





THE RESEARCH NEEDS FOR A FIRE SAFE SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

23 May 2023 | 09:00 - 13:00

Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the European Union, Boulevard du Régent 45-46, 1000 Brussels

CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference that was held on May 23, 2023, at the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU gathered leading European experts in the area of fire safety and representatives of the European Commission. The presentations and discussions held after them were very vocal, transparent and clear about the messages to be sent around to substantially improve the area in the EU and globally that has been so critical lately.

There were the following 2 main and, at the same time, urgent conclusions agreed upon:

- 1. The clear and very transparent EU strategy goes in the direction of climate goals (Green Deal) and digitalisation. Many segments of these EU strategic goals are potentially dangerous from the fire-safety point of view (for example, natural construction materials and some other issues connected to construction works, solar cells and panels, batteries, hydrogen, some advanced materials, certain chemicals etc.). Consequently, there should be a more coordinated effort in the fire-safety area within the EU and the European Commission. It is true that most of the areas are within the EU member countries' jurisdiction; however, within the European Commission, there are many different organisational units that cover the broader area of fire safety, and everyone on the terrain is facing a lack of proper coordination and more centralised decision making. It is true that there are several projects with the EC which are trying to compensate for the non-existence of a central organizational unit in the EC, which would take over all important decisions about fire safety but in real-life day-to-day operations that have simply not been enough.
- 2. Additionally and urgently, more money for research in the area of fire safety should also be there, including specifically dedicated calls for this area. If the EU and the EC are pushing for some strategies which have to be run and realised by all the EU member countries, it would also be logical that the EC would take care of financing research in the dangerous areas directly resulting from set and approved EU strategies.

The conference programme and all the expert speakers that agreed about these conclusions are in another attachment to this letter.





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