

YOUNG BUILDERS' NETWORK

Meeting Minutes: Confederation Construction and ANCE

October 20th 2014

Attendees: Jeroen Nevelsteen – president of the construction chamber for Brussels and the Flemish area
Jean-Christophe Vanderhaegen – director of several construction chamber groups
Michael Roels – president of the CBVB youth chamber
Thomas Buyse – member of the CBVB youth chamber
Ilse van Campehnout – marketing manager for CC
Mario Presicci – president of the Central and Southern Italian committee for ANCE, in charge of international initiatives
Angelica Donati – member of the Central and Southern Italian committee for ANCE, in charge of international initiatives
Giulio Guarracino – ANCE representative in Brussels
Prof. Ernesto Marcheggiani - KU Leuven - Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

I. Agenda

The purpose of the meeting was for the members of Confederation Construction and ANCE to meet face to face and discuss potential synergies and the creation of an international network for young entrepreneurs in the construction and real estate business.

II. Points of Discussion

The meeting began with introductions from all parties with an explanation of their roles.

Jeroen and Jean Christophe then explained the structure of CC, and Angelica and Mario did the same for ANCE.

Michael presented his interest in creating a youth chamber for the entire CC, expanding beyond his current domain of CBVB, the only regional group in Belgium with an active youth chamber. It became apparent that ANCE could offer their support in this, as CC can mirror the ANCE structure and statute in their setup.

The main points of interest to both parties were then evidenced to be as follows:

1. Education:
 - a. For young people, with the aim of bringing them into the construction industry, which is now considered as an undesirable sector to work in. This could be done through a system of apprenticeships and technical schools, replicating the Swiss model
 - b. For young entrepreneurs, through a system of cross border exchange implemented by the network we seek to establish, eg. Through an Erasmus-style program
2. Social dumping: this is an important issue for both Belgium and Italy, as the result is underbidding on tenders which damages business. Whilst in Belgium it is an external factor due to labor laws, in Italy it is an internal factor due to poor tender legislation

III. Next Steps

Throughout the meeting, the following next steps were evidenced:

1. ANCE will support Michael and CBVB with advice and a statute model for his creation of a CC youth chamber
2. ANCE has organized a meeting for all youth groups contacted so far in Rome on December 5th. Michael and other representatives from Belgian youth chambers are invited to attend and ANCE will sponsor some or all of their travel and board. Following on from the day's discussion and meetings with other groups, the agenda will be as follows:
 - presentations from several groups outlining the activities that they have been undertaking in their respective countries;
 - a series of presentations from European Union experts on the various funding possibilities from the EU for young entrepreneur related initiatives;
 - three round table debates, on thematic that have emerged as being significant to all participants (education, social dumping / tender laws, energy efficiency)
3. Jean-Christophe will reach out to the Swiss Contractors' Association and invite them to the meeting in Rome on December 5th.