

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 32 National Member Federations in 27 countries (24 EU & Norway, Switzerland, and Ukraine) 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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PROPOSAL FOR A REVISED CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS REGULATION: FIEC CALLS FOR RELIABLE AND USER-FRIENDLY RULES

Today, FIEC publishes a position paper on the proposal for a revised Construction Products Regulation (CPR) which was unveiled earlier this year by the European Commission.

The existing Regulation 305/2011 is one of the central building blocks of the European single market but has been underperforming in many areas since its entry into force. This underperformance was mainly due to problems related to the development and citation of harmonised standards and to problems related to the complexity of the legal framework surrounding construction products. In addition, the framework has been unable to deliver on the EU's green and digital targets.

Commenting on the proposal, José-Michaël Chenu, Vice-President of FIEC responsible for the Technical and Environmental Commission, explains: “*The proposal for a revised CPR blatantly falls short of offering viable solutions to most of these problems. Instead of reducing the administrative burden on economic operators, it comprises many new obligations that would make construction stakeholder's lives, particularly the lives of construction SMEs, more difficult. The proposal must be improved in many areas, and this will be our objective in the coming months*”.

In its position paper, FIEC, inter alia, calls on the co-legislators to

- **Ensure that the new CPR continues to regulate the placing of products on the market and will not apply to works contracts:**
The proposal extends the scope of application of the Regulation to many more economic operators, contractors included. They would, for example, fall under the CPR's scope when manufacturing products on-site for immediate incorporation/when directly installing products into the construction works. FIEC generally believes that the future CPR should continue to regulate the placing of products on the market but should not apply to works contracts and (construction) services. Contractors should generally be excluded from declaration and documentation requirements for construction products.
- **Provide for solutions to resolve the standardisation backlog and avoid further complexity in the transition from the current to the existing framework:**
Short-term solutions should be offered to remove the current backlog in standardisation and the European Standardisation System should be prioritised in the setting of standards. Moreover, the proposal foresees to repeal the current Regulation only in 2045. It should be ensured that the long coexistence of the current and the revised Regulation does not lead to further complexity for industry stakeholders.
- **Ensure that delegated acts and implementing powers conferred on the Commission are only used in well-justified cases:**
The Commission proposes to be empowered to modify or supplement some 20 articles of the Regulation through delegated acts. This would significantly and negatively affect the reliability and predictability of the framework and leave the industry on the sidelines of important decisions that, in the end, will affect their specific, day-to-day needs.

Press contact:

Domenico Campogrande

Email: info@fie.eu



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

FIEC - European Construction Industry Federation
Avenue des Arts 20, BE-1000 Brussels / Tel. +32-2-514 55 35
Transparency Reg. 92221016212-42 aisbl Nr Entreprise : BE 0688919.140