



For immediate release

Press release

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## **The construction, dredging and rail supply industries launch interactive map on the activity of third country state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in the European procurement market**

*“With the EU Institutions actively working on specific legislation on this matter, the timing for presenting our interactive map could not have been better”,* says Thomas Bauer, President of FIEC, announcing the launch of an interactive map showing the activities of third country state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in the European procurement market.

For more than a decade, our sectors have observed a growing interest from third country SOEs in the European procurement market for construction works, dredging services and rail equipment.

This phenomenon has accelerated over the last three years. Since 2018, SOEs from third countries have bid for at least 46 public projects all over the EU, Switzerland and the Western Balkans – from Romania to Portugal, from Austria to Norway. They eventually won 14 of these projects. They were interested in both very large projects with a value of more than €1 billion and also smaller ones starting from €3 million.

*“After a calibration and learning phase, non-EU SOEs have now entered a new phase and they now know the market and the compliance rules very well”,* says Alan Lievens, President of EuDA.

While the situation has evolved with unprecedented speed in the last three years, our associations have noticed that experts in public procurement, policymakers, other economic sectors and the wider public are not necessarily aware of the extent of this trend.

*“To our surprise, this phenomenon was not that well-known in general. We had to change that”,* says Benoît Chauvin, President of European International Contractors (EIC).

This was enough motivation to present an overview in the form of an interactive map, in order to raise awareness and provide transparency with the aim of contributing to fact-based policy making.

This is all the more important as, while the presence of SOEs on the European market is increasing, our industries face growing barriers to accessing international procurement markets. Against this background, the interactive map is useful for decision-makers when developing EU autonomous tools such as the Foreign Subsidies Instrument and the International Procurement Instrument.

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#### ■ Notes to editors

**FIEC** is the **European Construction Industry Federation**, representing via its 33 National Member Federations in 29 countries (25 EU & Norway, Switzerland, 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.

**EIC (European International Contractors)** has as its members construction industry trade associations from fifteen European countries and represents the interests of the European construction industry in all questions related to its international construction activities. The international turnover of companies associated with EIC’s Member Federations amounts to around 170 billion € per year.

The **European Dredging Association (EuDA)** is the official interface between the European dredging industry and the European Institutions. EuDA members employ approximately 25,000 European employees directly "on land and on board of the vessels" and more than 48,300 people indirectly (through the suppliers and services companies). The combined fleet of EuDA's members counts approximately 750 seaworthy EU-flagged vessels.

**UNIFE** is the **Association of the European Rail Supply Industry** and represents more than 100 of Europe’s leading rail supply companies – from SMEs to major industrial champions – active in the design, manufacture, maintenance and refurbishment of rail transport systems, subsystems and related equipment. UNIFE also brings together national rail industry associations from 11 European countries. For more information, visit **[www.unife.org](http://www.unife.org)** or follow us on **[Twitter](#)** and **[LinkedIn](#)**.

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