

By E-mail only

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Sound Management of EU Funds and Public Procurement in CEEC

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing to you as Presidents of FIEC and EIC (The European Construction Industry Federation, European International Contractors), representing European contractors of all sizes active at the European and international levels.

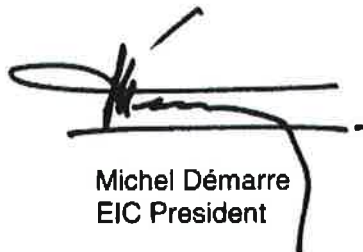
Considering the administration and implementation of the EU Structural Funds put at the disposal of Member States, we are concerned about certain practices which have the potential to jeopardise EU cohesion policy aims. We are convinced that current practices in some Member States infringe, at least partially, EU and national law.

In fact, member firms active in the CEEC have informed us that an increasing number of projects financed by EU Funds suffer from (1) insufficient project preparation, (2) unusual, poorly managed tender procedures, (3) unfair contract conditions and (4) unacceptable harassment of consulting engineers in their role as fair contract managers. You will find an abstract description of the practices encountered by our member companies in the attachment.

We appeal to you to thoroughly analyse these practices and concerns in view of consequences for the current work on public procurement and the new financial architecture for the period 2014-2020. As a matter of urgency, we would like to suggest forbidding substantial deviation from FIDIC general conditions of contracts, in particular the unfair reallocation of risks, should FIDIC standard conditions be chosen for the execution of EU funded works contracts.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you in order to discuss these issues of mutual interest.

Yours sincerely,



Michel Démarre
EIC President



Luisa Todini
FIEC President