



Associação Nacional dos Industriais de Prefabricação em Betão

CIRCULAR N.º 107/2014

Assunto: Concrete Perspectives - December BIBM Newsletter 2014

Caros Associados,

Vimos por este meio enviar a *Newsletter* de dezembro de 2014 do BIBM – European Federation for Precast Concrete, entidade da qual a ANIPB é associada.

Apresentamos os nossos cumprimentos,

(Íris Vilela)

Lisboa, 30 de dezembro de 2014



Think Concrete. Go precast

CONCRETE PERSPECTIVES

December 2014

Construction sector

- **Commission publishes study on voluntary EU certification scheme for non-residential buildings.** It suggests building the new EU scheme on the basis of the updated CEN standards and starting with offices and hotels as a pilot for initial launch
[The Concrete Initiative -article](#)
- **Private Finance for Energy Efficiency** instrument to finance energy efficiency. The instrument is primarily targeted at small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as well as private individuals (such as house owners), small municipalities or other public sector bodies undertaking small energy efficiency investments
[The Concrete Initiative - article](#)
- **DG Enterprise and Industry's survey on the implementation of the Construction Products Regulation** came to an end on 18 December 2014. RPA, the UK-based consultancy, who was in charge of carrying out the online survey on behalf of the European Commission.

BIBM decided to respond to the survey through Construction Products Europe in order to have a common and strong approach on the assessment of the implementation of the Regulation.

In April 2016, the Commission will publish a CPR implementation report based on the input provided through this survey.

[Implementation Report of Construction Products Europe Survey DG Enterprise and Industry](#)

- On 10 December 2014, the European Economic and Social Committee issued its opinion on "*The circular economy: job creation and the Green Action Plan for SMEs*".
[EESC: "The circular economy: job creation and the Green Action Plan for SMEs"](#).



Think Concrete. Go precast

Live from the European Union

European Commission's Work Programme 2015

On 16 December, the European Commission adopted its Work Programme for 2015. The main objectives of the next years' Work Programme are creation of jobs, growth and investment; and bring concrete benefits for citizens.

The new Work Programme is a "New Start", said Mr Juncker, the President of the European Commission who also announced the withdrawal of several legislative initiatives which, he claimed, were not anymore a priority of the new Commission. Amongst others, the review of the Waste Framework Directives has been withdrawn and a new, stronger proposition was announced to be issued during 2015.

At the same time, EU Environmental ministers expressed their opposition to ditching the circular economy package, on 17 December. Eleven environmental ministers, including Germany and Italy, wrote a letter to the Commission to express their concerns over the move.

[Website- European Commission Work Programme 2015](#)

[List of withdrawals of pending initiatives](#)

[Work Programme 2015](#)

[Environment Council](#)

National Award Winners

Inspiration for Austria's New Railway Stations © Concrete Student Trophy 2014

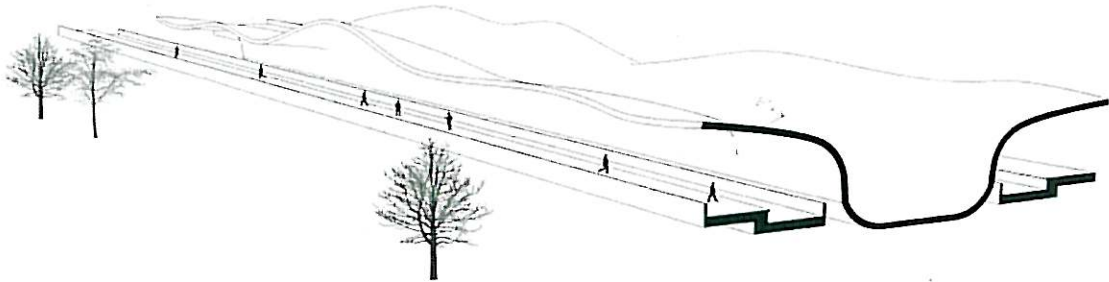
Project definition: fictitious new railway station on the site of an existing station in Münchendorf (to the south of Vienna), where a lot of commuters are living. The solutions have to include island platforms for regional trains as well as passing high-speed trains, parking lots for busses, cars and bicycles, safe access for pedestrians, comfortable waiting areas as well as a good noise protection for the inhabitants of Münchendorf. Furthermore not only a good idea with respect to architecture has to be found, but it is also necessary to make calculations and develop building procedures, due to the main goal of the CST: architects and civil engineers must learn to work hand in hand. The students furthermore have to present detailed descriptions and models for visualisation.

The sophisticated solutions presented by the students were highly appreciated by the members of the jury, consisting of architects, civil engineers, representatives of the building and cement industries as well as the railway company ÖBB.

The first (€ 4000.-) and third (€ 2000.-) prizes were awarded to teams from the Vienna University of Technology, the second prize (€ 3000.-) went to students from the Technical University in Graz. In addition four teams won appreciation awards of € 1000.- each.

Winning Project: "inside out" (Bernhard Ramsauer and Christian Szalay, pictured below) The winning team was the only one which dared challenge the ÖBB guidelines by opening the platforms for the local trains to the surroundings and guiding the high-speed and freight trains through a noise protection trough. Thus the station becomes integrated into the expanding town and the projecting parts of the noise protection walls shelter the passengers under a canopy.





Winning Project: "inside out" by Bernhard Ramsauer and Christian Szalay

Second project is "Trendy Station Münchendorf" (Bernd Hausegger, Theresa Reisenhofer and Stefan Leitner with Mélanie Bouissiere / *absent in the picture* /). The second project transforms the underpass into a bridge - the station concourse is lowered into the ground, the rails cross on a bridge construction. Step-like seats and ramps with integrated lights define the building similar to an artificial topography.



"Trendy Station Münchendorf" by Bernd Hausegger, Theresa Reisenhofer and Stefan Leitner with Mélanie Bouissiere



Think Concrete. Go precast

Third price project is called „Concrete Waves“ (Eva Himmelbauer, Isabella Penthor and Erasmus student Jakub Bielski). After a lot of trials the engineer was committed to this “crazy project”. The near-by river offered the context of waves which in the end set the course for the whole project. Parts of the roof let the natural light to enter, the divided supports offer comfortable seats for users. The noise protection walls stretch out “wave-like”, they are structured by translucent openings and elements with greenery.



„Concrete Waves“ by Eva Himmelbauer, Isabella Penthor and Erasmus student Jakub Bielski

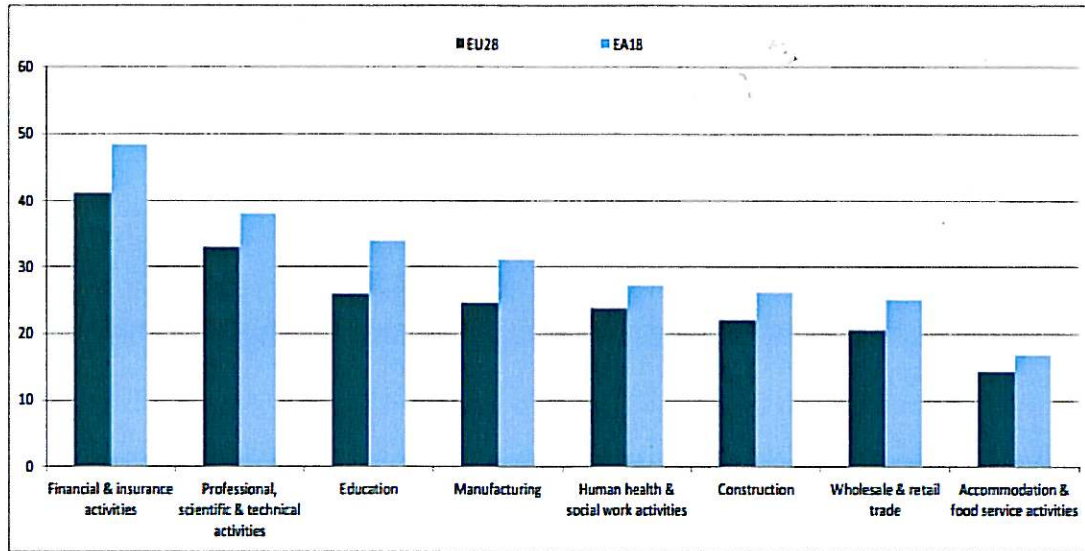
© Zement+Beton, Vienna, Austria

Additional information and pictures you will find under

<http://www.zement.at/services/publikationen/wettbewerbe>

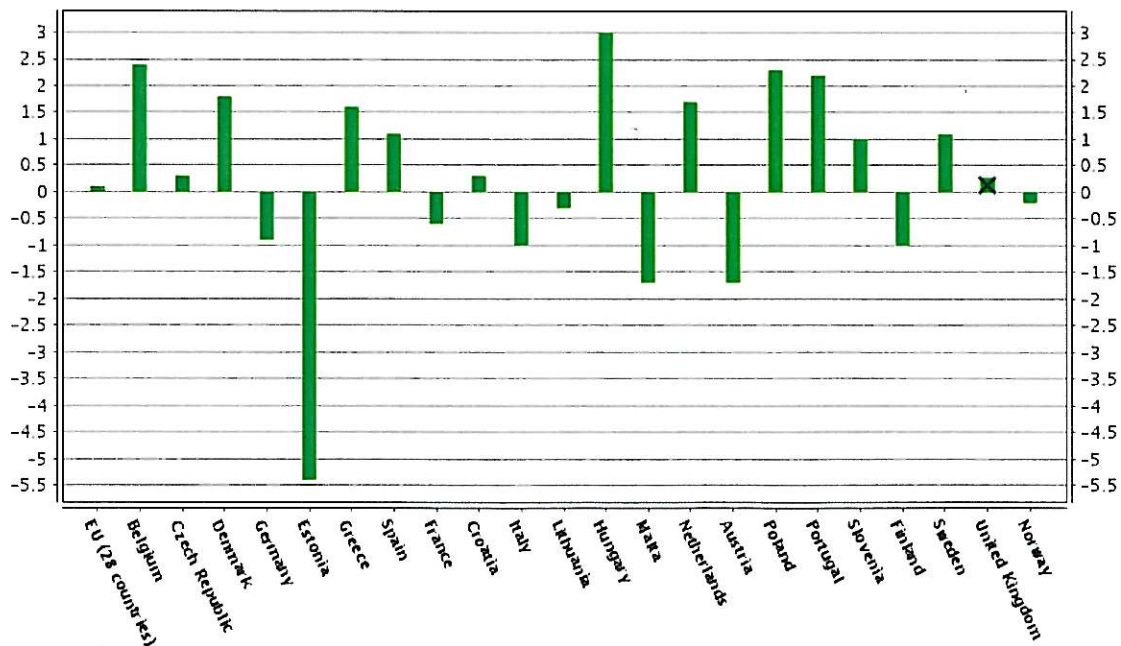
http://www.voeb.com/material/service/presse/%20PA_Inspirationen%20C3%96sterreich%20Bahnh%C3%B6fe_03%2012%2014.pdf

News in brief

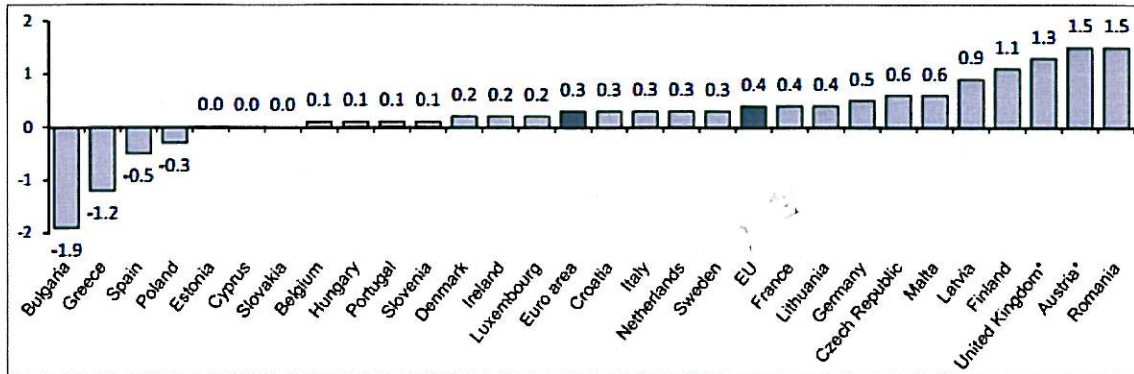


Graph 1 Labour Cost Survey 2012

In 2012, average hourly labour costs in the whole economy (excluding agriculture and public administration) stood at €24.2 in the EU28 and €29.3 in the euro area (EA18). However, this average masks significant differences between EU Member States, ranging from €3.4 in Bulgaria to €40.1 in Denmark.



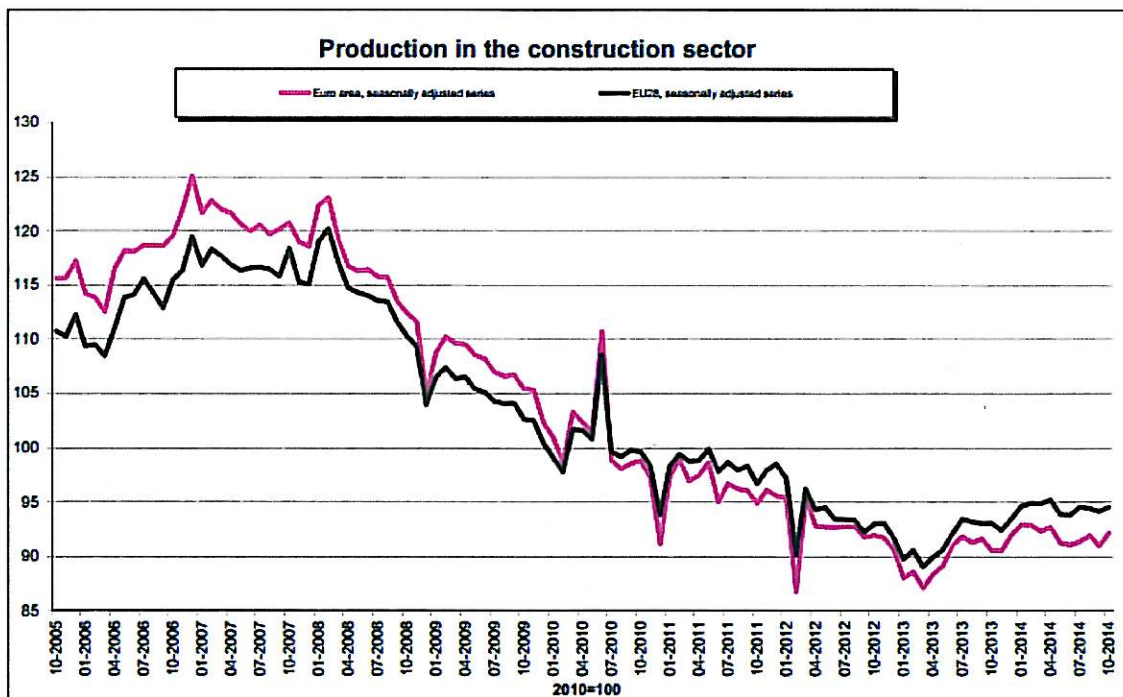
Graph 2: Investments in volume - 2014 Q3 compared to 2014 Q2



Graph 3: Annual inflation - November 2014*

Euro area annual inflation was 0.3% in November 2014, down from 0.4% in October. A year earlier the rate was 0.9%. The EU28 annual inflation was 0.4% in November 2014, down from 0.5% in October.

*Data for Austria are provisional. Data for the United Kingdom are for October 2014



Graph 4 - Production in construction

In October 2014 compared with September 2014, seasonally adjusted production in the construction sector grew by 1.3% in the euro area (EA18) and by 0.4% in the EU28, according to first estimates from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.



Think Concrete. Go precast

AGENDA

JANUARY

8 January 2015
BIBM advocacy event
Brussels, Belgium

12 January 2015
Masonry Alliance
Brussels, Belgium

14 January 2015
CEN/TC 229/WG 1 and WG 4
Brussels, Belgium

21 January 2015
ECP TF Sustainable Concrete
Conference Call

23-23 January 2015
Safeccladding
Athens, Greece

27 January 2015
AHG Concrete Initiative
Brussels, Belgium

27 January 2015
Masonry Alliance Dinner
Brussels, Belgium

FEBRUARY

3 February 2015
CPE TF Implementation of CPR
Brussels, Belgium

4 February 2015
BIBM Board meeting
Brussels, Belgium

11 February 2015
CEN/TC/229 WG4
Brussels, Belgium

23 February 2015
BIBM Directors meeting
Ulm, Germany

27 February 2015
ECP TF Fire and Eurocodes
Brussels, Belgium

MARCH

6 March 2015
ECP Board
Brussels, Belgium

24-25 March 2015
BIBM Technical Commission
Brussels, Belgium

To the Newsletter of Construction Products Europe (former CEPMC), please follow [this link](#).

To read the Newsletter of CEMBUREAU, please follow [this link](#). You can also subscribe directly following this link <http://www.cembureau.eu/newsletter/subscriptions>.

To read the Quarterly Newsletter of The Concrete Initiative, please follow [this link](#).

List of Acronyms

CPE - Construction Product Europe
CPR - Construction Products Regulation
ECP - European Concrete Platform
TF - Task Force
AhG - Ad-hoc Group