

EDITORIAL

The way of progress is neither swift nor easy.
Marie Curie

Silent call for cooperation...

Spain's scientific-technical community can feel rightly satisfied to be in possession of two highly reputed journals, *Materiales de Construcción* and *Informes de la Construcción*, edited by the Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science, a body under the aegis of the Spanish National Research Council.

Fathered by Eduardo Torroja, these journals not only pioneered scientific publication in Spain, but today constitute two of the most significant vehicles for disseminating the research and innovation generated by the country's avant-garde. It is no coincidence that both are listed in most of the international databases that largely define the quality of responsibly and periodically published research. The publication of research results, as we all know, is imperative to social progress, for it guarantees the propagation of scientific advances, in this case in the field of the materials used in civil and architectural construction.

Against the backdrop of the international crisis and its specific impact on Spain, in 2011 the Polytechnic University of Madrid's School of Architecture concluded an agreement with the Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science to support its journals. The agreement was fruit of the School's own initiative, taken out of admiration for the excellence that characterises the journals, in whose preparation no effort, professionalism or enthusiasm is spared.

That support, naturally, addresses all the issues involved in publishing journals today: economic backing, heralding of their role as international scientific ambassadors, and cooperation and collaboration between the members of the academic community – professors, researchers and students – and the IETcc research team. It arose out of the conviction of the need to contribute “today” to these journals' ongoing leadership in the publication of the results of national research, conducted with such effort and at so much public expense, and to guarantee the future renovation of their legacy by training new generations of professionals and researchers embarking on the road to innovation.

In launching this “silent call for cooperation”, we trust that other universities, foundations, institutions and companies, in Spain and abroad, will lend their support to the IETcc/CSIC journals under their own specific agreements. Each in keeping with its research, educational, professional or social role, each to the extent of its own capacity and in its own way can contribute to ensuring that these journals maintain their hard-won leadership position, and thereby further social progress.

I wish to thank Francisca Puertas, editor-in-chief of *Materiales de Construcción*, for granting me the honour of voicing this respectful “silent call for cooperation”. We look forward to hearing from you!

Prof. Pepa Cassinello
Deputy Director for Students
School of Architecture
Polytechnic University of Madrid
Member of the *Materiales de Construcción* Editorial Board