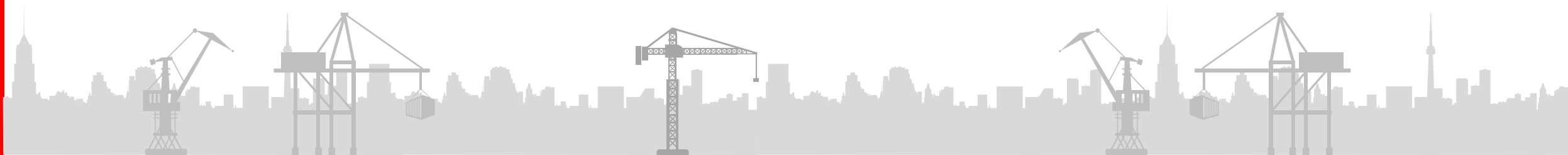


BIM & CONSTRUCTION 2050: Building tomorrow's Europe today

Kjetil Tønning, FIEC President



- enterprises of all sizes
- active in all fields of building and civil engineering

1905
1st meeting

27
Countries

31
Federations



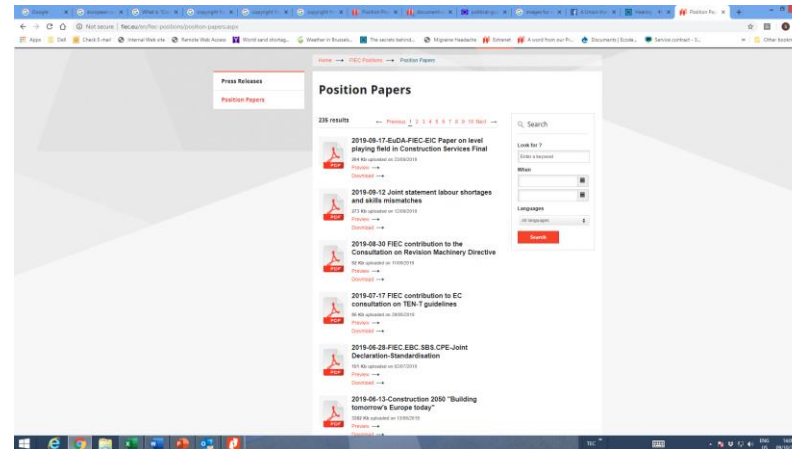
Member Federations

Denmark
Netherlands
Germany
France
Spain
Luxembourg
Bulgaria
Finland
Norway
Sweden
Ireland
Belgium
Portugal

Latvia
Czech Republic
Estonia
Romania
Slovenia
Croatia
Lithuania
Austria
Italy
Cyprus
Greece
Hungary
Slovakia
Turkey



Importance of Representation



New EU Political Term



Copyright European Commission



Copyright European Parliament



Copyright Irish Times

FIEC Manifesto 2019-2024

1 INVESTING IN A COMPETITIVE EUROPE

WHY?

- Investment is needed for the well-being of citizens and the sustainable development of the European economy, transport, energy, education, housing, etc.
- The **cost of non-investment is much higher than the cost of investment**. It damages economic growth in the short term and competitiveness in the long term.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Promote public and private financing – traditional and innovative instruments, incl. PPPs, as well as “user/polluter pays” schemes – to facilitate projects with European added value.
- While safeguarding sound public finances, allow **greater flexibility in the Stability and Growth Pact** when Member States implement EU policies and invest in infrastructure and building projects.
- Ensure that **infrastructure maintenance** is taken into account in the relevant EU legislation, funding programmes and the Country Specific Recommendations.
- For better effectiveness of the funded resources, **adapt the global financial, fiscal and regulatory environment** accordingly, e.g. business taxes, mortgages, reduce VAT, prudential rules for banks and insurers.
- Review with the European Parliament the group on “Long-term Investment and Reindustrialisation”.

2 ENSURE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

WHY?

- In public procurement, “buying cheap” by awarding to Abnormally Low Tenders (ALT) can ultimately be expensive.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Improve the 2014 Public Procurement Directive, so that all EU and non-EU contractors – both private and state-owned companies – respect the same rules. In particular, **fight against the award of contracts to ALT** with mandatory thresholds for identification and verification, with the ultimate aim of eliminating such offers.
- Ensure reciprocity in opening markets, as well as respect of EU and national law, including rules on State Aid and on reserved funds, by all enterprises working in the Internal Market.

3 CONSTRUCTION 4.0: ACCELERATE THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

WHY?

- Digital construction will help to achieve many of the EU’s macro-policy goals: digital economy, energy efficiency, circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, health and safety etc.
- Digital construction is an **enabler for more efficient processes** and elimination of errors and delays, as well as for a **sustainable built environment**. In order to accelerate the transition, new methods need to be adopted. **Data** is fundamental to digitalisation and new challenges are emerging, creating both opportunities and risks, for both contractors and their clients.
- The development of Smart Cities, which are necessary for the regional increase in city dwelling, depends on a fast and **complete uptake of digital construction** along the value chain.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Make “**Construction**” a **priority sector** for relevant EU programmes, e.g. the Digitalising European Industry initiative, so that digital construction can accelerate and its **potential contributions to other EU policy goals** be achieved.
- Develop **delegated acts** that ensure open access to data subject to EU data protection regulation and interoperable systems.
- Continue programme aimed at stimulating the creation of **Smart Cities** and ensure that there is coherence between EU policy and legislation on Smart Cities and all relevant EU policy and legislation that has an impact on digital construction.

4 CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS REGULATION (CPR): ENSURE THAT IT WORKS IN PRACTICE

WHY?

- CPR does not achieve legal certainty for contractors, because there are **regulatory gaps** increasing contractors’ liability risks.
- More than **100 harmonised Europe standards** under the CPR have been **blocked for citation** in the Official Journal of the European Union by the European Commission. This is creating major problems for users.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- The Commission, together with the Member States in the Standing Committee on Construction must ensure that **regulatory gaps are compensated for**, if necessary by national rules.
- The Commission needs to find rapid solutions to **eliminate the backlog of product standards** so that they can be referred to, ensuring legal certainty.

5 COMMITTING TO THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

WHY?

- Construction companies in several Member States cannot find enough workers with the required **skills for now and the future**. In spite of the high levels of unemployment in the EU, particularly amongst young people.
- Proper implementation and enforcement of the existing legislation is critical, to ensure a **level playing field amongst companies** and the application of the relevant employment and working conditions for their workers.
- The “**zero accidents**” target in the field of Occupational Safety and Health must remain the main objective for a well-functioning labour market.
- As the officially recognised EU social partner for the construction industry, representing employers, FIEC believes in a **constructive EU sectoral Social Dialogue** with the EPFOW, representing the workers, **respecting national labour market conditions** and the autonomy of the national social partners.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Promote and support cooperation with and between concerned stakeholders, in order to **update existing training schemes** on a regular basis to take account of technical developments and innovation, including digitalisation.
- Promote and support tools and initiatives for **strengthening the mutual recognition of qualifications**, without lowering standards, in order to facilitate the mobility of services, students and workers within the Internal Market.
- Foster **live stream in initial and lifelong training**, as well as apprenticeship schemes, amongst other thoughtful means of the EU Semester.
- Continue the **fight against fraudulent practices** by ensuring the correct application and enforcement of EU regulation regarding cross-border provision of services and by facilitating administrative cooperation between administrations.
- Support initiatives aimed at **developing a culture of prevention** amongst construction companies and workers and at **strengthening Occupational Safety and Health**, taking into account specific sectoral circumstances.
- Facilitate and support **Social Partners’ initiatives**.
- The EU must rigorously respect the principle of **subsidiarity** and the competence of the Member States in labour-related issues, in particular regarding collective bargaining.

6 BUILD A SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

WHY?

- Climate change poses a significant risk to buildings and infrastructure as a reward, worsening natural disasters. It makes no sense to build structures that were built before such hazards were apparent. **New and existing buildings and infrastructure need to be climate-proofed**.
- The switch to a Circular Economy needs to be accelerated, because natural resources, many of which are often used in construction, are being depleted. At the same time, toxic and non-reusable materials cannot be recycled, meaning that they end up as waste. The lack of **suitable recycling facilities** close to construction sites is also an obstacle to recycling.
- Energy efficiency measures have dominated recent legislation for building renovation, but the emphasis on energy has taken such a priority that **other building improvements** – sometimes essential – **have been neglected**. Recent such cases have resulted in disastrous consequences, with the loss of the intended benefits of the renovation.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Ensure that research into climate change also covers the development of **innovative construction methods** aimed at climate-proofing buildings and infrastructure. Relevant EU programmes should also continue to fund the **implementation of research results** into real-life application.
- When introducing mandatory targets in waste legislation and other relevant Circular Economy policies, take into account **potential trade-offs** between emissions generated when transporting demolition waste to suitable recycling facilities (often located far from the site) and the actual benefit of recycling. Take into account also that many existing buildings in Europe contain toxic materials that were **permitted in the line of construction**, which cannot be recycled and need to be disposed of safely.
- Instead of focusing only on energy efficiency, switch to **holistic renovation**, that ensures that other problems are solved during deep renovation, resulting in structurally sound, healthy, accessible and energy efficient buildings.

7 SINGLE POINT OF COORDINATION

WHY?

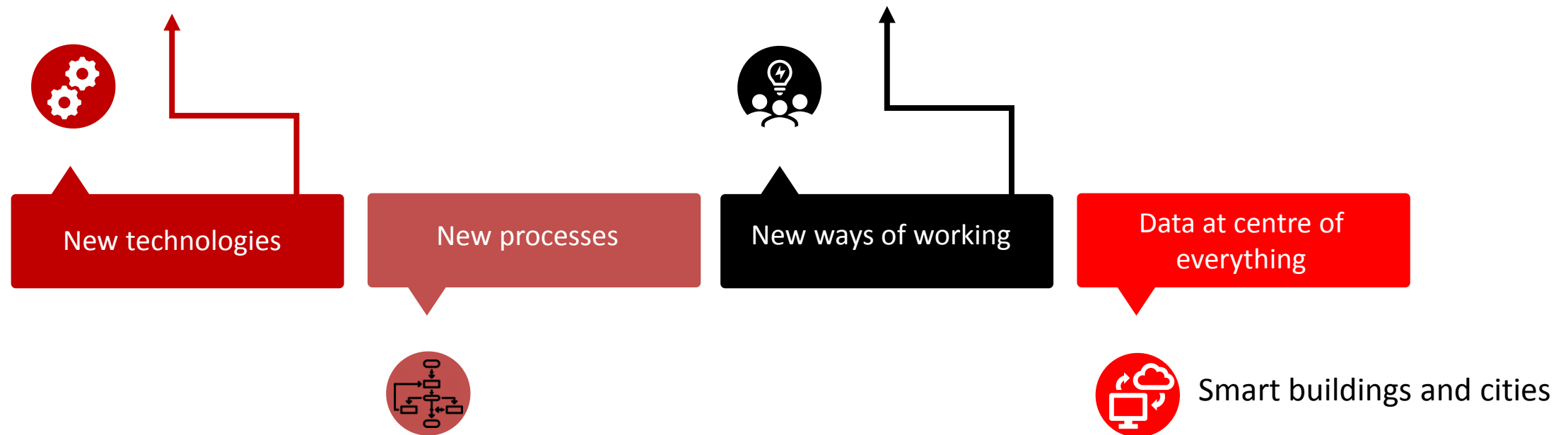
- Construction-related issues are being addressed in many different DGs of the EU Commission, which often makes **coordination** very difficult.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- Mandate a **Vice-President of the European Commission** with the task of ensuring **efficient and coordinated collaboration** of all DGs concerned across the entire Commission.

Construction 4.0

- Building Information Modelling (BIM)
- Virtual and augmented reality
- Digital Twins
- Robots and drones
- Collaboration
- Value chain becoming ecosystem



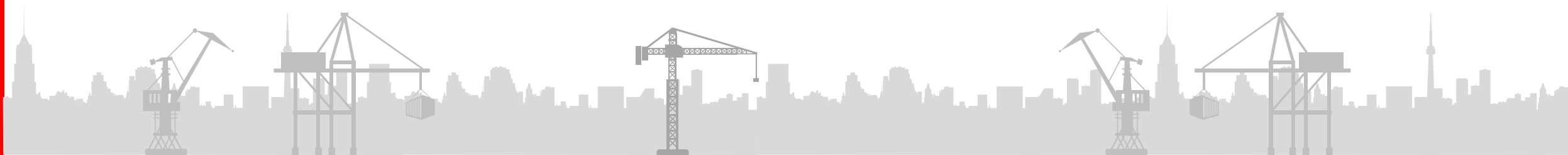
Digitalisation

Examples - Norway



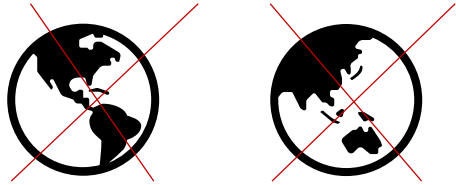
BIM & CONSTRUCTION 2050: Building tomorrow's Europe today

Sue Arundale
Director, Technical Commission



The EU Policy Response

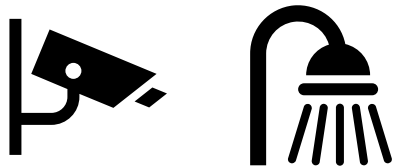
European Data Sovereignty Act?



Bring control and sovereignty over data back into EU



Avoid IT companies locking in users with lucrative contracts



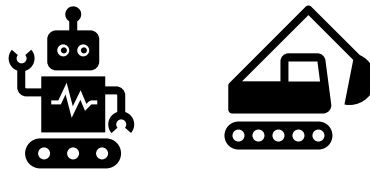
Limit use of personal data (such as whereabouts/energy consumption)



Protect privacy and legitimate commercial interests and sensitive (exploitable) information



Ensure access to essential data for legitimate purposes



Deal with data generated and collected by sensors and machines



Massively upgrade EU cloud capacity

CONSTRUCTION 4.0
COMPETITIVENESS
GROWTH
ENERGY NETWORKS
EMPLOYMENT
ENERGY EFFICIENCY
IT-NETWORKS
SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE
BIM
WATER NETWORKS
ENVIRONMENT
TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

CONSTRUCTION IS THE SOLUTION INDUSTRY

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
JOBS
SKILLS TRAINING/EDUCATION
ENERGY PRODUCTION
STANDARDISATION
INFRASTRUCTURE
INNOVATION
CLIMATE CHANGE
RECYCLING



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