

Letter from the President (7th August 2020)

Dear members of EURCOLD, dear colleagues,

Our first through in this challenging time is for those who have suffered the Covid-19. We wish that you and your families are well.

Dams have been shown as a key infrastructure, and activities regarding dams, especially water supply, irrigation and hydropower production have been appointed in most countries as essential services. This should encourage us to continue with our activities to strengthen society resilience to the climate change.

In this line, we consider the **HYDROPOWER-EUROPE forum** paramount within our activities, because there are a significant synergy and common interests between both fields:

- the future deployment of hydropower is linked to new pumped storage plants, i.e. to new dams;
- this forum offers an excellent opportunity to discuss with the civil society the need of future dams;
- this is the first time that EU calls to plan funding of R&D on dams;
- finally, is the first time we could launch a permanent representation of our professional sector to the European Union.

Hydropower-Europe held the 2nd Consultation Expert Panel on the 25th March 2020, including discussions on the *Strategic Industry Roadmap (SIR)* and *Research and Innovation Agenda (RIA)*:

<i>Strategic Industry Roadmap (SIR)</i>	<i>Research and Innovation Agenda (RIA)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barriers to large scale deployment of all sizes of hydropower. - Hydropower for a better society. - Continual improvement of the protection of environment. - Funding hydropower research and deployment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing flexibility. - Optimization of operations and maintenance. - Resilience of electromechanical equipment, construction and material technology. - Resilience of infrastructure. - Developing of new emerging concepts. - Environmental-friendly solutions. - Mitigating impact of global warming.

Based on these discussions, the second drafts of the SIR and RIA have been recently completed. **You are now invited to give your opinions on these two documents through a second stakeholder online consultation.** This is a great opportunity to provide your feedback and recommendations that will shape the future of hydro and dams in Europe.

Completing the survey takes only 20 minutes.

You could find the survey in the following web site:

<https://consultation.hydropower-europe.eu/hydropower-europe-consultation-programme/2nd-wider-stakeholder-consultation/consultation/>

Caution: if you join the forum for the first time, you need first to register before answering the consultation in the following web site:

<https://hydropower-europe.eu/>

With our best regards,

Jean-Jacques Fry,

President of EURCOLD



Alfredo Granados,

Secretary General of EURCOLD

