

# Architects Council of Europe

2013 Annual Report & 2014 Outlook



ARCHITECTS COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE



# The Architects' Council of Europe

Photo cover:  
Bled, Slovenia.

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The **Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)** is the representative organisation for the architectural profession at European level.

Founded in Treviso, Italy in May 1990, **ACE** will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015.

**ACE's** goal is to influence EU legislation and policies that impact on architectural education and practice, as well as the overall quality and sustainability of the building environment. Its key objectives are

- to act as the single voice for architects in Europe;
- to promote the importance of Architecture throughout the EU;
- to safeguard the highest standards of qualification for architects;
- to advocate quality in architectural practice;
- to foster cross-border co-operation and facilitate European practice;
- to advance architectural quality in and the sustainable development of the built environment.

**ACE** comprises Member Organisations that are the nationally representative regulatory and professional bodies in the EU Member States, the Accession Countries and other European countries with a special status in relation to the EU. Through them, the **ACE** represents the interests of over half a million architects.

FOOTBRIDGE  
SIMONE-DE-BEAUVOIR.  
Paris, France.  
Architect: Dietmar Feichtinger.

## Acknowledgements

The **ACE** acknowledges all those who have worked contribute to our work during the past year and helped us to progress towards and realise our objectives. These include the 2013 President, Selma Harrington and Board Members - Lionel Dunet, Wolfgang Haack, Bulent Batuman, Pierre-Henri Schmutz, Martin Drahovsky, Indrek Näkk, Nicholas Galabov, Vincent Cassar, David Falla and Michel de Keyser, as well as the Chairs of the **ACE** Work Groups: Margaret Hynds o'Flanagan, Michel Procès, John Graby, Thomas Maibaum, Philip Ridgway, Pawel Kobylanski, Ian Pritchard, Judit Kimpian, Antonio Borghi and Teresa Taboas.



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## 2013 Annual Report & 2014 Outlook

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NEW SOLVAY BUSINESS SCHOOL.  
Brussels, Belgium.

Architect: Art & Build Architect.

Photo: Serge Brison.





## Introduction and report of out-going President, Selma Harrington

The close of 2013 coincided with the conclusion of a dynamic period of activity in [ACE](#), including the election of a new President and the partial renewal of the Executive Board, for 2014-2015, at the General Assembly held in Biel, Switzerland.

Ending my four-year Presidency, I hand over a strong and stable organisation which enjoys respect, relevance and prestige as an important voice of the architectural profession in Europe and internationally. We have built an organisation with a lively interaction of delegates from Member Organisations and a synergy with partner networks with whom we can work on common objectives.

Our profession remains exposed to de-regulatory pressures as evidenced by the Commission's Communication on the evaluation of national regulations on access to the professions and its Staff Working paper on the implementation of the Services Directive.

With the continued slow recovery of the construction sector, the permanent focus remains on the Jobs and Growth agenda and on the advancement of the role of the architect as a leading partner in the value chain of constructing a sustainable built environment. Our on-going involvement in the Strategy for the Sustainable Competitiveness of the Construction Sector and its Enterprises ("Construction 2020") consultative process has been a major exercise and is set to continue into 2014.

The publication of the Single Market Act II - marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Single Market – saw the introduction of new Directives as well as the up-dating of old ones. We can be satisfied with successful advocacy campaigns in a number of areas, although we may not have always achieved all of our aspirations in relation to the Professional Qualifications Directive, the Public Procurement Directive, the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Services in the Internal Market Directive.

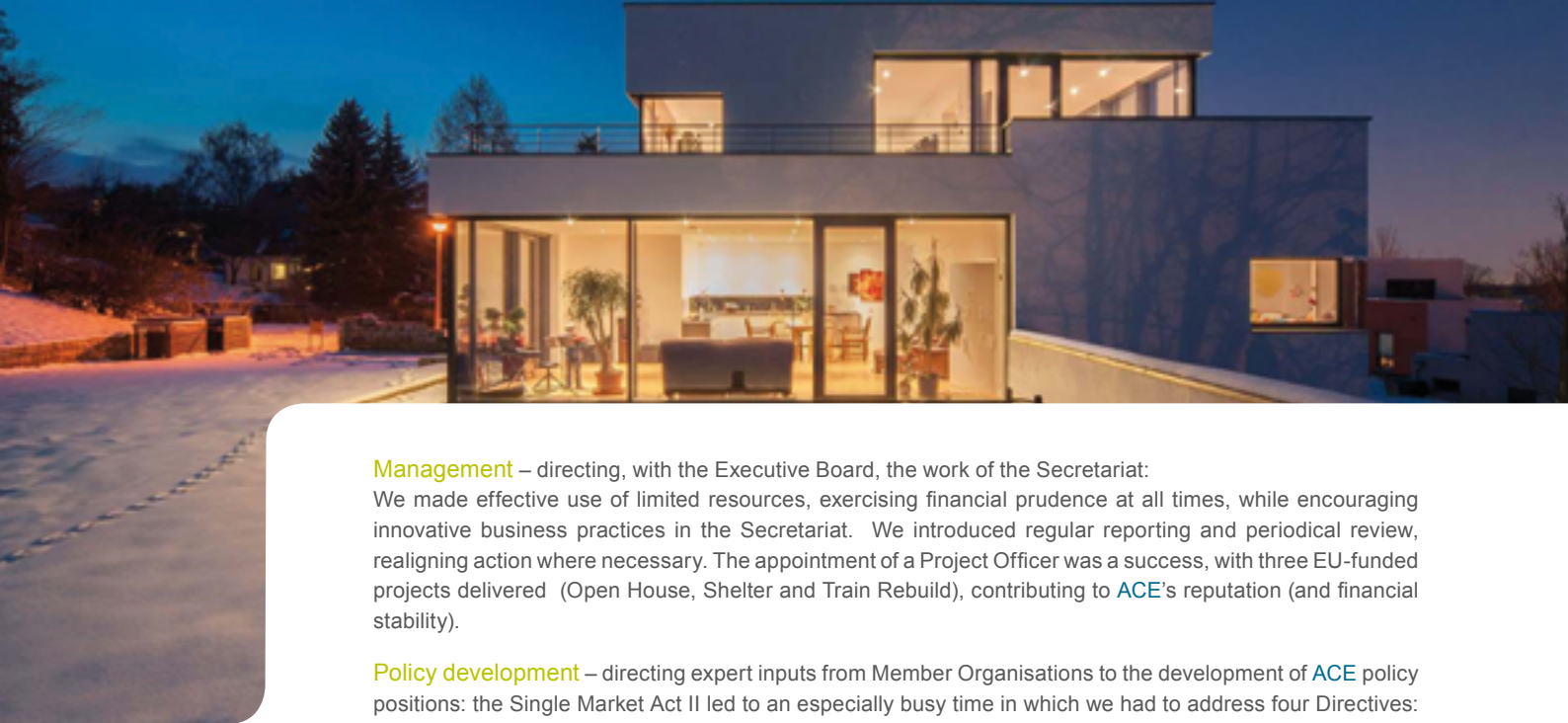
This challenging, but rewarding advocacy period has served to underline the importance of developing and pursuing our lobbying goals in tandem with our Member Organisations and it is vital that they continue to play their part at national level during the implementation process of these Directives.

With gratitude to all for the support and attention given to [ACE](#) during my mandates, I commend this 2013 Annual Report and 2014 Outlook to you.

### In pursuit of the aims of my "Review, Resource, Re-imagine" manifesto I have focused on:

**Strategic planning and leadership** – advancing the priorities of Member Organisations: developing actions to advance the priorities of Member Organisations focusing on Consensus and Team building – seeking greater engagement at every level of the organization:

- **Executive Board** – facilitated workshops on lobbying, communication, strategy;
- **General Coordinating Meeting** – enlivened with a visit to the EU Commission;
- **General Assembly** – more animation, with meetings in Leuven and Biel;
- **Member Organisations** – a platform was provided for members to demonstrate concerns; [ACE](#) also attended national events to show support in the face of deregulatory attacks;
- **External Partnerships** – we engaged with partners on common objectives both within the EU (EFAP, ENACA, EAAE and EFCA) and outside (ARCASIA, AUA, FPAA, UMAR, UIA and the professional bodies of Canada, South Korea, Russia and USA);
- **Advocacy and representation at EU level** – I engaged with the EU Presidencies (Ireland, Slovakia), visited both European Cities of Culture – Marseilles (France) and Kosice (Slovakia) and represented [ACE](#) at the 'Construction 2020' High Level Group.



ERSTES PASSIVHAUS MIT  
COMPUTERHEIZUNG.  
Dresden-Plauen, Germany.  
Architect: Reiter Architekten Dresden.  
Photo: Steffen Spitzner.

**Management** – directing, with the Executive Board, the work of the Secretariat:

We made effective use of limited resources, exercising financial prudence at all times, while encouraging innovative business practices in the Secretariat. We introduced regular reporting and periodical review, realigning action where necessary. The appointment of a Project Officer was a success, with three EU-funded projects delivered (Open House, Shelter and Train Rebuild), contributing to ACE's reputation (and financial stability).

**Policy development** – directing expert inputs from Member Organisations to the development of ACE policy positions: the Single Market Act II led to an especially busy time in which we had to address four Directives: Professional Qualifications, Public Procurement, Services in the Internal Market and Energy Efficiency.

A concerted effort has been made to give administrative support to Work Groups, to allow them to focus on applying their expertise to the development of policy positions. We also look to harness the expertise of **Member Organisations** to maintain the breadth of activity to which we aspire.

Finally, our involvement in '**Construction 2020**' has been a major exercise, from the organisation of our Colloquium, to ACE's involvement in the High Level Strategic Forum, and the designation of representatives to the thematic areas.

## Communications

During my term, ACE began a **Communications review**. After some initial "quick wins" (new templates for mission reports and policy positions), gradual adjustment of the newsletter and press releases, and the introduction of an Annual Report, we have focused on the development of a new ACE website. We first sought advice on the development of the specification, which formed the basis for a call to tender, short-listing and interviews. We are now working with the chosen consultant on the 'look and feel' of the new site which must serve the dual purpose of being a means of communication with/source of information for our Member Organisations, as well as a tool for communicating with the outside world.

## Thanks

I would like to thank all Executive Board Members – the 2012-2013 incumbents and those who served in the 2010-2011 period - as well as the staff, for their support and collaboration.



## Report of the Secretary General

Ian Pritchard

### Legislative programme

2013 was especially busy with a major focus on modernising the Professional Qualifications and Public Procurement Directives. The Parliament adopted the former in November and the latter will be voted in January 2014. Our focus, in 2014, will be on the implementation of these Directives as well as the Energy Efficiency Directive (adopted late 2012) as well as the evaluation of the de-regulatory impact of the Services Directive. ACE also responded to numerous consultations e.g. Access to third country procurement markets, insurance for cross-border service providers and Sustainable Buildings.

### Advocacy

ACE works with Member Organisations to develop common positions for submission to the Commission and Parliament. We are well placed to contact Commission officials and Parliamentary Rapporteurs, but it is vital that Member Organisations provide support by lobbying MEPs in key committees e.g. IMCO, Permanent Representations and National Coordinators.

### Work groups

Notwithstanding our limited human resources, I have continued to prioritise support for our expert work groups. These make an invaluable contribution to the development of our policy positions and the Secretary General (or another when unavailable) attends all meetings and assists with documentation, minutes, surveys, reports, recommendations and follow-up.

### Collaboration

ACE works closely, on policy matters, with other Brussels-based European organisations e.g. the Sectoral Professions group, the European Construction Forum and the European Services Forum. It is also part of a number of consortia working on EU-funded research projects.

### International Relations

As the EU-Canada Trade Agreement reaches its conclusion, ACE sustained mutual recognition talks with Canadian architects, while also following the nascent EU-US Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership which may serve to underpin our earlier agreement with NCARB. I also met with a South Korean delegation keen to revive earlier talks and ACE responded to an EU consultation on the possibility of a pluri-lateral trade in services agreement.

### Relations with Member Organisations

In 2013, the Secretary General attended meetings in Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland and the UK.

### Construction 2020

ACE participation in the Commission's 'Strategy for the Sustainable Competitiveness of the Construction Sector and its Enterprises' was a major focus in 2013. The President took part in the High Level Group and ACE delegates attended the five thematic sub-groups designed to

- stimulate investments in renovation and maintenance of buildings (C. Lerche, DK);
- boost innovation and improve worker's qualifications (P. Ridgway, FR, T. Karpati, DE);
- improve resource efficiency and environmental performance (U. Schneider, AT);
- standardise design codes of practice (J. Graby, IRL)
- promote the global position of European construction enterprises (Secretary General).

### Strategic Planning

To make it clearer to Member Organisations how their subscriptions are spent, we have developed a work cycle that includes a business plan (setting down what we propose to do); a budget (identifying how planned activities will be funded) and an Annual Report (saying what we achieved). We are also developing a longer-term strategy to provide a broader context for annual business plans and a Manifesto for the 2014 European Parliament elections.





## Access to the Profession (Thematic Area 1)

Coordinator: Wolfgang Haack

### Professional Qualifications Directive (Margaret Hynds o'Flanagan)

The modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD) was a major work area in 2013. ACE met with Parliamentarians and Commission officials from early in the year. The final text of the new Directive was largely agreed by the end of June and adopted by the European Parliament and Council of Ministers in October-November. Directive 2013/55 was published in the Official Journal on 28 December and comes into force on 18 January 2014.

The modernisation of the PQD is considered, by the Parliament and the Commission, to be a key driver for the successful growth of the Single Market. This is evident in the increasing emphasis on seeking to drive, rather than simply facilitate, professional mobility. From the beginning of the consultative and legislative process, ACE sought to ensure that the interests of architecture, clients (consumers and those who interact with the built environment) and the profession itself are taken into account by the European policy-makers.

The 2005 PQD set a minimum training standard for architects of 4 years full time study at University level or equivalent. This never reflected the reality of training requirements across Europe or the standards required for practice. Raising the minimum standard to a realistic common denominator has long been a goal of ACE. The 2013 PQD now stipulates that architectural training must comprise either 5 years of university level training (5+0) or not less than 4 years of study supplemented by a supervised professional traineeship of a minimum of 2 years (4+2), a significant improvement on the old 4+0 minimum. While, disappointingly, there is no practical experience requirement after a 5 year degree, Recital 24 clearly establishes the "recognised need to supplement academic training with professional experience under the supervision of qualified architects" - a positive base from which ACE can continue to work.

ACE supported the amendment to the "European Professional Card" proposal which can now be in the form of an e-certificate instead of the originally planned 'smart card'. Nevertheless, ACE remains unconvinced that the professional card would prove beneficial to architects who already benefit from automatic recognition provisions. The provisions on partial access specifically exclude those professions addressed under the automatic recognition regime, including architects.

During the modernisation process, it became clear that regulation is often only recognised when it takes a particular form, such as regulation of title. The 'transparency' exercise set out in Article 59 may have the effect of clarifying the importance of regulation in the field of architecture, as diversity in the way the profession is regulated has led to a degree of under-recognition at EU level.

### Professional Practice Experience and Continuing Professional Development (Michel Procès)

References to Practical Experience and Continuing Professional Development in the new PQD led ACE to re-instate two groups – **Professional Practice Experience (PPE+2)** and **CPD** (chairman, Michel Procès) - to develop work in these areas.

Initial work to develop a definition of PPE provided the basis for extracting a short political paper to append to our response to the modernisation of the PQD. The CPD work group has developed a set of guidelines against which Member Organisations can benchmark national systems and any notified to ACE will be entered into a register. All systems notified will recognise others on the list and longer-term, it is hoped to extend this mutual recognition system beyond the EU to other regions of the world.

The Regulatory Questions & Issues group (chairman, John Graby) responded to the Corazza-Bildt review of the implementation of the Services Directive, conducted a survey of Member Organisations and will continue to monitor the de-regulatory impact of this Directive.





## Practice of the Profession (Thematic Area 2)

Coordinators Pierre-Henri Schmutz

### Public Procurement & Architectural Design Competitions (*Thomas Maibaum/Georg Pendl*)

During 2013, the work group continued to track progress of the draft Directive through the Trilogue. The aim is to provide for simpler, more flexible instruments to allow public authorities to conclude transparent and competitive contracts easily and at the best value for money. While the vote will not be taken until January 2014, the text emerging from the Trilogue is deliberately permissive, leaving authorities maximum choice regarding procedures. ACE's focus in 2014 will be to develop guidance to assist Member Organisations to influence the implementation phase.

Throughout the process, ACE sought to facilitate the participation of architectural firms (mostly SMEs) in public procurement, promote selection procedures and award criteria based on quality and to ensure that the specific nature of intellectual services is taken into account.

ACE advocated a simplification of administrative demands and opposed turnover requirements for architectural service providers set at three times the estimated contract value (now to reduce to two times the estimated contract value). Regarding awarding criteria, ACE supported the substitution of lowest cost with Most Economically Advantageous Tender.

Going forward, ACE will continue to recommend the inclusion of the competitive procedure with negotiation and/or the design contests as standard approaches for the procurement of architectural services, given the unsuitability of electronic auctions.

### Scope of Service (*Philip Ridgway*)

Tasks accomplished in 2013 include the final version of narrative case studies explaining how architects would tackle three types of project in different countries (CZ, FI, FR, DE, PT, ES, UK). These give depth to the overview provided by an earlier

survey covering a larger number of countries. It was concluded that although professional tasks are very similar across Europe, there are nevertheless important differences, especially regarding the level of detail provided, frequently due to differences in national requirements regarding statutory submissions, resulting in variations in resource allocation to projects and fee levels.

Following on from this work, a synoptic scope of works for architects in Europe has been developed (nearing final draft). On completion in January 2014, this document will constitute a sound base for work on liability issues within ACE. Drawing on the continued contribution of its members to build upon past achievements, the Scope of Service work group will be combined with the Liability & Insurance work group in 2014, and will also include a reflection on **fee-scales**.

### Insurance (*Pawel Kobylanski*)

As there are 28 different insurance systems in the EU and no reference model (though there are some similarities), the group aims to develop a system to cover the profession across the EU that excludes joint and several liabilities and insures all stakeholders against loss.

### Trade in Services (*Ian Pritchard*)

In 2013, the focus was mainly on the EU-Canada Trade Agreement. Though well advanced, it is taking longer to conclude than expected and ACE maintained mutual recognition talks with Canadian counterparts via telephone conference. Before the summer, the EU resumed negotiations with the USA (Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership). This may provide a legislative context for the earlier ACE-NCARB agreement. The Secretary General hosted a meeting with a South Korean delegation aimed at reviving MRA talks. Finally, ACE responded to an EU consultation on the possibility of developing a plurilateral trade in services agreement (TISA).



## Architecture & Quality of Life (Thematic Area 3)

Coordinator: Nicholas Galabov

**A considerable effort was made in 2013 to re-energise the work groups in this area.**

### Environment & Sustainable Architecture (Judit Kimpian)

Judit Kimpian was appointed to chair this group and policy positions were developed on

- 'Closing the Performance' Gap (advocating greater energy literacy for all built environment professionals, mandatory feedback from buildings in operation, support for transparent communication of data as well as mandatory 'disclosure' and benchmarking);
- 'Life Cycle Assessment': to support the 'Construction 2020' strategy, sustainable use of public funds, long-term planning and life-cycle cost analysis/quality-based assessment throughout the construction management process;
- 'EU Consultation on Sustainable Buildings' underlining the need for more comparable data on the environmental impact of construction materials, transparent calculation metrics and an open data policy for mandatory Green Procurement.

### Urban Issues (Antonio Borghi)

New terms of reference were adopted for the group whose key objectives are to:

- develop a brochure on the added value architecture and urban design bring to sustainable urban development and regeneration;
- monitor and input to regulations on the urban dimension of the new structural funds;
- increase ACE's influence and political impact via participation in EU funded projects in the fields of territorial cooperation, urban policies, research and innovation;
- promote the European Compact City model;
- ensure that the role of the architect is taken into account in the implementation of the Reference Framework of European Cities.

Work group members represented ACE in wide range of fora including the

- URBACT LINKS Conference (Urban Intergroup), in Brussels;
- Urban Development Group meetings in Dublin/ Vilnius;
- Intelligent Energy Europe SHELTER Conference, Dublin;
- URBACT National Training Schemes, Rome;
- European Sustainable Energy Week, Brussels;
- High level meeting in the European Parliament on sustainable urban development;
- Presentations at ECTP Biennale in Cascais
- European Urban Knowledge Network, Oradea.

A common political platform will be developed from which members may draw data and positions to make statements when requested.

### Housing (Teresa Taboas)

The group is developing a Manifesto calling on the EU to establish legal and financial instruments to ensure that procurement of architectural services in housing is based on

- an holistic and integrated process that respects the efficient use of resources, taking into account the three pillars of sustainability (social, economic and environmental);
- adequate community consultation and involvement in procedures including the use of architectural design competitions for works of major public interest;
- long-term planning rather than short-term goals, applying life-cycle cost analysis throughout the process and MEAT instead of lowest cost;
- adequate building control procedures that favour citizens' health and safety, the quality and stability of the built environment and optimal operational/ maintenance costs.

Suitable linkages will be formed with national campaigns e.g. rehabilitation work in Spain, the major housing action in France and the RIUSO campaign in Italy.





## Communications Review

ACE Vice-President, Lionel Dunet

ACE first retained the services of an e-business consultancy to conduct an audit of the existing website and help ACE to define an on-line strategy. The consultancy also designed the outline structure and navigation for the new website, produced draft mock-ups and assisted with the drafting of the functional and technical specifications.

In July, an invitation to tender was issued to ten web companies for the construction of the future site. Interviews were held with four shortlisted companies and the preferred candidate was selected - "Trynisis" – a company that specialises in the development of websites for international organisations.

The design of the website is being kept tight and functional though there is much to include, and will feature architectural images more prominently. From October, ACE started working with Trynisis on the various phases of the projects. The detailed design of the layout, development of the functionality and tools of the site and the re-drafting of the contents (texts and documentation) are all underway.

HTML development is planned to take place on a test server from January 2014 and it is expected that the new ACE website will be launched in the Spring of 2014.

In parallel, ACE made a number of adjustments to other aspects of its communications for example, new templates were developed to facilitate the production of succinct mission reports and summary policy positions.

We are also looking to gradually evolve the ACE newsletter, so that it can become a single page with embedded links, rather than a long text. ACE Alerts and Press Releases are also being rationalised.

Architects'  
Council of  
Europe

BIOTECHNICAL FACULTY,  
Ljubljana, Slovenia.  
Architect: Arhitektura Krusec.  
Photo: Miran Kambic.





SOLAR EQUINOX HOUSE.  
Bulgaria.  
Architects: Ignatov Architects.  
Photo: Rossen Donev.

## EU-funded projects

Project Officer, Eleni Goni

In 2013, ACE concluded two: one FP7 projects (7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme) and one Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) project – SHELTER and OPEN HOUSE - and started three others: LEEMA, INSPIRE and A2PBEER. All relate to the building sector and address issues of sustainability, energy efficiency and renovation, innovative materials and technologies. Through these, ACE seeks to promote the architects' role in building sustainability and energy retrofitting, and to raise its visibility and recognition by engaging with a wide range of EU stakeholders, events, conferences and publications.

### SHELTER- IEE (ended May 2013)

Brought together Social Housing Organisations and European professionals involved in testing and implementing integrated project delivery methods in energy renovation of Social Housing. ACE helped organise a conference, during the EU Sustainable Energy week in Brussels, to explore the possibilities of scaling up renovation with innovative thinking, planning and financing. In collaboration with other European Associations (EBC, CECODHAS) ACE produced a set of political recommendations, addressing ways of improving the coordination of professionals involved in energy renovation, mindful of opportunities to strengthen the role of architects in this area.

### OPEN HOUSE [www.openhouse-fp7.eu](http://www.openhouse-fp7.eu) (project completed in July 2013 with a final event in Brussels)

The objective of OPEN HOUSE was to merge existing methodologies for the sustainability assessment of buildings e.g. LEED, BREEAM, DGNB) towards a common approach. With the aim of achieving wide acceptance in Europe, the OPEN HOUSE methodology was developed through a transparent, collective and open process, with extensive communication and interaction between the stakeholders. The final outcome of the research is a non-proprietary, sustainability assessment method for buildings in design phase or operation. OPEN HOUSE offers a comprehensive and user-friendly methodology, supported by an interactive and free to use web tool (OPEN HOUSE Platform). An Assessment Guideline providing a detailed description of all the indicators examined is available at: [http://www.openhouse-fp7.eu/assets/files/OPEN\\_HOUSE\\_AG1.2.pdf](http://www.openhouse-fp7.eu/assets/files/OPEN_HOUSE_AG1.2.pdf)

### LEEMA- FP7 [www.leema.eu](http://www.leema.eu) (began in January)

The objective is to develop a new generation of inorganic insulation materials and building insulation masonry components. ACE is responsible for the Business Plan for the industrial application of the new production processes, communication and promotion of the products in the building sector.

### INSPIRE-FP7 [www.inspirefp7.eu](http://www.inspirefp7.eu)

This 4-year project aims to produce systemic renovation packages for residential and office buildings. These packages aim to reduce the primary energy consumption to less than 50 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year. During the first year of the project data was collected from existing European building stock. The design of a monitoring system, to assess the energy savings of buildings under renovation, is underway, a market survey on existing renewable energy solutions has been conducted and several concepts for radiant ceiling solutions are being developed.

### A2PBEER [www.a2pbeer.eu](http://www.a2pbeer.eu)

This 4-year project - "Affordable and Adaptable Public Buildings through Energy Efficient Retrofitting" – started in September and will develop a systemic energy-efficient retrofitting methodology for Public buildings and take advantage of synergies derived from interventions at district level. The outcomes of the research will be illustrated in three real demonstration cases as well as in three complementary virtual projects. The aim is to cover a variety of climatic areas and building uses. One of ACE's main roles is to ensure the dissemination of project outcomes and assist the development of training materials aimed at architects and other groups.





## Strategic alliances and networks

**ACE** has developed a unique profile and reputation in the heart of EU officialdom in Brussels, despite limitations due to scale, structure and funding. We have also developed relationships with other international networks to strengthen the voice of the profession in the EU.

**Member Organisations** – while we continue to develop contacts with relevant Directorates at the European Commission, MEPs and others, we will not fulfil our ambition to raise the stature of the profession if Member Organisations do not take a more active campaigning role. Last year's activity regarding the Qualifications Directive illustrated the complexity of making an impact at EU level and the need to synchronise actions at national level.

**ACE** values its strategic alliances and continues to engage with partner networks to refine the effectiveness of our involvement.

**EAAE** – **ACE's** co-operation with the network representing architectural education continues, through bi-annual meetings at Presidential level.

**ENACA** – we benefit from the involvement of **ACE** delegates in the European Network of Architects Competent Authorities and enjoy excellent relations.

**EFAP** – in recent years **ACE's** Vice-President has been a member of the Board of the European Forum for Architectural Policies. Additionally, **ACE** is present at the biannual conferences organised by each EU Presidency. This co-operation is seen as a vehicle to support the formulation of national architectural policies.

**UIA** – **ACE** has good relations with the International Union of Architects. We continue to seek ways of rationalising **ACE's** work in relation to that of UIA Regions I and II. We are also fully committed to the development of a model of regional co-operation through international architectural organisations like ARCASIA, AUA, FPAA and others.

**ACE** has developed contacts in recent years with registration and professional bodies in Canada (CALA/RAIC), the USA (NCARB/AIA), South Korea (KIRA) and the Caribbean Islands (CARICOM group), in response to invitations to maintain dialogue leading towards mutual recognition agreements to facilitate mobility of architects in the context of international trade agreements.





LEUVEN  
ACE GA 2013.

## Financial out-turn for 2013

Treasurer David Falla

### EXPENDITURE

Premises	€ 41 881
Maintenance	€ 2 118
Office supplies & services	€ 10 896
Professional fees	€ 40 096
Executive Board expenses	€ 80 027
Communications	€ 8 277
Motor vehicle expenses	€ 10 538
ACE meeting expenses	€ 52 983
Staff costs	€ 365 221
Insurance	€ 1 510
Other operating expenses	€ 2 473
Financial expenses	€ 2 813
Projects	€ 48 296
Depreciation	€ 3 248
Extraordinary charges	€ 508

### TOTAL EXPENSES

€ 670 885

### INCOME

Activities	€ 165 788
Members subscriptions	€ 646 589
Recovered expenses	€ 12 430
Financial income	€ 8 111

### TOTAL INCOME

€ 832 918





## “What I see for ACE”

2014-2015 President, Luciano Lazzari

In this time of economic difficulty especially, we must remember that our primary duty is to answer our members' needs, which are becoming more urgent in many ways. To do this, I believe ACE needs to concentrate on **Priorities and Strategies**. In the short term ACE must have a **focus**, but more importantly, in the long term, it must have a **Political Vision**.

### Focus

I see this focus beginning with a rational analysis of work programmes and the pragmatic and efficient use of its resources, with a view to streamlining and limiting its objectives to those that are important and attainable. This means prioritising and re-organising the vast and admirable amount of work our members selflessly put in and which is the core of ACE's strength. I hope this will bring economies.

Of course we need to continue to address those issues that have a direct effect on our work, especially the Public Procurement, Qualifications and Services Directives as well as our EU CPD initiative. We also need to gather and distribute information on EU programmes, subsidies and incentives relating to Urban Renewal, Energy Saving and Sustainability.

We had expected a period of calm to follow the revision of the Qualifications Directive and the evaluation of the Services Directive. Instead we are faced with renewed pressures to deregulate, beginning with a Commission evaluation of national regulations on access to the professions (already underway). In this regard, it is important that we try to be more proactive, to stimulate and assist our members in the work they need to do at national level.

### Long term Political Vision

We need to remember two overriding issues: the future of our profession and that of our environment. These are inseparable – and this means looking ahead. We cannot know where we are going if we do not look at who is coming into our profession. Links with Schools must be re-established and connection to the student world encouraged and developed.

We also need to develop our Global Network in order to offer outlets to European architects. We must provide information but we must also develop a valid internationalisation programme to allow us to promote our unique European brand to a larger market, on our terms. In this regard, we need to reassess our relationship with the UIA and work towards making regional organisations such as ours more relevant and Influential at global level.

### 2014 Political Context – *Secretary General, Ian Pritchard*

The 6-month period of the Greek Presidency includes the final stages of legislative negotiations before the end of the Parliamentary term. With European Parliament elections due to take place in May, the Commission agenda is a little lighter. While ACE will be less concerned with reform of **European Monetary Union**, **Illegal Immigration** and **Maritime Policy** (three of the four priorities of the Greek Presidency), our profession will be deeply affected by the **on-going Promotion of growth-oriented policies to boost employment and cohesion**.

Directives revised and voted in 2013 will enter the two-year implementation phase, during which ACE will need to work very closely with the Member Organisations in order to understand, and influence where possible, the manner in which EU legislation is being transposed into the national context. This is particularly important with regard to Public Procurement where the Directive allows Member States a range of options, some ill suited to the procurement of architectural services.



WHITE HOUSE IN GREEN.  
Belgium.  
Architect: Karla Menten I architecture.

There are also issues relating to the de-regulatory impact of work on Access to the Professions (cf. Qualifications Directive) and the evaluation of the Services Directive.

#### European Parliament elections

During the current economic crisis, there is sometimes a perception that EU political decision-making lacks proper legitimacy, even though the voters are exclusively responsible for determining political majorities in the Parliament which will set the course for new legislation, challenge bad policies and lead debate over the next term.

Last autumn, the Parliament launched an information campaign that will continue beyond the May 2014 elections, until Parliament elects the new President and Commission, and approves the new political agenda.

The first phase of the information campaign – **Act, React, Impact** – was initiated in the autumn of 2013. The second phase will highlight five key topics – **the economy, jobs, quality of life, money and the EU in the world** (to February 2014). These resonate with the “**Construction 2020**” strategy, with which **ACE** is actively engaged. Moreover, **ACE** has starting adjusted its 2014 **Strategy and Business Plan** to better align policy outputs to the EU agenda. The third phase centres around the election campaign (to 22-25 May) and the final phase will focus on the newly-elected European Parliament, election of the new Commission President and the inauguration of the new Commission.

**ACE** is developing a Manifesto based on the priorities called for at the Leuven Assembly which Member Organisations will be encouraged to disseminate candidates.





REGIONAL LIBRARY AND  
KNOWLEDGE CENTRE.  
Pécs, Hungary.  
Architect: Tarnóczy Tamás Attila.

## Goals and priorities for 2014

### Professional Qualifications Directive

The immediate objective of this work programme will be to monitor developments relating to Partial Access, the Professional Card and the Internal Market Information system (IMI). It will also facilitate coordination with the Regulatory Questions & Issues work group and Professional Practical Experience work group.

### Regulatory Questions & Issues

Article 59 of the new **Qualifications Directive** (transparency) has led the Commission to embark on another evaluation of national regulations on access to the professions (and the justification for such regulation). There is also the Peer Review evaluation of the implementation of the Services in the Internal Market Directive.

The Commission has developed a concern regarding the **accumulated burden of regulation for the professions**. Critical questions are likely to concern compulsory membership of organisations; requirements relating to the legal structure of companies, share capital and voting rights; reserved functions; qualification levels and professional indemnity insurance.

So the treatment of the subject will be of a more regulatory nature, straddling issues of professional mobility, the Services Directive and establishment issues. **ACE** will develop a political position in relation to the impact of the Transparency exercise and a Roadmap

The group will develop a common understanding of key regulatory principles that can be used to defend the architect's future and propose a policy document to help Member Organisations resist current deregulatory pressures from the evaluations to the PQD and SIM Directives.

### Professional Practice Experience

The immediate objective is to develop a more detailed definition of professional practice experience and a clear and readable summary table showing the component parts for distribution to all Member Organisations. The group will also develop a Glossary to explain terminology and define phases and requirements.

### Continuing Professional Development

The group will develop a register of mutually recognised national CPD systems that are in conformity with the approved **ACE** CPD Guidelines.

### Schools programme

Working with the EAAE, this group will prepare a white paper setting out the joint objectives of **ACE**-EAAE collaboration and outline achievements to date and the political basis of the work. They will also establish an electronic repository for useful information on each organization and dynamic sharing. In addition **ACE** could encourage more contact with students e.g. through a logo competition, a call for papers on the Future of the Profession or Architect 2050, or organize another seminar (cf. earlier ones in Dublin and Venice).

### Services in the Internal Market

**ACE** will continue to monitor the evaluation of the Services Directive as part of a wider response to deregulatory pressures (including the review of regulations governing access to the professions cf. PQD). As part of the Peer Review, the Commission is assessing: the economic impact of the Directive; whether barriers to cross-border movement have been removed or the regulatory environment streamlined; and the impact of the Points of Single Contact, requirements limiting company structures or shareholding in companies.

**ACE** will also remain vigilant regarding voluntary convergence opportunities and define a core scope of service, which will inform our work on Liability & Insurance, as we develop a policy to provide cover for this in the context of cross-border provision.

### Scope of Services and Liability & Insurance

Goals to be pursued include developing an overview of fee systems in the Member States and provision of information to promote fee-systems at national level; and an overview of the situation in the Member States regarding insurance and liability, with special focus on cross-border activities, as well as the identification and elimination of impediments to the provision of cross-border services.

The group's work will be closely coordinated with that of RQI, Trade in Services, Public Procurement and also the **ACE**'s internationalisation programme. The common objective is to provide a guideline document setting a European standard for Scope of Services and retribution.

### Public Procurement

The new **Procurement Directive** offers an opportunity to erase some long-standing anomalies that exclude SMEs from markets. **ACE** will develop

guidance to assist Member Organisations to make representations at national level during the implementation phase. Related issues such as Green Procurement and access to third country procurement markets will also be addressed.

### Architectural Design Competitions

This is a core issue for architects as a means of obtaining work and promoting high quality outcomes, requiring transposition of rules and best practice criteria. The work group will up-date the [ACE](#) website (including the 10 Recommendations, the Public Procurement matrix and the master document), develop detailed recommendations in relation to the new Directive and collate information on procedures in other countries.

### Environment & Sustainable Architecture

The philosophy of Re-use could be a political vehicle that takes on board all aspects of European sustainability, including Life Cycle assessment and the performance gap between buildings as designed and buildings in use. The group will give support to Member Organisations in their lobbying as the re-cast Energy Performance in Buildings Directive is implemented in the Member States.

### Urban Issues

The group is developing an illustrated brochure describing the added value of architecture and urban design for sustainable urban development and regeneration. The group will also provide input to regulations on the urban dimension of the new structural funds, , advocate for the European Compact City model and ensure that the architect's role is taken into account in implementation of the Reference Framework of Sustainable European Cities. Finally, we will consider ways to incorporate Heritage into the Urban Issues agenda.

### Housing

This group will be incorporated into the Urban Issues work group and will gather information on the various national systems that contemplate tax rebates for restructuring private housing. This information will be important for future political action in Member States and can become an integral part of the urban renewal agenda. .

### Internationalisation programme

The aim of this programme is to optimise the dissemination of information, develop an interactive, on-line map of Europe giving information on working

in other EU jurisdictions. It will also set up a global network of ambassadors or consulates around the world that can give practical assistance, participate in discussions about the restructuring of the UIA and collaboration with EFAP. It will also disseminate EU CPD programmes more widely and generally promote forms of Euro-branding.

In addition, Trade in Services work (coordinated with PQD, RQI and SoS) will include on-going monitoring of policy and strategy, pursuing the CETA agreement with Canada to its conclusion, responding to external enquiries and preparing for the resumption of talks with the USA, South Korea and CARIFORUM.

### Research & Innovation

[ACE](#) will create a Research & Innovation panel to evaluate requests to participate in EU-funded projects, advise on existing project work, disseminate the results of EU project work and deliver content for a EU CPD platform. It will also spread information on opportunities for architects and Member Organisations.

### Communications programme

Four axes of communication will be developed – External (public, EU institutions, architects); Members, Internal and Political. To this end, we will conclude the development of the new website, develop a new, internal newsletter to complement the externally focused one, further encourage the use of new templates for policy positions and missions reports, and consider up-dating the [ACE](#) logo.

### Construction 2020

This DG Enterprise strategy rests on five pillars of activity: finance, skills, research, regulatory reform and global competitiveness.

[ACE](#) will continue to consider how architects can best contribute to the achievement of this strategy, with particular emphasis on

- **retro-fit and urban rehabilitation** (NB. [ACE](#) work groups on **Environment & Sustainable Architecture**, **Urban Issues** and **Housing**; the architect's role can in relation to the implementation of Directive 2012/27/EU on **Energy Efficiency**;
- **research** (largely through our involvement in EU-funded projects – Horizon 2020);
- **global competitiveness** (Trade in Services, Mutual Recognition Agreements, work on international standards)



BNA BUILDING OF THE YEAR  
2013 PUBLIC PRIZE.  
The Netherlands.

Architect: Karel Doorman  
Ibelings van Tilburg  
Architecten.

Photo: Ossip van Duivenbode.

## Structure of ACE (governance, membership)

The **Architects' Council of Europe** is an international, not-for-profit association composed of the national, architectural registration bodies and professional associations. It consists of

- a General Assembly
- an Executive Board
- a Finance Committee
- work groups, configured in three thematic areas and
- a permanent Secretariat in Brussels.

The **General Assembly** is composed of Delegates from all Member Organisations. It is the sovereign body and meets twice a year to adopt **ACE** policies and budgets.

The function of the **Executive Board** is to execute policies formulated by the General Assembly and to ensure the proper administration of **ACE**. The Executive Board is composed of 11 Members, 6 of whom are elected by the General Assembly (including the President) for a two year term, with the balance consisting of 5 persons from the Member Organisations (nominated in accordance with an established rotation) also serving for a two-year term of office that alternates with the elections to ensure continuity from one Board to the next.

The **Finance Committee** advises the General Assembly and Executive Board on all matters relating to the financial management of the **ACE**. The Committee is composed of one representative from each EU Member State. Where countries have multiple Member Organisations, they determine, at national level, which member from that State will attend.

The **Work groups** contribute to the development of policy positions and are composed of expert nominees from the Member Organisations. Their work is the lifeblood of **ACE** and informs its policy positions and advocacy.

**ACE's** work is organised into three operational areas:

- **Qualifications** (Qualifications Directive, Regulatory Questions & Issues, Professional Practice Experience, Continuing Professional Development, Schools programme);
- **Practice** (Services in the Internal Market, Scope of Services, Public Procurement, Competitions, Trade in Services);
- **Responsible Architecture** (Sustainability, Urban Issues, Research & Innovation)

There are also five cross-cutting themes

- Professional Mobility & Regulation
- Professional Development & Application
- Public Procurement and Responsibility
- External links
- Communication (and international programme)

The **Secretariat's** main function is to support the governance structure of **ACE**, be the permanent interlocutor of the EU institutions and to support the advocacy work directed at them, on behalf of **ACE** and its members. It is responsible for procuring information on the EU institutions' work for dissemination to the Member Organisations, maintaining accounts and managing **ACE** affairs.



## List of Member Organisations

ZOLLVEREIN SCHOOL OF  
MANAGEMENT AND DESIGN.  
Essen, Germany.

Architects: Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue  
Nishizawa / SANAA.

Photo: Thomas Robbin.

AUSTRIA	Bundeskammer der Architekten und Ingenieurkonsulenten BAIK
BELGIUM	Conseil National de l'Ordre des Architectes CNOA Fédération Royale des Sociétés d'Architectes de Belgique FAB
BULGARIA	Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria CAB Union of Architects in Bulgaria UAB
CROATIA	Croatian Chamber of Architects CCA
CYPRUS	Cyprus Architects Association CAA
CZECH REPUBLIC	Czech Chamber of Architects CCA
DENMARK	Akademisk Arkitektforening AA Danish Association of Architectural Firms DA
ESTONIA	The Union of Estonian Architects UEA
FINLAND	Finnish Association of Architects SAFA
FRANCE	Conseil National de l'Ordre des Architectes CNOA Syndicat d'Architecture SA Union Nationale des Syndicats Français d'Architectes UNSFA
GERMANY	Bundesarchitektenkammer BAK Bund Deutscher Architekten BDA Bund Deutscher Baumeister Architekten und Ingenieure BDB Vereinigung Freischaffender Architekten VFA
GREECE	Association des Architectes Diplômés SADAS-PEA Chambre Technique de Grèce CTG
HUNGARY	Chamber of Hungarian Architects MEK
IRELAND	Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland RIAI
ITALY	Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori CNAPPC
LATVIA	The Latvia Association of Architects LAA
LITHUANIA	Architects Association of Lithuania AAL
LUXEMBOURG	Ordre des Architectes et des Ingénieurs Conseils du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg OAI
MALTA	Kamra tal-Periti KTP
NETHERLANDS	Bond van Nederlandse Architecten BNA Bureau Architectenregister BA
NORWAY	Association of Consulting Architects in Norway ACA Norske Arkitekters Landforbund NAL
PORTUGAL	Ordem Dos Arquitectos OA
ROMANIA	Architects' Chamber of Romania OAR
SLOVAKIA	Slovak Chamber of Architects SKA
SLOVENIA	Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning of Slovenia ZAPS
SPAIN	Consejo Superior de los Colegios de Arquitectos de España CSCAE
SWEDEN	Sveriges Arkitekter SA
SWITZERLAND	Conférence Suisse des Architectes CSA
TURKEY	Chamber of Architects of Turkey CAT
UNITED KINGDOM	Architect's Registration Board ARB Royal Institute of British Architects RIBA

### Observer Members

SERBIA	Union of Architects of Serbia UAS
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[www.ace-cae.eu](http://www.ace-cae.eu)