WHO WE ARE

EBC (European Building Confederation) is a network of 19 national employers' organisations in 16 countries. Established in 1990, its Secretariat is based in Brussels.

EBC defends and promotes the interests of construction SMEs and craftsmen in Europe.

Construction is crucial for the European Union, as 9% of the GDP of the European Union is generated by the construction sector.

There are 3.4 million enterprises in the sector, employing 18 million workers.

SMEs are vital for the construction sector. 94.1% of enterprises have less than 40 employees. 5.3% have between 10 and 49 employees, 0.5% have between 50 and 249 employees, and 0.1% have more than 250 employees.
WE HAVE CONSOLIDATED OUR FAMILY

New EBC President
Rinaldo Incerpi
(Italy)

New EBC Vice-President
Philip Van Nieuwenhuizen
(The Netherlands)

NEW EBC MEMBER FROM IRELAND

The National Guild of Master Craftsmen joined EBC in July 2018

EBC Congress in Paris

Annual Congress 2018 organised in Paris by EBC and CAPEB

Topic:
Energy efficiency of historical buildings

Main Message:
Construction SMEs play a pivotal role by matching tradition and innovation
WE HAVE DEFENDED CONSTRUCTION SMEs’ INTERESTS...

LATE PAYMENT

Late payments remain very frequent in construction and displays a serious problem, in particular for construction SMEs

EBC PROPOSALS:
- Strengthen the rules and implement a zero tolerance policy with regard to late payment

EBC ACTION:
- EBC participated to the European Commission survey and develops a position paper

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Public Procurement accounts for about 14% of Europe’s GDP and is thus also an important economic driver for construction enterprises

EBC PROPOSALS:
- Grant SMEs direct and equal access to public tenders
- Avoid distortive criteria in Public Procurement that disadvantage SMEs

EBC ACTION:
- EBC Vice-President Philip van Nieuwenhuizen appointed as a member of the European Commission Stakeholder Expert Group on Public Procurement
- EBC Senior Policy Officer joined CEN Technical Committee 461 on Public Procurement standards
- 2019 Annual Congress in Rome dedicated to identify how to improve access for construction SMEs to public contracts

EBC Annual Report
Several abuses of social security contributions come from posting activities in the construction sector: unfair competition for construction SMEs and unfair treatment for workers!

**EBC ACTION:**

- Development of [position paper](#) on the revision of Regulations on the coordination of social security systems and intensive [dialogue with European Parliament](#)
- Social security rules for posted workers should reflect labour market reality
- Enforcement of social security rules should be improved at the national level
- More reliable and transparent information on A1 forms is needed

**R E D U C E D V A T R A T E S A N D S P E C I A L V A T SCHEME FOR SMALL ENTERPRISES**

Taxation should be more SME-friendly and a driver for a sustainable built environment

**EBC ACTION:**

Development of [position paper](#) on VAT exemptions for small enterprises

**EBC PROPOSALS:**

- Guarantee a level playing field between enterprises by proposing a national maximum threshold of EUR 50,000, under which enterprises can apply for a VAT exemption

**EBC ACTION:**

Development of an [EBC position paper](#) on reduced VAT rates

**EBC PROPOSALS:**

- Encourage Member States to apply the existing framework on reduced VAT rates for “labour-intensive services” and further extend it to include all construction activities

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**Coordination of Social Security Systems**

We have defended construction SMEs’ interests...
Possible extension of the Driving times and Tachographs regulations to light commercial vehicles, causing that construction SMEs face unnecessary burdens and high costs.

**EBC Action:**
EBC and FIEC opposed extension and engaged in an intensive dialogue with Parliament to make them aware: construction enterprises are no road transport companies.

European Parliament recognised different exclusions for craftsmen and construction enterprises.

**EBC Contributes to Crucial European Commission Consultations**

- Study “Development of possible EU actions to support the Internationalisation of construction SMEs in Third markets”
- Study “Supporting digitalisation of the construction sector and SMEs”
- Working group “Design for Deconstruction in building design”
- Building renovation passport survey
- Working group “Smart Readiness Indicator”
- Study “Impacts of OSH prevention on the performance of construction enterprises”
EBC MANIFESTO 2019-2024
Empowering construction SMEs to build a sustainable Europe

“We shape our buildings and, afterwards, our buildings shape us.”
Winston Churchill

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH
SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS
MORE, BETTER AND SAFER JOBS
A FAIR INTERNAL MARKET
A DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET
SUITABLE STANDARDS

Our manifesto is available in five languages: en fr it es de
WE HAVE SPOKEN UP FOR OUR CONSTRUCTION SMEs

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Forum on Public Procurement for SMEs
“Easing SMEs’ access to Public Procurement”

BBConstrumat fair
Meeting Latin American high-level representatives
“Best practices on Construction 4.0 in Europe and Latin America”

SUSTAINABILITY

Worldsteel circular economy conference
“Construction SMEs main challenges in regard to circular economy”

Built Environment for People

European Commission, High Level Tripartite Strategic Forum on Construction
“Strengthening the EU construction policy framework”

European Economic and Social Committee, Experts hearing
“Main challenges, shortcomings and possible solutions in regard to waste legislation for construction SMEs”

IFMA event
“The future of EU building policies”

Digitalisation

Rebuild Expo & Congress
“Digitalising European construction SMEs”

BPIE workshop
“Building renovation passport: challenges and opportunities for construction SMEs”

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

EBC Annual Report
Horizon 2020 project running 2018-2022

**BIM4REN**

**BIM4REN kick-off meeting** in Bordeaux (October 2018)

Aim:
Develop easy, collaborative and affordable BIM tools for energy renovation projects

Three pilot sites: San Sebastian, Venice and Paris

@bim4ren

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BIM-SPEED

**BIM-SPEED kick-off meeting** in Brussels (November 2018)

Aim:
Create a cloud-based BIM platform that is open, affordable and user-friendly to reduce the time of deep renovation projects

12 real buildings as demo cases

@bim-speed.eu  
@BIM-SPEED

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Erasmus+ project running 2019-2022

**Construction Blueprint**

**Construction Blueprint kick-off meeting** in Madrid (January 2019)

Aim:
Major Sector Skills Alliance between construction employers and trade unions with Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers to address skills gaps and anticipate skills’ needs in the construction sector

constructionblueprint.eu  
@EUConstruction
**NETCONVET**

Erasmus+ project running 2017-2020

NETconVET project: Space for strategic **thinking on VET needs in construction**

**AIM:**
Closing the gap between construction SMEs and VET providers

[netconvet/home](http://netconvet/home)

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**CONDAP**

Erasmus+ project running 2018-2021

CONDAP kick-off meeting in Kettering (October 2018)

**AIM:**
Enhance the digital skills of on-site mentors in construction apprenticeships

All educational resources developed will be online for free in the form of a Vocational Open Online Course (VOOC)

[@CondapProject](https://twitter.com/CondapProject)

[condap.eu](http://condap.eu)

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**HELP-DESK ON EU PROJECTS**

EBC created a Help-desk on EU projects

**AIM:**
Support EBC members to find EU funding opportunities
We have cooperated and engaged with the EU institutions...

Active EBC participation in European Commission “Construction 2020” initiative meetings by participating to:

- Thematic and working groups
- High Level Tripartite Strategic Forum

EBC closely works with the European Parliament on several legislative files

Main work with ECON; EMPL; ENV; IMCO; ITRE; and TRAN committees

EBC exchanges on legislative files with Member States Permanent Representations active in the Council of the EU
WE HAVE COOPERATED AND ENGAGED WITH THE EU INSTITUTIONS...

EBC long-standing cooperation with the **EESC**

- EBC Past President Patrick Liébus is Member of the Employers’ group
- EBC Projects & Communication Manager appointed as Alternate Member to Patrick Liébus, attending the EESC Social affairs and Internal market committees
- EBC Board meetings hosted by the EESC

EBC collaborates with the **European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)**

EBC is an official partner of the **EU-OSHA 2018-2019 Campaign “Healthy Workplaces - Manage Dangerous Substances”**:

- **Communication activities** on dangerous substances in workplaces
- Exchange of best practices amongst EBC members
EBC and other sectoral stakeholders launched a new long-term vision for the sector “Construction 2050, Building tomorrow’s Europe today”, a call to strengthen the Construction 2020 initiative through:

- A specific targeted approach to construction
- An adaptable policy framework
- A holistic approach towards policy making
- A strong partnership between European institutions, Member States and construction social partners and stakeholders

**Declaration on Circular Economy:** joint initiative by construction, environmental and standardisation stakeholders

**Call for a comprehensive EU strategy** and the creation of a European Commission expert platform on circular economy in construction

**ECCREDI membership and Horizon Europe paper**

EBC joined the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation (ECCREDI)

**Aim:**
Strengthen the construction voice in EU R&D policies

Joint call for a Co-programmed European Partnership on the Built Environment and Construction in Horizon Europe
WE HAVE COOPERATED AND ENGAGED WITH CONSTRUCTION STAKEHOLDERS

EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR CONSTRUCTION

EBC is as an observer within the employers’ delegation participating in the permanent dialogue between the European employers and trade union organisations.

Themes discussed are vocational training and youth, employment, health & safety.

EEMAP INITIATIVE

EBC supports the Energy Efficiency Mortgage Action Plan (EeMAP)

EeMAP focuses on financing energy efficiency works through a preferential mortgage scheme.

EUROPEAN HOUSING FORUM

EBC is member of the European Housing Forum (EHF), an informal platform that brings together representative organisations from the entire housing sector.

EBC exchanges views on housing policies and priorities in Europe in EHF meetings.

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL CAMPAIGN

EBC is partner of the Small is Beautiful campaign to support small-scale renewable installations and cogeneration facilities in Europe.

Thanks to this campaign, the EU decided to maintain priority dispatch for small-scale renewable installations in the Clean Energy Package.

EBC Annual Report
WE HAVE COOPERATED AND ENGAGED WITH SME STAKEHOLDERS

EBC is a member of SMEunited (formerly UEAPME), the employers’ organisation representing the interests of European crafts and SMEs at European level.

EBC chairs the SMEunited Construction Forum.

EBC works closely together with SMEunited, participates to its committees and contributes to its position papers.

EBC is a founding member and project partner of Small Business Standards (SBS), the organisation created with the support of the European Commission to represent the interests of SMEs in standardisation at European and international level.

EBC represents SBS in all construction-related activities and guides SBS’s strategic approach on BIM.

EBC coordinates 32 experts, develops position papers and organises events.

EBC chairs the SBS Construction Forum.
OUR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

SOCIAL MEDIA

- 1886 Mailchimp
- 2250 Twitter followers
- 391 LinkedIn followers

WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER AND MEDIA PRESENCE

9 EDITIONS OF THE CONSTRUCTION VOICE

12 PRESS RELEASES

A NEW, FRESH LOOK FOR THE WEBSITE AND MORE THAN 40 ARTICLES

MORE THAN 36 ARTICLES IN SPECIALIZED PORTALS AND EU AFFAIRS MAGAZINES
WANT TO KNOW MORE?
FEEL FREE TO CONNECT!

Rinaldo INCERPI - EBC President
CNA Costruzioni (Italy)

Patrick LIEBUS - EBC Past President
CAPEB (France)

Philip VAN NIEUWENHUIZEN - EBC Vice President & Auditor
AFNL (the Netherlands)

Nicolas RUFENER - EBC Treasurer
FMB (Switzerland)

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LET’S DISCUSS OUR IDEAS AND HOW TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THEM A REALITY!

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