



News – 07/12/2011

1st European Engineers' Day

This coming 8th of December the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) and the European Council of Engineering Chambers (ECEC) are co-organising the “1st European Engineers' Day in Brussels”.

The scope of the event in question is to demonstrate the importance of the role and of the contribution of Chartered Engineers to society, as well as their dedication to the public interest, the raise of the quality of life and a sustainable environment. As the organisers put it, “*chartered Engineers providing high quality services design and construct the built environment and the necessary infrastructure for improving the life quality of the European Citizens. The Engineers act as professionals within a framework of high morale and ethical standards seeking the sustainable development*”.

Focus will be placed on the role of Chartered Engineers in Europe (engineering value for society and living conditions, professional structure, and professional mobility) and on “Engineering Quality and Public Procurement”.

The Steering Group of the event consists of: Josef Robl (ECEC President), Gorazd Humar (ECCE President), Vassilis Economopoulos (ECCE Immediate Past President), Efsthios Tsegkos (ECEC General Secretary), Fernando Branco (ECCE Vice President/President Elect), Cornelia Hammerschlag (ECEC). Amongst the speakers we note in particular: Maria Damanaki (European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries), Adel al Kharafi (WFEO President), Etelka Barsi-Pataky (President of the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers, Government Commissioner of the Danube Strategy, former MEP and Hungarian Ambassador in Austria), Jürgen Tiedje (Head of the Unit for Free movement of Professionals, DG MARKT, EC) and Rudolf Kolbe (CEPLIS Vice President).

Our impression is that organising a similar event could be an excellent way to raise EurEta’s visibility, strengthen its appeal to potential new members and confirm its place as representative of a less well-known sector of the Engineering family.

FEANI’s Professional Card

As you know, our colleagues from the European Federation of National Engineering Association (FEANI) have now officially announced the launching of a professional engineers’ card, based on the consideration that at the moment it is very difficult for the companies to evaluate the qualification of those who, even though very they are well qualified as engineers, have problems to find work in their country due to the current economic situation.

FEANI's card contains comprehensive information, providing a complete overview of the academic education, professional experience and further training of its card holder. It is also standardized in line with existing European norms and decentralized, which means that it is introduced and administered in each individual EU Member State. Its aim is to be a needs-based solution helping to avoid unnecessary costs and bureaucracy for those who chose to move in order to find work in their field.

We feel that all conditions are now gathered for EurEta to launch a similar card addressed to our part of the Engineering sector and look forward to discussing plans with the President and the Executive Board.