



**RENOVATE EUROPE**  
[COREPER Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December]

## **Don't rush a bad deal – EPBD must deliver on Renovation now, not in 10 years**

Adrian Joyce, Renovate Europe Campaign Director

At Friday's COREPER, Member States have the perfect opportunity to **place the EU ahead of its competitors** on building regulations with the recast of Europe's cornerstone energy saving legislation: the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).

**The next opportunity to revise the EU's buildings legislation is not anticipated for another 10 years, according to the EPBD revision clause, so Member States must take the opportunity now - and they must get it right with a 2050 NZEB vision and strong national renovation strategies!**

The truth is that without accelerating energy renovation of the existing stock now, regions like Europe can forget about leading the decarbonisation race including meeting their own climate goals. **Thriving EU industries providing efficient building solutions will soon be losing ground to countries like China** who this year recorded the largest growth in energy saving investment in world expenditure to date according to the IEA<sup>1</sup>.

Yet just when **Europe should be leading by example on actions for climate**, and their leaders joyfully met in Paris earlier this week to reconfirm their commitments to the Paris Agreement, its **Member States have been trying to wriggle their way out of the very measures that would demonstrate their commitment to this end: energy efficiency in buildings.**

In this month's negotiations over recasting the EPBD, they balked at every issue put forth by the European Parliament's excellent Report that could have demonstrated good foresight – and good faith:

- **a clear and ambitious long-term vision of a “Nearly Zero Energy” building stock by 2050**, which is within reach thanks to the already available solutions on the markets and with good planning of renovation works;
- **long-term national renovation strategies equipped with 2030 and 2040 milestones against which to benchmark progress** using measurable progress indicators and **new policies and actions** boosting energy renovation rate and depth in all segments of the building stock;
- **engagement of stakeholders in the full process** of developing, implementing and evaluating long-term renovation strategies as they are competent, willing and fully resourced partners with an appetite to fully engage in the process.

The BPIE's recent '[Snapshot of National Renovation Strategies](#)' in 9 Member States reveals that **little progress has been made on the ground to develop a strategic approach to both the design and implementation of the Renovation Strategies**, a key element which would tangibly set the EU building stock on the path to healthier, more comfortable buildings for all.

At Friday's COREPER, **Member States must remain coherent with the Paris commitments which were reiterated at Tuesday's One Planet Summit**, and ensure that the EPBD sets a long-term forward-thinking vision to boost buildings renovation, local jobs and innovation in the EU. **Failure to do so will leave an open playing field for EU competitors for the next decade.**

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<sup>1</sup> International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook 2017

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*Renovate Europe is a political communications campaign with the ambition to reduce the energy demand of the building stock in the EU by 80% by 2050 compared to 2005 levels through legislation and ambitious renovation programmes. This will bring the energy performance of the entire building stock in the EU to a Nearly Zero Energy (NZEB) performance level. Renovate Europe brings together 36 partners from across the building value chain (trade associations, companies, trade unions, city networks and 14 national partners):*

*Find out more: <http://renovate-europe.eu/>*

*@RenovateEurope*

*Contact us:*

**Renovate Europe Office**

*Rond Point Schuman, 6-8th floor*

*B-1040 Brussels*

*[Adrian.joyce@renovate-europe.eu](mailto:Adrian.joyce@renovate-europe.eu)*

*Tel: 02 639 10 10*