EDITORIAL NOTE

All well-attended virtual meetings held in the “EFCA week” were inspiring and the Roundtable with key speaker Director General of DG GROW, Kerstin Jorna, brought noteworthy insights. Notwithstanding the fact that participants missed having more in-depth face to face contacts, the online forums brought meaningful updates on the progress with the federation’s broad range of actions and its 2021-2022 plans as well as valuable industry visions to all. This newsletter is bringing more news.

Looking forward to receiving your feedback and comments to make sure that the newsletter is delivering value and is relevant to you.

Jan Van der Putten

27/05/21: DigiPLACE Closing Conference: Maximilian Grauvogl represented EFCA at the event

1/6/2021: 2021 EFCA week - opening session - Future Leaders webinar
Presentation of the top six submission of the 2021 FL competition and panel discussion on circular economy

2/6/2021: General Assembly meeting
The GAM appointed two new members in the Board of Directors: Sarah Ingle (ACEI, Ireland) and Søren Adamsen (FRI, Denmark). Nikola Matić (ACES, Serbia) is elected as Vice-President

3/6/2021: ‘Reports from Committees meeting’
Eight Chairs demonstrate the value that the working groups deliver to the benefit of both the national associations and the European engineering consulting firms

4/6/2021: Roundtable
Director-General of DG GROW Kerstin Jorna highlighted the important role consulting engineers will play in preparing the European economy and society for the challenges and opportunities of the green and digital transitions at EFCA’s Roundtable

4/6/2021: Future Leaders Award Ceremony Announcement of the winner of the twelfth Future Leader’s Competition
12/5/2021: EU Action Plan “Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil”: proposal to review existing laws to identify remaining gaps in EU legislation and determine whether better implementation is necessary.

17/5/2021: New approach for a sustainable blue economy

18/5/2021: Communication on Business Taxation for the 21st century

27/5/2021: EC practical guidance to help public buyers integrate social considerations into public procurement

1/6/2021: Country-by-country reporting (CBCR) Directive: EU co-legislators reach political agreement on tax transparency for multinational firms

2/6/2021: Recovery and Resilience Facility - The Commission has received 23 recovery and resilience plans from Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, and Sweden.

2/6/2021: Political agreement on new €14.2 billion Pre-Accession Assistance Instrument (IPA III). The new instrument will provide support to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey

2/6/2021: EU ambassadors agreed on a mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament on a regulation to create an International Procurement Instrument (IPI), which will help to address the lack of a level playing field in world procurement markets

3/6/2021: Rail at the forefront of smart and sustainable mobility – Council conclusions

3/6/2021: Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy – Council conclusions

3/6/2021: Public consultation on the EC’s Data Act until 3 September 2021

7/6/2021: EC consultation on the proposed Climate, Energy and Environmental state aid guidelines until 2 August 2021. Revised rules to enable EU Member States to fulfil the EU’s ambitious European Green Deal objectives while keeping possible competition distortions to a minimum
**EIB:** report 'How disruptive technologies create opportunities for a green and digital economy': companies and governments in Europe are substantially underinvesting in AI and blockchain compared to other leading regions.

**European Construction Sector Observatory:** Digitalisation in the construction sector

**European Commission:** Spring 2021 Economic Forecast: growth rates will continue to vary across the EU, but all Member States should see their economies return to pre-crisis levels by the end of 2022

**Green Recovery Tracker Project:** Assessment of the contribution of national recovery plans to the European green transition

**European Academies’ Scientific Advisory Council (EASAC) report:** it is no longer enough to build more eco-friendly buildings; existing structures must also be renovated

**Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE):** Whole-life Carbon: Challenges and solutions for highly efficient and climate-neutral buildings

**International Energy Agency:** Net Zero by 2050: A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector

**International Energy Agency:** 2021 World Energy Investment report: renewable investment will not be compatible with long-term climate goals.

**United Nations:** World Economic Situation and Prospects mid-2021 report

**Verisk Maplecroft:** Environmental Risk Outlook 2021

EFCA is registered under the European Union Transparency Register ID number: 819735441372-85