PRESS RELEASE

83rd ECCE General Meeting strengthens European cooperation and advances shared priorities in Warsaw

Spain returns as a Full Member as delegates advance ECCE's strategy, governance and European policy initiatives

Warsaw, Poland I 10 October 2026

The European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) concluded its **83rd General Meeting in Warsaw, Poland**, bringing together representatives of national civil engineering organisations and European and international partners to advance cooperation, shape the Council's future priorities, and advance shared priorities for the civil engineering profession. Hosted by the **Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers (PIIB)**, the event took place from **8 to 10 October 2026**, with an Executive Board meeting followed by two days of General Assembly sessions.

Key outcomes included the unanimous readmission of Spain's Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (CICCP) as a Full Member, collaborative work on ECCE's Strategic Plan and Bylaws, and decisions to support the organisation's financial sustainability. Delegates also reviewed progress on the Braga Declaration, professional mobility and a new publication mapping civil engineering across Europe.

The opening addresses by ECCE President Platonas Stylianou and PIIB President Mariusz Dobrzeniecki set the tone for the meeting, which marked ECCE's return to Poland twelve years after its previous General Meeting in the country. Building on the decisions adopted in Braga in June, the Warsaw discussions focused on translating shared commitments into practical action and tangible value for members.



ECCE President
Platonas Stylianou



ECCE and PIIB Presidents



PIIB President
Mariusz Dobrzeniecki

Spain returns as a Full Member

The General Assembly unanimously approved the readmission of **the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (CICCP) as a Full Member of ECCE.** One of ECCE's founding members, the Spanish institution returns to full membership with a long tradition of professional expertise and European cooperation. CICCP International Director Esther Ahijado Fernández presented the organisation to delegates.





ECCE welcomes the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (CICCP) as a Full Member

ECCE warmly welcomed CICCP's return, which renews an important relationship and broadens opportunities for cooperation, knowledge exchange and joint initiatives. Spain's participation strengthens the Council's representation and its ability to bring national experience into European discussions on the future of civil engineering.

Defining ECCE's strategic direction and governance

Two participatory workshops gave member organisations a central role in shaping ECCE's development. The **Strategic Plan workshop**, led by Vice President and President Elect Jeanette Muñoz Abela, invited delegates to **examine where ECCE should concentrate its efforts and where European cooperation can deliver the greatest value for the profession**.

The **Governance Roadmap and Bylaws workshop**, coordinated by Secretary General Maria Karanasiou, continued the consultation begun in Braga. Working in groups, delegates reviewed the draft provisions and contributed comments to **support clearer responsibilities, transparent procedures and effective decision-making**.

This work builds on the revised Articles of Association and Code of Professional Conduct adopted in June, in the Braga General Meeting. The Warsaw workshop formed a further stage in the development of the Bylaws, with





Workshops on the ECCE Strategic Plan and the ECCE Governance Roadmap / Bylaws

members' contributions informing the next phase of review and consultation. Together, the adoption of the new governance documents and the collaborative review process represent an important milestone in ECCE's institutional evolution. They provide a strong foundation for the organisation's future development, ensuring that ECCE remains well-equipped to address emerging challenges, support its growing membership, and continue serving as the recognised European voice of civil engineers.

Taking the Braga Declaration forward

President Platonas Stylianou presented progress on the **Braga Declaration, "Modernising Construction: Engineering Europe's Sustainable, Resilient and Digital Future"**, and the next steps towards implementation. Adopted at the previous General Meeting, the Declaration provides a common basis for cooperation on the modernisation of construction and the contribution of engineering to addressing Europe's societal challenges.

By 10 October 2026, **nineteen organisations had formally endorsed the Declaration**, including professional institutions, technical chambers, universities and international engineering networks. The Warsaw discussions underlined the need to translate this growing support into policy engagement, professional guidance, capacity building, joint initiatives and practical cooperation.

The Declaration connects ECCE's work on sustainable and resilient infrastructure, affordable housing and responsible digital transformation. Its implementation will depend on continued engagement by member organisations and partners across Europe.



Professional standards and the future of civil engineering



Filip Pachla
PIIB National Council Member
and ECCE Delegate

The meeting brought together complementary perspectives on the future of the profession. Filip Pachla, PIIB National Council Member and ECCE National Delegate, presented the **Polish Chamber's role as a professional self-regulatory body**. His contribution provided an opportunity to exchange experience on professional organisation and responsibility.



Prof Nicos Theodosiou
AECEF President

Professor Nicos Theodosiou, President of the Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties (AECEF), addressed **civil engineering education for the green and digital transformation**. Education, lifelong learning and the development of new skills remain essential to preparing engineers for changing technologies and sustainability requirements.



Andreas Brandner
ECCE Immediate Past President

ECCE Immediate Past President Andreas Brandner reported on **progress towards a Common Training Framework for Civil Engineers**. The initiative concerns professional mobility and the recognition of qualifications across Europe, while maintaining high standards of competence and respecting national systems.



ECCE Past President Włodzimierz Szymczak receiving his award by the ECCE President Platonas Stylianou

ECCE Past President Włodzimierz Szymczak revisited the Council's Position Paper **"European Criteria Applied to the Assessment of Work Tenders"**. The presentation brought an established ECCE policy contribution back into focus at a time when the assessment of engineering and construction tenders remains highly relevant. **The meeting also recognised ECCE Past President Włodzimierz Szymczak's contribution and service to ECCE through the Past Presidents' Award, within the Council's 40th anniversary programme.**

Mapping civil engineering across Europe

President Platonas Stylianou and Vice President and President Elect Jeanette Muñoz Abela presented a **progress update on the forthcoming ECCE book, "Civil Engineering Today: Mapping the Profession Across Europe"**. Drawing on contributions from member organisations, the publication will bring together national perspectives on the profession and



ECCE President Platonas Stylianou and ECCE Vice President / President Elect Jeanette Muñoz Abela

help readers understand the diversity of Europe's professional and institutional systems.

The project reflects ECCE's role in connecting national engineering communities and making their experience more accessible. It is intended to provide a useful reference for professional organisations, practitioners and others seeking a broader understanding of civil engineering in Europe.

Providing a sustainable basis for ECCE's work

Vice President and Treasurer Helena Endriksone presented an **overview of ECCE's financial position and planning**. Delegates discussed the importance of sound financial management and a sustainable financial basis for the Council's activities.

The discussions reaffirmed the need to align resources with ECCE's strategic priorities, support its services to members and maintain an active European presence. Responsible planning and continued financial oversight remain central to the organisation's long-term development.



Helena Endriksone
ECCE Vice President / Treasurer

Cooperation and the next steps

The participation of partner organisations (ISHCCO, AECEF, WCCE, ECEC, EAMC) added a wider European and international dimension to the discussions. The Gala Dinner and the social and cultural programme, including a visit to the Warsaw Uprising Museum, provided further opportunities to strengthen relationships between delegates and their organisations.

In his closing address, President Platonas Stylianou emphasised the importance of follow-up and encouraged delegates to share the meeting's work within their national organisations. As he stated, **"The discussions held here must lead to actions, responsibilities and results."**

ECCE extends its sincere appreciation to the Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers, its President Mariusz Dobrzeniecki and the organising team for their excellent organisation, warm hospitality and contribution to a productive General Meeting.

The Council's next General Meeting (84th ECCE General Meeting) will take place in Bratislava, Slovakia, in spring 2027. The 85th General Meeting is scheduled for 30 September to 3 October 2027 in Belgrade, Serbia, where ECCE Executive Board elections will also be held.



Photo Gallery and Highlights Video

You can access the full photo gallery of the 83rd ECCE General Meeting as well as the Highlights Video at the links below:

83rd ECCE General Meeting photo gallery

83rd ECCE General Meeting Highlights Video

About ECCE

Founded in 1985, the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) is the recognised voice of the civil engineering profession in Europe, bringing together national civil engineering organisations from 26 countries. ECCE promotes engineering excellence, professional ethics, sustainability and innovation while fostering cooperation among its members. The Council works with European institutions and international partners to advance policies that support resilient infrastructure, sustainable development, affordable housing, digital transformation and the continued development of the civil engineering profession.

Why should a country participate in the ECCE

Website: www.ecceengineers.eu

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