

ETIC



EUROPEAN TIMBER
INDUSTRIES CONFEDERATION

Rooted in sustainability: *ETIC's* position as European nature operator

Faced with growing environmental challenges, *ETIC*, the *European Timber Industries Confederation*, is the European Timber Industries leading platform: an unwavering advocate of sustainability and responsible management of wood resources to meet growing public demand.

With a resolute commitment to promoting the vital role of wood in a circular economy context, *ETIC* champions the preservation and responsible utilization of Europe's forest resources.

ETIC boldly affirms the irreplaceable value of wood, not only as a renewable and versatile resource but also as a crucial cultural and societal cornerstone.

The forest is an irreplaceable intangible asset and we want to give it its rightful place in tomorrow's public policies, in Europe and around the world.

In this pivotal moment, *ETIC's* voice emerges as a beacon of advocacy, ensuring that the inherent benefits of wood are not clumsily questioned or overshadowed.

Through collaborative engagement with policymakers and stakeholders, considering both the wood & furniture sector social dialogue and digitalisation as main instruments of progress, *ETIC* strives to uphold the integrity of Europe's Timber Industry for generations to come.

The European Timber Industry is a key player in sustainable development

ETIC is established to serve as the unique unified representative and advocate for the European Timber Industry, encompassing all its processing stages and sub-sectors, as well as the European Furniture and Accessories Industries and the Cork Industry.

With a steadfast commitment to sustainability, innovation and ethical business practices we are determined to promote sustainable practices in the various wood sectors.

With a firm commitment to ethical and responsible sourcing, we emphasize the importance of rigorous traceability throughout the value chain.

From the forest's essential role in combating climate change to the finished product - including the key issue on how wood is treated to preserve its durability - we advocate health, environmental, ethical and competitive advances for the entire European Wood Industry.

ETIC members, custodians of vast natural landscapes, do not "exploit" forests but are nature operators paced by biodiversity preservation.

ETIC is the driver of a balanced and responsible management approach to industrial vegetation, fostering a climate of sustainability and resilience within its operations.



An urgent response to society's growing demand for wood

Wood is not only a versatile and renewable resource but also holds significant cultural and societal values.

Across Europe, the demand for wood-based products is fast growing, driven by consumers' increasing awareness of sustainability and environmental conservation.

For political decision-makers, it is essential to recognize and address this societal demand for wood, ensuring that policies and regulations support the responsible and sustainable management of forests and the Timber Industry.

The same applies to certified tropical wood trade, which supports a legal, ethical and sustainable industry that promotes the socio-economic development of tropical forests through proper certification schemes. This helps preserve these forests, crucial to global climate, by sequestering carbon and avoiding deforestation, while stimulating local green economy.

Wooden pillars: ETIC's principles for European prosperity

ETIC's mission is to act as a close and dynamic interlocutor with European Institutions, advocating for the sustainable growth of companies and the European economy within the framework of globalization.

We actively contribute to the advancement of an innovative, internationalized and sustainable entrepreneurial system that fosters economic, social, civil and cultural growth across Europe and tropical wood areas.

The following points underscore the pivotal role of wood in European development:

- **ETIC** members, as industrial nature operators, **valorize wood as a precious natural resource**, emphasizing its intrinsic value in **combating climate change and preserving biodiversity**.
- Wood allows consumers the **use of eco-friendly furniture products**.
- **ETIC** promotes **certification, traceability, environmentally friendly production methods, enhanced wood & furniture sector social dialogue** and **digital innovation**, to secure enhanced traceability, increased efficiency and heightened **appeal to younger generations**.
- The civil society **calls for greater recognition and support for solid wood furniture**, highlighting their role in the **transition to a green and circular economy**.
- Our Industry, **promotes biodiversity and reduction of phytosanitary inputs in the nature**, focusing on **preserving ecosystems and combating genetic erosion**. Undoubtedly, prioritizing the use of wood is a compelling and pragmatic solution to address climate change, head-on.
- **ETIC** members **embrace sustainable forest management for extra-financial benefits, ensuring renewal and long-term preservation of forests while respecting biodiversity and fragile ecosystems**.

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Let's work on a better Europe. Together.

ETIC is the way forward for the entire European forest-based industry.

Today, a (fast-growing) group of members, based in different European countries are working together to promote a better understanding of the vital role that wood is playing and will continue playing in the future of the European Union.

Forest operators, sawmillers, supply manufacturers, wood impregnators, railway network companies, furniture manufacturers, responsible tropical wood traders & importers, have maturely joined forces to make political decision-makers aware of the importance of the timber industry in the fight against climate change and in the preservation of forests.

Current **ETIC** members are:

- **AIMMP**, Association of Portuguese Wood & Furniture Industries
- **APMR**, Association of Romanian Furniture Manufacturers
- **ATIBT**, International Technical Association of Tropical Wood
- **DURWOOD S.P.R.L.**
- **EU-TIMBER B.V.**
- **RFOA**, Romanian Private Forests Owners Association
- **S.C. OCOLUL SILVIC PRIVAT STEJARII MUSCELULUI S.R.L.**
- **SEFB**, Organisation of French Forests Operators
- **SNCF RESEAU**, French Railways Network Management
- **TWC**, Treated Wood Council

All of them, through **ETIC**, are prepared to support policy-makers work, to protect nature without sclerosing while ensuring the long-term viability of the European Timber Industry.

So, let's work on a better Europe. Together.

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