2018

European Year of Civil Engineers
Background Information

2014:
Conception of the idea by President of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers, Andrzej Dobrucki during our 60th ECCE General Meeting in Warsaw.

2016:
63rd ECCE General Meeting in Madrid. Zygmunt Meyer presents the idea of organizing the European Year of Civil Engineers in 2017 starting from Warsaw. Idea was ratified by the General Assembly.
64th ECCE General Meeting in Athens. Proposal by ICE to designate the year 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers in combination with the 200th Anniversary of ICE. ECCE agrees with the proposal.

2017:
65th ECCE General Meeting in Antalya. Commencement of organization of the 2018 EYCE

2018:
The EYCE was realized!
What we wanted to achieve

• Pay **social attention** to the fundamental **role of civil engineers** in the progress of the standards of the human life.

• Showcase **what civil engineers are and do** to the European citizens.

• **Raise the prestige of civil engineers** in the European society.

• **Raise the visibility** of the civil engineering profession across Europe.
How we achieved it

- Proclamation of the 2018 EYCE has been widely disseminated.
- Special logo to be used throughout 2018.
- Standard presentation about the civil engineering delivered during all events of 2018 EYCE.
- Organization of series of events related to the civil engineering profession across Europe by our members in their countries.
- Marketing of the idea through press, media, website, e-journal, etc.
- Communication of our initiative to the European authorities.
Events that were part of the EYCE
• The opening event of the 2018 EYCE was held on December 2, 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus at Filoxenia Conference Centre. A numerous participation of Civil Engineers and representatives of Authorities and other engineering fields had the opportunity to celebrate the historical event.

• The celebration started with the reading of the EYCE 2018 proclamation by the president of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers Mr. Platonas Stylianou. The event took place during the 25th General Assembly of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers and the celebration of the 25th anniversary since its establishment, in the presence of the Minister of Interior, the ECCE President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis and all the previous presidents of the Association. The event was held under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Cyprus Mr. Nikos Anastasiades.

• The participants expressed their appreciation for the decision of ECCE to celebrate Civil Engineering and to highlight the fundamental role of Civil Engineers in society offering their services with pride.
The President elect of ECCE gave a speech titled “The professional who shaped the modern world. The birth of the science of construction, a small retrospective and current thought”. The speech enhanced the above fundamental role of Civil Engineers through the presentation of a historical approach of the development of the profession.
Opening event
2 December 2017, Nicosia, Cyprus
Mishic’s water day is a traditional professional meeting, which was held this time on December, 6, 2017 in Maribor, Slovenia. It was attended by 226 participants, Slovenian experts of water supply, design and research institutions, public and administrative services and 30 students of water engineering and environmental engineering. The event was also dedicated to the presentation of the year of European engineers – EYCE 2018. Additionally the conclusions of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Slovenian Congress on water, which was organized in April 2017 where presented.

Three main themes were discussed:
1. Reducing flood vulnerability in Slovenia,
2. Drought vulnerability to Slovenia,
3. The current projects in the field of water management.
• The selection of themes reflected the recent events in the past year, when extreme summer drought was again witnessed in Slovenia, as well as floods that occur almost every year. In the last twenty-five years alone, Slovenia suffered direct damages in the amount of EUR 1.74 billion due to floods, and additionally, EUR 660 million due to extreme droughts. This is a clear confirmation that the climate change is a realistic process. Unfortunately, we may expect such weather extremes even more frequent in the future.

• Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on 28.7.2017 adopted the Flood Risk Reduction Plan (NZPO) for the period 2017-2021, with a budget of EUR 540 million for the implementation of a number of construction and non-construction flood prevention measures. The efforts of the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning were sought to obtain additional financial resources for the implementation of NZPO and funding sources from the European cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programs, some of which are already operational (FRISCO).
At the conference, an overview of the already implemented and planned activities for reducing flood risk were presented, as well as the drought in general and its various appearances, with special highlighting on agricultural droughts which hit Slovenia more times in the 21st century. Contributions were provided in the field of drought management and measures to reduce its consequences.

The majority of papers were dedicated to the current water management projects, which provides an overview of the activities in the field of research, planning and implementation of water management, which is the original goal of the Mishic's Water Day.

The conference proceedings were published, and all papers are available also on the website of the conference organizer (http://www.mvd20.com/zbornik.php?page=letnik2&leto=2017) as well as video record of presentations on the webpage of Slovenian Chamber of Engineers (http://www.izeris.si/e-izobrazevanja/strokovni-dogodki/28-misicev-vodarski-dan-2017/).
28. MIŠIČEV VODARSKI DAN 2017
28. Mishic’s water day 2017, Maribor, Slovenia
The inauguration of the European Year of Civil Engineers (EYCE) in Poland was officiated by Włodzimierz Szymczak, the Acting President of the European Council of Civil Engineers, during the opening ceremony of the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP BUDMA 2018. It is the oldest, biggest and most prestigious construction industry event in Poland. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives of the government of the Republic of Poland.

“The year 2018 was proclaimed the European Year of Civil Engineers by the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE)” said Włodzimierz Szymczak, the Acting President of the European Council of Civil Engineers, at BUDMA 2018. “We want to turn your attention to the important role which civil engineers play in the life of every society, especially in the aspect of increasing the standard of living. We are going to strive to increase the prestige of civil engineering in European societies.”
Social, economic and cultural progress is impossible without the work that civil engineers do thanks to their education, knowledge and professional experience. The effects of their efforts are embodied by a variety of structures. Yet, in many cases, civil engineers do not receive the appreciation they deserve compared to other professions. This is why one of the aims of the organizers of the European Year of Civil Engineers is to change that state of affairs.

During his speech at the opening ceremony of the 2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at MTP BUDMA 2018, Włodzimierz Szymczak stressed the challenges ahead of the construction industry in the coming years, such as urban sprawl, the digital revolution providing us with huge amounts of data, fighting environmental degradation, and climate change. Szymczak also described the events organized as a part of the European Year of Civil Engineers and encouraged listeners to participate in them.
2nd Economic Forum for Construction and Architecture at Poznan International Fair BUDMA 2018, Poland
On February 8 2018, a final conference was held within the ingREeS project. The main objective was to evaluate the project and look at the building industry (civil engineering) in terms of sustainability and energy efficiency.

The ingREeS International Conference was held as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

The conference was attended by participants of the ingREeS project, trainers, ministry representatives, SKSI representatives and ingREeS project partners. Together, around 70 participants attended the conference.

The overall results of the ingREeS international project in Slovakia and the Czech Republic were presented by the national coordinators of the project - Mr Funtík and Mr Majtner. Energy-saving construction in Austria was presented by Mr. Gruner of the University of Vienna. Mrs. Štrbíková of the National Institute of Lifelong Learning talked about the need to increase the qualification through further education.
The IngREeS project is a European education and training system for construction professionals in the field of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in buildings. The project was prepared in the international environment of three countries of Austria, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. Its goal was to prepare construction professionals for energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in buildings.

The IngREeS project, with its focus, priorities and planned activities, has embarked upon the European Build Up Skills Initiative (BUS). The scope of the Roadmap adopted in 2013 in the context of the first pillar of BUS Slovakia and BUS Czech Republic projects focused on the development of skills and knowledge of construction workers in the Slovak and Czech Republic is the IngREeS project extended to construction and middle management experts.

This Roadmap - a roadmap - sets out the key measures for the establishment of national qualifications frameworks and the education and training system as well as other measures to ensure the development of the skills needed in energy efficiency in construction to meet the EU energy targets by 2020.

Further information about the IngREeS partner (Association of Construction Entrepreneurs of Slovakia) and other partners you can find here: http://www.ingrees.eu/en/partners/
INGREES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, Slovakia
Conference IDEA 2018 – Innovation, Design, Engineering, Architecture, Hungary

- On 8 – 9 March 2018, the most significant professional event of the Hungarian and Central European market was organized for the first time: the IDEA CONFERENCE. A two-day long professional program with international expertise in reinforced concrete and steel structure design, as well as parallel thematic sections. The Conference took place in Kecskemét, Hungary. ([http://ideaconference.hu/en/program](http://ideaconference.hu/en/program))

- The Conference IDEA 2018 was organized as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

- The Conference was attended by 274 people from 131 organizations.

- Mr. István Lepsényi (State Secretary in charge for economic development and regulation) and Dr. Nagy Gyula (President of the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers) attended the Conference.

- 16 Press releases, 5 online platforms and nearly 20,000 "clicks" onto the web interfaces
Conference IDEA 2018 – Innovation, Design, Engineering, Architecture, Hungary
Workshop on “Green Vilnius. An attractive place for active purpose near river Neris” multi-disciplinary international project, Lithuania

• On 29 -30 March 2018 a workshop on the “Green Vilnius. An attractive place for active purpose near river Neris” multi-disciplinary international projects was held in Vilnius Lithuania.

• The workshop was held as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

• The projects were run by 12 teams consisting of college students, IUT Reims (France) and CNAM (France).

• The President of the Lithuanian Association of Civil Engineer Prof. Vincentas Stragys was invited to evaluate the projects.
Workshop on “Green Vilnius. An attractive place for active purpose near river Neris” multi-disciplinary international project, Lithuania

The assignment book of the project can be found here:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/z8h8xdj8qqgbv6t/assignent%20book%202018.pdf?dl=0
Workshop on “Green Vilnius. An attractive place for active purpose near river Neris” multi-disciplinary international project, Lithuania
International Exhibition of Construction
RESTA 2018, Lithuania

• The International Exhibition of Construction RESTA 2018 was held from 25 – 28 April 2018, at LITEXPO or Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Centre, in Vilnius, Lithuania.

• The International Exhibition of Construction RESTA 2018 was organized as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

• RESTA is the largest international construction exhibition in the Baltics, dedicated to all builders, repairers and renovators. The exhibition presents the construction market news, materials, equipment, digital solutions, environmental trends.

• The first exhibition was held in 1994. At present RESTA is one of the most successful and longest exhibitions organized by the Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Center LITEXPO. In recent years more than 500 companies from Lithuania and many European countries participate in it every year.
International Exhibition of Construction
RESTA 2018, Lithuania

• This year 500 companies from Lithuania and 18 foreign countries participated in the exhibition: Belarus, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Italy, Latvia, Poland, the Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation, Finland, Switzerland, Ukraine, Hungary, Germany.

• The theme of RESTA 2018 was UNIVERSAL BUILDING

• This year's exhibition highlighted the construction based on the principles of universal design, according to which the buildings and the environment are designed to enable people to live, work, rest and enjoy them.

• The theme of universal construction combines all construction and related fields, clearly reflects the need for society to live, work and rest comfortably, using flexibility intuitively.

• The international conference "Construction of the Universe" was held for the first time at the exhibition which is closely linked to the theme of digital construction in recent years.
International Exhibition of Construction
RESTA 2018, Lithuania
Memorandum of cooperation among seven Lithuanian Associations of Civil Engineering, Lithuania

• On 20 March 2018, seven Lithuanian Associations of Civil Engineering signed a Memorandum of Cooperation aiming to join forces and have one strong voice regarding civil engineering.

• The logo of the European Year of Civil Engineers has been included in the Memorandum of Cooperation.
Memorandum of cooperation among seven Lithuanian Associations of Civil Engineering, Lithuania

Memorandum of cooperation among seven Lithuanian Associations of Civil Engineering, Lithuania

1. Bendradarbiavimo tikslai ir principai

Profesionaliai atstovauti stoties inžinerių poreikius ir interesus, vystyti jų savivaldą, visuomeninių organizacijų veikmenę apibrėžti, sustabdyti, vertinti ir pripažinti stoties inžinerių profesinę kvalifikaciją, atlikti apibrėžių ir suvokti visų asociacijų šioje srityje taikomus reikalavimus bei įtvarkyti, vertinti ir komiteto informacijos kaip įtakos, susijusio ir taikinio atsakymą. Bendradarbiavimas grindžiamas bendruomenininkumu, dirbti kuo geresnės, veiksmo motivacija, profesinės etikos ir socialinės etikos principais.

2. Bendradarbiavimo srūtis

Asociacijos bendradarbiavimo šiose srityse:
1) stoties sektoriaus profesininio standardo renginiui ir įgyvendinimui;
2) stoties inžinerių profesines kvalifikacijos apibrėžimui, suteikimui, vertinimui, pripažinimui teisės aktų kūrimui;
3) stoties inžinerių profesines kvalifikacijos vertinimui, atestavimui ir pripažinimui;
4) stoties inžinerių mokymui ir kvalifikacijos tobulinimui, profesinio veiklo palaikymui ir profesines veiklos efektyvumo didinimui;
5) stoties inžinerių profesinės, socialinės ir darbo interesų atstovavimui;
6) vienojo stoties inžinerių registro kūrimui ir priežiūroje;
7) Europos stoties inžinerių tarybos (European Council of Civil Engineers, ECCE) profesines etikos kodekso monte ir įgyvendinimui;
On 16 May 2018, the Auditorium Novum of the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz hosted the “Opportunities for the Construction Sector” 3rd Kujawsko-Pomorskie Construction Forum as part of the celebration of the 2018 EYCE.

The main organizer of the forum was the Kujawsko-Pomorskie District Chamber of Civil Engineers (KUP OIIB) and the co-organizers included: the Governor of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region, the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region and the Dean of the Faculty of Construction, Architecture and Environmental Engineering of the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz. The Chair of the Forum was Adam Podhorecki, Deputy President of the Board of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie District Chamber of Civil Engineers and the co-chairs included: Mikołaj Bogdanowicz – Governor of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region, Piotr Całbecki – Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region and Jan Kempa – Dean of the Faculty of Construction, Architecture and Environmental Engineering of the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz.
The main idea behind the forum was to engage the participants in a debate about broadly understood civil engineering. The 3rd Kujawsko-Pomorskie Construction Industry Forum was officially opened by Professor Adam Podhorecki, PhD, Eng – Vice-President of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie District Chamber of Civil Engineers, Deputy Dean for Community Cooperation at the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz. Ca. 200 people took part in the 3rd Kujawsko-Pomorskie Construction Industry Forum, including numerous members of the KUP OIIIB.

Talks and topics addressed at the 3rd Construction Industry Forum:

**Session I**

- **Climate policy and construction investments in Poland**

Marcin Korolec – Former Minister of the Environment, now President of the Electric Vehicles Promotion Foundation

At the 2018 session of the European Council with Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki in attendance, a decision was taken to align EU’s climate policy, also implemented in Poland, with the Paris Agreement, i.e. to limit global temperature rise to no more than 20C. However, civil engineering projects should be
implemented in a way that ensures that temperature does not rise by more than 1.50C. In this respect, the European Commission will review various areas, including the construction industry. Therefore, all EU Members States must be ready to complete construction projects in a completely new way within the next 5 years. Green construction and e-mobility offer a chance to improve the quality of polluted air in cities. They are two areas of technology necessary to eliminate key air pollution sources in urban areas, i.e. exhaust gases derived from growing car traffic and emission of pollutants resulting from the generation of power for households and public buildings.

• **Current legal framework vs. practical implementation of construction projects**

**Norbert Książek** – Chief Construction Supervision Inspector
The Ministry of Construction and Development will continue working on the Urban Planning and Construction Code. The work will mainly be aimed to streamline construction law, cut down the waiting time for a construction permit and increase the accountability of designers and construction site managers.
Session II:
• Development opportunities for the Polish construction sector and the energy saving policy

Małgorzata Walczak-Gomuła – President of the Management Board of ASM – Construction Market Research and Analysis Centre.
The speaker showcased several projects concerning the direction of development of the construction industry, as well as statistics obtained from the monitoring of the construction market and market forecasts concerning construction, accompanied by numerous charts and tables.

• Planned development of investment projects under the Regional Operation Programme of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region

Mariusz Leszczyński – Director of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Office for Spatial and Regional Planning with its seat in Włocławek.
3rd Kujawsko-Pomorskie Construction Forum, Poland

- Public road construction as exemplified by the S5 road construction project implemented in the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region.

Krzysztof Pankowski – Director of the Damages Office at the Department of Infrastructure and Agriculture of the Regional Office in Bydgoszcz.

The 3rd Kujawsko-Pomorskie Construction Industry Forum was wrapped up by Professor Adam Podhorecki. Summing up the debates, he said that “technical problems are not the most difficult part. Construction projects are simultaneously affected by social, environmental and logistics concerns. Special purpose legal acts and spatial order are at odds.”
The Balkan Engineering Forum “Regional cooperation for sustainable and consolidated European perspective of engineering organizations in the Western Balkans” was held on 21 May 2018 in Sofia, under the auspices of The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU. The forum was an event within the celebration of “2018 – European Year of Civil Engineers”. The forum was co-organized by the Union of Civil Engineers in Bulgaria, ECCE and the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria.

Formal guests of the forum were high-level government and civil society representatives: eng. Valentin Yovev Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria, Margarita Popova, Vice President of R Bugaria (2012-2017); Vice President and General Secretary of Bulgarian Industrial Association, prof. Zoran Sapuric, Minister for regulation and improvement of investment climate in the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ambassadors of some countries participating in the Forum, representatives of Bulgaria’s EU Council Presidency, Aris Chatzidakis, ECCE President Elect, Klaus Thurriedl, ECEC Secretary General, Prof. Dr. Eng. Ivan Markov, Rector of University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy (UACEG) and leaders of Bulgarian engineering organizations.
• ECCE Vice President/ President Elect Mr. Aris Chatzidakis participated in this event representing ECCE and addressed a speech titled “Civil engineers. The profession that gave shape to the modern world - a brief historic review and some current concerns”.

• In his presentation Aris Chatzidakis made an overview of the historical development of the profession of civil engineers from the ancient world to the contemporary modern world. The civil engineers -an important part of European civilization and its traditions.

• The transition from military to civil engineering and the emergence of civil engineering has been considered. This is the reason this year, 2018, has been marked to celebrate 200 years of engineering services - designing, planning and building the world we live in today.
Aris Chatzidakis during his presentation said:

“The complex environment generally requires widening structural study subject from the individual to the collective level. Today, we need to extend our competencies towards other interdisciplinary areas, take the digitization of the sector as an inevitable way of working, and master improve our teamwork.

Innovations must be applied within a sound construction tradition. Knowing the construction and engineering history, as well as the history of our profession are essential for future engineers.

Engineering institutions and chambers have a very important role to play in preserving this historical tradition and high standards of ethics and excellence.

But we should not forget that civil engineering is a creative profession in which talent will always be appreciated”.
Mr. Dimitar Natchev, ECCE Vice President/ Treasurer also participated in this event. During his presentation he said:

The History cannot and must not be forgotten. Reading and rethinking the past, we must move forward, creating conditions for stability and prospects for the peoples, engineers and architects in this part of Europe. "Today, we have new friends, we will help them to build sustainable engineering associations in their countries. ECCE and ECEC are ready for this. "What challenges do the engineers in the Balkans face today? The panel discussion and presentations clearly mark them: Make common efforts to increase the competitiveness of engineers and construction companies in the new, complicated global environment. We expect support from the state. Mobility of engineering services and any issues arising from this. "I hope the Balkan Engineering Forum will strengthen our cooperation, create fruitful new contacts among our colleagues, prepare the Declaration from Sofia –our message to society and governments."

Further information can be found at [http://www.bef.uceb.eu/](http://www.bef.uceb.eu/)
Celebration of the 2018 EYCE at the Lower Silesian District Chamber of Civil Engineers, Poland

- The Board of the Lower Silesian District Chamber of Civil Engineers (DOIIB), in its Resolution No. 141/R/2017 of 9 November 2017, appointed a Team for Cultural and Integration Activities undertaken as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers. Rainer Bulla, MSc, Eng, Deputy President of the Board of DOIIB, was appointed to head the Team.

- To celebrate the European Year of Civil Engineers, the Lower Silesian District Chamber of Civil Engineers organized a series of cultural and integration events for DOIIB members, entitled: “LOWER SILESIA – WALKS INTO THE PAST – A HISTORY OF BEAUTY”. His Magnificence Rector of the Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Professor Cezary Madryas, PhD, Eng, assumed honorary patronage over the project.
Celebration of the 2018 EYCE at the Lower Silesian District Chamber of Civil Engineers, Poland

List of integration and cultural activities held as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers:

1. **A WALK AROUND WROCŁAW** (12 May 2018) – A walk around the city center;
2. **A TRIP TO WAŁBRZYCH AND THE KSIĄŻ CASTLE** (26 May 2018) – sight-seeing;
3. **A TRIP TO THE VALLEY OF PALACES AND GARDENS** (1 June 2018) – a sight-seeing tour of the palaces and gardens in Jelenia Góra Valley;
4. **A TRIP TO LEGNICA** (9 June 2018) – sight-seeing;
7. **A TRIP TO ŚWIDNICA AND ZAGÓRZE ŚLĄSKIE** (7 July 2018) – sight-seeing;
8. **AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS BY MIECZYSŁAW MICHALAK** (1-17 June 2018) – Lower Silesia and Wrocław.

The events were very popular with the public, attracting about 500 participants.
The 67th ECCE General Meeting was held on 31 May and 2 June 2018, in Tallinn, Estonia, hosted by the Estonian Association of Civil Engineers (EEL).

The 67th ECCE General Meeting was part of the celebration of the ECCE initiative “2018 European Year of Civil Engineers”.

During the 67th ECCE GM the Russian Society of Civil Engineers – Moscow Department re-established its membership in ECCE.
• The International Conference “Civil Engineering and Cultural Heritage” was held on Friday 1 June 2018, at the Tallink Spa & Conference Hotel, organized by the Estonian Association of Civil Engineers under the umbrella of the European Year of Civil Engineers and the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The Conference was very well attended by ECCE Members as well as by Estonian Engineers, students, professionals and academics.

• The Conference was opened by ECCE Acting President Wlodzimierz Szymczak who presented the ECCE initiative to mark 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers. Wlodzimierz Szymczak delivered the presentation that was prepared for this purpose and also the proclamation of the 2018 EYCE.
International Conference
“Civil Engineering and Cultural Heritage”
1 June 2018, Tallinn, Estonia
From 8 to 10 June 2018, the West Pomeranian Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers organised “Spring in Kołobrzeg” as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers. The event included Poland’s Engineers Championship under the auspices of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers, a technical seminar “Engineers for Ecology” on renewable energy sources and a meeting of the Executive Board of the European Council of Engineers Chambers.

During the event, medals were awarded for services for the West Pomeranian Chamber of Civil Engineers and to senior members of the Chamber.
Presentation and Opening Ceremony for Jānis Lancers Book “Civil Engineering in Latvia 1918 – 2018”, Latvia

- The celebration of a Three-Volume Book Launch "Civil Engineering in Latvia“ by Jānis Lancers was held as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers.
- The 12th of June marked a unique milestone for civil engineers – a celebration of the launch of a voluminous literary masterpiece! It feels like a grand building which has been under construction for many years and is now finally completed and opened for professional and public judgement.

- But it all started with an idea. A great idea. Mr. Janis Lancers came to a Board meeting of the Latvian Association of Civil Engineers (LACE) and announced that they should give a gift in honour of Latvia’s centenary. 100 buildings – 100 people. Excellent! The first list was created, but far exceeded 100. Who would be part of the jury?
• Meetings with colleagues and representatives from the Latvian Association of Architects were arranged. Mr. Lancers decided that there would be three books, and rolled his sleeves up to begin work.
• Since 2013, he has been zealously working on the content and finding supporters, as he wanted to create something like an encyclopaedia about the history of civil engineering.
• The books have now come out. They feature 1,600 pages in three volumes revealing information about more than 400 buildings and around 1,200 biographic descriptions of the most famous civil engineers, architects, construction material technologists and their contributions.
• Here are a few quotations from the books:
• "1988. Every day, Riga Cement Factory releases 30 tonnes of dust emissions into the air. Show rural builders how to build houses, nurseries and schools without cement. 2016. Some scientists have proven, using demonstrable evidence, that our country is one of the most environmental-friendly countries in Europe. Yet, we are constantly required to become even ‘greener’. This belief is also supported by our public servants and a few scientists."
• "Civil engineering studies at Riga Polytechnical Institute (1862–1896) started in 1863 when the faculty admitted the first 10 students to the Department of Engineering. The number of students was growing and 10 years later the number of undergraduates in the department had increased to 70. The studies focused heavily on designing real constructions."

• "In 1936, the government, led by H.E. Mr. Karlis Ulmanis, signed an agreement with Swedish company "Sentab" on construction of the Kegums Power Plant, employing 2,000–3,000 workers, with their numbers reaching even 4,000 in 1938."

• "Overall, in the first 10 years of its existence, the country saw the construction of 593 timber bridges on motorways and gravel roads, with a total length of 13,687 m, and 259 stone and concrete bridges with a total length of 1,268 m. At that time, 241 timber and stone bridges were also repaired, with a total length of 7,963 m. Roads were poorly financed back then."

• "585 ha of land were expropriated for the purposes of constructing the railway line Riga–Rujiena. The railway line occupied a 30-m wide strip of land, expanding up to 100 m in the station areas. Its construction required moving as much as 2,336,000 m³ of soil."
Conference “WHY THE PRICE DECIDES? Public procurement in the State”, Slovak Republic

• On 14\textsuperscript{th} and 15\textsuperscript{th} June 2018, the Conference “Why the price decides? Public Procurement in the State” was organized by the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers, in Bratislava as part of the celebration for the European Year of Civil Engineers.

• The Conference with international participation of countries of V4: Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary had two topics: Public procurement in the State and Civil Engineering and the second one is BIM – the Future of Buildings is in Informatization.
National Civil Engineering Meeting
"The Future of Civil Engineering – New Challenges for Construction and Civil Engineering", Portugal

• As part of the European Year of Civil Engineers 2018 the National College of Civil Engineering) of the Portuguese Engineers Association, organized the National Civil Engineering Meeting 2018 held in the University of Aveiro on June 22nd 2018, entitled “The future of Civil Engineering - New Challenges for Construction and Civil Engineering”.

• The meeting sought to divulge and discuss the new challenges and responsibilities faced by Civil Engineering within the framework of 4.0, 5.0 and even 6.0 construction, show the work that developed in the digitalization and automation of construction and featured the attendance of renowned speakers. Another current and fundamental matter discussed was the training and performance of civil engineers.
The main topic of the discussion were the challenges of digital transformation in the AEC sector, concluding that the investment in research and development (R&D) and information technology (IT) are the main growth levers for increase productivity in the sector.

The focus on digitalization and on collaborative work strategies that allow a reliable management of information during the whole lifecycle of a project, namely through BIM – Building Information Modeling, methodology have been identified as the main technologies that will contribute to a smart development in the AEC sector.
On June 30 – July 1, 2018, in Tbilisi, Georgia, it was successfully held the joint II International Conference "Seismic -2018" on the topic "Seismic Resistance in the Protection of Cultural Heritage Monuments and Civil Construction", organized by the "European Council of Civil Engineers" (ECCE), "Georgian Society of Civil Engineers" (GSCE), "World Council of civil Engineers"(WCCE), "Georgian National Academy of Sciences” and San-Diego State University.

The Conference was organized as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

ECCE President Aris Chatzidakis participated in the Conference. He addressed an opening speech when he presented ECCE’s initiative for the year of Civil Engineers and the relative Declaration. He also participated as lecturer in the Conference.
• The conference discussed issues important for Georgia and all seismic regions of the world related to seismic resistance problems in the protection of cultural heritage monuments and civil construction.

• The new concepts of seismic construction were discussed as well as the possibilities of their implementation in construction norms.

• The attention was focused on new approaches and demands in this field, using modern computing methods and computer technologies that could potentially study and analyze more effectively the real behavior of buildings and structures during an earthquake of any intensity.
At the end of the conference, the organizations involved in it have concluded, based on foreign and local experience, to establish in Tbilisi, Georgia, on the basis of Georgian Society of Civil Engineers, Georgian National Academy of Sciences and Georgian Technical University, the specialists groups for:

- Scientific study of seismic insulation systems and creation of proper construction base-organization;
- Learning, developing and implementing new methods of tower buildings construction;
- For the development of temporary technical regulations and norms corresponding to the analysis and experimental examination of basalt-plastic structures on seismic loads.

The role of the National Academy of Sciences of Georgia in the high level of the Conference was recognized by all the co-organizers.
• On 5th September, the highest industry award in Latvia, the Construction Industry Grand Prix “Pamatakmenš” (Foundation Stone), was presented for the sixth year. The President of the State has been the patron of the prize all six years. He awards this high recognition to six senior specialists. This important event is organized by the Latvian Association of Civil Engineers and the magazine “Būvinženieris”.

• This year’s Award Ceremony was held under the umbrella of the European Year of Civil Engineers.
• The CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY GRAND PRIX is awarded in two categories: **Lifelong Contribution to the Construction Industry** and **Engineer/Architect of the Year**, which includes the following nominations: Engineer of the Year, Architect of the Year, Project Manager of the Year, Young Architect of the Year, Building Supervisor of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year. 12 laureates (six in each category) will receive the main prize “Pamatakmens” (Foundation Stone) and other prestigious and significant prizes.

• In the **Lifelong Contribution to the Construction Industry category**, prizes are awarded to engineers and architects for their long-term, selfless service to the profession and industry, for merits in the construction industry, for mentoring of young specialists, innovative engineering solutions that have gained success in Latvia and other countries over the years, for recognised work in construction, etc. as well as engineering and architectural solutions, scientific work, etc.

• In the **Engineer/Architect of the Year category**, awards are presented to engineers and architects who are currently involved in construction projects in civil engineering, architecture, restoration, construction of roads and transport facilities, construction of thermal, gas and water technologies, energy and electricity supply, land reclamation, construction of environmental, infrastructure facilities, construction of technological equipment, hydrotechnical construction, production of construction materials, etc. in the construction industry.
The idea behind the “Pamatakmens” awards ceremony is based on a uniting, non-commercial event organised by public organisations in the sector, aimed at distinguishing a HUMAN BEING: an architect, building engineer, scientist, manufacturer of building materials and others in the industry who have made their contribution to the creation of outstanding buildings. Although construction industry professionals determine which applicants receive the country's highest award in the industry, anyone can vote online for applicants, helping their nominee win the Choice Award. Those working in the building industry admit that there is nothing more satisfying than recognition from industry professionals and colleagues.

Excellent engineers and architects are to be found both among beginners and professionals with rich experience. The Construction Industry Grand Prix helps to recognise and honour both – those who have successfully taken their first steps in the building industry and those who have already had their share of challenges and have earned recognition from their colleagues, employers and the public.

The Construction Industry Grand Prix is a professional award in honour of talent and achievements obtained on a national scale.
Discussions on the Education, Professional Qualification of Civil Engineers and Development of Construction Sector in the Baltics

• On 6th September, a coordination meeting of the Baltic non-governmental professional organizations of civil engineers was held in Jūrmala, where topical issues of the industry and its representation in Europe were discussed.

• The coordination meeting is held every year in one of the Baltic States; this year it was hosted by Latvian engineers and organized under umbrella of 2018 European Year of Civil Engineers.
• The Lithuanian Association of Civil Engineers (LitACE) was represented by its President Vincentas Vytis Stragis, Vice-President and Head of the LitACE Kaunas Division Žymantas Rudžionis, Head of the LitACE Vilnius Division Audrius Ėcepulis, LitACE Member of the Board Audrius Ėcepulis, LitACE Member of the Board and Director of the Quality Management Centre of the Vilnius Technical University Ramūnas Setkauskas, as well as Senior Adviser of the Construction and Territorial Planning Department of the Ministry of Environment Dangyras Žukauskas.
• The Estonian Association of Civil Engineers (EACE) was represented by its Deputy Chairperson Jaanus Olop and Executive Director Tiia Ruben.
• The delegation of the Latvian Association of Civil Engineers (LACE) included Members of the Board Raimonds Eizenšmits, Helēna Endriksone, Vija Gēme and Artis Dzirkalis, as well as Executive Director Vaira Ranimoisa. A presentation on the structure of constructors’ education was delivered by the President of the Latvian Builders Association Normunds Grinbergs.
• **Most Valuable Discussions**
  • In their presentations, the representatives reported on this year’s topical events in the industry, novelties in the regulatory framework and the system of professional competence, the development of and perspectives for the construction industry. Discussion, which facilitated a comparison of the industry in neighboring countries and identification of representation priorities in the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE), were recognized by the participants as the most valuable.

• Since the Baltic States are celebrating 100 years since their declaration of independence this year, engineers highlighted the heritage of professional associations from 1920-1930, which was also maintained in Latvia, Estonia and especially Lithuania during Soviet times.

• LACE Member of the Board Raimonds Eizenšmits announced the newly-elected board from this year’s 30th congress, which is the largest among the three national organizations. Estonian and Lithuanian colleagues admitted that the board election mechanism guarantees the participation and representation of the largest members of the organization.
In work with legislative acts, Eizenšmits described the long-term harmonization of projects as an unresolved issue, which, along with the entry into force of the new Construction Law in 2014, was planned to be reduced to 60 days, but still reaches up to 192 days. Estonian and Lithuanian colleagues admitted that the harmonization of projects occurs faster in neighboring countries. Tiia Ruben explained that the electronic database of the industry, which helps to shorten processes, is actively operating in Estonia, yet still requires improvements.

Eizenšmits also discussed the work of LACE representatives in the working group for the Public Procurement Law, to improve the Construction Information System (CIS), as part of the examination commissions of professional training institutions, as well as training organized by LBS Konsultants for maintaining the competence of construction specialists.
This year, the Day of Civil Engineers in Opole was celebrated on 7th September as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers (2018 EYCE) announced by the European Council of Civil Engineers. The main goal of the initiative is to highlight the fundamental role played by civil engineers in the society and to identify the efforts to be made in order to lend more prestige to civil engineers among European citizens.

The event was attended by many invited guests, including: the Opole Provincial Governor – Adrian Czubak, Board Member of the Marshal’s Office of the Opole Province – Szymon Ogłaza, Mayor of Opole – Arkadiusz Wiśniewski, Director of the Infrastructure and Real Property Department of the Provincial Office in Opole – Małgorzata Kałuża-Swoboda,
Day of Civil Engineers in Opole, Poland

the Opole Province Construction Supervision Inspector – Katarzyna Kubicz, the chairperson and representatives of regional councils of the Lower Silesian, Lodz, Mazovian, Silesian, Holy Cross and West Pomeranian Chambers of Civil Engineers, District Construction Supervision Inspectors, representatives of architecture and civil engineering administration, secondary schools and universities, as well as managers and engineers from civil engineering companies across the Opole province, including the site director for the construction of units 5 and 6 at the Opole Power Station, Zbigniew Wiegner, M.Sc. Eng.

• After the opening and welcome address by Adam Rak, the Chairman of the Regional Council of the Opole Chamber of Civil Engineers, Professor Zygmunt Meyer, M.Sc. Eng., Vice President of the European Council of Engineers Chambers, gave a speech entitled “The position of a civil engineer in Poland and abroad”.

• The event was an opportunity to present awards, medals and distinctions. Provincial Governor Adrian Czubak awarded Witold Isalski and Jerzy Sylwestrzak with badges of honour “For outstanding contribution to civil engineering” awarded by the Minister for Investments and Economic Development.
Day of Civil Engineers in Opole, Poland

- Zbigniew Pastuszka, the Regional Screener for Professional Liability – Coordinator received the Gold Badge of Honour of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers.
- For the first time this year, the Chamber in Opole awarded the Medals of the Opole Chamber of Civil Engineers.
- The medals were given in recognition of active support for civil engineering self-regulatory organisation, the efforts to integrate it and special support provided to the Chamber in Opole in its statutory activities.
In the Institutions category, the medal was awarded to the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture of the Opole University of Technology on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Three people were recognized in the Individuals category: Franciszek Buszka, in particular for his efforts for the integration of self-regulatory bodies for professions of public trust and support provided through Regional Chambers of Commerce. Krzysztof Skrzypek, CEO of Energopol-Trade Opole, for aiding in training efforts and support provided to young engineers. Ryszard Karwasiecki, on the other hand, was honored for long years of active contributions on the Chamber’s bodies.

As usual, the results of the Engineer of the Year competition were announced. The jury chaired by Piotr Bajno selected three winners. In the Designers category, the Engineers of the Year 2018 are: Stanisław Harasimiuk and Henryk Kosowski for the design of a cut-off wall in the framework of the Opole Power Station extension project. In the Site Manager category, on the other hand, the title of the Engineer of the Year 2018 went to Stanisław Bezwierzchny, M.Sc. Eng., in recognition of the construction of a multi-family residential complex with the accompanying civil infrastructure at ul. Kaliska in Opole.
Day of Civil Engineers in Opole, Poland

- During the celebration, Wiesław Baran, Ph.D. Eng., member of the Organising Committee for the Civil Engineering Project of the Year Competition of the Polish Union of Civil Engineers and Technicians, presented information about the competition, while Mirosław Sokołowski, Vice Director of the Provincial Roads Authority in Opole, announced the winner of the Civil Engineering Project of the Year 2017 Competition in Opole: the construction of the Czarnowąsy Ring Road. It was an opportunity to promote the competition in the Opole region.
- On the second day, which was Saturday, some guests and a group of Chamber members visited the construction site of Units 5 and 6 at the Opole Power Station. It was an enlightening lesson about technology and organisation of works at Poland’s largest construction site, given by Zbigniew Wiegner, M.Sc. Eng, the Site Director.
Civil Engineer 200, Budapest, Hungary

• Marking the 200 years anniversary of the Institution of Civil Engineers the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers organized a conference and an open air poster exhibition in Budapest to promote engineering for the public on 10-11 September 2018 as part of the EYCE events.

• The conference, held in the beautiful Ceremonial Hall of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, was opened by HRH the Duke of York and HE János Áder, President of Hungary. “Everything we get in touch today is designed by engineers” started his speech Andrew, the Duke of York, and he pointed on the importance of the work of the engineers. The President of Hungary reminded us that civil engineers have an utmost role and responsibility today building out a sustainable infrastructure, to keep the environment safe for the future.
According to the decision of the joint committee of ICE and HCE, the Tierney Clark Award was handed over for the design and construction of the bridge over the Danube at Moson (West-Hungary), and the design and construction of the stadium in Szombathely (Hungary) was announced as highly recommended project. The common award of the ICE and HCE is named after an English engineer, Tierney Clark, the designer of the Chain bridge in Budapest. The first permanent bridge over the Danube, under Regensburg (Germany) was constructed in 1846-49.

University students showed the load testing of a model bridge and noted lecturers as keynote speakers had given a view on the latest developments in civil engineering design and structures.
The open air exhibition showed the history of civil engineering in Great Britain and Hungary, and presented engineering projects from all over Hungary in 60 posters, 3x2 m large each, in the place front of the St Stephen Basilica in Budapest. The poster exhibition is still a big success, some posters can be shifted to sandwich boards along the tram lines in Budapest, and can be seen even today, and the exhibition has already presented in several towns of the country.

We have at least the hope, that the public has a little better knowledge on civil engineering and there will be more students choosing this beautiful profession.
The 4th International Scientific Conference CEPPIS 2018 was held on 12 September 2018 at the Regional Innovation Centre of the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz, Poland.

The initiative was created by the COMA Scientific Circle for Civil Engineering Project Management operating at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Environmental Engineering of the UTP University in Bydgoszcz. Its statutory purposes include the integration of the academic community and practitioners around the problems of investment and construction project management on a national and international scale.
The event was co-organised by: the UTP University of Science and Technology in Bydgoszcz, the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers, the Bydgoszcz Branch of the Polish Union of Civil Engineers and Technicians. What is noteworthy is that the conference was held under the auspices of Rafał Bruski, the Mayor of Bydgoszcz, as well as Piotr Całbecki, the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Province. Furthermore, the event was included in the calendar of the European Year of Civil Engineers (2018 EYCE).

The invited attendees included representatives of scientific, political and business communities from Poland, other European countries, Iran and Canada. The conference agenda was remarkably extensive and included two scientific sessions dedicated to the problems of construction project management. The proceedings of CEPPIS 2018 focused in particular on challenges faced by the civil engineering industry. The speakers were scientists from Azerbaijan, Egypt, Spain, Iran, Canada, Poland and Turkey who had been invited to the event. The meeting was devoted to a debate on the contemporary problems of civil engineering and construction project management.
The conference was marked throughout by heated discussions around individual speeches and a confrontation between the two different perspectives of supporters of evolutionary and revolutionary changes. At the close, a commitment was made to have more periodic meetings addressing improvements in investment and construction project management.
• This year, on 15th September 2018, the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers celebrated the Day of Civil Engineers together with the European Year of Civil Engineers festivities (2018 EYCE). The basic purpose of this was to show the role of civil engineers in the society and emphasize the high profile the civil engineering profession has enjoyed and will enjoy.
Day of Civil Engineers at the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers, Poland

- The celebration was attended by a large number of members of the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers and invited guests, including Artur Soboń, Secretary of State, Ministry of Investment and Economic Development; Stanisław Żmijan, Member of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland; Dariusz Balwierz, Lublin Province Construction Supervision Inspector; Artur Szymczyk, Deputy Mayor of Lublin; Andrzej Łukaszczyk as a representative of Sławomir Sosnowski – Marshal of the Lubelskie Province; Wojciech Dziedzic as a representative of Małgorzata Wojda, acting District Labour Inspector in Lublin; Anna Halicka, Vice-Rector for Cooperation with the Social and Business Community of the Lublin University of Technology; Alicja Siuta-Olcha, Vice Dean for Education at the Faculty of Environmental Engineering of the Lublin University of Technology, Marek Grabias, Vice Dean for Student Affairs at the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture of the Lublin University of Technology, chairperson and representatives of regional councils of the Mazovian, Lesser Poland, Subcarpathian and Holy Cross Regional Chambers of Civil Engineers. The Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers was represented by Zbigniew Kledyński, President of the National Council of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers.
Day of Civil Engineers at the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers, Poland

• After the opening speech and welcome address, Joanna Gieroba, Chairwoman of the Regional Council of the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers, highlighted the importance and role of civil engineers in the socio-economic development of the European Union member states, and in particular their contribution to the cultural dimension underpinning the development of the society. The European Union estimates that through their work, engineers may add as much as 2.6% to national income, which translates into approximately 700,000 new jobs. Therefore, the promotion of the civil engineering profession within the community and efforts to integrate the engineering community and the society at the local level are crucial.

• The Chairwoman of the Regional Chamber referred to the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers in 2018 and highlighted the provisions of the Proclamation drawn up by the European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC), presenting the activities of civil engineers and their contribution to social, economic and cultural developments. J. Gieroba recalled a statement from the ECEC Proclamation: “The social, economic and cultural development of any country would not be possible without the contribution of civil engineers, their education
expertise and experience. Their input, in the form of various buildings and infrastructures, is visible to the naked eye. Usually, civil engineers are widely accepted or even admired by the public. Despite its strong growth and advanced achievements, engineering is often seen as a rather traditional technical field. This approach can be observed in many countries around the world, including in Europe”.

• The role and importance of civil engineers were also discussed by Artur Soboń, Secretary of State, Ministry of Investment and Economic Development. He referred to the current legislative work relating to civil engineers and he declared his intention to cooperate and collaborate in the drafting process of the legislation that is so important for the community and general public alike.

• “The civil engineering profession includes a wide range of complex skills and covers very broad and diverse knowledge, which is one of the reasons why it has become a profession of public trust”, noted Zbigniew Kledyński, Chairman of the National Council of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers. “What distinguishes such professions is that they have the right to establish self-regulatory bodies with their own specific rights and responsibilities. I think it is great that we can meet today, to celebrate ourselves as creators of outstanding engineering works.”
Day of Civil Engineers at the Lublin Regional Chamber of Civil Engineers, Poland

• There was a particularly nice moment when Artur Szymczyk, Deputy Mayor of Lublin honoured Joanna Gieroba, Chairwoman of the Regional Council of the Lublin Chamber of Civil Engineers, with the Lublin City 700th Anniversary Medal for her contribution and commitment to the development of the city and efforts made for the benefit of Lublin’s citizens, thanking her for activity that inspires the future and shapes the local identity of Lublin.

• The celebration of the Day of Civil Engineers as part of the European Year of Civil Engineers additionally offered an opportunity to present awards. Cezary Jędrak received the Gold Badge of Honour of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers. Bogdan Kucharski, Zbigniew Miłosz and Tadeusz Wagner all got the Silver Badges of Honour.

• Further, people celebrating their 50th and 60th anniversary as licensed engineers were honoured with special medals and congratulation letters from Zbigniew Kledyński, the Chairman of the National Council of the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers. In addition to that, winners of the contest for the best engineering and master thesis of the Civil Engineering Department, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture as well as Faculty of Engineering of the Lublin University of Technology were announced during the event.
The Kaunas Technical University Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture organized the 6th International Conference “Advanced Construction” on 20th September 2018, in Kaunas Lithuania, as part of the 2018 European Year of Civil Engineers.

The Advanced Construction conference this year it was more focused on digitalization of the civil engineering field. The opening speech of the conference was addressed by the Dean of the Civil Engineering and Architecture faculty Prof. Andrius Jurelionis and the President of the Lithuanian Civil Engineers Association Prof. Vincentas Vytis Stragys who pronounced, that this conference is dedicated to the ECCE initiative 2018 European Year of Civil Engineers.
• As Chairman of the organizing committee Prof. Danutė Vaičiukynienė from KTU Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture said that the three plenary session presentations represented the main trends and ideas of Civil engineering and architecture fields: digitalization, researches on new materials and new ways for studying processes.

• In the plenary session the Vice Dean of faculty Darius Pupeikis shared the experience of BIM implementation to higher education. Researcher Pui-Lam Ng presented his research of new materials of micro-silica and nano-silica effects on compressive behavior of concrete. Researcher from Mexico Arne Riekstins presented his experience in digital prototyping and augmented reality models for studies of architectural design.

• The Conference was divided to 3 sessions:
  ➢ Architecture and Building information modeling;
  ➢ Building physics and building services. Construction Technology and Management;
  ➢ Building Materials and Building Structures.
The International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) held the 40th IABSE Symposium with the main theme of “Tomorrow’s Megastructures”, from 19th to 21st September 2018, in Nantes, France.

The 40th IABSE Symposium was listed under the events organized as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.
During the 40th IABSE Symposium the following challenges were addressed:

- Megastructures: a radical paradigm shift or simply a change of scale?
- Today’s and tomorrow’s megastructures and megaprojects
- New trends for innovations in the construction, the preservation, the exploitation and the upgrading of structures.

The organizers gathered the world’s structural engineering community to share their experiences with today megastructures and to present their vision of tomorrow's megastructures and more broadly their prospect of future outstanding structures. Consultants, contractors, owners, researchers and practitioners had the opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences on structural design, construction and maintenance issues.
The World Council of Civil Engineers (WCCE) commemorated the 2018 European Year of Civil Engineers during the 13th WCCE General Assembly that took place from 19th to 21st September 2018, in Sucre, Bolivia, organized by the Colegio de Ingenieros Civiles de Bolivia - CICB, in parallel with its International Congress in Civil Engineering.

WCCE honoured ECCE's proclamation of 2018 as European Year of Civil Engineering by hosting a session on CICB's International Congress on Colonial Engineering contribution to the America's development.
“From Ancient Greek Technology to the Smart Cities of tomorrow. Civil Engineering and its role in the history of construction”, Athens, Greece

- The Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG) and The Association of Civil Engineers of Greece (ACEG) organized the Civil Engineers’ Day with the theme “From Ancient Greek Technology to the Smart Cities of tomorrow. Civil Engineering and its role in the history of construction”, on 27th September 2018 as part of the celebration of the 2018 European Year of Civil Engineers.
- The event took place at the Eugenides Foundation, in Athens.
- ECCE President Wlodzimierz Szymczak attended the event and addressed a speech presenting the ECCE initiative 2018 EYCE to the participants.
- ECCE Vice President/ President Elect Aris Chatzidakis was also a speaker at the Conference delivering a presentation on the topic “The profession that formed the modern world. The birth of the science of construction, brief flashback and topical thoughts”.

ECCE President Wlodzimierz Szymczak attended the event and addressed a speech presenting the ECCE initiative 2018 EYCE to the participants.
From Ancient Greek Technology to the Smart Cities of tomorrow. Civil Engineering and its role in the history of construction, Athens, Greece

• Honored speaker was Emeritus Professor of NTUA Mr. Tassios.
• In parallel with the Conference there was also an Exhibition with Models that are part of the collection of the Association for the Study of Ancient Greek Technology and a 3D Animation Film was shown.
• The Chairman of the Technical Chamber of Greece G. Stasinos stressed the importance of the participation of Greek engineers in both ECCE and in other international fora and engineering bodies, the role and the acceptance of Greek engineers by colleagues in other countries and their prestige and offering, linking the lessons of ancient Greek technology, with the challenges and quests of today's era in international and domestic level.
From Ancient Greek Technology to the Smart Cities of tomorrow. Civil Engineering and its role in the history of construction, Athens, Greece
On September 27 – 28, the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers organized the fourth year of the nationwide professional conference BUILDING OFFICES 2018. The conference was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic and was devoted to professional issues dealt with by construction authorities as delegated execution of state administration.

This year’s Conference was organized as part of the celebrations for the European Year of Civil Engineers.

The building authorities receive more submissions every year and the construction industry is getting at a favorable level.

The topics of this year's conference included legislation, streamlining cooperation between construction authorities, participants in construction proceedings and other interested parties, unfair construction practices, law on e-Government and current changes in fire protection.
Conference “Building Offices 2018”, Bratislava, Slovakia

- The fourth year of the conference welcomed 210 participants from the state and public administration, building offices, the general public, but also businesses.
- The conference was attended by speakers from the Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic, from the Ministry of Life of the Slovak Republic, from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic for Investment and Informatisation, from the Presidium of the Fire Brigade and of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, as well as guests from the Czech Republic from the Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic. Representatives of SKSI also made their contributions.
- There were also lecturers from SPP distribúcia, a.s. and from KPMG in Slovakia.
• The eighth edition of the largest SME-focused event in Europe took place on 17-19 October 2018 in Katowice, Poland organized by the Regional Chamber of Commerce in Katowice.
• The 8th European Congress of Small and Medium Enterprises was part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

• Small and medium sized enterprises are the most important businesses for Polish economy.
• SMEs are the main topic of the European Congress of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. A number of panel sessions, workshops and informal meetings took place over these three days, featuring well-known experts from Poland and abroad. The most important people in Poland, representatives of science, politics, economy and foreign delegates of the Congress gathered to discuss about the micro, small and medium entrepreneurship. The main slogan of their discussion with SME is "Science - Business - Self-government. TOGHETER FOR ECONOMY ". 
14th Slovenian congress on transport and transport infrastructure, Portorož, Slovenia

• The 14th Slovenian Congress on Transport and Transport Infrastructure took place from 24 to 26 October 2018 in Portorož, Slovenia organized by the DRC, Association for Transport and Transport Infrastructure of Slovenia.

• The Congress was held as part of the celebration of the European Year of Civil Engineers.

• The organizers’ wish after the period of the crisis, which has began almost ten years ago, reaching its bottom in 2011 and 2012, with the collapse of a large part of the Slovenian construction industry and the reduced capacity of the entire construction profession and activities, was to set up at this congress new development paradigms to enable the sustainable development of the profession and its activities, and to provide an easier adaptation to similar economic and social ups and downs in the future.
The Conference presented the experiences and technical achievements of the Slovenian construction industry in terms of its planners, designers, contractors, supervisors, managers, developers and transport infrastructure researchers that have been accomplished over the past years.

It was an opportunity to exchange views and ideas within the industry, the politics and the economy.

Among the invited introductory lectures on the first day of the Congress, the following topics were especially highlighted:

- **Electro-mobility and autonomous driving** - Tanja Mohorič director of the Automotive Cluster of Slovenia
- **Modern Planning Practices and Bridge Management**, Kiyohiro Imai, Japan, President of Technical Committee ‘D.3 Bridges’ of the World Road Association PIARC
- **European Year of Civil Engineers** The European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) designated the year 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers in order to emphasize their role in the growth of the living standard in a society, to raise the social reputation of civil engineers in European countries and to highlight the key role of civil engineers in meeting the challenges which the society will face in the future.
Summarizing event during the Global Engineering Congress and 68th ECCE General Meeting, London, U.K.

- The 68th ECCE General Meeting was held on 22nd – 23rd October 2018, in London, U.K., hosted by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE). This meeting has been held in parallel with the Global Engineering Congress (GEC) that was organized as part of the ICE 200 bicentenary programme, the 50th anniversary of WFEO and the UK Government’s Year of Engineering.
- The Global Engineering Congress was held from 22nd to 26th October. More than 2,000 engineers from over 70 countries have gathered in London for the Global Engineering Congress.
- ICE and WFEO brought together thousands of engineers from around the world to London to share ideas of how to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Key actions and reports were launched at the event.
Summarizing event during the Global Engineering Congress and 68th ECCE General Meeting, London, U.K.

- The GEC and the 68th ECCE General Meeting have been also marked as the summarizing events of the ECCE initiative to designate the year 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers.

- ECCE participated in the GEC with two speakers. The ECCE New President Aris Chatzidakis was a speaker on the third day of the GEC in the “Energy stream”. He delivered a presentation titled “Sustainable structural design: energy efficiency vs structural efficiency”. The main goal of his presentation was to bring up the case of the need for structural safety and integrity of buildings as part of the sustainable structural design. As he quoted “Smart buildings are safe and secure buildings”, wanted to get through the message that a holistic approach is necessary when it comes to the upgrade of an existing building or the design of a new one. The structural safety of a building is a prerequisite for any energy efficiency upgrade interventions that would make a “smart” one.
Summarizing event during the Global Engineering Congress and 68th ECCE General Meeting, London, U.K.

- The ECCE Immediate Past President Wlodzimierz Szymczak also participated as a speaker and moderator of the closing plenary session on the third day of the GEC. He was member of a panel consisting of Sir John Armitt, Chair of the UK National Infrastructure Commission and ICE Past President and Emma Howard Boyd, Chair of the UK Environment Agency. His keynote address was dedicated to the European Year of Civil Engineers. In his speech, Szymczak highlighted that activities and initiatives have taken place across Europe throughout 2018 to encourage interest and involvement in civil engineering.
Communication of the EYCE to the EU Authorities

Congratulations and support letters received by the following:

- **European Commission President Jean – Claude Juncker**
- Deputy Director General **Irmfried Schwimann** (Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs) on behalf of **Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska**
- **Commissioner Carlos Moedas** (Research, Science and Innovation)
- **Commissioner Tibor Navracsics** (Education, Culture, Youth and Sport)

Congratulations letters received by the following:

- **Commissioner Mariya Gabriel** (Digital Economy and Society)
- **European Commission First Vice – President Frans Timmermans**
- **Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos** (Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship)
ECCE’s additional contribution to the European Year of Civil Engineers

• The ECCE Executive Board decided to contribute to the EYCE by granting free access to the two ECCE book editions “Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe” and “Footbridges – small is beautiful”.

• The two books can be downloaded via the ECCE website at the following links:
  
  • “Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe”

  • Footbridges – small is beautiful”

• Preparation of an ECCE booklet “Notes on the history of civil engineering”. The book was published on time and it was presented and distributed at the closing event of the EYCE, in London.
Thank you for your contribution in marking 2018 as the European Year of Civil Engineers and making our profession more visible to the world!