

## PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### **Eur. Ing. Platonas Stylianou, New President 2024 – 2027 of the European Council of Civil Engineers**



*Eur. Ing. Platonas Stylianou,  
ECCE President 2024-2027*

Eur. Ing. Platonas Stylianou has been elected as the new President of the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE). He took over Presidency of ECCE on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024, during the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting, and will serve a three-year term from 2024 to 2027. Platonas Stylianou was previously elected ECCE Vice President and President-Elect on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021, during the 73<sup>rd</sup> ECCE General Meeting. Since 2014, he has represented the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers (CYACE) as ECCE National Delegate.

#### **PERSONAL PROFILE**

Platonas Stylianou is a Chartered Civil Engineer, born in Nicosia, Cyprus in 1971. He graduated with distinction from Apostolos Petros & Pavlos Lyceum in Limassol and later pursued his studies at the Higher Technical Institute (H.T.I.). He then received a scholarship to study at the University of Glamorgan (UK), where he earned a B.Eng. (Hons) degree. He also holds postgraduate qualifications in Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

He is a registered Civil Engineer in Cyprus since 1995 (E TEK), a Chartered Civil Engineer (CEng) in the UK, and a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers (FICE). He is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCI Arb), a FIDIC Certified Adjudicator (FCA) and is also accredited as a mediator for trade issues.

His work focuses mainly on the following:

- Seismic analysis and Structural Design of RC Buildings.
- Seismic analysis and Structural Design of Steel/ Composite Buildings.
- Structural assessment, analysis, Consolidation and Restoration of Traditional / Listed Buildings and Monuments.
- Structural Assessment, Analysis, Design and Seismic Retrofitting of existing Buildings.
- Peer reviews of Structural Design and Due Diligence Reports.
- Structural Design of Water Retaining Structures, tanks and Silos.
- Arbitration / Adjudication / Mediation.

He was appointed on numerous projects as the principal structural designer and project coordinator, including both European and locally funded initiatives. His expertise encompasses seismic risk assessment, retrofitting of structures, and the conservation of heritage buildings. His work spans projects in Cyprus and abroad, and he actively participates in international committees, representing Cyprus in ECCE, FIB, and FIDIC.



He is a member of the central Cyprus National Technical Standardization Committee CYS TC 18: Eurocodes and Coordinator of the Subcommittee CYS TC 18 SC 03 & 04. He was appointed by FIDIC Task Group 8 (TG8) as International Expert and Friendly Reviewer for the development of the new second edition of the FIDIC Short Form of Contract (2021 Green Book).

In addition to his engineering work, is a specialist in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). He is a frequent speaker on seminars for assessment and retrofitting of structures, restoration of monuments, on Arbitration, ADR and disciplinary issues and also offers expert advice on contractual matters.

He served as President of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers (CYACE) for two consecutive terms (2013 – 2015 and 2015 – 2017). He was a member of the ETEK Disciplinary Board from 2005 to 2014, and chairman of Division 1 from 2011 to 2014. He has been elected for the General Council of the Technical Chamber of Cyprus (ETEK) since 2014. Since 2023, he has been elected as Vice President.

## New Executive Board of the European Council of Civil Engineers 2024 – 2027 Elected at the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting



At the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting, held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024, in Athens, Greece, the General Assembly of the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) elected the members of its new Executive Board for the period 2024 - 2027.

The newly elected Executive Board will be composed of the following individuals:

### *New ECCE ExBo 2024 – 2027*

*From left to right: Paul Coughlan, Jeanette Muñoz Abela, Humberto Varum, Nina Drazin Lovrec, Andreas Brandner, Maria Karanasiou, Platonas Stylianou, Helena Endriksone, Paris Charlaftis*

Name	Position	Country
Platonas Stylianou	President	Cyprus
Andreas Brandner	Immediate Past President	Austria
Jeanette Muñoz Abela	Vice President / President Elect	Malta
Helena Endriksone	Vice President / Treasurer	Latvia
Nina Drazin Lovrec	Executive Board Member	Croatia
Paris Charlaftis	Executive Board Member	Greece
Humberto Varum	Executive Board Member	Portugal
Paul Coughlan	Executive Board Member	United Kingdom

## Message from the new ECCE President Platonas Stylianou

### "Study and learn from the past, take action in the present to build a better future"

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great honor to serve as the President of the ECCE and to share my thoughts with you on a topic central to our collective journey toward success, especially within the framework of the ECCE.

The theme of our 79<sup>th</sup> General Assembly which was recently concluded is, in my point of view, ***"Study and learn from the past, take action in the present to build a better future"***, which captures, in just a few words, an approach that is essential for achieving real progress.

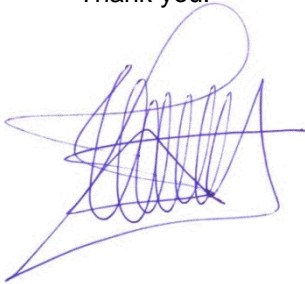
Our primary objective is to create a more resilient, sustainable future. To do this, we must not look back at the past with regret over the mistakes made, but rather with the intention of drawing strength and learning from those experiences. Past mistakes should not discourage us; instead, they should fuel our drive to move forward with greater resolve. The achievements of our ancient ancestors can serve as a source of inspiration and motivation for our own advancement.

At the core of our work is the mission to shape a sustainable built environment. By studying the past, promoting best practices, and integrating proven techniques, we can achieve resilient, sustainable design and construction. It is equally important that we continuously expand our knowledge and adapt to the new challenges we will inevitably face.

In conclusion, the message— ***"Study and learn from the past, take action in the present to build a better future"***—is not only our guide to success within the ECCE, but a principle that applies to all aspects of life. Let us reflect on the lessons of the past, draw strength from them, take actions and face the future with optimism and determination.

I look forward to fruitful cooperation with all members of the European Council of Civil Engineers and our partners beyond, as we work together to build a brighter future.

Thank you.



Platonas Stylianou  
ECCE President

## 79<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the European Council of Civil Engineers

10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024, Athens, Greece



The 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting was held from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024, in the vibrant city of Athens, Greece. The event was hosted by the Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG) and the Association of Civil Engineers of Greece (ACEG), marking a significant milestone for Greek civil engineers as it coincided with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of TCG, the representative body for all qualified engineers in Greece.

### The BIM Conference: BIM beyond 101

Alongside the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting, the “*BIM Conference: BIM Beyond 101*” was held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024, at the Eugenides Foundation in Athens. The event was hosted by the Technical Chamber of Greece and BOUSSIAS, a leading B2B communication company.



*The BIM Conference: BIM beyond 101*

With over 300 participants, the conference has established itself as a premier platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and sharing best practices among stakeholders within the Building Information Modeling (BIM) ecosystem.

The event was created with the vision of connecting experts, professionals, project owners, and suppliers of all scales. It facilitated the exchange of experiences, technical knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned from the application of BIM both in Greece and internationally. The conference also explored the vision, goals, technologies, and tools that will shape the future of the built environment.

The aim of the BIM Conference is to continue delivering valuable knowledge, communicating the needs and requests of the industry, and—most importantly—highlighting the achievements of Greek professionals, both locally and globally.

The conference was supported by the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE). Andreas Brandner, ECCE President from 2021 to 2024, delivered the opening address. The current ECCE



**ECCE President 2021-2024, Andreas Brandner, delivering the opening address**



**From left to right: Platonas Stylianou, Olga Radulovic, Helena Endriksone, and Andreas Brandner**

President, Platonas Stylianou, also gave a speech on behalf of the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber, another supporter of the event.

You can find photos of the conference here: [Flickr](#)

### **Scientific Conference "Engineers' Associations: History, Roles, Interventions, and Perspectives"**

As part of this centennial celebration, on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024, TCG organized a scientific conference titled *"Engineers' Associations: History, Roles, Interventions, and Perspectives"* at its headquarters in Athens. The conference explored the history of engineers' organizations, their role in shaping the engineering profession, their relationships with institutions like Polytechnics and technical schools, and their contributions to public discourse. The aim was to offer a broader European perspective while shedding light on the history and contributions of the Technical Chamber of Greece—an institution of great significance to the country but one that remains largely unknown to the public.



**ECCE Immediate Past President Aris Chatzidakis presenting the ECCE book "Notes on the history of Civil Engineering"**



**ECCE Immediate Past President Aris Chatzidakis and Prof. Constantinos Chatzis at Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées – Researcher at Université Gustave Eiffel, opening the Conference**

The conference was moderated by ECCE Immediate Past President Aris Chatzidakis and featured presentations from several distinguished international and Greek speakers, providing valuable insights on the role of engineers' associations.

For more details, the full conference programme can be accessed via the following [link](#).

The two events, the “*BIM Conference: BIM Beyond 101*” and the Scientific Conference “*Engineers’ Associations: History, Roles, Interventions, and Perspectives,*” created a bridge between the past and the future. They perfectly aligned with the overarching theme and message of the new ECCE President, Platonas Stylianou: “***Study and learn from the past, take action in the present to build a better future***”.

### 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting

The 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting focused on fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and addressing the challenges and opportunities within the civil engineering profession. The event brought together representatives from professional civil engineering organizations across Europe and the international community.



**ECCE President Andreas Brandner**

In his opening speech, ECCE President Dipl.-Ing. Andreas Brandner expressed gratitude to the event hosts, the Technical Chamber of Greece and the Association of Civil Engineers of Greece, and acknowledged key contributors. He highlighted the importance of reflecting on the history of engineers' associations in a rapidly changing world.

Brandner addressed major challenges, such as the shortage of qualified engineers and shifting attitudes toward work-life balance. He emphasized the need for rigorous education, rejecting the idea of simplifying curricula to attract more talent, and stressed the importance of hands-on experience. He also cautioned against over-reliance on digital tools like BIM and AI, urging senior engineers to mentor younger colleagues in practical verification methods.

The President advocated for a legal framework to establish EU-wide recognition of civil engineers, which would enhance professional mobility and attract talent from outside the EU. He also criticized rigid standardization processes and encouraged engineers to engage in European politics and standardization efforts. As his presidency drew to a close, he reflected on his accomplishments while acknowledging the goals that remain unmet.

Ms. Liana Anagnostaki, Director of Public Relations, International & European Affairs at the Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG), provided a detailed presentation on the TCG. Established in 1923, the TCG is a public law institution headquartered in Athens, with branches across 17 regions. It represents all qualified engineers in Greece, providing personalized services such as counseling, support, and professional development. The TCG also serves as an official consultant to the Greek government, offering expertise on technical and legislative matters and overseeing key projects like the Unified Digital Map of Greece and the digitization of building service files. The TCG's centennial celebrations, attended by the President and Prime Minister of Greece, highlighted its role in shaping the nation's built environment under the theme “100 years of shaping the Greece of Tomorrow – and we continue.”



**Liana Anagnostaki, TCG Public Relations, International & European Affairs department director**

Association of Civil Engineers of Greece Vice President Paris Charlafits welcomed attendees, emphasizing Athens' historical significance as the cradle of democracy and innovation. He encouraged participants to draw inspiration from both the city's architectural heritage and its tradition of learning. Charlafits called for sustainable development,



*Paris Charlaftis, ACEG Vice President*

infrastructure advancement, and the integration of technology, urging a spirit of collaboration and idea-sharing to shape the future of civil engineering.

The meeting, conducted in a hybrid format with over 35 national delegates in attendance, featured several key updates. These included the presentation of the [ECCE Activity Report since May 2024](#), [updates from the construction industry](#), and the discussion on ECCE financial issues and management led by Vice President/Treasurer Helena Endriksone.

Upcoming ECCE General Meetings in 2025 were also discussed. The 80<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting will be held from 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025, in the island of Madeira, in Portugal, hosted by the Ordem dos Engenheiros, and the 81<sup>st</sup> ECCE General Meeting will be held in the autumn 2025, in Split, in Croatia, hosted by the Croatian Chamber of Civil Engineers.

One of the highlights was the progress report on the [ECCE initiative to update the book Civil Engineering Profession in Europe](#), led by Vice President/President Elect Platonas Stylianou. The project, which involves reorganizing and expanding the 2005 edition, aims to create an online database and a digital version of the book. All the nine chapters' surveys have been completed, with the full project expected to be finalized by the second quarter of 2025.

A proposal for an ECCE position paper on Building Information Modelling (BIM) was also put forward by Jeanette Muñoz Abela of the Kamra tal-Periti, Malta.

As Brandner's term concluded, he reflected on his presidency, noting the challenges posed by the pandemic but expressing pride in advancing goals like professional development and cross-border collaboration. He encouraged his successor, Platonas Stylianou, to focus on increasing diversity in leadership, particularly by involving more women and young people.



*Outgoing ECCE President Andreas Brandner, and Incoming ECCE President Platonas Stylianou*

Stylianou, in his opening address as ECCE President, expressed pride and gratitude, emphasizing the importance of unity in addressing challenges like climate change and sustainable development. He called for innovation, the use of modern technologies, and ongoing education to meet future demands. Stylianou stressed the need for collective effort and cooperation, particularly on initiatives related to the Green Deal, Climate Change, and Construction 2050.

As part of the hospitality program organized by the Technical Chamber of Greece, attendees enjoyed traditional Greek cuisine with views of the Parthenon and participated in a technical visit to the Ellinikon Experience Park.

All materials, presentations, and photographs from the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting are available for consultation on the [ECCE website](#).

***The European Council of Civil Engineers extends its heartfelt appreciation to the TCG and the ACEG for successfully organizing the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting and congratulates the TCG for their centennial anniversary. The ECCE is immensely grateful for their impeccable organizational skills and exceptional hospitality, which contributed to the resounding success of these events.***



*Participants at the 79<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting*



*Technical Visit at the Ellinikon Experience Park*