



LETTER FROM THE  
PRESIDENT 03/2023



EurCOLD

Dear Members of EURCOLD, dear colleagues and friends,

It is a great honor for me to have been elected President of the European Club of ICOLD and to have been entrusted with the challenge of continuing the successful tenure of President Fry. The European is a very active Regional Club and I am thrilled to be collaborating with all of you in implementing the common goals set for the 2023-2025 term and shall do my utmost in achieving this. I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight some essential priorities and their implementation strategies as follows:

**European Working Groups:** The main target is to support existing and trigger the creation of new EWG, to further contribute to ICOLD's Technical Committees, identifying at the same time opportunities for joint working group activities and collaboration with other associations and academics related to dam engineering. In the next three (3) years we shall move toward raising public awareness on the benefits of dams, providing recommendations on specific safety issues and helping to identify emerging regulatory issues affecting dam design and operation. ETIP Hydropower, led by ICOLD, will also provide the opportunity for the European Member countries and the EWG to participate and launch selected research projects and obtain funding.

**Training, education and expertise exchange:** It is principal to promote and support the European Club's various events and meetings organized by and for our members. These activities aim to mobilize capacity development in Dam engineering, trigger expertise exchange and ensure the sustainability of the profession on all levels. Distributing resources provided by the EWG and events Organizing Committees, could ensure continuous educational development.

**Young Professionals:** How could we promote YP's active involvement in the EURCOLD? We need to work towards triggering their interest in dam engineering and our activities should encourage their participation. Low cost or no cost events like webinars could be one approach to facilitate and encourage YP's, students and researchers' attendance.

**EURCOLD's Activities Promotion:** Promotion of EURCOLD's activities and progress can be achieved by regular updates and content expansion of the EURCOLD website, the creation of social media pages and the issuance of a newsletter. Feedback and support by all member countries and the EWG, to improve these activities, will be encouraged.

*Moving towards this direction*, with the valuable support of Secretary General, Alfredo Granados, a LinkedIn company page is initially created, as follows:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/icold-european-club-eurcold/>

Please follow the page and feel free to introduce it to your members and network.

**Upcoming Board Member Meetings:** This year, two Board meetings will take place:



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- The first Board meeting will take place on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June in the ICOLD 2023 Annual Meeting in Gothenburg.
- The second Board meeting will take place in the most important EURCOLD event, the 12<sup>th</sup> ICOLD European Club Symposium in Interlaken, on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September.

To preserve our friendship and networking events, introduced in ICOLD Annual Meetings by past President Jean-Jacques Fry, the EURCOLD social event is organized, with the collaboration of the ICOLD 2023 Organizing committee. Further details will be announced at a later date.

The accompanied e-mail aims to collect all the information you want to share with the Board and the European National Committees and further organize the draft agenda and the works for the Board meeting in Gothenburg.

*Finally*, I would like to express my respect and acknowledge the work of my predecessor Jean - Jacques Fry whose passion contributed to making the European Club of ICOLD a most successful regional club. His work on the Hydropower Europe led to ETIP Hydropower, a project aimed to advocate the important role of dams to the European Commission.

Once again, I want to thank you for your trust and would like to reiterate my dedication and excitement to be in this position.

With my best regards,

Sera Lazaridou  
President of the ICOLD European Club