



The Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants of Austria is member of the **European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC www.ecec.net)** which is the umbrella organisation of European Engineers Chambers. Its members are national Chambers or other legally established public bodies representing authorized Chartered Engineers. Currently the ECEC represents 15 Chambers and over 300.000 highly qualified European Chartered Engineers who are members in these Chambers.

To make the voting decision for these European Engineers easier we would like to ask for your position on some topics that are especially relevant for the engineering profession.

ECEC objectives and activities are

- securing **quality and safety** of Design and Construction
 - stimulating **sustainability** of Design and Construction
 - enhancing **international mobility** of European Chartered Engineers
1. Thus the ECEC calls on the European Parliament **to profess to the necessity of adequate professional regulations for engineers regarding level of qualifications, professional conduct and responsibility and continuing professional development:**

Background: Quality of engineering services is a basis for safety and reliability of infrastructure, buildings, plant and products. It is the basis for the intelligent use of resources and for ensuring that technological advances are applied in a creative, conscious and ethical manner. A lack of quality in engineering services leads to unfulfilled consumer expectations and cost explosions.

The ECEC further explains the impacts of professional regulation in the paper [“9 arguments” why professional regulation for engineers is essential for Europe](#)”

QUESTION:

1. Do you agree that it is necessary to define “public interest objectives” in a manner that ensures the justification of adequate national professional regulations?

1.1 If yes, would you be prepared to change existing legislation if necessary in order to broaden the current definition?

2. The ECEC calls on the European Parliament **to further enhance fair procurement procedures for engineering services based primarily on quality instead of price competition only**

Background: Inappropriate procurement procedures for planning services have a strong negative impact on quality, cost certainty, time reliability and overall successful implementation of a project. Even though it is already common understanding within many procuring authorities that for intellectual services such as engineering services only quality based procedures are possible and adequate, their practical implementation is often still lacking in effectiveness. Defined standard performance profiles / scopes for each engineering service that transparently show the required services for a project are important tools for procuring authorities. For the conduct of quality procurement procedures adequately defined quality criteria, the use of adequate methods of price assessment and measures to guarantee fair evaluation are of utmost important.

The ECEC further explains practical approaches to cost optimization and fair quality competition in the papers [“The ECEC Public Procurement of Engineering Services: Fair procedures ensure successful projects”](#) and



“Independence of engineering services saves people’s money - Performance profiles for Engineering services: cost optimization and quality assurance”

QUESTION:

2. Do you agree that intellectual services such as engineering services require adequate procurement procedures based on quality and not price competition?

2.1 If yes, would you be prepared to change existing legislation if necessary in order to ensure the implementation of this principle in national laws?

3. The ECEC calls on the European Parliament **to fully support the approach that the use of BIM in public procurement projects needs to comply with basic requirements such as guaranteeing an “open BIM” as the most essential criterion to keep the market open for SME**

Background: Digitalisation is one of the most important future topics for the building sector. If basic requirements are complied with the use of BIM leads to reliable forecasting of the timeframe, results and costs at each stage of its life cycle, of a project including operation; to an increase of maneuverability and efficiency of use of resources by all participants and to an increase of labor productivity. But without an in-depth project preparation potential positive effects of the BIM method cannot be realized. Past projects have proved that in case of a lack of preparation and/or without the correct use of BIM leads to higher costs than expected, longer project duration than expected, lower quality than expected, weaker usability than expected and finally political disasters. It is thus of utmost important to comply with basic requirements for the successful use of BIM. In order to keep the market open for SME it is necessary to guarantee an open BIM securing a non-discriminatory common access to planning software via an open standardized interface providing the loss-free transfer of the exchanged data.

The ECEC further explains the basic requirements for the successful in the paper [“BIM for Politicians – ECEC Statement on Building Information Modelling \(BIM\)”](#)

QUESTION:

3. Do you agree that guaranteeing an open BIM is essential for keeping the market open for SME?

3.1 If yes, would you be prepared to change existing legislation if necessary in order to ensure that in public procurement procedures only software with an open standardized interface providing the loss-free transfer of data can be used?

Thank you very much for your answer which we will also disseminate to our engineering members.