



ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE
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ACE Info

The electronic note from the Architects' Council of Europe

Issue 6-07

English version

Introduction

Welcome to the sixth issue of *ACE Info* in 2007. The ACE welcomes feedback and comments on the content of this publication, so please feel free to write to us at info@ace-cae.org

This issue is also available in French.

Core Issues

The Professional Qualifications Directive now in Force



On the 20th October 2007, the transposition period for Member States to transpose the provisions of the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC) ended and the Directive came into force. The ACE has been informed that, by the deadline, just 15 of the 27 Member States had notified the European Commission of their measures to transpose and that the Commission is still in the process of assessing whether the measures notified are adequate. In relation to the architectural profession, it is not clear if any Member State has adequately

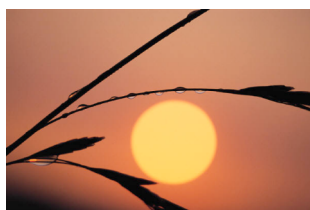
transposed the requirements for the recognition of professional qualifications in time.

The consequence of not transposing a directive in time is that the provisions of the relevant directive has direct effect and apply to matters that it covers regardless of whether there are national laws covering the same issues. In the case of the Professional Qualifications Directive, this means, for example, that a government that has not yet transposed the provisions of the directive assessing an architectural qualification that is not in the list annexed to the Directive cannot require of the applicant an adaptation period or an aptitude test. This is because the transposition measures have to choose one or the other and in the absence of such measures, neither can be imposed as no choice has been made. The ACE is currently examining the Directive to assess what other perverse effects non-transposition at national level may have.

To download a copy of the directive, go to:

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/JOhtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2005:255:SOM:EN:HTML>

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive to be Recast in 2008



The European Commission has announced, in its Communication giving details of its legislative and work programme 2008, that it will recast or revise the Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings (2002/91/EC). The communication says, *"An amended Directive could enlarge the scope to more buildings, strengthen and specify some of these requirements and add, for example, financing aspects. The changes under consideration aim at overcoming multiple barriers that hinder the utilisation of the vast potential for energy demand reductions in the buildings sector"*.

The ACE supports the principle of extending the scope of the directive to cover more buildings, as it is a strong advocate of the need to address the energy performance characteristics of existing buildings of all types. It also believes that certification displaying the energy performance of a building that is

linked to advice about what measures can be taken by the owner to further improve that performance is a powerful tool for change. It will therefore seek to be closely informed and involved in the work to recast or revise this directive. The current version of the directive can be accessed at:

http://www.ace-cae.org/MemberN/Content/EN/download/links/2002-91-EC_en.pdf

Parliament Adopts Report on Obligations of Cross-Border Service Providers



On the 28th September last, the European Parliament adopted by a substantial majority, in plenary session, a report on the obligations of cross-border service providers (a definition that includes architects). The rapporteur for the report was Lasse Lehtinen (PES, Finland) and its preparation was motivated by a view that the recently adopted Directive on Services in the Internal Market did not adequately cover the substantive issues relating to such obligations. The ACE, among others, had called for prudence in the recommendations of this report and for some time to await the implementation of the Services Directive before any new measures are proposed. These calls were heard and the final version of the report did not call for any new measures, calling instead on the Commission to present a work programme

that will assess the need for a possible broad horizontal instrument to align the rules on cross-border service provision.

The issue is topical for the ACE as it is currently considering, internally, the whole question of liability and insurance options. It is also in dialogue with other professionals in the construction sector on the question of liability and how to more equitably deal with the issue in the interests of the client (consumer). To read the adopted report, go to:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?Type=TA&Reference=P6-TA-2007-0421&language=EN>

ACE Matters

In Memoriam – Klas Brunnberg, President of the Swedish Association of Architects



Klas Brunnberg was elected President of the Association in 2004, and had very broad experience both as a planning and a practicing architect. To become President was a very natural step for Klas, after many years of engagement in the organisation, working both for architecture and on the conditions of the practicing and planning architect. In Klas Brunnberg the Swedish Association of Architects had a very committed President, who was interested in the manifold agenda of the organisation, and he always had time for every issue and every member. He led the organisation with a gentle hand, and was concerned that every debate be open and led to a consensus.

Under Klas Brunnberg's leadership the organisation developed, and he was happy about its many achievements during his years. Many of the staff have reason to be very grateful for his engagement and support. They will all miss him.

New President for the CNOA(F)



Following the resignation of Bernard Figiel as President of the Conseil National des Ordres des Architectes (CNOA(F) France) Lionel Dunet has been elected President for the period 2007-2010. Lionel Dunet is well-known among architects in France as he is the Director of the network of the 'Maisons de l'architecture' there and a champion of the profession, constantly working for the improvement of the profession and for its standing in society. He is also known to the Member Organisations of the ACE as, at the invitation of the President, Jean-François Susini, he made a presentation to the General Assembly on the subject of the network of "Maisons de l'architecture" in November 2006. The ACE and its Member Organisations look forward to working closely with Lionel Dunet during his time in office.

At the same time the new Board of the CNOA(F) was elected and its composition can be seen at:

<http://www.architectes.org/connaitre-l-ordre/presentation-de-l-ordre-des-architectes/conseil-national>

The Urban Challenge: Our Quality of Life and the Built Environment

On the 20th November 2007, at a press conference, the *Kamra tal-Periti* (KTP) announced the publication of its Position Paper on Quality in the Built Environment. This KTP paper recommends greater protection of Malta's heritage (built and natural), improvements in the island's transport infrastructure, and strengthening the management of change (planning). Recognising the important contribution of all stakeholders, the document calls on them to collectively recommit themselves to better quality in architectural and urban design and to higher standards in the construction of buildings and urban spaces. The KTP will be presenting its position paper on the built environment to the general public to initiate a debate on the formulation of a national agenda and its impact on the quality of our lives. The position paper may be downloaded at;

www.ktpmalta.com

The ACE at External Events

The ACE is frequently represented at external events and conferences by its President, Members of its Executive Board, Chairmen of Work Groups and/or the Secretariat. These activities sometimes go unnoticed, but are very important to the pursuit of the policies of the ACE. This regular article for *ACE Info* contains a selection of reports on recent, relevant representations.

Since the last report in *ACE Info*, the following presentations were particularly relevant to the dissemination of ACE Policy:

10th Meeting of Heads of Schools of Architecture - Chania

Held over a number of days from the 2nd to the 5th September, the ACE was represented by a delegation of three persons: Luciano Lazzari, Vice-President, Jean-Paul Scalabre, Chair of the ACE Work Group Education and Adrian Joyce, Senior Adviser. The delegation was given a full afternoon at the event to address the question of the collaboration that is deemed useful and necessary between the schools of architecture and the profession. On the basis of a prepared paper, a long debate on the issues on which cooperation is suggested took place and a consensus was reached on the need for this cooperation. This marks a milestone in relations between the profession and the schools and is timely, given the coming into force of the Professional Qualifications Directive and the implementation of the reforms prompted by the Bologna Process.

TAIEX Seminar on the Implementation of the Temporary and Mobile Sites Directive

Held in Prague, the Czech Republic, on the 26th and 27th September, this seminar was aimed at informing the labour inspectors of the Czech government on the proper interpretation and implementation of the requirements of the Temporary and Mobile Sites Directive. A number of experts had been invited from several EU countries to share their knowledge and experience on the subject. The ACE was invited to send an expert and Adrian Joyce, Senior Adviser, attended. His presentation permitted him to present the duties of designers in relation to health and safety on construction sites. In particular, he reported on the work of the European Construction Safety Forum in which the ACE and the EFCA (Consulting Engineers) produced and published a guide for designers. The presentation and the publication were well received by the audience. To download a copy, go to:

www.ace-cae.org/MemberN/Content/EN/toc/toc/mytoc.html?id=3-6-5

UN World Habitat Day – Conference in The Hague

Held in the Hague, The Netherlands on the 1st and 2nd October on the occasion of the celebration of the United Nations World Habitat Day, this conference, which had as a title "A safe City is a just city", was focussed on safety and security issues in the urban environment. The ACE was represented by the Secretary General, Alain Sagne, who used the opportunity presented by the debate during the Conference to highlight two issues: design standards (in respect of safety/criminality in cities) and indicators of the quality of the built environment. On the first point he stressed the potential risks that arise when the trend is to seek to generalise mandatory standards on every occasion instead of approaches that allow the pursuit of objectives of global quality, notably by using adequate regulatory approaches. The second point was to stress the need of (sets of) indicators to measure the quality of the built environment, in a larger context than safety and security, while good design is recognised to positively impact on these aspects.

EFAP Event in Matosinhos – Architecture in its Territory

Held as part of the programme of the Portuguese Presidency of the EU, this event was held on the 11th and 12th October in Matosinhos (Porto), Portugal. About 150 people from all over Europe attended the Event from the three pillars of the Forum, Government Bodies, Professional Organisations and Cultural Institutions. Highlights included speeches by the Portuguese Secretary of State for Culture and Secretary of State for Environment & Spatial Planning and by the Director General of Spatial Planning in that Ministry, as well as by Mrs Odile Quintin, Director General at the DG Culture & Education of the European Commission. On the fringes of the Conference there were meetings of the EFAP Steering Committee and of the statutory Bodies of the supporting association, the EFAP-FEPA aisbl. The ACE was represented at these meetings by Tiina Valpola, Member of the Executive Board and Alain Sagne, Secretary General. A Roadmap for the activities of the EFAP for the next two-three years was adopted on that occasion, notably in close connection with the forthcoming Slovenian and French Presidencies of the EU.

Public Hearing at the EESC – Adapting to Climate Change

This Public Hearing on the topic of our times, Climate Change, was held in Brussels on the 16th October. Experts from five sectors were invited to make presentations including Alain Sagne, Secretary General of the ACE, who spoke on ACE's policies and activities in relation to the topic.

Seminar on Urban Sprawl – European Parliament

This event was co-organized by the Urban-Housing Intergroup of the European Parliament and RICS EU Public Affairs and was moderated by Mr. Jean Marie Beaupuy, MEP and President of the parliamentary Intergroup. The aim of the seminar was to engage in an interactive discussion about the phenomenon of 'urban sprawl' and its effects on the use of landscape, as well as the development of sustainable suburbs. During the seminar, Professor Chris Couch presented the latest book in the RICS Real Estate Issue Series on Urban Sprawl. Other speakers included a representative of the European Commission (DG Regio) and RICS speakers on sustainable suburbs and urban sprawl in Eastern Europe. The ACE was represented by Alain Sagne, Secretary General.

4th Architecture and its Education Conference - Ankara

This conference, organised jointly by the Chamber of Architects of Turkey and the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, was held from the 7th to the 9th November last. It addressed the pressing issues that face Turkey as it revises its approach to the education and training of architects in order to align its approach with that of the EU. The ACE was invited to speak at the conference on the subject of the changing regulatory environment that is facing the profession at the present time. It was represented by Adrian Joyce, Senior Adviser, who gave a succinct overview of the changes and pressures faced by the profession at the current time. He emphasised the concerns of the profession that the current changes may lead, in time, to a general lowering of the standard of qualifications held by persons practising in the field of architecture and the ACE view that such an eventuality should, in the public interest, be avoided at all costs.

Final Conference of the Hous-Es Network

The final conference of this URBACT Network on Management & Renewal of Large Housing Estates (Lead Partner: City of Poznan, Poland) in which the ACE was an Associate Partner took place in Brussels on 7th and 8th November 2007 in the European Parliament and in the Committee of the Regions. The main event, organised in partnership with the Intergroup Urban.Housing, was held on the first day at the European Parliament. Chaired by Mr Alfonso Andria MEP and a Vice-President of the Intergroup – who was the Rapporteur of the European Parliament Own-Initiative Report on Housing and Regional Policy adopted in Plenary Sitting in May – it was attended notably by several Mayors of the Cities partners in the Network. The main highlight was the address given at the seminar by Prof. Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy.

To obtain the full report of the Hous-Es Network: www.urbact.eu/hous-es and/or contact Mr. Krzysztof Baczynski, Project Manager e-mail: krzysztof_baczynski@um.poznan.pl

ACE Events and Meetings in November and December 2007:

- Ninth meeting of the Joint Working Party with Schools of Architecture – 16th November - Brussels
- Sixth Executive Board Meeting in 2007 – 29th November – Brussels
- Second General Assembly in 2007 – 30th November and 1st December – Brussels
- Work Group Competitions and Procurement of Architectural Services – 8th December – Berlin
- Work Group Insurance – 11th December – Brussels

Other Matters

Priorities for the French Presidency of the EU

France is due to take up the Presidency of the EU in the second half of 2008 and it has already announced its priorities for its Presidency. These include issues related directly to the preparation for the entry into force of the new Reform Treaty of the EU, a period of reflection on the future of Europe, technical work on immigration, energy, the environment and Defence Europe. It is already known that the French Presidency will be holding an important official event of the European Forum on Architectural Policies in Bordeaux in October and that the Ministry of Culture and Communication, in charge of Architecture, is considering the possibility to have a Ministerial Declaration adopted by the European Council (eight years after the adoption of the Council Resolution on architectural quality in the urban and rural environments) and is also looking at options in the field of architectural qualifications for possible action at European level.

Master-Plan Agreed for European Quarter in Brussels

On the 5th September last, the Minister-President of Brussels-Capital Region, Charles Picqué, and the Vice-President of the European Commission Siim Kallas, in a joint press conference announced an agreement on the broad lines of a new Masterplan that will give a facelift to the European Quarter in Brussels. The main objectives of the plan are to ensure that the Commission continues to have new offices available to it, while the Brussels-Capital Region will be able to create a truly mixed neighbourhood over time. The Commission currently occupies about 865,000 square meters of office space in 61 buildings across the European Quarter and the agreed approach should mean that, as the Commission expands its holdings of office space, the European Quarter will enhance its “human face” with more housing and shops. For the first time architectural quality is duly taken into account (the ACE has contributed to this process) in the Communication from the Commission on its buildings policy, which also contains the announcement of the preparation of a specific document on architectural policy that will be ready by the end of 2008. To download the Buildings Policy of the Commission, go to:

http://ec.europa.eu/oib/building_policy_en.htm

SOLVIT Network Celebrates its First Five Years in Existence

SOLVIT is a EU-wide problem-solving network that tries to resolve problems related to the mobility rights of EU citizens and businesses. It was established in 2002 and dealt with about 10 cases per month in its first year. It now deals with about 60 cases per month and its success rate of resolving problems within its target time limit of 10 weeks is stable at 80%. The main problems reported by citizens to SOLVIT are social security, taxation and recognition of professional qualifications. For businesses the main problems dealt with relate to taxation, market access for products, the provision of services and freedom of establishment.

To find out more about this very useful service go to:

<http://ec.europa.eu/solvit/index.htm>

Far-Right Group of MEPs Collapses in the European Parliament

The Identity, Tradition and Sovereignty (ITS) group in the European Parliament, which brought together extreme right MEPs from across the EU, has collapsed after Romanian MEPs left following insulting comments made by fellow group member Alessandra Mussolini. The announcement, made on the 14th November last by the Parliament Vice-President Edward McMillan-Scott (EPP-ED, UK) was greeted with sustained applause in the Strasbourg Chamber. A political group in the parliament needs to have at least 20 MEPs from at least six different nations in order to sustain itself and be recognised

as a political group. The departure of the Romanian MEPs meant that the ITS group no longer met these criteria.

To read more go to:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/pa/far-right-group-meps-collapses-european-parliament/article-168392>

Parliament Backs Idea of “Blue Card”

On the 26th September last, the European Parliament has backed plans for a new EU “Blue Card” for highly qualified migrant workers as part of a strategy for dealing with legal and illegal migration. The Parliament declared that migration can “enrich and energise” the Union and that the Blue Card should make it easier to attract knowledge workers to fill employment gaps in the EU. The proposals of the Commission aim to relax restrictive immigration laws that prevent EU companies from hiring staff that are urgently needed from abroad. It is also aimed at demographic developments that will (according to projections) mean that by 2050 two workers will have to pay for the livelihood of one retired person as compared to four workers today.

For further information and links go to:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/migration+mobility/blue-card-proposal-unanimously-welcomed/article-167869>

Green Paper on Urban Mobility Adopted by EU Commission

On the 25th September last, the EU Commission adopted a new Green Paper on urban mobility entitled “Towards a New Culture of Urban Mobility”. The Green Paper poses a series of questions about the role of the EU in an area that has hitherto been the preserve of national and regional policies. Given that urban mobility ought to ensure the economic development of cities, the quality of life of citizens and the protection of their environment, the Commission is advocating an integrated approach (something that is welcomed by the ACE) to five main challenges. These are for cities with more free-flowing traffic, for less polluted cities, more intelligent urban transport, more accessible urban transport and safe, reassuring transport.

Consultations on the Green Paper will continue until 15th march 2008 and it can be accessed at:

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/clean/green_paper_urban_transport/index_en.htm

Emergency Architects Foundation Formed

Emergency Architects (Architectes de l'urgence) has recently formed, in collaboration with the National Council of Architects Order in France, the Emergency Architects Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation recognised as being of public interest by a decree of the 28th August 2007. The objects of the Foundation are to:

Support the engagement of French architects in humanitarian actions across the globe

Bring the competence of architects to the benefit of victims of natural, technological or man made disasters.

To encourage the training of architects in France and in the world.

To conserve and promote the world architectural, cultural and historic patrimony.

The President of the new Foundation is Patrick Columbel, Vice-President is Jean-François Susini and the first Board meeting was held on 15th October last. More information at:

<http://www.emergencyarchitects.net/index.php>

A Helping Hand for France for Energy Efficient Public Buildings

In a first for Europe, an accord, opening up a credit line worth €350m, was signed in Paris on the 16th October between the French Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Jean-Louis Borloo, European Investment Bank (EIB) Vice-President Philippe de Fontaine Vive and Chairman of the Management Board of Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne, Charles Milhaud. The Accord is part of the “Haute Qualité Energie Environnement” programme that supports the financing of construction projects and refurbishment of public buildings throughout France that meet stringent, high standards of energy efficiency and environmental standards. The allocation by the EIB is in line with the European Unions policies on climate and energy as declared and adopted in March 2007.

To read more go to:

<http://www.eib.org/projects/press/2007/2007-103-france-350-millions-de-la-bei-pour-des-bâtiments-publics-éco-efficients.htm>

CEN Document on Sustainability of Construction Works Disapproved by National Members

In a recent vote by the National Members of the CEN/TC 350 that is working on the development of standards for the sustainability of construction works, the first document of the TC to go to a formal vote was disapproved by a significant factor. The document voted upon was entitled "Sustainability of construction works – Framework for assessment of integrated building performance – Part 1: Environmental, health and comfort and life cycle cost performance". The TC will now consider options for moving the work ahead at its next meeting scheduled for the 21st November 2007. Readers should note that the ACE has a seat as an observer on this TC and that it is monitoring developments.

The Urban Audit Findings Offer a Basis for Tuning Europe's Engine of Growth

The latest findings of the urban audit indicate that Europe's cities, which are crucial to the competitiveness of the EU in a global economy, suffer problems of social exclusion and spatial segregation. The urban audit is an independent survey carried out for the EU Commission on urban statistics that highlights, among other things, that there are wide disparities in the living space that EU citizens have at their disposal with some countries having, on average, three times more space than others. To get more information on the report, go to:

<http://www.urbanaudit.org/>

Legal Action Against France and Latvia for Failure to Notify Measures Required by the EPBD

On the 17th October last, the EU Commission sent reasoned opinions to Paris and Riga for failure to notify whether or not they had implemented the measures required by Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPBD). The measures should have been transposed by the 4th January 2006.

Commission Postpones Adoption of a Package of "Green" Measures

On the 22nd October, the EU Commission announced that it would be postponing the adoption of the package of "green" measures decided upon at the March 2007 European Council for the cutting of CO2 emissions. These measures were to be shared out among the EU-27 to assist them in meeting their targets for the reduction of their carbon footprint and for developing renewable energy. Initially scheduled for the adoption on the 5th December 2007, it will now be January 2008 before the measures are adopted.

For more, go to:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-change/eu-climate-energy-proposals-delayed/article-167816>

Commission Announces New Strategy for the Internal Market

On the 13th November 2007 the Commission presented its new strategy for the internal market in the 21st Century. It indicates the political vision of the Commission in this field that lists the sectors in which the internal market remains fragmented and that require targeted measures. Attention will be focussed on the advantages that citizens and small and medium-sized enterprises may rightfully expect when the internal market is functioning without obstacles. The strategy identifies, among other sectors, the liberal professions as one sector with a high level of potential for the strategy. It notes that: *"The best results are often achieved via a joint approach combining various policies, those of the internal market and competition, and adding to the legislative instruments by "lighter" approaches such as (the adoption of) guidelines, self-regulation, training or advice"*. The ACE will be monitoring developments.

Website to Engage Citizens in Climate Policy Development Launched

On the 6th November 2007 the Commission Vice-President responsible for communication, Margot Wallstrom, launched a new website called *"Road to Copenhagen 2009: Your Role in a Post-2012 Climate Agreement"* that will permit interested citizens to directly participate in the formulation and writing of climate change policy. The website is jointly hosted by Margot Wallstrom, Gro Harlem Brundtland (former Norwegian Prime Minister and UN Special Envoy on Climate Change) and Mary

Robinson (former President of the Republic of Ireland and currently Vice-President of the Club of Madrid). This innovative approach to inclusive policy making marks a new step in the technical approach of the Commission as users can edit the actual text of a communique under consideration online.

To participate, go to:

<http://www.roadtocopenhagen.org/index.php?>

Commission to Press Ahead with Register of Lobbyists

Vice-President Siim Kallas has announced that the Commission intends to proceed with plans to establish its own register of lobbyists whether or not the European Parliament decides to join the initiative. The hope, to date, has been that a joint approach could be agreed but several MEPs, including Alexander Stubb, are saying that they consider this to be "impractical". Alexander Stubb is currently preparing a report on the issue that will set out the opinion of the Parliament. At issue are other aspects such as financial disclosure by lobbyists and whether or not the register should be made compulsory for all lobbyists. The Commissioner expressed the view that having separate registers would be "silly" and he indicated his preference for cooperation between the Commission and the Parliament. The timetable for the Parliamentary report in that the Committee stage should be completed on December 2007 with adoption in Plenary in January 2008. The Commission has indicated that it will proceed with a voluntary register in March 2008 as part of the implementation of its Transparency Initiative.

To read more go to:

http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/kallas/transparency_en.htm

Publications

UIA Publication – Spiritual Places

The UIA Work Programme on the topic of Spiritual Places, led by Ewa Kurylowicz has published the proceedings of the Conference held on the 20th October last in Warsaw. The theme of the Conference was *Architecture: The mute transmitter of the outspoken emotions*. More information on the event and the publication can be found via:

www.spiritual-places.eu

Guide on the Urban Dimension in Community Policies

An updated version of this important document is now available online. Published by the Commission (DG Regional Policy), it can be downloaded at:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/urban/index_en.htm

Events

ACE Conference – Designing the Future: The Market and Quality of Life

The ACE is holding a major international conference in Brussels on the 10th April next. It will address some of the key issues affecting the quality of life for EU citizens, concentrating on the positive contribution that high quality in the built environment can have on that quality. To get more information on the themes of the conference go to:

<http://www.ace-cae.org/MemberN/Content/EN/download/events/FlyerA5Final.pdf>

Sustainable Work Places

The seventh thematic study day of the research unit, CERAA, of the ISA St. Luc in Brussels, this event will be held on the 7th December 2007. With the challenges of climate change in mind the CERAA is proposing a structured day of reflection and study around the theme of how we work in the modern world, looking at business parks, working in cities and the evolution of the workplace itself. For more information go to:

<http://www.ceraa.be/index.php?rub=journeesetudesjedd7>

Cultural Policies in Administrative Cities

The Free University of Brussels and the European Economic and Social Committee are organising this Conference for the 7th December in Brussels. It will examine new approaches adopted by cities that host major administrations (such as Brussels, Strasbourg, Ottawa, The Hague, Brasilia etc.) to ensure a vigorous and attractive cultural life for its citizens. It will demonstrate how lessons learnt can be applied to city planning policies. To register go to:

http://www.eesc.europa.eu/mailbox/registrations/Mailform.asp?regis_id=2&type=en

L'Italie de Le Corbusier

On the occasion of the centenary of Le Corbusier's first trip to Italy, the Le Corbusier Foundation is holding this "15th Encounter" in Rome from the 15th to the 17th December 2007. For full information and online registration go to:

<http://www.casadellarchitettura.it/dettagli.asp?id=9790>

Urban Green Spaces – A Key For Sustainable Cities

This International Conference is to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria on the 17th and 18th April 2008 and it will undertake a critical reflection on relevant aspects of the future of cities and urban green spaces. It is being organised by the Municipality of Sofia and the GreenKeys Project. Further information at:

<http://www.greenkeys.org/conference>

Listing of events relating to Urban Issues

The European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) maintains a very good listing of events that relate to urban issues on its website, many of which are of interest to architects. It can be accessed at:

<http://www.eukn.org/eukn/meetings/index.html>

UIA Turin 2008 – Congress Website Opens

The next triennial UIA (International Union of Architects) Congress is to be held in Turin from the 29th June to the 3rd July 2008 at the Lingotto, once the main factory for Fiat and converted in recent times to a convention centre by the well-renowned architect Renzo Piano. The website for the Congress has now been opened at:

<http://www.uia2008torino.org/>

Calls for Papers

The ACE frequently receives notifications of "Calls for Papers" for conferences and seminars worldwide. You may have written a thesis or doctorate paper that you would like to present or you may have an idea that you wish to develop and to share with a wider audience – here is your chance:

Building Comfortable and Liveable Environments for All

This event will be held in the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA on the 15th and 16th May 2008. The organisers have issued a call for papers on a list of topics relating directly to accessibility and design-for-all at all scales in the built environment. Full details can be accessed at:

www.cibworld.nl

under the link "conferences" on the right hand side of the page. The deadline for submission of abstracts is the 15th December 2007.

17th Congress of the Argentinean Concrete Technology Association

Due to be held from the 29th to the 31st October 2008 in Cordoba, Argentina, this event will look at the latest developments in concrete technology and will seek to widely disseminate that knowledge. A call for papers has been issued with a deadline of the 30th April 2008 for the submission of abstracts. Full details can be found at:

<http://www.aath.org.ar/Congreso2000.htm>

Competitions

Schindler Award for Architecture 2007/2008: "Access for All"

The location for the next edition of the Schindler Award, open to all students of architecture across Europe, is Vienna. The motto is "To reclaim the public ground" and it aims at demonstrating how it is possible to produce designs that permit unobstructed access to buildings for everyone, regardless of physical abilities. For full details go to:

www.schindleraward.com

German Architect, Heike Hanada, Wins the Asplund Competition



The major International competition to find a design for a major extension to the famous Asplund library in Stockholm has been won by the German Architect, Heike Hanada. The report of the jury, the winning scheme and the runners-up can all be viewed at the following site:

http://www.arkitekt.se/asplund?subscribe_pash=420adcbdd8704b30664a5878b0c2973e

The Great Indoors Awards 2007

On the 17th November last, the ceremony for The Great Indoors Awards 2007 took place in the NAI Maastricht. Among the prize winners were Zaha Hadid, Heasterwick Studios, Ryui Nakamura Architects and Item Idem. To see the full results, go to:

www.the-great-indoors.com

Useful links

European Commission homepage

http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm

Search page for Commission documents

http://europa.eu/documents/comm/index_en.htm

The Barroso Commission:

http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/index_en.htm

Website of the Portuguese Presidency

<http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/>

European Forum for Architectural Policies

<http://www.architecture-forum.net>

URBACT Hous-Es Network website:

<http://urbact.eu/projects/hous-es.html>

Sustainable building website

www.sustainablebuilding.info

Collegi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (COAC) international relations database:

<http://www.coac.net/international/>

Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori (CNAPPC) database - ArchiEuro:

<http://www.archieuro.archiworld.it>

Website of the European Construction Technology Platform:

<http://www.ectp.org>

EU Impact Assessment in Practice

Consult a list of impact assessments that the EU has carried out on various legislative packages at:
http://ec.europa.eu/comm/secretariat_general/impact/index_en.htm

Register of Expert Groups of the European Commission:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/secretariat_general/regexp/

ArchiEuropa website – comparative information on practice of architecture:

<http://www.arvha.net/selectionlang.php?s=AXMIG1FZFB>

Archi-Student website – a wealth of information on schools and students of architecture in Europe:

www.archi-students.org

Link to the Newsletter of the International Union of Architects (UIA):

<http://www.uia-architectes.org/texte/england/Menu-2/4-lettre.html>

Website of the UIA Practice Commission – contains useful information on the work of the global architectural association, UIA, on practice related issues:

www.aia.org/about_uia

ACE Website:

<http://www.ace-cae.org>

Useful tip:

In the website addresses given in *ACE Info* for the documents of the EU, you will frequently see the following near the end of the address: “_en”. These two letters define the language of the document (English in the case of “en”) and you can usually change these two letters in order to bring you to a different language version as follows:

French _fr	German _de	Danish _da	Swedish _sv
Italian _it	Spanish _es	Greek _el	Dutch _nl
Portuguese _pt	Finnish _fi	Czech _cs	Maltese _mt
Estonian _et	Latvian _lv	Lithuanian _lt	Polish _pl
Hungarian _hu	Slovene _sl	Slovak _sk	Bulgarian _bg
Romanian _ro			

Editor's note

The editorial board for the compilation of *ACE Info* is:

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If you have information that you wish to have included in the next edition then e-mail it (in English or French please) to adrian.joyce@ace-cae.org. The deadline for submissions is the first Friday of each month.

Acknowledgements

The editorial board wishes to acknowledge the sources of information for this edition of *ACE Info* which include URBACT Newsletter, EUKN, the Euractiv website (www.euractiv.com) and Bulletin Quotidien Europe.

adrian.joyce@ace-cae.org - Comments and contributions welcome