The initiative of establishing and celebrating an official “National Builder’s day” is a remarkable achievement underlying the key role played by the construction industry. This is true at national level, as well as at the European level. Currently at the EU level our industry represents more than 3 million companies, most of the small ones, and over 12 million workers producing 10% of the EU GDP.

The “green” transition towards 2050 provides our industry with huge opportunities, in particular as regards the energy efficiency of buildings, but also with many challenges. The main one is certainly the need for a sufficient number of workers with the right skills and competences. The financing of all these investments will also be a major concern.

These challenges have to be addressed through a coordinated approach between the national and the EU level, according to the respective competences and responsibilities and taking adequately into account the differences between the Member States. This is where an EU organisation like FIEC can provide its added value. But in order to be strong at the EU level FIEC also needs strong affiliates at national level. We therefore welcome this “National Builder’s day”, which is certainly helping in strengthening further our Romanian affiliates.

Congratulations for this initiative.

Domenico Campogrande

FIEC Director General