

SEFI DEBATE 2016

“Labour Market Needs and Engineering Skills”

3 March 2016, 13:00-15:00

Venue

European Parliament, Altiero Spinelli Building, Pl. du Luxembourg, Room ASP 3G3 Brussels

Organisers

European Parliament - European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI)

Rationale

In the past few years, we have witnessed a vibrant discussion about the skills that engineering graduates should possess to face their future as engineers of the 21st century. This discussion takes place all over Europe and varies from country to country depending on its tradition, educational system, industrial environment and a series of others factors.

Diversity in labor market’s needs is met by the diversity in engineering skills arising from the variety of different curricula in engineering. The gradation of the technical responsibilities of professional engineers, according to the different educational systems, might unify the Engineering European Higher Education Area.

This is in respect to the 2015 EHEA Yerevan Ministerial Conference Communiqué, saying that *“we will therefore build on what we have in common while also enabling individual education systems to draw on their particular strengths and traditions. Diversity and the various aspects of the policy dialogue imply involvement of all levels: regional, national and institutional”*. No doubt, this implies a continuous and complex dialogue between and among engineering education stakeholders, including legislators and governments, accreditation bodies, industry, professional engineering associations, universities, academics and students.

SEFI, the European Society for Engineering Education, aims to strengthen the dialogue with a issued position paper on “Developing Graduate Engineering Skills” (September 2015) and with its Working Group on Engineering Skills, preparing an extended 2016 version of this paper.

To address this issue, SEFI has initiated a series of debates and discussions, notably in 2014 with an inaugural debate on “**Engineering education facing the challenge of the crisis in Europe**”, with a focus on the actual skills gap in engineering. It was hosted by the Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU, under the auspices of the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the European Union, with the introductory speech from Mrs Androulla Vassiliou, then EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth.

You are invited to attend this 2016 SEFI debate (free) and to register by completing the registration form on <http://goo.gl/forms/9f0DR8Wf10>.

Registration before 24th February is compulsory for access e-pass

PROGRAMME

Inauguration

- **Nikos Androulakis**, Hosting MEP Greece (Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament)
- Address of **Dimitrios Papadimoulis**, Vice President of the European Parliament, conveyed by Prof. A. Moropoulou
- Representatives of the European Parliament Committees on CULT, EMPL and ITRE.

Introductory speech

- **Antonia Moropoulou**, National Technical University of Athens, Professor, SEFI Vice President, Technical Chamber of Greece Vice President

SEFI's position

- **Martin Vigild**, Technical University of Denmark, Senior Vice President, SEFI President

Keynote speakers

- **Claudia Costin**, World Bank Group, Senior Director of the Education Global Practice
- **Marianne Thyssen**, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (invited)

Industry panel

- **Fokion Tasoulas**, Titan Cement Co, Group Engineering & Technology, Executive Director
- **Emmanuel Forest**, President of European Construction Technology Platform, Vice President of Bouygues Group
- **Xavier Fouger**, Dassault Systemes, Global Academia Senior Director Programs

Discussions with the participants

Final words from the SEFI President and goodbye

The debate's rapporteur will be Prof. Pieter De Vries, Delft University of Technology, SEFI Board of Directors member



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