented in projects.

Elisa Maceratini emphasized how 'inclusion and diversity are the most demanding challenges for the future sustainable management of engineering and architectural companies.'

[Presentations](#) are available from the homepage on the EFCA website.



Petrov Lyubomir (YP Steering COM), Kevin Rudden (EFCA President)  
Gitte Gylling Olesen (winner), Andrea De Cillia (Chair judging panel)

Andrea De Cillia, Chair of the EFCA YP Judging Panel, presented certificates to the winner of the tenth edition of the EFCA Young Professionals competition, Gitte Gylling Hammershøj Olesen (DK), the two runners-up Claus Maimann Davidsen (DK) and Henrik Bredahl Kock (DK) and honorary mentions.

At the CEO lunch, renowned Irish economist David McWilliams gave an insightful and humorous keynote speech, asking why by 1917 W.B. Yeats could predict the decline of the British Empire whilst contemporary economists failed to do so. Pointing to dangers of groupthink, he advocated supporting unconventional thinkers, especially in transitional times. Engineers may have a role in formulating inspiring possibilities of what changes may bring.

ATCEA (Association of Turkish Consulting Engineers and Architects) will host the June 2020 EFCA General Assembly and Conference in Istanbul.

## 2019 EFCA General Assembly Meeting appoints Benoît Clocheret as President-Elect for the term 2019-2020

On 1 June 2017, Benoît Clocheret, CEO of ARTELIA, was elected member of the EFCA Board of Directors. He is the former Chair of the 'Infrastructure' section of SYNTEC-Ingénierie and is a member of the Board of SYNTEC-Ingénierie.

One new member is joining EFCA's Board of Directors: Jacolien Eijer (Koninklijke NLI ingenieurs).

The General Assembly Meeting welcomed the return to Full EFCA membership of TECNIBERIA (Spain) and FSIC (Sweden), and Estonia (EAACEC) and Latvia (LIKA) as 27th respectively 28th EFCA member association.

The Chairs of the EFCA [Committees](#) reported about major tasks undertaken and presented a series of (forthcoming) deliverables and planned actions.



Concurrently, the EFCA [Young Professional](#) Steering Committee organised a programme, including a selection of presentations and an illuminating visit to the construction site of the New Children's Hospital.

## Spring 2019 EFCA Barometer: strong markets in Europe but also continuous challenges

The survey for the EFCA [Barometer](#) was conducted in March - April 2019 with participation of national consulting engineering associations from 21 European countries.

The signals collected show that markets for consulting engineering services in Europe have increased in strength. While southern countries continue to face difficult market conditions, northern countries tend to have trouble generating profit.



The findings indicate that while markets are generally strong, the industry continues to face several challenges.

Low fees indicate either a strong competition or a trend toward standardisation of services while continuous staff shortage tends to increase salary costs. Digital transformation may be a key issue in reducing production costs, handling staff shortage and increasing productivity and profitability.

### **EFCA committed to contributing actively to the EU-Africa Alliance Transport Task Force on Connectivity**

Paolo Ciccarelli (DG DEVCO/Head of Unit C5) and Antonio Torres-Martinez invited EFCA's European External Aid Committee (EEA COM) to bring forward the engineering consulting industry policy/reform proposals and recommendations for scaling up investments, private sector involvement & innovative financing in the transport sector in Africa.

The Committee submitted its operational project driven insights and point of view in the strategy building process.

The need for support of the independent engineering sector in different project-related tasks to bring a wide range of technical or management expertise needed for transport investments with high economic efficiency was also highlighted.



Paolo Ciccarelli  
DG DEVCO C5, HoU

Ines Ferguson  
Chair EEACOM

Antonio Torres-Martinez  
DG DEVCO C5

### **DG DEVCO (International Cooperation and Development) values exchange with EFCA and Feaco**

EFCA and the European Federation of Management Consultancies Associations (Feaco) jointly submitted the European service providers' comments on the 2018 version of the PRAG (the EU's external action procurement and contract rules).

DG DEVCO reacted extensively to the critical elements that EFCA/Feaco had raised in a positive and engaging way.

At the same time, DG DEVCO agreed to the industry's proposal to look at taxation provisions in tender documents, based on the approach that other ODA institutions are taking.

EFCA's European External Aid Committee will review its follow-up to the continued and active dialogue with DG DEVCO at its 1 October 2019 meeting.



Ines Ferguson Chair EEA COM	Nicolas Provençal DG DEVCO/C3	Sandra Bartelt DG DEVCO/C3, HoU
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## EFCA guidelines to help project managers optimise the use of ISO 19650

Using 3D modelling software, layering it with data, and working very closely with all partners in construction and engineering projects is critical if European companies are to survive in the rapidly changing market.

The recent publication of ISO 19650, an international quality standard governing the organisation and digitisation of information about buildings and civil engineering works, helps the client, project manager and contractor to agree on things, develop a shared understanding and exchange data more easily.

The standard will help roll out BIM across the industry and bring stakeholders together within a project. Besides making the construction sector more competitive, BIM is driving innovation and sustainable growth and is a tool to deliver improved infrastructure quality.



The EFCA BIM [Booklet](#) provides guidance to engineering consulting firms for introducing the ISO 19650 standard and highlights its far-reaching benefits.

For engineers, BIM under ISO 19650 represents unprecedented opportunities for improving their added value during the construction process.

## **EFCA publish second Future Trends Booklet**

The May 2019 edition of 'Future Trends in the Consulting Engineering Industry' further explores the trends that will disrupt the global architectural and engineering consulting (AEC) industry.

The EFCA Booklet is challenging the industry to abandon preconceived frameworks and to embrace new models.

The Booklet emphasises the need for learning how to use the latest advanced technological tools and implementing new management methods that ensure innovation and experimentation through fast feedback cycles with end users.

To become the main actor in the innovation of the AEC industry it is necessary for the industry to learn to organise and manage real time integrated information and how to implement cognitive collaboration.

The EFCA 2019 and 2018 Future Trends Booklets are available from the homepage on the EFCA website at [www.efcanet.org](http://www.efcanet.org).



## **EFCA proposes changes to statistical classification NACE Rev. 2**

In response to Eurostat's invitation for consultation on the review of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities, NACE Rev. 2, EFCA submitted proposals to ensure that all engineering-related activity is adequately recognised.

The proposals would add a turnover of some €73 billion to engineering activities in the European Union classified under the main engineering category (NACE 71.12).



Also, the proposed new class (NACE 72.12 - Research and engineering development on engineering) that replaces the NACE 72.19 (Other research and experimental development on natural sciences and engineering) class would clearly identify the annual turnover of €60 billion for engineering development.

## Construction stakeholders call for a new EU Policy Framework

EFCA joined all major European construction representatives in the call upon the European Commission to set a coherent and balanced policy framework and adequate regulatory measures for the sector.

### CONSTRUCTION 2050

Building tomorrow's  
Europe today

Construction stakeholders stress their commitment to the extension of the existing Construction 2020 initiative. Building on the results of the current Construction 2020 initiative, the new 'Construction 2050: Building tomorrow's Europe today' framework should be based on the following principles:

- a specific targeted approach to construction because the sector is at the crossroads of different value chains and its unique nature requires a unique approach;
- an adaptable policy framework to address the evolving construction ecosystem and the transformation of the industry;
- a holistic approach towards policy making in order to implement coherent and balanced policies and legislation.

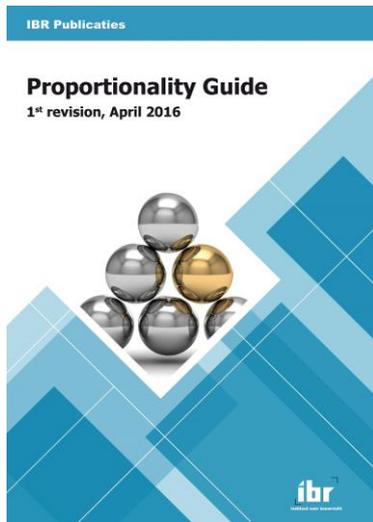
The construction stakeholders set out main challenges for their sector and formulate concrete proposals in their common vision '[Construction 2050. Building tomorrow's Europe today](#)'.

## EU public procurement law: what is the meaning of the proportionality principle?

The 2014 EU public procurement Directives do not set out how to deal with the proportionality principle.

In order to help the contracting authorities, the Proportionality Guide was published as part of the Public Procurement order, which is implementing the Dutch Public Procurement Act in 2012.

The [Guide](#) contains a detailed explanation of what the principle of proportionality means, or should mean, in all stages of the procurement procedure and in the terms and conditions of the contract.



Contracting authorities may only deviate from the detailed provisions on proportionality if this is properly motivated in the tender documents.

The Guide has received attention outside of the Netherlands on various occasions and has always been well-received.

The European Society of Construction Law took the initiative to translate the Guide into English in order to help both contracting authorities and tenderers and thus contribute to promoting a clear interpretation of the Directives. EFCA helped funding the project.

### EFCA support European CEO Conference, London, 4-5 November 2019

Save the date. EFCA has committed to contributing to the development of the European CEO [Conference](#) and associated Benchmarking Survey.

E F C A A G E N D A		
Board of Directors meeting	Oslo	20.09.2019
Internal Market Committee	Athens	27.09.2019
European External Aid Committee	Brussels	01.10.2019
BIM Task Group	Brussels	04.10.2019
Barometer Task Group	Brussels	24.10.2019
Directors & Secretaries General meeting	Vienna	08.11.2019
Board of Directors meeting	Paris	22.11.2019
Board of Directors meeting	(tbc)	21.02.2020
<b>2020 EFCA GAM &amp; Conference</b>	Istanbul	(tbc).06.2020

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