








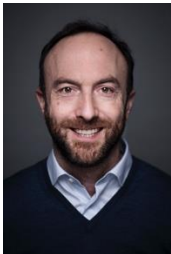


Speakers' biographies

	<p>Jacki DAVIS, Master of Ceremonies</p> <p>Jacki Davis is an experienced journalist, speaker and moderator of high-level events both in Brussels and in EU national capitals, the editor of many publications, a broadcaster on television and radio news programs, and a Senior Adviser to the European Policy Centre think tank. Jacki has been based in Brussels for more than 30 years, and was previously Communications Director of the European Policy Centre think tank; Editor-in-Chief of E!Sharp magazine; and launch editor of European Voice, the Brussels-based weekly newspaper then owned by The Economist (now Politico).</p> <p>Jacki has moderated many conferences in Brussels and in EU Member States, and also has extensive experience in planning events. She can provide not only top-quality moderation of the event itself and ensure lively and highly interactive debates, but also advice and guidance on how to plan a successful event, how to frame the debate and brief speakers to deliver the desired outcomes etc.</p> <p>She is also an experienced public speaker on EU affairs, and a provider of training courses on everything from how to communicate more effectively in writing to public speaking and working with the media.</p>
	<p>Ruth SCHAGEMANN, ACE President</p> <p>Ruth Schagemann is an architect who studied architecture at the University of Braunschweig and at the University of Stuttgart in Germany. In 2006 she founded the Architect's office VICEVERSA Architektur + Medien together with her husband. She was elected member of the executive board of the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE) from 2016 until 2021, Coordinator of the European Network of Architects' Competent Authorities (ENACA), member of the Coordination Group Europe of the Federal Chamber of German Architects and is head of department of national and international professional policy at the Chamber of Baden-Württemberg. In 2022, Ruth Schagemann was elected President of the Architects' Council of Europe for a two-year term. Since January 2023, she is also serving as the Managing Director of the Brussels Office of the Federal Chamber of German Architects (BAK) and represents ACE in the Davos Baukultur Alliance Steering Committee. On 23 November 2023, Ruth Schagemann (BAK Germany) was unanimously re-elected President of the organisation for a two-year term starting on 1 January 2024- her second presidential term.</p>
	<p>Ines FERGUSON, EFCA President</p> <p>Ines Ferguson is Global Business Development Director at TYPESA, a global consulting engineering Group with 3,800 staff working in the fields of transport, water, environment, clean energy and sustainable urban development. She has dedicated the last 20 years to expanding business operations to the five continents, defining business strategies and setting the commercial approach to tenders and projects financed by the European Commission, EIB and international financing institutions. She is the President of EFCA since 2023 and represents consulting engineers' interests in Europe and Internationally, in front of European and international institutions, often in partnership with other federations. She is strongly committed to the green and digital transformation of the consulting engineering business and promotes procurement systems that introduce innovation and sustainability in the early stages of the project cycle.</p>
	<p>Nina DRAŽIN LOVREC, ECEC President</p> <p>Nina Drazin graduated from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb (structural engineering department) and earned the title of Master of Science in Civil Engineering. She was elected president of the Croatian Chamber of Civil Engineers for two terms from 2018 to 2022 and from 2022 to 2026, and she performs the activities within the scope of her position with due professional diligence. She was elected President of the ECEC (European Council of Engineers Chambers) for the term of 2025-2027. As a representative of the Chamber, she was elected as a member of the Board of Directors in ECCE (European Council of Civil Engineers). She is also the Chamber's representative in IIRIS (Engineering Initiative for Regional Cooperation). She is a member of the presidency of the HSGI (Croatian Association of Civil Engineers). She is the vice president of DGITM (Society of Civil Engineers and Technicians of Međimurje).</p>
	<p>Michelle FRIEDERICI, OAI President</p> <p>Michelle Friederici, architect and urban planner, graduated from the University of Kaiserslautern in 1999. After working at Jean-Claude Lutz's office in Luxembourg, she established her own practice in 2006 and co-founded FG Architectes Sàrl in 2011 with Nadine Glock in Dudelange. Their office focuses on sustainable and inclusive design. Michelle specializes in the conceptual, legal, and administrative aspects of projects. Since 2011, she has been active within the OAI, becoming its first female president in 2021. She also serves on architectural juries, is part of her municipality's climate pact team, and a member of the Urbanism and Environment Commission.</p>







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	<p>Dubravka Šuica European Commission, Commissioner for the Mediterranean</p> <p>Dubravka Šuica has served as a Member of the European Commission and Vice-President for Demography and Democracy since 2019. She was also the co-chair of the Conference on the Future of Europe. From 2013 to 2019, Šuica was a Member of the European Parliament, where she focused on issues relating to the environment, public health and food safety, and foreign affairs. In 2019, she was a vice-chair of the European People's Party Group in the European Parliament. As a member of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), Šuica served three terms in the Croatian Parliament, from 2000 until 2011, also holding the position of vice-chair of the EU Integration Committee. From 2001 to 2009, Šuica served two terms as the first female mayor of Dubrovnik, her hometown. In 2006, she was honoured with the World Mayor Award. From 2004 to 2009, Šuica was a board member of the Union of the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Croatia. She later served as a councillor on the Dubrovnik-Neretva County Assembly. She also served as the president of the Croatian Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe for a decade. Since 2012, she has chaired the HDZ Committee on Foreign Affairs and European Affairs and has been the vice-president of EPP Women. Born in 1957, Šuica graduated in English and German language and literature. She started her career in education, first as a teacher and later as director of Dubrovnik High School.</p>
	<p>Mathieu NICOL, architect (JIM CLEMES ASSOCIATES) Schroeder & Associés Felgen & Associés Engineering Mersch Ingénieurs-Paysagistes</p> <p>Architect and director of Jim Clemes Associates SA, Mathieu Nicol is a graduate of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris Val-de-Seine. With a staff of 70 collaborators in urban planning, architecture and interior design, JCA designs and builds offices, residentials, eco-neighborhoods, educational, sports and leisure projects in Luxembourg, Germany and France. An advocate of renovation as opposed to tabula rasa, his architectural work is deeply concerned with the environmental and health impacts of construction, for both users and site workers. He is a member of the CRTIB and OAI commissions for the development of digital models for project management (BIM).</p>
	<p>Corinne STEPHANY, architect</p> <p>After completing her studies at the RWTH Aachen, Corinne Stephany graduated in 2001 and joined Henri Jonas's team the same year. In 2014, she became a partner at Jonas Architectes. With extensive experience across a wide range of public and private projects, she has developed a comprehensive and integral approach to design. In October 2021, Corinne Stephany was elected to the Council of the Order of Architects and Engineers. In this role, she joined the MOAI Commission, which focuses on fostering closer collaboration between architects and engineers through an integrated working method.</p>
	<p>Shahram AGAAJANI, architect, METAFORM</p> <p>Born in Tabriz (Iran) in 1976, Shahram Agajani is an architect and one of the founding partners of METAFORM architects. He studied architecture at La Cambre (Brussels) and graduated with honors Magna cum Laude in 2001. In 2003, he founded METAFORM architects with Thierry Cruchten. Since then, the agency has grown to become a multidisciplinary team of over 50 collaborators with offices in Luxembourg and Dubai. Their creative and bold approach brings a unique signature to each project. Shahram has played an active role in the field of architecture as a lecturer at CEPA (2007-09), a member of the executive committee of the Architecture Foundation (2008-09), editor-in-chief of the "Carnet d'opinions" (since 2008), and as a member of several juries.</p>
	<p>Jacques SEYWERT, consulting engineer</p> <p>Jacques Seywert is a civil engineer who graduated from the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne in 2004. After starting his career in Switzerland, he joined SCHROEDER & ASSOCIES Ingénieurs-Conseils in 2007. He has been involved in a wide range of structural and infrastructure projects. Today, he serves as Department Manager – Building. Since 2021, he has been a partner at SCHROEDER & ASSOCIES. He is also a member of the board of OAI and its Treasury Manager since 2023.</p>







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	<p>Mike DUSSELDORF, consulting engineer</p> <p>Mike Dusseldorf graduated in 2004 as Process Engineer at ETH Zurich. After 4,5 years working as a consulting engineer at Simtech S.A., he joins Goblet Lavandier as a project engineer as an MEP-planner in 2009, working on a broad variety of public and private projects. A special highlight was the transformation of the St. Maximin in Luxembourg-City as principal offices for the Prime Minister's cabinet. In 2019, he became partner and in 2023 he joined the directory board of Goblet Lavandier & Associés. In October 2023, Mike Dusseldorf was elected a member of the board of the Order of Architects and Engineers.</p>
	<p>Dominik SKOKANDIĆ, University of Civil Engineering, Zagreb</p> <p>Dominik Skokandić is assistant professor on Department of Structures, on Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb. He obtained his PhD with a thesis named "Probabilistic assessment of existing road bridges using B-WIM measurements" in 2020 under the mentorship of prof. Ana Mandić Ivanković. His area of expertise is assessment of existing bridges and structures, probabilistic approach to reliability design, earthquake engineering and value of information analysis. Since January 2023, he is also working as a special advisor to the Minister of Construction, Physical Planning and State assets, and vice-president of Croatian Government, Branko Bačić. His assignments in the Ministry include post-earthquake reconstruction of public and private structures in Croatia, supervision of legal documents regarding earthquake reconstruction, new Building Act and other legal documents related to construction and physical planning. In his career, he published 14 journal papers and over 30 conference papers regarding the assessment of existing structures. In 2020, he won a prize for best PhD thesis in field of civil engineering from Croatian Association of Civil Engineers. He is a member of IABSE (International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering), and also member of the board of Young Engineers.</p>
	<p>Jeffrey SEECK, EFCA Future Trends Committee Chairman</p> <p>Jeffrey Seeck, based in Berlin, Germany, is a distinguished figure in the engineering consultancy sector, currently serving as the Chair of the Future Trends Committee at the European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA). He has held this honorary position since June 2020, contributing significantly to the strategic foresight of the organization. In his role at EFCA, Mr. Seeck has been instrumental in integrating advanced technologies into strategic planning processes. Notably, under his leadership, the Future Trends Committee developed several future related report, latest the "Future Crafting Tool", a AI-prompt-engineering-manual for consulting engineers. This publication explores the application of artificial intelligence and prompt engineering in scenario planning, offering innovative approaches for the engineering consultancy field. Beyond his commitments to EFCA, Jeffrey Seeck serves on the board of the KORDES Group, bringing his extensive experience to the firm's strategic initiatives. His career is marked by a dedication to advancing the engineering consultancy profession through technological innovation and strategic foresight.</p>
	<p>Reto GMUR, Member of the ACE Executive Board & Think Thank member</p> <p>Reto is a committed Swiss architect who runs his own practice in Basel. The size of the office is limited by the demand for quality they try to reach. It has its focus on healthcare design but is also active in the field of public buildings and housing design, transformations and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Reto has experience as a participant and/or jury member in Architectural Design Competitions, as a participant and/or jury member. and experience in promoting high quality of architecture in competitions. Since 2024, he is Member of ACE Executive Board Member and member of the ACE Think Thank.</p>



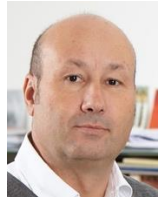





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	<p>Diego ZOPPI, ACE Board Member & Coordinator of the thematic Area 'Practice of the profession'</p> <p>Diego Zoppi, architect (honours graduate in 1987 -Faculty of Architecture of Genoa). He deals with Planning, Urban Design, Urban regeneration, Restoration and architecture. He signed City frameworks, the project for the National Rowing Center, selected for the 2006 Venice Architecture Biennale, squares, waterfronts and landscape of public spaces sited in Italy, in the Middle East, in the Far East. Co-founder of AR&P Architecture with other colleagues, he successfully participates in various Design competitions (Redevelopment of the Genoa-Voltri urban waterfront coming from industrial area – realized, new parking and connection to the Historic city of the Republic of San Marino, numerous New towns around Shanghai (China), restoration of the citadel of Nanjing (China), new Tourist Center in the historic city of Jiu Ji Jiao (China) and projects as Swimming Stadium in Hanoi and Waterfront of Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), Redevelopment of the center District in Ryadh (Saudi Arabia), Innovation Center Solar Park (Dubai). Various projects have been published on specialized Magazines (Casabella, Domus ...). He was member of the Board (since 2015 President) in the Provincial Council of Architects of Genoa. Since 2016 he is member of the Italian National Council of Architects, Landscapers, Planners, Conservatories where he coordinates the Department for Urban Planning Research & Development. Since November 2019, he is member of ACE Executive Board and coordinator of the ACE Area 2 'Practice of the Profession'.</p>
	<p>Gilles CHRISTNACH, CEO CRTI-B</p> <p>Gilles Christnach is a Luxembourgish civil engineer and a recognized leader in the field of building technology and innovation. He holds a degree in Civil Engineering with a specialization in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Liège (1996), and in 1997 he obtained a European Certificate in the Rational Application of Energy. Christnach brings nearly thirty years of experience to his current role as Director of the Building Technology and Innovation Resource Centre (CRTI-B GIE), a position he assumed in 2025. In this capacity, he continues to drive innovation and sustainability in Luxembourg's construction sector. In 2000, Christnach founded Betic Consulting Engineers, an engineering firm specializing in advanced building systems and sustainable design. He led Betic as Co-CEO for twenty years and then as Managing Director from 2020 to 2024, steering the company with a deliberate focus on technical innovation in building systems and forward-looking engineering approaches. Under his leadership, Betic contributed to many notable projects, including the Biodiversum nature center in Remerschen, Redange High School, Ettelbruck Health High School, and Luxembourg's pavilion at the 2025 World Expo in Osaka. Beyond his work in construction industry, Christnach has been active in professional organizations and education. He served on the board of the Ordre des Architectes et des Ingénieurs-Conseils (OAI), Luxembourg's association of architects and consulting engineers, from 2013 to 2023. In parallel, he contributed to OAI working groups through 2024, focusing on youth outreach and improving collaborative project management (including the OAI's "MOAI" and "MOAI+" initiatives). Since 2019, he has served as an external expert for the BTS Wood Technology program at the Lycée du Nord in Wiltz, where he contributes to courses in physics and electrical systems.</p>
	<p>Ingrid ALVSÅKER, member of the EFCA Digitalisation & BIM Committee</p> <p>Ms Alvsåker is an engineer within Ship- and Marine Technology with more than 35 years of experience from various engineering and construction companies. For the last 25 years Alvsåker has worked in COWI, mainly within building design, especially within CAD-systems/BIM and also with sprinkler systems. She has played a key role in transforming the main deliverables of the design process in COWI from traditional 2D CAD drawings via 3D models to modern BIM and is still leading the process of continuous improvement and development of our BIM deliverables within building design. She has held the position of COWI's BIM manager/BIM coordinator in several large hospital project, including Østfoldsykehuset who was recognized as the being the best Open BIM project in the world in 2014 (awarded by buildingSmart International) an Stavanger University Hospital wich won an award on Autodesk University in 2019 for innovative automation of design.</p>
	<p>Florian HERTWECK, architect</p> <p>Florian Hertweck is an architect and head of the master's programme in Architecture at the University of Luxembourg. From 2009 to 2016, he was Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Versailles, and from 2013 to 2015, he was a visiting professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg. He studied architecture and art history in Paris and Newcastle. He has been a partner at Less Yellow Architecture Urbanism since 2024.</p> <p>Professor Hertweck's teaching and research focus on the socio-ecological transformation of urban and suburban areas. From 2020 to 2022, he led a consortium of more than 50 planners and researchers as part of the international research programme Luxembourg in Transition. Spatial visions for the low carbon and sustainable future of the Luxembourg functional region. From 2018 to 2020, he collaborated with Prof. Milica Topalovic from ETH Zurich and their teams to develop a sustainable spatial model for the metropolitan region of Geneva as part of the Consultation du Grand Genève.</p> <p>Since 2018, he has been a member of the Conseil Supérieur de l'Aménagement du Territoire (CSAT), which advises the Luxembourg Minister for Spatial Planning. Since 2023, he has been a member of the scientific board at the Institute for Climate Protection, Energy and Mobility (IKEM). With his team at the University of Luxembourg, he has prepared various architectural and urban feasibility studies for the Luxembourg government. In 2018, he curated the Luxembourg Pavilion at the 16th Venice Architecture Biennale on the question of land. More recently he co-curated the exhibition The Great Repair, which has been shown at the Akademie der Künste Berlin and at the Pavillon de l'Arsenal in Paris. Hertweck is the editor of numerous</p>






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	<p>publications on the socio-ecological production of space, most recently The Great Repair. Politiken der Reparaturgesellschaft (ARCH+, no. 250) and Architektur auf gemeinsamem Boden. Positions and Models on the Land Question (Lars Müller Publishers 2020).</p>
	<p>Pierre HURT, CEO OAI Pierre HURT holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Nancy 2. He has been director of the OAI (Ordre des Architectes et des Ingénieurs-Conseils, oai.lu) since it was set up in March 1990. Since 1992, he has also been coordinator of the Federation of Independent Intellectual Workers (Fédération des travailleurs intellectuels indépendants, FTI.LU). In 1992, he contributed to set up the Foundation for Architecture and Engineering (Fondation de l'Architecture et de l'Ingénierie, now LUCA). He has launched numerous initiatives, including the Guide OAI Références guideoai.lu, architectour.lu, exchange/export laix.lu, Clients Award OAI "Bauhäpreprais OAI" bhp.lu, and actions such as MOAI.LU (methodology for building together, "Maîtrise d'Oeuvre OAI"), RICLUX (Research + Innovation + Construction), art in situ OAI, etc. He is an active member of the Economic and Social Council ("Conseil Economique et Social"), the management board of the Klima-Agence, the board of directors of INGSCI ("Ingénieurs et Scientifiques"), the steering committee of the UNI.LU master's degree in architecture, etc.</p>
	<p>Axel PAULUS, ETH-Zurich Axel Paulus is senior scientist at the Chair of Architecture and the Building Process at ETH Zurich. In his role as director, he is combining and integrating research, teaching and practice with the aim of allowing each of these aspects to inform each other, thus creating a holistic feedback cycle. He studied architecture in Kaiserslautern and at ETH Zurich. He holds academic mandates and lectureships in Stuttgart, Mendrisio, Madrid, and Nanjing as part of his extracurricular engagements. Axel is a member of the Foundation of the Swiss Registers of the Professionals in the Subjects of Engineering, Architecture and Environment (REG A) and the Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects (SIA). He is also a member of several think tanks and regulatory commissions as well as founder of [Strg.] A and co-owner of a r c experts AG.</p>
	<p>Sacha MENZ, ETH-Zurich Sacha Menz is Full Professor for Architecture and the Building Process at ETH Zurich since 2004. He studied architecture at ETH Zurich, graduating in 1989. Alongside his academic career, he co-founded SAM Architects and Partners, and was involved in real estate development through Staub Holding Inc. His work bridges architectural practice, research, and innovation, including contributions to digital fabrication and urban sustainability. He held leadership roles as Dean of the Department of Architecture and Director of the Institute of Technology in Architecture. Sacha is a member of various national and international boards, including the ETH Strategy Commission, and founder of Digital Network Switzerland. He also leads and contributes to Future Cities Lab GLOBAL and is co-owner of a r c experts AG.</p>
	<p>Lucia MARTINEZ LORENZO, European Commission, DG GROW, Unit Public Procurement Since 2023, Lucia Martinez is a legal and policy officer at the European Commission working on public procurement.</p>
	<p>Melanie WALDMANN, EFCA WG on Public Procurement Member Melanie Waldmann is Managing Director and Shareholder at Mayer Bährle GmbH, where she is responsible for the strategic leadership and operational development of the firm. With a background in civil engineering and a Master of Business Administration, she brings extensive experience in the planning and execution of complex public and private sector construction projects. Her portfolio includes high-profile developments such as municipal infrastructure, heritage renovations, and industrial facilities for clients including Porsche AG and several German municipalities. Ms. Waldmann is particularly engaged in advancing innovation and efficiency in public procurement and project delivery.</p>
	<p>Katarina O'COFAIGH, Chair of the ACE Public Procurement Work Group Architect SAR/MSA Katarina O'Cofaigh, Senior advisor on public procurement of architectural services and ADCs at Architects Sweden (since over 25 years).</p>



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	<p>Fabien GANTOIS, CNOA France Vice-President <i>More information coming soon.</i></p>
	<p>Jaap DE KONING, EFCA Internal Market Committee Chairman Educated as an Economist and Constructional Engineer, Jaap De Koning has a 30 year experience in the field of tendering, contracting and project management in the infrastructure and construction industry. He is a regular chairman and speaker on (international) conferences, and he is a member of a number of national expert groups on the subject. He is chair of the Internal Market Committee, in EFCA, Brussels. He is registered at the National Committee on Procurement-experts, and he contributes monthly in Cobouw. He is certified Best Value expert (A+). He focuses on projects with specific elements, like the ambition to innovate through procurement, a-typical procurement procedures, such as innovative partnership and special contract models, like Early Contractor Involvement. His added value lies in his ability to apply his theoretical knowledge and practical experience in real projects. He can translate the principles and often legal aspects in normal language so that the client and his team members understand the issues. The combination of his drive and will to work on project-success and humour makes him a valuable team member. He is one of the authors of the new Dutch contract model for Early Contractor Involvement (ECI or Bouwteam), DG2020.</p>
	<p>Carl BÄCKSTRAND, ACE Vice-President Carl Bäckstrand is an architect and deputy CEO of White Arkitekter. White is most recognised for visionary examples of sustainable architecture facing the challenges with Climate change, rapid urbanisation and social injustices, such as True Blue in Bergen, Norway and the 100-year Masterplan for the relocation of the City of Kiruna in Sweden's Arctic north. Carl is since many years focusing on urban issues with a MA in Architecture at Lund University followed by studies in Landscape architecture at Royal Academy of Arts in Copenhagen and then Urban Design as a Visiting Scholar at MIT Cambridge MA. Carl's engagement reaches from masterplans and housing developments to university schemes and cultural center in Sweden, Denmark, UK, Canada and East Africa. As a Board member of ARQ foundation and Co-Chair of van Alen Council NYC Carl contributes to bringing the business closer to science and building new strategic partnerships and as a speaker at internationally conferences such as Greenbuild and at universities such as Stuttgart School of Architecture.</p>
	<p>Eric THILL, Minister for Culture, Deputy Minister for Tourism, Luxembourg After completing secondary school at the Lycée Technique in Ettelbruck, Eric Thill started studying at the University of Luxembourg. He obtained a bachelor's in management and completed his studies with a master's degree in European governance in 2019. Governmental positions Following the legislative elections of 8 October 2023, Eric Thill was appointed Minister for Culture and Minister Delegate for Tourism on 17 November 2023 in the coalition government formed by the Christian Social People's Party (CSV) and the Democratic Party (DP). Other political positions Eric Thill has been a member of the DP since 2018. Following the municipal elections of 2017, he was appointed first alderman and mayor of the municipality of Schieren in November 2019. He remained in this office until November 2023. Eric Thill has been chairman of the DP for the district North since 2019. Professional activities Eric Thill has worked in a consulting firm for financial institutions and was a political advisor in the DP parliamentary group from 2020 to November 2023.</p>

