

EFBWW (European Federation of Building and Woodworkers) is the European Industry Federation for the construction industry, the building materials industry, the wood and furniture industry and the forestry industry. The EFBWW has 76 affiliated unions in 34 countries and represents a total of 2,000,000 members.



FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 29 National Member Federations in 26 countries (23 EU & EFTA and 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.  
Recognised "Sectoral Social Partner" (employers)



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## FIEC/EFBWW Press Release

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### ■ Proposed European services e-card: European social partners of the construction industry strongly reject the European Commission's attitude and proposal

Brussels, 16 January 2017

After the publication of the "Services package" by the European Commission on 10/1/2017, the European social partners of the construction (FIEC and EFBWW) carefully assessed the proposed services e-card and remain opposed to the proposal. They are extremely worried on the content, the procedure and its effective added value in the construction industry.

The goal of the package to provide cheap services to European consumers goes totally against the ambitions of the concerned social partners to deliver qualitative and competitive services and product, whilst ensuring decent social standards for all workers.

*"We are extremely upset by the way the European Commission dealt with this dossier!" Stressed FIEC President Jean-Louis Marchand. "The whole consultation process has been very opaque and the Commission's services never provided us with real constructive answers to the many concerns that we have raised. Now, there is a proposal on the table, which the concerned Social Partners, FIEC and EFBWW, clearly rejected and which has never been asked for by our sector. We can hardly see its real added-value!"*

The Commission considers that there are too many obstacles that are hindering the cross-border mobility in the construction sector without taking into account the specificities of the concerned sectors.

*"The re-introduction of the country-of-origin principle via a back-door for posting rules, combined with substantial loopholes and flaws makes the proposed package unacceptable for us", says Dietmar Schäfers EFBWW President. "The proposed e-services card will clearly facilitate cross-border fraud and social dumping".*

The European social partners of the construction industry regret that the European Commission missed the opportunity to strengthen a fair, competitive and innovative Internal Market in the construction industry.

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