

## **Rules of the International BERD-FEUP Prize for World Innovation in Bridge Engineering (WIBE 2017)**

Access to the BERD-FEUP Prize for World Innovation in Bridge Engineering 2017 (hereinafter, BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017) will be made in accordance to the rules set out in the following regulation.

### **Article 1 – Scope**

The aim of this regulation is to rule the Prize of the BERD-FEUP WIBE 2017, providing the necessary objectivity, rigor and transparency to the competition.

### **Article 2 - Subject of the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017**

**2.1.** The subject of the Prize is a 10 page Paper (maximum) in the field of Bridge Engineering, comprising at least the following four requirements:

- 2.1.1.** A concept, a process or a system with clear Innovation features in Bridge Engineering;
- 2.1.2.** A clear presentation of the potential impact of the Innovation on Bridge Engineering;
- 2.1.3.** A clear presentation of the potential impact of the Innovation on Society;
- 2.1.4.** A clear presentation of the scientific validation or alternatively a clear presentation of the technical applicability potential.

**2.2.** The winner(s) of the Prize indicated in article 12 will be the author or authors of a Paper that demonstrates the greatest potential of innovation and contributes to the development of Bridge Engineering worldwide, selected by a qualified Jury.

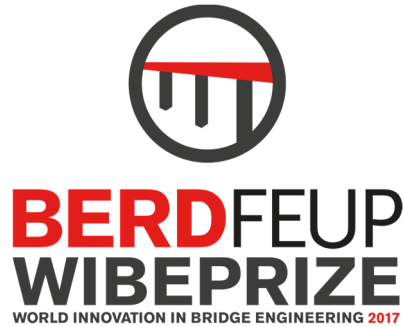
### **Article 3 – Eligibility of the Applicants**

An Eligible Applicant is any Structural or Bridge Engineer from any country, with any activity in Academia, Design or Industry, as long as the Applicant submits all mandatory documents as per article 4. The applicant is the unique author of the Paper, or the lead author in case of multiples authors.

### **Article 4 – Mandatory Documents for Submission**

**4.1.** In order to have access to Stage 01 of Selection, the Applicant must fulfill the submission form in the submission platform available in the Wibe Prize Site, according to the instructions included in the mentioned platform.

**4.2.** In order to have access to Stage 01 of Selection, the Applicant must submit the following 2 (two)



mandatory documents in the WIBE Prize 2017 site:

- 4.2.1. Full adherence and acceptance of “FEUP-BERD WIBE PRIZE 2017 RULES”, as per Annex 1;
- 4.2.2. One Extended Abstract of the Paper (2 pages) according to the Standard Rules as per Annex 2.

4.3 – Before Stage 03 of Selection, the Applicant must submit the following 4 (four) additional mandatory documents in the WIBE Prize 2017 site:

- 4.3.1. “Paper” (maximum 10 pages) according to the Standard Rules as per Annex 2.
- 4.3.2. Consent to Publish duly signed as per Annex 3.
- 4.3.3. One Mandatory Recommendation Letter, as per Annex 4, duly signed by a colleague whose profile includes the following criteria: PhD graduated Engineers belonging to any “Engineering - Civil & Structural” departments of the first 200 ranked Universities of QS World University Rankings in the Subject “Engineering - Civil & Structural” in any year 2015 or 2016.
- 4.3.4. One Mandatory Recommendation Letter, as per Annex 5, duly signed by Colleagues whose profile includes the following criteria: colleague with at least 5 years of membership to one of the following entities: **IABSE** – International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering; **FIB** - Fédération Internationale du Béton; **IABMAS**- International Association for Bridge Maintenance and Safety; **AISC** - American Institute of steel construction; **ECCS** - European Council of Civil Engineers; **ASCE**– American Society of Civil Engineers.

4.4 – “**Extended Abstract of the Paper**” Resubmission: In stage 03, in the submission of the “Paper”, the Applicants are allowed to substitute the previously submitted “Extended Abstract of the Paper” (referred in 4.1.2) eliminating the previously submitted “Extended Abstract of the Paper” and adding a new version of the “Extended Abstract of the Paper”.

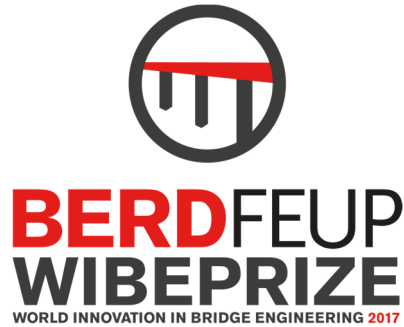
4.5 – In the first submission, the applicants will be asked to classify their contribution according to a list of themes available in the submission platform.

#### Article 5 – Limit of Applications - exclusions

5.1 – If the Applications number reaches the limit (4x ngj), meaning of 4 (applicants per Jury member) times the number of members of the Grand Jury (ngj), the Organizing Committee is allowed to close the Applications. If all members of the Grand Jury are designated as per Article 8, the maximum limit number of Applications is 416.

5.2 – If the Limit predicted in 5.1 is reached, no more than five (5) Applications are accepted for each institution, whether from Academia or from Industry. To avoid any doubts, if the mentioned limit is reached and if there are more than 5 Applicants of any mentioned institution, the Organizing Committee is entitled to eliminate as many Applications as such number exceeds 5.

5.3 – If the limit presented in points 5.1 and 5.2 is reached, the Organizing Committee shall contact the



corresponding Entities who will have the opportunity to send a written declaration with a selection of 5 Applications within a 10 calendar day period after notice of sending. The Organizing Committee is entitled to eliminate as many Applications as such number exceeds 5, considering the mentioned declarations.

**5.4** – If the mechanism mentioned in 5.3 is not activated, the Organizing Committee is entitled to proceed with the elimination of Applicants considering the inverse order of date of receipt of the first submission as in 4.1.

## **Article 6 – Classification Criteria**

**6.1.** In all selection stages the Classification Criteria is to be as follows, where, all six **P.i.j** evaluation fields are evaluated in the interval 0 to 100%, and the corresponding global evaluation is performed considering the following parameters, weights and formulae, both for “Papers” and for “Extended Abstracts”:

### **6.1.1 Evaluation Parameters:**

#### **6.1.1.1 INNOVATION: P1**

**P.1.1 – Value of Innovative features of the Extended Abstract or Paper**

**P.1.2 - Impact of the Innovation on Bridge Engineering**

**P.1.3 - Impact of the Innovation on Society**

#### **6.1.1.2 CONSISTENCY: P2**

**P.2.1 – Scientific consistency of the Extended Abstract or Paper**

**P.2.2 – Technical consistency of the applicability justification**

#### **6.1.1.3 QUALITY OF THE TEXT: P3**

**P.3.1 – Quality of the text**

**6.1.2** Aggregate Parameters P1, P2 and P3, are performed for each Jury member evaluation and for each Application as follows:

$$P1 = 0.35 \times P.1.1 + 0.3 \times P.1.2 + 0.35 \times P.1.3$$

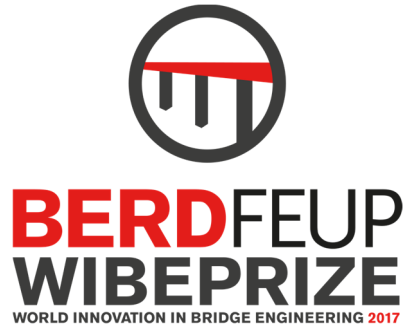
$$P2 = \text{MAX} (P.2.1; P.2.2)$$

$$P3 = 0.85 + P.3.1 \times 0.15$$

**6.1.3** The classification P of the Application “c” in Stage “s” of Jury member “n” is to be:

$$P_{c,s,n} = P1 \times P2 \times P3$$

**6.2.** The Classification Criteria is to be introduced in an algorithm in the Back-office of the WIBE Prize 2017 submissions platform. The Jury members are only to classify the six P.i.j evaluation fields in each stage in the WIBE Prize 2017 managing platform.



**6.3** – In order to provide uniformity of evaluation criteria comprising items P1.2 and P1.3, a short list of “Challenges for Bridge Engineering in the 21st century” will be published in WIBE Prize 2017 site, including contributions of prestigious bridge engineers. These guidelines are to be understood as “possible ways” and should not in any way be considered by the Jury as restricting other innovation ways.

**6.4** – In order to provide uniformity of evaluation criteria, Guidelines for Evaluation Criteria suggested by the Final Jury will be published in WIBE Prize 2017 site.

## Article 7 – Selection Stages

**7.1.** The Selection Stages will follow a pyramidal draw such as:

**7.2 – Stage 01 - Applications Population level 01** – Applications submitted as per Article 4.1 in the Prize Site Platform.

**7.3 – Stage 02 - Applications Population level 02** – the best ranked 200 Abstracts according to the classification of the “Grand Jury”, as per following Classification Value:

$$P_{c,2} = P_{c,2,1}/2 + P_{c,2,2}/2$$

Where, k=1, and k=2 are two members of the Grand Jury to whom the Abstract “c” was attributed in stage 02;

**7.4 – Stage 03 - Applications Population level 03** – among the Applications submitted as per Article 4.2 in the Prize Site Platform, the best ranked 30 Papers according to the classification of the Grand Jury:

$$P_{c,3} = 0.4 \times P_{c,3,1} + 0.4 \times P_{c,3,2} + 0.2 \times P_{c,2}$$

Where, k=1, and k=2 are two members of the Grand Jury to whom the Paper “c” was attributed in stage 03;

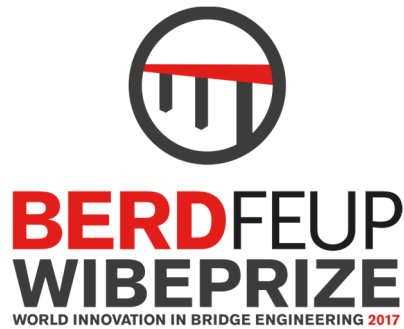
**7.5 – Stage 04 - Applications Population level 04 – the finalists** – the 8 best ranked Abstracts and Papers according to the classification of the Grand Jury and the Final Jury according to:

$$P_{c,4} = 0.4 \times P_{c,4,1} + 0.4 \times P_{c,4,2} + 0.2 \times P_{c,3}$$

Where, k=1, and k=2 are two members of the Final Jury to whom the Abstract and Paper “c” was attributed in stage 04;

**7.6 – Stage 05 – The winner (s)** – the best ranked Paper(s) according to the Final Jury evaluation:

$$P_{c,5} = P_{c,5,k}/13, \quad \text{Where, k are the members of the Final Jury.}$$



**7.7** – At Stages 2, 3 and 4, if the difference between the classifications provided by the two jury members is greater than 30%, the organization committee may select other jury member and discard one of the classifications.

**7.8** –At any Stage, if any of the jury members fails to provide the classification before the defined deadlines, the organizing committee may replace that jury member.

**7.9** –At any Stage any Application may be excluded from the Applications Population at any level if any of the exclusion tigers are identified by the Organizing Committee as per Article **10**.

## **Article 8 - Constitution of the Jury and of the Organizing Committee**

**8.1.** The Final Jury of the competition will be constituted by thirteen (13) members. The Organizing Committee is obliged to strictly adopt the following order of invitations to the bellow mentioned entities:

**8.1.1.** Two members appointed by the Faculty of Engineering of Porto University;

**8.1.2.** Three members appointed by the IABSE;

**8.1.3.** Two members appointed by FIB;

**8.1.4.** Two members appointed by IABMAS;

**8.1.5.** One member appointed by AISC;

**8.1.6.** One member appointed by ECCS;

**8.1.7.** One member appointed by ASCE;

**8.1.8.** One member appointed by BERD

**8.1.9.** In the event of any impossibility of accomplishment of the WIBE Prize evaluation timetable of any Jury Member, the Organizing Committee is free to re-attribute any evaluation to any other Jury member.

**8.2.** FEUP and BERD jury members will nominate a Chairman among the above-mentioned thirteen (13) members.

**8.3.** The Grand Jury of the competition will be constituted by the maximum of 104 members or less:

**8.3.1.** Each member of the Final Jury is to designate 8 members, or less, for the Grand Jury, on his own criteria;

**8.3.2.** In the event of any non-fulfillment of the 8 designations of each member of the Final Jury the Organizing Committee may pass that competence to any other members of Final Jury referred in the previous point.

**8.3.3.** All the elements of the Grand Jury will have to register in the Prize managing platform and indicate the themes of contributions that they may evaluate.

**8.4.** If any member of the Jury decides to abandon his function, he has the right to indicate a name of a colleague to replace him. If that Jury Member does not nominate any substitute, such right is transferred



for the entity who nominated such member and, if within 2 weeks that right is not fulfilled, such right is transferred to the Organizing Committee.

**8.5.** Until the constitution of the Final Jury, the Organizing Committee is constituted by 2 members of FEUP and 1 member of BERD.

**8.6.** After the constitution of the Final Jury, the Organizing Committee is constituted by 2 members of FEUP, 1 member of BERD and by 2 members elected by the Final Jury.

**8.7.** If the mechanisms of 8.3.1 and 8.4 are not used, the Organizing Committee has the right to directly proceed with the said replacement.

**8.8.** If the mechanisms of 8.3.1 and 8.4 are not used, the Organizing Committee has the right to directly proceed with the said replacement.

**8.9.** If the Organizing Committee identifies themes that are not adequately covered by the Grand Jury, the Organizing Committee may nominate additional members for the Grand Jury.

## **Article 9 - Competences of the Juries**

**9.1** The Competences of the Grand Jury are to perform the evaluations of stages 1 to 3 as per article 7.

**9.2** The Competences of the Final Jury are to perform the evaluations of stages 4 and 5 as per article 7.

**9.3.** The Juries have discretion and sovereignty in every step of the decision-making process.

**9.4.** The decisions of the Jury members arising out of its discretionary power are final and not subject to legal litigation.

**9.5.** Both the Grand Jury and the Final Jury are entitled to classify Applications using the Classification Criteria as per Article 6.

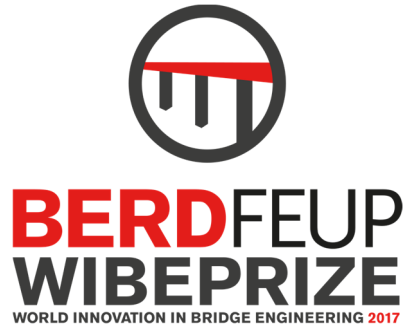
**9.6.** In Stage 05, after interaction of the Final Jury, a second round of Stage 05 is allowed if 2/3 of the Final Jury agrees. In the event of the latter case, the first round of Stage 05 will be ignored.

**9.7.** All classifications of all stages are to be recorded in the WIBE Prize 2017 site platform.

**9.7.1.** The Applicants' access will be limited to the information related to their own Application information.

**9.7.2.** Access by the members of the Grand Jury will be limited to the information related to their own evaluations and the overall results of Applicants.

**9.7.3.** The members of the Final Jury will have access to all information.



**9.8.** The Final Jury can decide by majority of 2/3 not to select any article or applicant if the applications do not comply with the requirements set out in this regulation or do not show the necessary quality and innovation. In such situation another deadline for the same Prize should be immediately defined by the Final Jury.

**9.9.** This regulation is subject to changes or amendments by the Final Jury with 2/3 majority and by at least 4/5 of the Organizing Committee Members in each stage.

**9.10 –** In case 2 or more Papers are qualified in first place with the same Classification, the Chairman of the Final Jury should decide if another round of evaluation should be implemented, or if the evaluation process is closed, and the Prize is attributed to more than one winner.

#### **Article 10 – Applications Exclusion**

Any Application at any stage may be excluded by the Organizing Committee if it is understood or identified by the Organizing Committee that:

**10.1.** Any document is not properly submitted, including online submission forms;

**10.2.** Any document is not liable and the Applicant does not clearly prove its veracity;

**10.3.** Any Paper has been published before or if there are doubts of similarity relating to any Paper published before;

**10.4.** Any Applicant submits more than one Application and does not eliminate the previous ones, thus maintaining more than one Application;

**10.5.** Any Application is classified by any Jury member of the same University or Company;

**10.6.** Any previous cases of exclusion decision is to be performed by the sole criteria of the Organizing Committee, and shall not be object of any kind of litigation.

#### **Article 11 - Deadlines**

Deadlines are:

**11.1.** WIBE Prize 2017 site online: 31 December 2015

**11.2** Submission of Abstracts and other documents as per article 4.1 open: 1 October 2016

**11.3.** Submission of Abstracts and other documents as per article 4.1 deadline: 31 December 2016

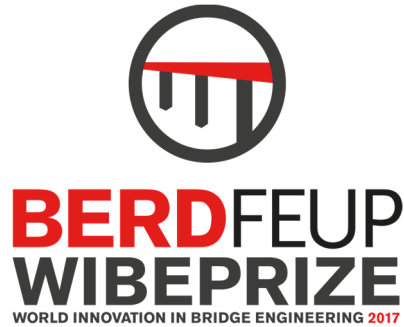
**11.4.** Publication on Site of Population Level 01: 31 January 2017

**11.5.** Publication on Site of Population Level 02: 31 March 2017

**11.6.** Submission of Papers open: 1 May 2017

**11.7.** Submission of Papers deadline: 31 July 2017

**11.8.** Publication on Site of Population Level 03: 31 October 2017



**11.9.** Publication on Site of Population Level 04: 31 December 2017

**11.10.** WIBE Prize 2017 Award decision: 31 December 2017

**11.11.** WIBE Prize 2017 Award Ceremony: 30 October 2018 (or before)

**11.12.** All the deadlines of the WIBE Prize organization, exclusively, may have an additional 60-day tolerance, if needed, for any operational reason, on the Organizing Committee own criteria.

All internal deadlines for evaluation by Jury members, are to be before the due date of publication.

#### **Article 12 - Value of the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017**

**12.1.** The value of the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017 is USD 50,000.

**12.2.** If there is more than one winner, the Prize will be divided by the number of winners.

**12.3.** Payment of the Prize is to be made within 300 (three hundred) days after the Prize decision, with all duty and taxes being the responsibility of the Beneficiary(ies).

#### **Article 13– Intellectual Property**

**13.1.** The applicants, before submitting the articles, have the responsibility to verify if any form of intellectual property rights, for instance patents, models, designs or trademarks that can arise from the proposal, are protected.

**13.2.** If an Intellectual property right arises from the proposal, their ownership must be verifiable and certifiable. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the application. Applicants will not be permitted to present ideas owned by third parties. For any doubt about the legal implications, the Organization advises to ask for legal counsel.

**13.3.** All the Applicants expressly transmit to BERD-FEUP the exclusive publication rights of the article submitted to the competition and also the exclusive rights of any advertisement.

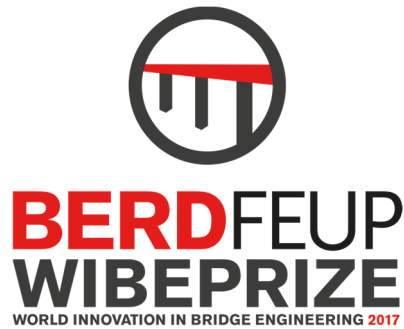
**13.4** The Applicants expressly authorize the Organizing Committee to share the papers to potential Investors in new technologies, being that such Investors have to previously make a statement protecting the rights of the Applicants. If the Applicants don't agree with present Clause they have to expressly inform the Organizing Committee of such will.

#### **Article 14- Confidentiality**

**14.1.** All the individuals participating in the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017 are obliged to maintain all the information that arises from the competition confidential.

**14.2.** The Jury has the power to decide the possibility of any disclosure prior to awarding the prize.





**14.3.** Any breach of the confidentiality involves the disqualification of any applicant.

**14.4.** Any breach of the confidentiality involves the disqualification of any Jury member.

#### **Article 15 - Advertisement and Publishing**

**15.1.** Both FEUP and BERD are entitled to publish any news or advertisement regarding WIBE Prize 2017.

**15.2.** Both FEUP and BERD are entitled to either agree to the publication of any selection of “papers” of any Application with (1) a peer Reviewed International Journal and, if that is not agreed, (2) to transfer the rights of Publishing to a Publisher or to directly publish the “papers”.

#### **Article 16- Responsibility**

**16.1.** BERD and FEUP duly signed a Protocol which clearly defines the responsibilities among the parties for the promotion of this Award.

**16.2.** The responsibilities of BERD and FEUP are exclusively (1) to provide the conditions for the Prize according to the Protocol mentioned in 17.1; (2) to send the necessary invitations to the entities who will indicate the Grand Jury and the Final Jury; (3) to take the necessary measures to set up the Organizing Committee; (4) to promote the development of the WIBE Prize 2017 site and Back-office and (5) to maintain the community informed of the main important events through the WIBE Prize 2017 site.

**16.3.** All costs and expenses related to the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017 eventually incurred by the Applicants will be exclusively supported by them.

**16.4.** BERD and FEUP will not be liable towards the Applicants for any eventual costs, expenses or damages that could arise from the BERD-FEUP WIBE Prize 2017.

#### **Article 17 - Missing cases**

The Organizing Committee is competent to resolve any remaining missing cases or to overrule the present WIBE 2017 Rules.

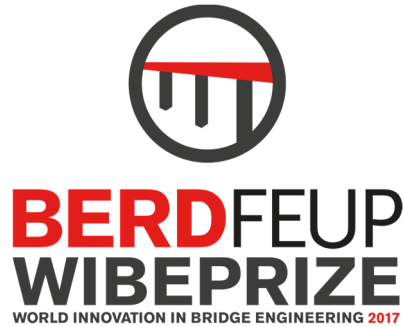
#### **Article 18 – Annexes**

This Regulation comprises 5 annexes that are printed in the following pages.

#### **Entities:**

**BERD – PROJECTO, INVESTIGAÇÃO E ENGENHARIA DE PONTES, S.A.**

**FEUP – FACULDADE DE ENGENHARIA DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO**



## **ANNEX 1**

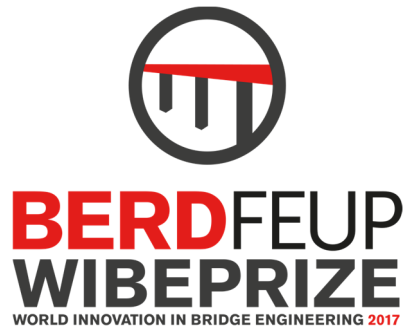
While proceeding to a submission, any Applicant is to declare his full adherence and acceptance of “FEUP-BERD WIBE PRIZE 2017 RULES”, by selecting the corresponding field in the submission platform (web).

The field to be selected is as follows:

**“I FULLY ACCEPT AND I DECLARE MY FULL ADHERENCE TO THE “FEUP-BERD WIBE PRIZE 2017 RULES” AND TO ANY NEW VERSION OF THAT DOCUMENT, AS PER ARTICLE 17 OF THE MENTIONED REGULATION.”**

The digital document generated with the mentioned selection in the submission platform is enough to proceed with the process in the first 3 stages. After the third stage, at any moment, the Organizing Committee is entitled to ask to any applicant for an original signed hardy copy of this declaration.

If the Applicant does not select the mentioned field, the Submission is not valid and may be eliminated according to the Organizing Committee own criteria.



## **ANNEX 2**

Both the “Extended Abstract of the Paper” (2 pages) and the “Paper” (until 10 pages) are to be submitted exactly according to the “Wibe Template”. The same Template is used for both submissions.

Download of the “Wibe Template” is to be done on the Page “SUBMISSION” in the Wibe Official Site at:

**<https://paginas.fe.up.pt/~wibe/registration/>**

If any submission is not done according to the “Wibe Template” the Organizing Committee is entitled to not consider the corresponding submission or to ask to the Applicant a new Submission respecting the “Wibe Template”.

The Standard rules are written in the “Wibe Template”.



# **BERD FEUP** **WIBEPRIZE**

WORLD INNOVATION IN BRIDGE ENGINEERING 2017

## **ANNEX 3**

### **CONSENT TO PUBLISH & TRANSFER COPYRIGHT TO ANY PUBLISHER DESIGNATED BY THE WIBE PRIZE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

#### **TITLE OF PAPER**

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#### **AUTHOR**

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1. The Author hereby assigns to the Organizing Committee the copyright to Contribution (the Paper and the Extended Abstract) named above whereby the Organizing Committee shall have the exclusive right to publish the said Contribution in print and in electronic form and translations of it wholly or in part throughout the World during the full term of copyright including renewals and extensions and all subsidiary rights.
2. The Author hereby warrants that he has full power to make this Agreement, that he is the Author of the Contribution and owner of the rights herein granted, that the Contribution is original, and has not previously been published in any form and is in no way whatever a violation or infringement of any existing copyright or license, or duty of confidentiality, or duty to respect to privacy, or any other right of any person or party whatsoever, that it contains nothing libellous, that all statements therein purporting to be facts are true and that any recipe, formula or instruction contained therein will not, if followed accurately, cause any injury, illness or damage to the user. The Author further warrants that the Contribution contains no obscene, improper or blasphemous material nor is any other way unlawful.
3. The Author retains the right to republish the Contribution in any printed collection consisting solely of the Author's own works without charge and subject only to notifying the Organizing Committee of the intent to do so and ensuring that the publication by any Publisher designated by the Organizing Committee is properly credited and that the relevant copyright notice is repeated verbatim.
4. The Author guarantees that the Contribution is original, has not been published previously, is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that any necessary permission to quote from other sources has been obtained in writing. (Copies of any such permission should be sent with this form.) The Author will pay any fees in connection herewith, and notify the Publishers designated by the Organizing Committee of any acknowledgements which at the request of such copyright owners are to be printed in the work.
5. The Author declares that any person named as co-author of the Contribution is aware of the fact and has agreed to being so named.
6. The Author declares that, if the Consent to Publish form has been downloaded from the WIBE PRIZE website or sent by e-mail, the form has not been changed in any way without the knowledge of the Organizing Committee.

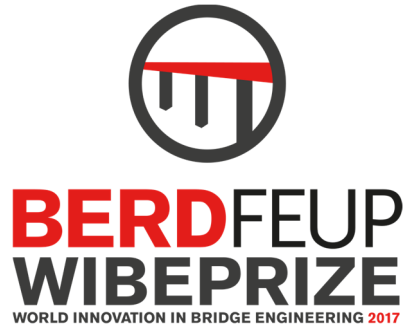
#### **TO BE SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR, ALSO ON BEHALF OF ANY CO-AUTHORS:**

##### **NAME / DATE:**

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##### **SIGNATURE:**

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#### **ANNEX 4**

Recommendation Letter, duly signed by a colleague whose profile includes the following criteria: PhD graduated Engineers belonging to any “Engineering - Civil & Structural” departments of the first 200 ranked Universities of QS World University Rankings in the Subject “Engineering - Civil & Structural” in any year 2015 or 2016, at least comprising following issues:

1. Date
2. Name of the Author of the Letter
3. Name of the University
4. Position of the Author of the Letter of Recommendation in mentioned University
5. Phone Contact of the Author of the Letter
6. Full Address of the Author of the Letter
7. Last Year that such University was included in QS World University Rankings (2016 or 2017)
8. Position of such University in QS World University Rankings in mentioned year
9. Full Name of the Author object of the Recommendation
10. Title of the Paper submitted by Mentioned Author

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICES:**

There IS NOT the Obligation of the Applicant and the Author of above mentioned Recommendation Letter being of the same institution.

The Organizing Committee is entitled to support any applicant in the finding of a Recommendation entity/person but, for avoidance of doubts, this is not an obligation of the Organizing Committee and such possibility may be not possible, depending on the Organizing Committee agenda.



## ANNEX 5

Recommendation Letter, duly signed by a Colleagues whose profile includes the following criteria: colleague with at least 5 years of membership to one of the following entities: **IABSE** – International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering; **FIB** - Fédération Internationale du Béton; **IABMAS**- International Association for Bridge Maintenance and Safety; **AISC** - American Institute of steel construction; **ECCS** - European Council of Civil Engineers; **ASCE**– American Society of Civil Engineers, such letter at least comprising following issues:

1. Date
2. Name of the Author of the Letter
3. Name of the above mentioned Entity
4. Affiliation of the Author of the Letter of Recommendation in mentioned Entity
5. Phone Contact of the Author of the Letter
6. Full Address of the Author of the Letter
7. Full the Name of the Author of the Paper
8. Title of the Paper submitted by Mentioned Author

### IMPORTANT NOTICES:

There IS NOT the Obligation of the Applicant and the Author of above mentioned Recommendation Letter being of the same institution.

There IS NOT the Obligation of the Applicant to be affiliated in any above mentioned institution.

The Organizing Committee is entitled to support any applicant in the finding of a Recommendation entity/person but, for avoidance of doubts, this is not an obligation of the Organizing Committee and such possibility may be not possible, depending on the Organizing Committee agenda.