



FIEP

Fire Information Exchange Platform

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What brought us to the birth of the FIEP?

- Under increasing pressure EC services have commissioned
 - a study to a consortium to develop the European **facades fire** assessment method (cladding, ETICS,...) using the BS (large scale test) and the DIN (medium scale test)
 - a study aimed at evaluating the need to regulate on **toxicity of smoke generated by construction products in fire** within the framework of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 and the possible impacts of any such measures.



What brought us to the birth of the FIEP?





Time-line the FIEP

- 14-06-2017: Grenfell tragedy
- 13-09-2017: in the plenary session of the EP in Strasburg, a proposal from the EC to install a Fire Information Exchange Platform (FIEP) was approved.
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/bienkowska/announcements/fire-safety-buildings_en
- 16-10-2017: 5 weeks later FIEP, will be launched in Brussels
- 16-03-2018: EC launches a call for tender to establish a technical secretariat
- 22-03-2018: FEU sends a proposal to support the way ahead of FIEP to DG GROW
- 25-05-2018: DG GROW launches 2 Project Teams for FIEP



5 work streams

At the end of the first FIEP meeting, 5 work streams were defined

1. Data and terminology
2. Exchange of best practices and sharing knowledge in prevention
3. Research
4. New products
5. Fire safety engineering



FEU proposal “way ahead” for FIEP



1

Data regarding fires across Europe has often been referred to as problematic. Reference has been made to the differences between countries in the rigour with which data is gathered and the differences between national definitions

Due to the lack of consistent fire data in Europe, an initiative was launched to collate the statistical data from 5 EU-countries (NL, SE, FIN, DK, UK) that are well-known for their fire fatalities data management.

This approach would encourage other member states, and finally the EU, to implement a harmonized statistical system.



2.

As to underpinning knowledge, FEU has a huge knowledge network regarding **domestic fires**.

This ranges from effective change of national regulation, work by the Fire Service/Firefighters reducing risk in vulnerable households, effective multi-agency measures, active and passive fire protection initiatives, communication campaigns and much more. So regarding to sharing knowledge in domestic fire prevention, we believe FIEP can set up a strong project together with FEU and our partners.



3.

Fireground research and investigation is becoming more and more important. Real scale fire testing to better understand the fire phenomena and fire behaviour is getting increasingly relevant. Fireground research should be integrated with academical research to improve the outcomes. Currently about 8 fireground research institutes are working more closely together and would like to evolve to a pan-European network of fireground research centres.

FIEP could undoubtedly facilitate this ongoing process.



4.

Concerning **new products** we welcome very much the recent proposal for a directive of the EU parliament and of the EU council, amending Directive 2012/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings.

It is absolutely true that an adequate fire risk assessment is not keeping pace with the restless process of saving energy and the feverish search for new energy.

In this context creating guidelines relating to safe battery storage in buildings, would be very beneficial for future building regulations.



Project Teams



2 project teams

Within the work areas identified in the 1st FIEP Plenary meeting was:

- the exchange of Member States experience from fire accidents among Member States' authorities
- the exchange of Member States experience on the regulatory approach on fire safety regarding new products and tall buildings.

We therefore intend to create 2 Project Teams from representatives of Member States and fire fighters on these areas to elaborate proposals for the FIEP Plenary.

The work of the 2 Project Teams will be based on information/contributions which Member States and firefighters are willing to share with FIEP.



Invitation

to:

- 25 ministerial representatives of member states ex. IRL, LV, LT
- 4 EU+ countries: NO, TR, IS, CH
- FEU, CTIF and EFFUA

cc:

- EC administration
- MBA, FSEU, IE
- (EuroFSA?)



2 project teams

- **PROJECT TEAM ON THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE FROM FIRE ACCIDENTS BETWEEN MEMBER STATES**

Project Team 1 should focus on the exchange of experience between Member States, lessons learned from fire events, and possibly initiating Member States regulators to re-examine their fire safety regulations, their enforcement, and any need to update their regulations (regarding e.g. facades, apartment blocks, single houses, public buildings, restaurants, disco's etc.)

- **PROJECT TEAM ON REGULATORY APPROACH ON NEW PRODUCTS & TALL BUILDINGS**

Project Team 2 is expected to focus on the exchange of experience between Member States on regulatory challenges emerging from new products (e.g. photovoltaic panels integrated in roofs / facades, etc.), from new ways of construction (e.g. modern façade systems, new products inside the buildings, etc.) and the fire safety of tall buildings.



FEU's position

- Project team 1: exchange of experiences
 - setting up a EU-wide learning arena: a network between the fire and rescue services in all 28 member states:
 - extending the scope with fire statistics: evidence based decision making
 - enlarging the extent with fire ground research: fire safety science starting from real scale fire testing



FEU's position

- Project team 2: new products and high rise buildings
 - sending ff experts working on both topics
 - broadening the scope
 - with the human factor: not only a technological issue
 - with the sociological factor: fire discriminates, ageing society, vulnerable people...
 - emphasizing on a holistic fire risk analysis before approving new products



FEU's position

- FEU actively supports EuroFSA's vision and mission
- FEU looks for their content, expertise and substantial contribution regarding all domestic fire safety issues



A Safer Europe For All