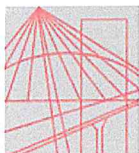
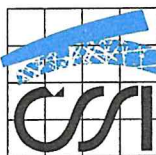


JOINT DECLARATION

of the engineering organisations – chambers and associations – of the “Visegrád countries” on their XXVII annual meeting



Česká komora autorizovaných inženýrů a techniků činných ve výstavbě (ČKAIT)

Český svaz stavebních inženýrů (ČSSI)

Magyar Mérnöki Kamara (MMK)

Polska Izba Inżynierów Budownictwa (PIIB)

Polski Związek Inżynierów i Techników Budownictwa (PZITB)

Slovenská komora stavebných inžinierov (SKSI)

Slovenský zväz stavebných inžinierov (SZSI)

1. The engineering organisations – chambers and associations – of the “Visegrád countries” (V4) held their 27th meeting in Debrecen on 8 October 2021, which was postponed in 2020 by one year due to the coronavirus epidemic. The host of the meeting was the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers.
2. The following delegations attended the meeting:
 - Czech Chamber of Chartered Engineers and Technicians (CKAIT)
 - Czech Society of Civil Engineers (CSSI)
 - Hungarian Chamber of Engineers (MMK)
 - Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers (PIIB)
 - Polish Association of Civil Engineers and Technicians (PZITB)
 - Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers (SKSI)
 - Slovak Association of Civil Engineers (SZSI)
3. The delegations briefed each other on the most important events of their organizations in the last two years, specifically addressing the effects of the coronavirus epidemic on the construction industry, the engineering activities, and the operation of the engineering organizations as well.

Based on their experience on how the pandemic boosted the already accelerating digitization, they jointly emphasize that the key to modernizing the economy and social conditions is the widespread digitization of the design and expert activities of engineers. Therefore, **they initiate governmental programs to support this process as a key element of the economic recovery measures.**

4. The delegations listened a presentation on sustainable cities, and they discussed the relation of sustainability and engineering activities. They stated that the economic recession dramatically reduced pollution, strengthened the attraction to a clean environment. The need for a sustainable, liveable, healthy natural environment has strengthened to a level never seen before.

Therefore, they considered to be essential to

- raise widespread awareness, that fighting the climate change and strengthening sustainability **cannot be achieved without engineering and technical expertise;**
- set up the institutional **system of “municipal chief engineer”** as soon as possible, because only engineering knowledge can guarantee the competent development of municipal infrastructures that determine the quality of community life;
- initiate the **moral and financial recognition of the engineering activity** in this field through a renewed system of subventions, public procurement, and other regulations, such the support of setting a safe price.

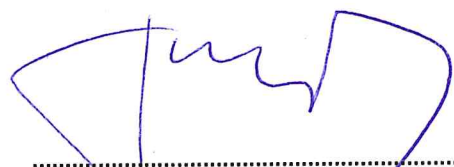
The delegations also agreed that during the proceedings of the public procurements the contribution of the professional engineers has to be secured and increased.

5. The delegations discussed that in order to maximalise the profit and to simplify the construction processes there is an ongoing undesirable practice to make amendments in plans and the materials designed, without prior acceptance of the designers. The delegations **consider it necessary to have legal regulations that prevent the uncontrolled modification of the plans during the construction phase.** If such changes can only take place with the approval of a designer, it would mean a guarantee of the efficiency of developments and investments, thus also protecting the interests

of the investors. The delegations enforce mandatory supervision of the designers for all types of constructions.

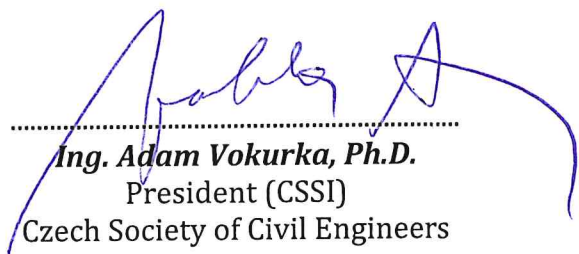
6. The delegations consider it their fundamental duty **to raise the social recognition of engineers and engineering knowledge** and are determined to take joint and decisive steps in the future, to launch actions and programs to facilitate this. As a first step in this process, the Czech, Polish and Slovak engineering organizations express their support for the Hungarian engineers being officially awarded with the “dipl.ing” indication, or anything equivalent, referring to their diploma.
7. The delegations express their appreciation and thanks to the organizers and agreed that they will use the logo of the meeting as the new symbol of the cooperation of the engineering organizations of the “Visegrád countries”.
8. The engineering organisations of the V4 countries agreed that the next annual meeting will take place in October 2022 in the Czech Republic at the invitation of the Czech Chamber of Chartered Engineers and Technicians (CKAIT) and Czech Society of Civil Engineers (CSSI).

adopted in Debrecen, 9th October 2021



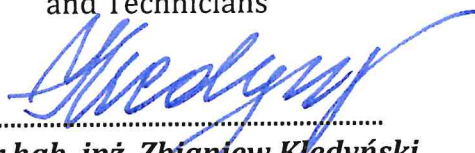
Ing. Robert Špalek
President (CKAIT)

Czech Chamber of Chartered Engineers
and Technicians

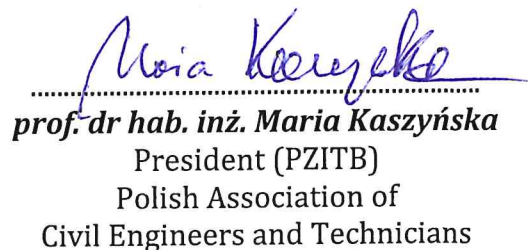


Ing. Adam Vokurka, Ph.D.
President (CSSI)

Czech Society of Civil Engineers



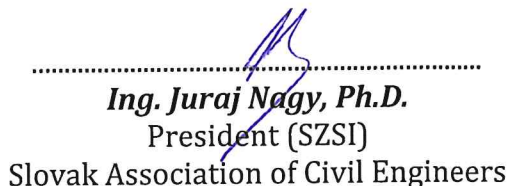
prof. dr hab. inż. Zbigniew Kłedyński
President (PIIB)
Polish Chamber of Civil Engineers



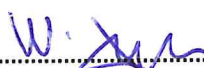
prof. dr hab. inż. Maria Kaszyńska
President (PZITB)
Polish Association of
Civil Engineers and Technicians



prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Vladimír Benko Ph.D.
President
Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers (SKSI)



Ing. Juraj Nagy, Ph.D.
President (SZSI)
Slovak Association of Civil Engineers



Ernő Wagner
President
Hungarian Chamber of Engineers (MMK)