

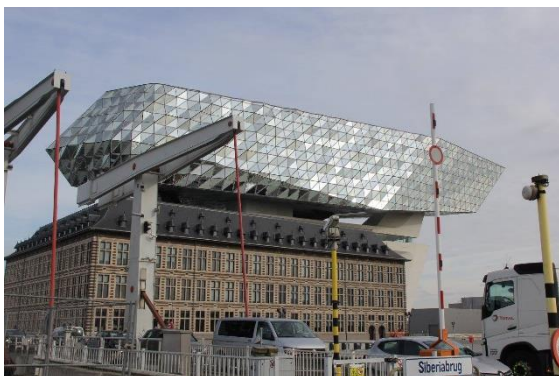
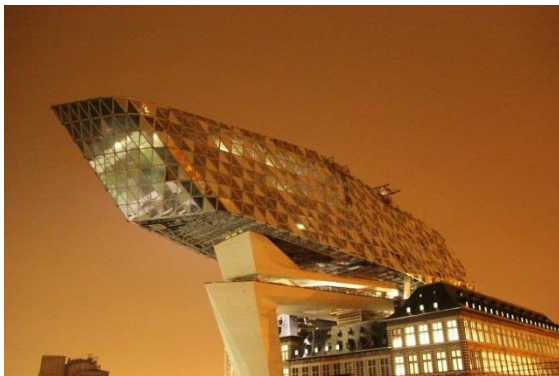
PIANC Belgium in 2017

National activities

The board gathered four times: in Brussels, Dinant and Namur.

The General Assembly took place on March 17, 2017 at the brand-new Antwerp Port House. About 72 members participated in the meeting. After the statutory part of the meeting there was a presentation of the “New Royers lock complex”, renovation project in the port of Antwerp. Further in the afternoon, a visit was made inside the new Harbour House itself, giving us at the mean time an overview of the future construction site of the adjacent Royers-lock.

For good Belgian habit there was a tasty lunch as well.



The new Antwerp Port House by night and day @Herbert Smitz



Participants in the General Assembly 2017 @Herbert Smitz



Sofie Nullens and Wim De Cock, with the location of the Royers-lock in the background. @Herbert Smitz

The traditional summer event was organized at Dinant, September 29, 2017. A relatively “late summer event” during the five-yearly, three weeks long, “drying” of the Meuse upstream Namur (Chomage du Haute Meuse à Dinant).



Participants in the Summer event 2017 In the city hall of Dinant @Graziella Pasquarelli

After some explanation about the different projects, we could visit the construction site and the lock and barrier works north of Dinant, including the installation of the micro energy power station under construction.

The summer event ended with a dinner.



Ca 43 participants in the Summer event 2017 at the lock downstream Dinant @Graziella Pasquarelli

Finally, on November 17, 2017 the 7th 'regional autumn seminar of the 'Service Public de Wallonie' was organized in Namur by the Walloon Directorate General for Mobility and Waterways. The theme of this year's seminar was 'SPW Wallonie vers des voies d'eau 4.0'. The seminar gave us from various perspectives a view on the existing and future automatization of the Walloon waterway system.



The audience, speakers and organizers of the SPW seminar @Graziella Pasquarelli

The program and the presentations of all these activities can be found on the website of PIANC Belgium at www.pianc-aipcn.be.

Young Professional activities

2017 offered a variety of interesting activities for the Belgian Young Professionals.

May 30, 2017 the Belgian Young Professionals gathered in Ghent for a technical visit to the new quay wall of Arcelor Mittal Steelwork. This quay wall will offer extra berthing facilities along the Ghent-Terneuzen canal dock.



Visit of the new Arcelor-Mittal Quay-wall in Ghent

A second technical visit took place at the lock and barrier works on the river Dender in Lessines (Walloon area) and the adjacent lock and barrier in Geraardsbergen (Flemish area).

On beforehand both works ahead were explained to the participants in the baroque chapel of the Notre Dame de la Rose (13th century), *one of the oldest hospitals in Europe!* A majestic and authentic architectural ensemble.



"Holy moment" for the participants in Lessines inside the baroque chapel of the Notre Dame de la Rose.

@Didier Bousmar



The participants on site in Lessines and Geraardsbergen
@Didier Bousmar

International activities

The Belgian board and/or PIANC YP participated in the AGA in Cairns June 17-20, 2017, the 6th BTV in Sydney and Cairns (June 15-21, 2017), and the SR2017 Pittsburgh conference (June 18-21).

Facts and figures

Membership 2017

Platinum partners:	2
Life Members:	21
Honorary Members:	3
Individual Members:	96
Pensioners (except Life members)	20
Student Members:	9
Small Corporate Members:	32
Large Corporate Members:	7

Board and General Assembly

The Board met on January 17 (Brussels), May 29 (Brussels), September 29 (Dinant), and November 16 (Namur). The General Assembly took place on March 17, 2017 at the Antwerp Port House.

Text by Ir. Herbert Smitz, webmaster and commissioner; photos as mentioned.