

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 32 National Member Federations in 28 countries (25 EU & Norway, Ukraine, Turkey) construction enterprises of all sizes, i.e. small and medium-sized enterprises as well as “global players”, carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities.



PRESS RELEASE

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URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO SECURE EU AUTONOMY OVER DATA

“European construction companies do not have control over their own data” said FIEC Vice President José-Michaël Chenu during a webinar on the relationship between contractors and software companies. Presenting FIEC’s recent position paper on the subject he added *“we need an adequate EU policy framework to ensure that there is a clear and fair relationship. We also need to urgently improve European data infrastructure so that data created by EU construction companies can be stored on EU servers, under EU jurisdiction, which should protect the interests of these companies.”*

Other speakers included MEP Iskra Mihaylova, who emphasised the importance of current EU policy developments on data and Arian Zwegers, from the European Commission’s Directorate for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG Connect), who spoke about some of the specific actions being taken at EU level, including the European cloud project GAIA-X. Participants, mainly from construction companies and EU construction industry federations also heard the views of EFCA, Royal BAM Group nv, Eurovia and the University of Ljubljana.

Wrapping up the webinar, FIEC Director General Domenico Campogrande concluded *“today we have heard that not only do the majority of construction industry stakeholders support FIEC’s position on this issue, but they also overwhelmingly support the call for urgent action at EU level. Data is the new oil and we are looking forward to working closely with the European Parliament and the European Commission to ensure that the right policy framework is completed as soon as possible, to prevent the industry losing control of its own data. This is a real risk as long as the EU continues to lag behind other major economic powers in the field of data storage, access and ownership and as long as we do not have the relevant infrastructure needed to ensure European autonomy.”*

- [FIEC Position Paper](#)
- [Webinar 26/06/2020 - Presentations](#)

Press contact:

Domenico Campogrande

Email: info@fipec.eu



www.fiepc.eu
info@fipec.eu
[@FIEC_Brussels](https://twitter.com/FIEC_Brussels)
FIEC EU

FIEC - European Construction Industry Federation
Avenue Louise 225, BE-1050 Brussels / Tel. +32-2-514 55 35
Transparency Reg. 92221016212-42 aisbl Nr Entreprise : BE 0688919.140