

Press Release

A new European Charter for Interior Architecture Training

A Charter aimed at raising education and training standards for interior design professionals across Europe has been produced by the European Council of Interior Architects (ECIA).

The European Charter of Interior Architecture Training 2013 sets out an ambitious programme promoting entry levels of training for the profession, ensuring a basic level of competence and knowledge among interior design professionals.

The charter was produced by a working group of design professionals and educators from across the continent, chaired by Kees Spanjers, interior architect and former ECIA President.

Kees said: "The depth of training and education on offer can vary between different ECIA member states. The aim of this charter is to create a level playing field, so that people can be assured of the knowledge and training credentials of design professionals represented by our members anywhere in Europe.

"Another key aim of the charter is to encourage the exchange of knowledge, ideas and best practices among our member countries. We want greater interaction between people within the ECIA community, whether they are students, educators or design professionals."

Representatives from the 16 member countries of the association agreed the new charter at the ECIA General Assembly in Amsterdam.

Joke van Hengstum, President of the ECIA, said: "Since its inception, the ECIA has been working to raise standards in our industry across the continent and get proper recognition for the professions of interior architect and interior designer. The new European Charter of Interior Architecture Training 2013 is a step towards achieving those goals."

The new Charter is available at: www.ecia.net

Editor Notes:

The European Council of Interior Architects is the representative body for European professional organisations in interior architecture and design.

The European Charter of Interior Architecture Training 2013 was formally accepted by the members of ECIA at their General Assembly on 7 September 2013 in Amsterdam.

This Charter connects to similar documents in related professions, such as the European Directive on professional qualifications, the UNESCO-UIA Charter for

Architectural Education and the IFLA/UNESCO Charter for Landscape Architectural Education.