

REPORT OF THE ONLINE CONFERENCE

# Common Ground: Making the Renovation Wave a Cultural Project

Organised by the  
New European Bauhaus Collective  
29 April 2021



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# In September 2020, the President of the European Commission, Ms Ursula von der Leyen, announced in her State of the Union speech the launch of a [New European Bauhaus](#) initiative.

[Several pan-European organisations representing the cultural and creative sectors](#), an informal grouping now named *New European Bauhaus Collective (NEB Collective)*, came together to exchange views on how to best support and contribute to this initiative.

In November 2020, the NEB Collective published a joint Statement – [Making the Renovation Wave a Cultural Project](#). In March 2021, it was selected by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission as an Official Partner of the New European Bauhaus (NEB).

On 29 April 2021, members of the NEB Collective organised an online conference in order to contribute to the co-design phase of the initiative. In the spirit of the New European Bauhaus, this conference was designed to be a participatory and multidisciplinary event, enabling people from various academic and professional backgrounds to meet and exchange ideas on how to shape the NEB.

The event explored *culture* as a key driver of *quality* in the built environment. It was an opportunity to debate how a *holistic approach* that considers and seeks to optimise drivers of sustainability, beauty, and inclusiveness can contribute to design and achieve better living spaces for the common good.

After the opening speech by the President of the European Commission, a representative from Rotor and a conceptual artist were invited to give provocative and inspirational speeches.

Cities are the place where things happen – the impact of work at the local level is considered essential by the NEB Collective. Cities are the place where challenges become tangible, where collaborations among stakeholders are developed, and where solutions to challenges raised by the New European Bauhaus can be found. A round table discussion with representatives from six cities of very different sizes and located in various European areas gave the opportunity to hear how local public authorities translate the NEB ambitions into concrete initiatives and projects.

Another key part of the programme consisted of 11 breakout sessions, during which conference participants were invited to discuss specific issues and challenges relating to the New European Bauhaus: education, quality, bio-sourced materials, sustainability, research, mobility, heritage, and sense of place, to name but a few.

This report summarises key learnings and findings of the conference and is meant to feed into the co-design phase of the NEB initiative.

The event was attended by around 800 participants from various backgrounds: representatives from EU institutions, Member States, and local authorities; experts from the various bodies which co-organised this event, namely architects, spatial planners, landscape architects, interior architects, engineers, designers, artists, educators, and researchers of the built environment; and also professionals from the cultural and creative sectors.

The event was moderated by Andrea Thilo and organised with the financial support of the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union.



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## OPENING SPEECH

# Ursula VON DER LEYEN

## President of the European Commission

The text below is an extract from President von der Leyen's speech. Her full speech can be read or watched on the [Commission's website](#).

"It's an honour for me to open this first event of the New European Bauhaus Collective. I am very happy to have such **a strong, diverse and competent group of organisations and people that support the New European Bauhaus initiative**. With the creation of this Collective **you did exactly what we had in mind when we launched the project: Bringing together people from different backgrounds and disciplines**.

The success of this movement was only possible because the founders succeeded in **combining architecture with craft**; design with innovation. They **put the concept of interdisciplinary into practice every day [...]** **Combining art with technology** – bringing together innovation and creativity is key for a deep transformation.

The New European Bauhaus is also looking for this **combination of aesthetics and affordability. But we want to add a very important third element: sustainability**. The New European Bauhaus wants to match sustainability with style. We want to show that sustainable solutions can also be beautiful.

Today, we also need to look into new and sometimes old building materials. This time, it's **about climate friendly materials that need less CO2 in their production process**. The New European Bauhaus

wants to accelerate the transformation of the built environment. It wants to **scale up nature-based materials [...]** **to support circular design and architecture**.

One of the most important trends is the focus on renovation and reuse of buildings. **In the future it should be an exception that a building needs to be scrapped**.

It is good to see that there seems to be a shift in thinking in the architecture community: For the first time in its 46-year history, the Pritzker Prize was awarded not for new buildings, but for refurbishment. The architects Anne Lacton and Jean-Philippe Vassal upgraded social housing buildings in Bordeaux by making them more energy efficient and more beautiful.

We know that **public procurement plays a key role**. Sustainability should become a more important criterion in this process.

**Let us turn our cities into urban forests!** Modern and old European cities should capture CO2 instead of emitting it".

## KEYNOTE SPEECHES

Two professionals from the culture and creative sectors were invited to give a provocative and inspirational speech that will push participants outside of their comfort zone and foster a creative mindset for the rest of the conference. The texts below are extracts from their speeches.

# Lionel DEVLIEGER

## Project Leader at Rotor

Rotor is a cooperative design practice that investigates the organisation of the material environment. Besides projects in architecture and interior design, they also produce exhibitions, books, economic models, and policy proposals. In 2016, they launched Rotor DC, a place to buy salvaged building components. Learn more about Rotor at <https://rotordb.org>.

**“In the current climate, resource and biodiversity crisis, we can no longer afford to throw buildings away as if they were disposable goods.**

The fact of working with these second-hand materials is totally disruptive of standard procedure. **No professional has ever been given instructions on how to deal with them.** Not the regulator, not the contractors, not the engineers, not the insurance companies. Reused components are like the grain of sand in a well-oiled mechanism. Instinctively everybody knows **they should have an important place in building projects today (there is no greener brick than a second-hand brick)**, yet almost nobody knows how to deal with them.

I believe we could, **through the massive presence of such materials and reversible assembly techniques, boost a craftsman or craftswoman’s pride.** This would help to turn deconstruction, transformation and building sites, into hospitable, uplifting places where one can learn a trade, but also just draw pleasure from a job effectively contributing to the common good.”



# Stine Marie JACOBSEN

## Conceptual Artist



Stine Marie Jacobsen is a conceptual artist working to decode violence and law through participatory means. She creates open-structured sociocultural projects with clearly defined themes, conducting performative experiments and creating platforms for critical thinking. Learn more about Jacobsen at <https://stinemarijacobsen.com>.

**“Can working together in uncertainty recover a form of humanism?** Yes, perhaps, if we communicate our wonder, confusion, doubt and humour. It can enable forms of collaborations that allow for multisensory entry points, greater accessibility and broader range of learning.

I try to avoid a limited knowledge by passing on my unfinished ideas to others and invite them to develop it further with me. I always trust the collective intelligence around me, **because knowledge is never complete.**

**Make your actions accountable, traceable and visible.** The whole world is problem-solving at the same time, but justice and needs remain in the eye and veins of the beholder.

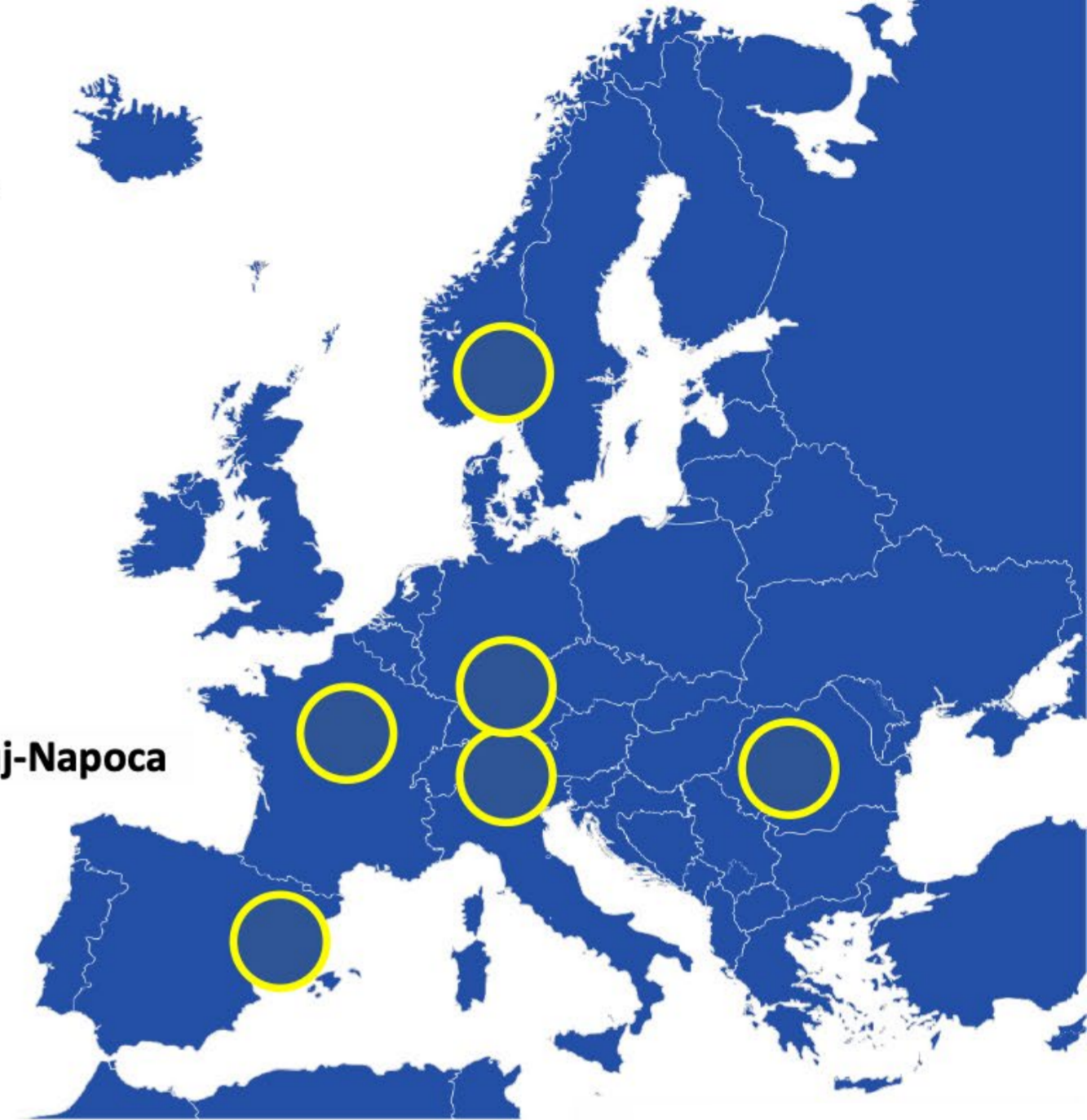
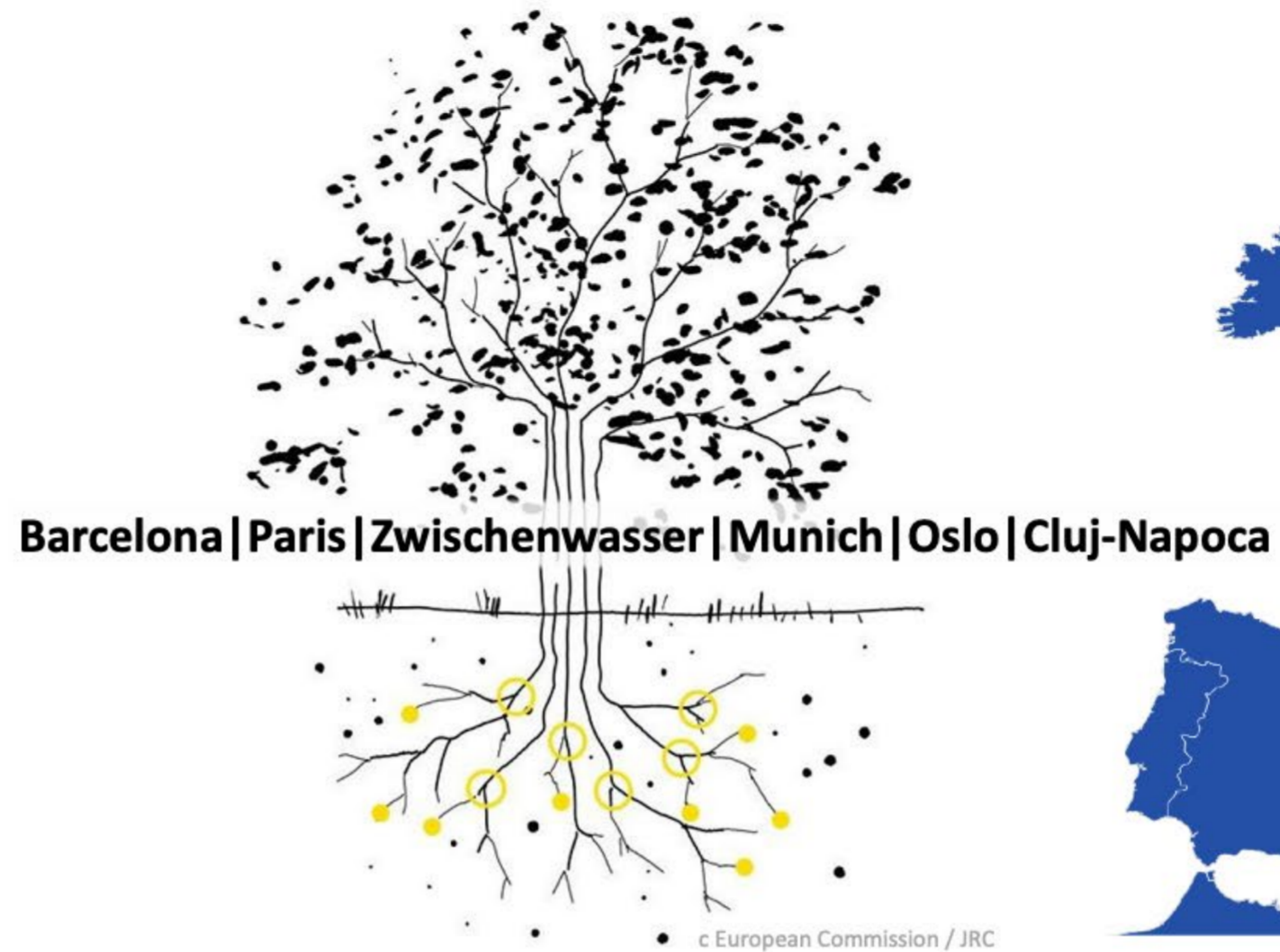
As an artist, **I always try to reprogramme myself to think differently, to reflect whether my sense of justice or ethics is fitting the situation.**

I make conflict analysis, because no matter where I work, there will always be an uncertainty between me and my surrounding environment. So, **I try to stay open, incidental and group-oriented.**

**Sustainability doesn’t happen if one person is in control of the narrative.** Instead, it happens in diverse groups where multiple perspectives can be amplified”.

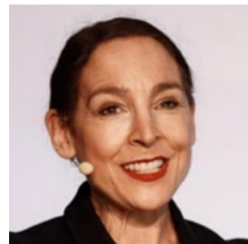
**“May the soft power of uncertainty be with you”**

# New European Bauhaus beautiful | sustainable | together



## ROUND TABLE WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITIES

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**Andrea THILO,**  
Moderator of this  
session and the entire  
conference

The New European Bauhaus initiative reflects an ambition that is shared by many citizens and decision-makers, namely, to make our built and living spaces more sustainable, beautiful, and inclusive.

In recent years, many documents at the international and European level set objectives and defined principles to achieve this ambition: UN Sustainable Development Goals, Urban Agenda for the EU, New Leipzig Charter, and the Davos Declaration, to name but a few.

The round table brought together representatives from various European cities and one municipality, of very different sizes and located throughout Europe. They exchanged how local public authorities translate this shared vision and these ambitions and principles into concrete initiatives and projects:



**Emil BOC,**  
City of Cluj-Napoca (Romania),  
Mayor



**Emmanuel GRÉGOIRE,**  
City of Paris (France), Vice  
Mayor for Urbanism, Architecture  
and Grand Paris



**Xavier MATILLA,**  
City of Barcelona (Spain), Chief  
Architect



**Rasmus REINVANG,**  
City of Oslo (Norway), Vice Mayor  
for Urban Development



**Josef MATHIS,**  
City of Zwischenwasser (Austria),  
former Mayor, Board Member of  
Landluft



**Elisabeth MERK,**  
City of Munich (Germany), Planning  
Director & Governing Member of  
the City Council, President of DASL

**“The NEB initiative is timely and visionary, it deserves every success”.**

**Rasmus REINVANG**  
City of Oslo (Norway), Vice Mayor  
for Urban Development

**“We need an attitude of respecting heritage and being modest when building the new city”.**

**Emmanuel GRÉGOIRE**  
City of Paris (France), Vice Mayor for Urbanism,  
Architecture and Grand Paris

**“We have to create eco-systems, not ego-systems”.**

**Emil BOC**  
City of Cluj-Napoca (Romania), Mayor

**“Building culture is not an elitist event... it is you and me... it becomes a social event”.**

**Josef MATHIS**  
City of Zwischenwasser (Austria), former Mayor,  
Board Member of Landluft

**“We need to create a new sense for the city based on solidarity, beauty, and respect of nature”.**

**Elisabeth MERK**  
City of Munich (Germany), Planning Director & Governing  
Member of the City Council, President of DASL

**“We are creating a new urban landscape that shows us a new idea of beauty in the city”.**

**Xavier MATILLA**  
City of Barcelona (Spain), Chief Architect

During one hour of discussion, all participants highly welcomed and embraced the NEB initiative, as expressed by Paris: *“We find this inspiration very useful, very stimulating – we will certainly take part in this initiative of the NEB”*; and by Barcelona: *“We are really enthusiastic for the NEB initiative”*. The initiatives’ guiding principles match with what already started “on the ground” in cities, towns, and municipalities – developing a new sense of cooperation, community, and solidarity, appreciating green and public spaces and beauty ever more, transforming places and lifestyles for resilience, climate neutrality and adaptation, stepping up for circularity in construction and the whole economy. The dialogue delivered several key messages on how to foster these steps and fully apply the New European Bauhaus approach in practice:

## Key messages:

- Cities and municipalities need to keep and intensify their efforts to create a new sense of cooperation and solidarity (Munich), to generate a new sense of community (Barcelona);
- It needs a vibe for innovation, it needs offering the city as a lab to test innovative solutions (Cluj-Napoca), a participative and cooperative culture, and the positive input of creativity (Munich);
- Combining clear messages top-down with bottom-up opportunities, like participatory budgeting (Cluj-Napoca), is key for change;
- New forms of cooperation with the building industry (Paris) and of public-private partnerships for renovation (Oslo) are needed and being developed as well as...
- Applying advanced participation, like mapping with pupils (Oslo), Citizens’ Panel (Munich), creating places like the Centre for Civic Imagination and Innovation, where experts and citizens work together (Cluj-Napoca), working with citizens and stakeholders from the beginning and throughout the process of establishing “super-blocks” (Barcelona), setting up citizens’ councils, and deciding on front-runner pilots together with citizens (Zwischenwasser); participation of citizens in building on and with heritage, which is essential for success (Paris);
- All agreed that there is high awareness for public spaces and streets; new design is taking climate change and inclusion into account;
- It was highlighted that it needs clear regulatory frameworks to make renovation easier and more cost effective; reaching out to private owners of land, making them take responsibility while increasing feasibility in economic terms (Oslo); but, at the same time, there is a big challenge in retrofitting very old buildings and cultural heritage – it needs architects with a sense of art and highly skilled craftspeople (Paris);
- Guidelines and frameworks for quality building culture are the basis for long-term change embedded in the local community and linked to sustainability (Zwischenwasser); there is a high potential to combine old wisdom with new technology (as the recent students’ workshop of ELIA proposed) as well as more fluidity and openness in urban development for long-term projects is asked for (Paris, Munich);
- Building on “talent, technology, tolerance, and trust” for a resilient, green, and digital city will help to achieve this (Cluj-Napoca), as will places like the creative quarter of Munich Urban CoLab; using new material and technology, new design (Barcelona), and design with reusing materials and objects (pilot, Oslo) already is and will be high on the agenda of the cities; this will be creating green jobs as envisaged by the EU Renovation Wave;
- The 15-minute city (by foot, Paris) is a very important strategic concept, but often misunderstood. It is not self-sufficient, it is necessary to think in terms of interconnections, to develop an urban micro-system on the principle of proximity, also building connections with the periphery;
- In a world of uncertainty and differences, culture and beauty can help us to change our perspective, to share different points of view, to learn to live with the differences while establishing a common goal for the next steps (Munich);
- There is a change of perspective: nature in the city is not an enemy anymore, but helps us to tackle climate change and gives us clean air; it is necessary to prioritise people and nature in inner cities with scarce space (Oslo);
- The discussants ask for finding a new understanding of what it means to live in cities and creating inclusive visions with citizens; for “a new urban beauty that makes all happier” and create attractive alternatives to initiate cultural change (Barcelona), for respecting human scale and establishing principles for beauty and quality; for an architecture that serves people (Munich, Oslo, Zwischenwasser). “The beauty of the building belongs to everyone” (Paris).



# Closing with expectations for the NEB initiative

For Emil Bok, NEB is a new source of inspiration and will move the EU to the next level of the European dream... it needs a concrete plan for not just being wishful, and this is the goal of 100 cities to be climate neutral by 2030 – Cluj-Napoca aims to be the first climate-neutral city in Romania.

For Oslo, the NEB initiative is crucial as a part of the Green Deal: we need to transform the economy to save the planet and ourselves; the NEB is the soul of the green transition – how to connect with history and beauty when going through these transitions – and Rasmus Reinvang concluded: “I love that”.

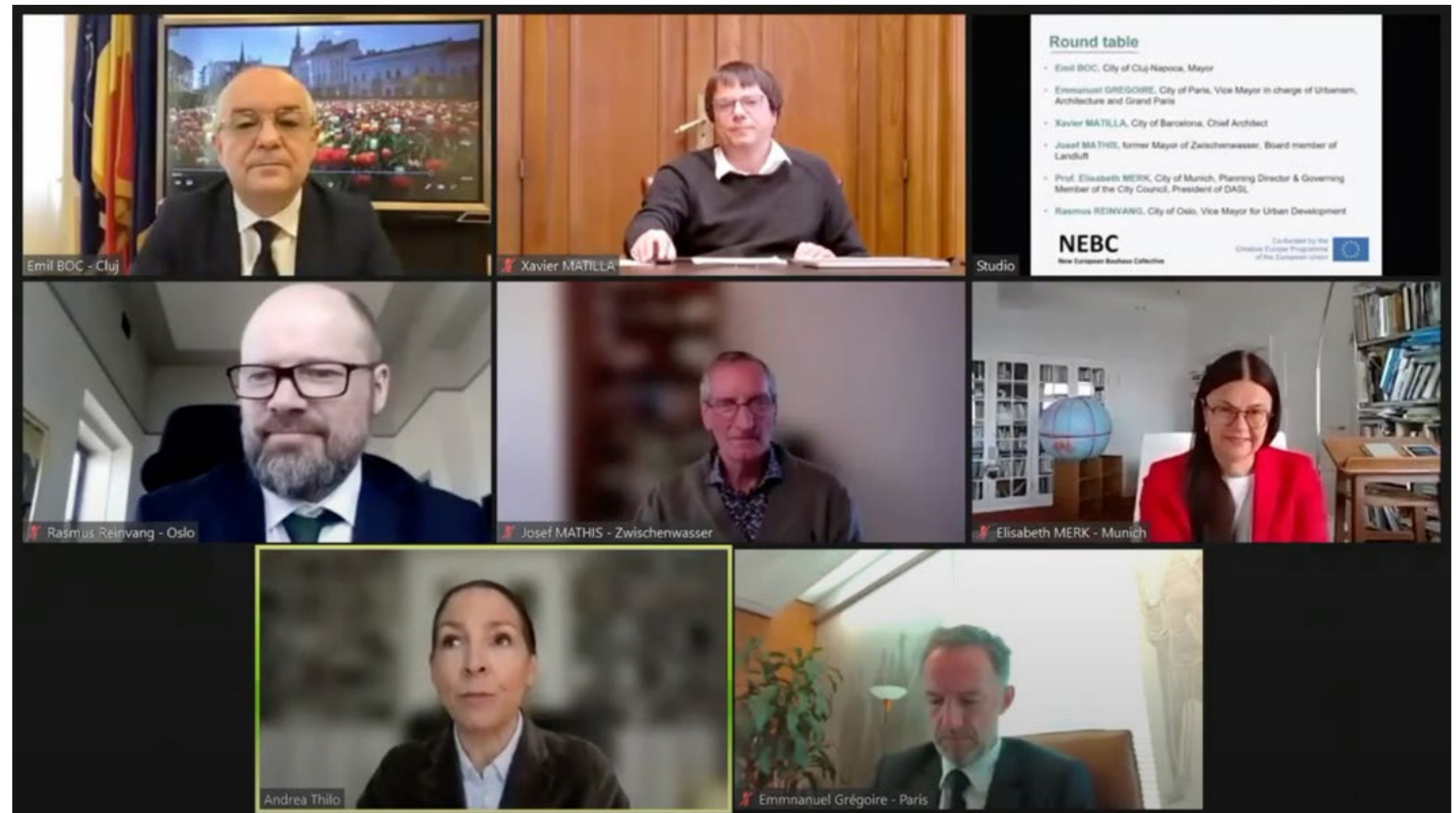
Josef Mathis from Zwischenwasser envisages the NEB as a networking platform, enabling that we can learn from each other: “There is no need to reinvent the wheel”. With the Landluft association, a Building Culture Award was set up, feeding into an travelling exhibition. To achieve change, talking, explaining, and showing the positive effects to people is key.

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Xavier Matilla of Barcelona expects that it will be possible to generate a new idea of urban and rural development through NEB, and to create the tools which are needed to achieve these goals.

Emmanuel Grégoire from Paris concluded with a more critical reflection. There is a great risk that the European Green Deal remains empty words. We have to ensure bridges between the vision we all share and its implementation; for fulfilling the objectives we all share, we need to work methodically and work together. This will be possible through NEB.

For Elisabeth Merk, NEB will bring mental maps together and achieve a shared identity. For being successful, we need to combine a technical approach with tradition and our diversity of cultures. In line with the spirit of NEB, Merk’s final statement set the focus on the quality for all-day users, for the people of the city who are the stakeholders of urban planning and building.



## COFFEE BREAK

### Pre-conference survey

During the coffee break, contributions received in the pre-conference survey were shown as a slide show. This included answers to the question: *What should be the main goals of the NEB initiative?* The results of the survey can be found in the report's Annex.



#### What should be the main goals of the NEB initiative?

- Share best practices
- Presentation of new perspectives
- Add artistic knowledge to the process for sustainability reasons
- Coherence
- To connect the past with the future, i.e. build on the past without destroying our historic built heritage in villages and cities
- Getting people from all parts of life and professions excited about the sustainable issues and holding them responsible.
- Re-using empty existing buildings in our small towns for housing as a priority.
- Introducing sustainable energy as a pre requisite for such re development
- Having a mandatory tree policy for all our cities and towns
- Find out what sustainability really means and start out together for it
- Sustainable
- Sustainability inclusive design renovation
- Housing, urbanism, local development, pluridisciplinarity
- Inclusivity with diversity
- To engage with social, racial and environmental justice
- Open the mind of our politicians
- To activate citizens, to reprioritize the aims of architecture
- Quality of life



#### What should be the main goals of the NEB initiative?

- To extend innovation from buildings to cities - in terms of social and spatial density, mix, connectivity, accessibility and inclusion.
- Learn to deliver innovations, with local teams of partners, by constructing prototypes, city by city. Buildings, compared to products, face +30% transport costs as part of the construction costs, which characterizes the local organized construction process, instead of fabricating at great distance.
- The goals are set well. I think it is important to make sure that the initiative itself will last.
- Ecology, education and culture
- Faire enfin comprendre qu'on ne peut pas réduire la rénovation au seul champ énergétique et technique, on parle de notre cadre de vie.
- To reduce built on grounds to support more renewable energy with architects support to give funds to holistic buildings that consume less energy to recycle building materials to support green terrace housing with plants
- Sustainability (economic, cultural, social and environmental)
- Affordable healthy living spaces for all
- Energy efficient buildings, eco-friendly materials in construction, small footprint on the environments. Reducing CO2 not only in the construction fase but also win the production of the building materials. Water is a huge factor also. I could go on and on but I think you get the point.
- How the crises come? In order to have a better future, international cooperation is a must. And do democracy have its weakness?
- Diversity, recovering creativity from innovation and extractive rhetoric, opening toward non-modern non-Western, post-colonial development



#### What should be the main goals of the NEB initiative?

- Connect professionals across various sectors (creative - scientific - policy) and create new ways of exchanging knowledge and practices that could live beyond the timeline of the project
- Focus on re-evaluations of the already built and created systems, practices, cultural productions on national or regional levels - analyze where we are now and why
- Focus more on local, on implementation
- Co-creation Taking into account interdependence
- Nature integrated in the project
- To create a bottom up sustainable revolution, where everyone participates not because they have to, but because they truly believe in it.
- Support Innovation and quality design and art, in particular through cross-European experiences and dynamics, as suits an EU-level initiative
- Cooperation with non institutional people & listen to their ideas. Please don't skip the ideas because of administrative issues.
- Practical application
- Foster the cultural revolution that is needed to achieve an ecological and social transition at the European level.
- Promote interdisciplinary approaches to address the climatic, ecological and social crisis
- Investment in quality parks and communal external spaces

### Video, "Bellevue di Monaco"

A [video about the Bellevue di Monaco project](#), located in Munich, was also shown during the coffee break.

A civil initiative started Bellevue di Monaco in 2014. It is a meeting place and cultural centre for all, with accommodation, training, and counselling for refugees. Retrofitting replaced plans for demolition and saved grey energy. Reuse of material and co-created new furniture highlight 1950s heritage. A ground-floor café is open to all and a sports field on top of the building serves the neighbourhood. The social cooperative runs the project together with volunteers.

More information on this project can be found [here](#).



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201.106 Aufrufe • 04.03.2013

1420 25 TEILEN SPEICHERN ...

## **PARTICIPATORY LABS: STRUCTURED DIALOGUE IN 11 THEMATIC BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Participants in the conference were invited to join one of the 11 thematic breakout sessions proposed in the programme, in order to discuss issues and challenges raised by the New European Bauhaus in specific areas. Key learnings and recommendations are summarised below; additional information on the sessions can be found in the Annex.

## **LAB 1 / INVENTING THROUGH EVERYDAY MAKING**

### The contribution of practice-driven research in art, architecture, and design

#### **Session hosts**

- [European Association for Architectural Education \(EAAE\)](#)
- [Architectural Research European Network Association \(ARENA\)](#)
- [European League of Institutes of the Arts \(ELIA\)](#)

#### **Session facilitators**

- Oya Atalay Franck (EAAE, ARENA)
- Tadeja Zupančič (EAAE, ARENA)
- Jørn Mortensen (ELIA)

#### **Challenges**

Practice-driven research is undertaken in all art practice disciplines and achieves its results both within those disciplines as well as often in a transdisciplinary setting, combining practice-driven research methods with methods from other applied research traditions.

Through topics and problems stemming from and relevant to art, design, and architecture, practice-based research addresses key issues of a broader cultural, social, and economic significance. As such, research through artistic, architectural, and design practice is progressive in terms of methodology and dissemination formats.

How can practice-driven researchers within arts, design, and architecture contribute in an emergent situation which requires new ways of living, building, and consuming?

#### **Topics emerging from the discussion**

- How can we secure community involvement?
- How can practice-driven research contribute through subject matter?
- How can practice-driven research contribute through sustainable practice?
- How can groups of practice-driven researchers contribute? (Most examples show unique researchers)
- How can NEB secure funding for practice-driven research in further processes?
- The initiative must happen locally.

#### **Recommendations**

- **From the discussions in the session, we are convinced that practice-driven research in art, architecture, and design will bring inventions and innovation in the contemporary emergent situation we are facing.**
- **Through an epistemic inquiry, directed towards increasing knowledge, insights, understanding, and skills, practice-based research in the arts explores territories unfamiliar to other kinds of research.**
- **The message is clear: The New European Bauhaus initiative must take advantage of this inclusive and research-driven creativity.**

# LAB 1 / INVENTING THROUGH EVERYDAY MAKING

The contribution of practice-driven research in art, architecture and design

## What is the significance of practice driven research in art and architecture in achieving the goals of the New European Bauhaus?

Practice driven research is undertaken in all art practice disciplines - including architecture, design, film, photography, fine art, media and digital arts, music and the performing arts - and achieves its results both within those disciplines, as well as often in a transdisciplinary setting, combining practice driven research methods with methods from other applied research traditions. Through topics and problems stemming from and relevant to practice based research addresses key issues of a broader cultural, social and economic significance. Research through artistic, architectural and design practice is progressive in terms of methodology and dissemination formats.

This interactive session explores how practice driven research in art, architecture and design can contribute to achieve the goals of the New European Bauhaus. Through best practice examples followed by debate with participants, the break-out session aims to bring forward concrete suggestions and action proposals to the New European Bauhaus initiative.

### Questions to this session

- How do you create knowledge through everyday making?
- How is your research relevant for everydayness?
- How do you/we reach to the communities / how do we impact them?

### Key questions, to be discussed / answered in all sessions

- how can three dimensions of the NEB (sustainability, aesthetics, inclusiveness) unite?
- what new solutions would this lead/which new type of formulation of questions lead to?
- what is needed to reach such a holistic approach?
- what do the participants/organisations need to reach such a holistic approach?

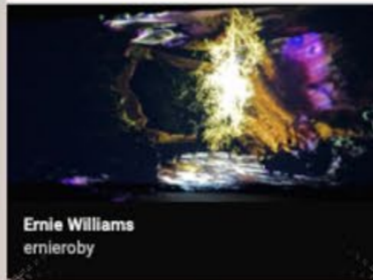
### Responses from participants...

- Practice based research can offer:
- Artistic thinking.
- Being able to connect to people.
- Compassion through practice.

### Expectations to the NEB

- Secure funding for AR in the further process.
- embedding invitations to playfulness and creativity in built environments - the Vigeland park in Oslo, for example, has a spot where the acoustic changes and you become aware of yourself in a different way - people want to stop there and make playful sound, listen to their echo etc. This is opening up people's creative side and that's a key to cultural participation
- The initiatives must happen locally
- The initiative must work in the long term
- Finding common language and common objectives should be seen as a process

Ernie Roby-Tomic: "Reclamation: Exposing Coal Seams and Appalachian Fatalism with Digital Apparatuses" (2020)



Dr. Emily Doolittle and Dr. Stuart MacRae: "Art-Making in the Anthropocene"



Jana Kozamernik: "Green Walls"



Silke Hofmann: "Need Based Clothing Design. How females affected by breast cancer articulate their individual lingerie needs and how these can be implemented into design."



### How do you as artists/researchers reach out to community?

It is an emerging challenge as more and more artists aim/wish to connect with a social context/audience... It is also a question that is triggered by the concept it self. When a research project directly relates to community it is more given...The subject matter is in it self a potential. But also a potential challenge if the matter is political.

### Karl Grimm, Austria

Jana, wouldn't it be more effective for ecology, quality of stay, microclimate and costs in most of the situations presented to plant trees?

### Stuart McRae:

Something I forgot to add: in terms of buildings, planning and the local environment, what can make cultural activity more tangible is to ensure every locality has appropriate and inspiring spaces for people to come together (both indoors and outdoors).

### "Contributions"

- conceptual in-debths investigations/research (applied research?)
- sustainable executing of research practice
- transformative experiences

### Hugh Campell:

Do practice-based PhDs always follow individual trajectories (with great results, as seen today), or can we imagine equivalents to the labs that are standard in Eng and Sciences happening in creative practice - ie can we imagine groups of creative practitioners working on defined aspects of a larger defined project?

### Responses

There are practice-based PhDs that are set up as projects between an institution and an external organisation - candidates then invited to apply for the specific project. But usually not big teams or labs, possibly because of lower funding. It is also very much discipline dependent.

# LAB 2 / EDUCATING FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

## Lifelong and “lifewide” learning in arts, architecture, and engineering

### Session hosts

- [European Association for Architectural Education \(EAAE\)](#)
- [European League of Institutes of the Arts \(ELIA\)](#)
- [Architectural Research European Network Association \(ARENA\)](#)
- [Architects' Council of Europe \(ACE\)](#)

### Session facilitators

- Roberto Cavallo (EAAE)
- Mia Roth Čerina (EAAE)
- Johan De Walsche (EAAE)
- Florian Hadler

### Challenges

Expanding artists', architects', and engineers' knowledge on sustainable cultural and social development is crucial for achieving the goals of the New European Bauhaus. Inclusive practices demand that we reconsider not only who can access education opportunities, but how and at what stages in their life, so that as many barriers as possible are removed – lifelong as well as “lifewide” learning.

Through a role play facilitated by an interactive Miro board, the discussion focused on learning with respect to the periods prior to, during, and post-higher education. We shared thoughts, ideas, and findings on what could be cutting-edge when addressing Lifelong/Lifewide Learning, given the three pillars of the New European Bauhaus: Aesthetics, Inclusivity, Sustainability.

### Recommendations

- **Important are the values that education in arts, architecture, and engineering carries for one's development and well-being.**
- **Key is sharing experiences, starting with sharing the ways we see things. A STEA<sup>2</sup>M open approach can be useful in that, but specific projects are needed through which the different ages and groups can be brought together.**
- **It is about educating educators, educators becoming learners. The focus needs to be on learners and the ways they see and look at the world.**
- **Pivotal is creating the conditions to stimulate these interactions. While doing that, we should not forget about the ludic aspects, making playfulness a crucial part of the NEB movement.**
- **Ultimately, we need to allow the shift from Knowledge/Competences (for instance, the one provided by exit qualifications and professional instances) towards Disposition, Attitude, and Approach. (Many ways of knowing, several paradigms for understanding, distinct ways of sharing insights, different stances to take).**



# LAB 3 / UNCOMMON GROUND

## Session on rural areas

### Session hosts

- [Architectural Research European Network Association \(ARENA\)](#)
- [IFLA Europe](#)

### Session facilitators

- Ben Stringer (ARENA), Senior Lecturer in Architecture, University of Westminster, London
- Sophia Meeres (ARENA), Lecturer in Landscape Architecture, University College Dublin, Ireland

### Challenges

- Environmental vulnerabilities / Loss of biodiversity / Urban sprawl / Large-scale industrial farming / Disappearance of small-scale farms and other small rural enterprises / Depopulating and ageing villages / Loss of embedded local knowledge and cultures / Impact of tourism on rural environments / Changes in consumption habits (away from local and responsible sources) / Shifts in rural demographics: counter urbanisation, refugee communities, etc.
- A critical difficulty is in a culture that loves its own countryside, but consumes produce created through the destruction of other continents' ecologies. We have to take greater ownership of the provenance of the things we consume: fashion, food, building materials, etc.
- Finding healthy balances between production and consumption in the countryside and more holistic urban-rural interactions.

### Opportunities

- Regions with concentrations of smaller farms and rural enterprises tend to be more biodiverse, consume more local produce, and be more attractive to tourists. A healthy countryside equals healthier cities, and small-scale productive rural communities and enterprises are key to a sustainable future.
- Rural territories and communities offer incredible opportunities as sites for groundbreaking, ecosystem-aware design projects of all scales.
- NEB can inspire co-design projects with rural communities and enterprises; it can learn from embedded regional knowledge and work in tune with local ecosystems. It can realise the potential for experimentation that smaller settlements offer, and thus achieve Sustainable Development, Green Deal, Farm-to-Fork, and other critical goals.

### Recommendations

- **Make the renovation wave include depopulated villages, empty farms, and damaged landscapes; create centres for the newest (and sometimes oldest) alternative eco-friendly technologies, techniques, and materials in them.**
- **Help to generate interest among younger generations in rural industries and environments.**
- **Provide connective support networks for future villages and zones of rural modernity.**
- **Gather information about current states of EU rural environments and cultures.**
- **Initiate research that addresses this question: What is the future for rural territories and communities?**
- **Broaden the spectrum of what can be perceived as a beautiful, productive, modern landscape.**

# LAB 4 / SEEING THE CITY AS A LANDSCAPE

## Session host

- [IFLA Europe](#)

## Session facilitators

- Karin Helms, IFLA Europe President
- Indra Purs, IFLA Europe

How can cities become more integrative, and is there a way for them to rediscover their living base? Their living sky? These are some of the questions covered by the breakout session LAB 4. We look at experimental case studies and visions for the city of tomorrow.

Through landscape understanding and adaptation, we would like to adapt tomorrow's urban and rural territories to climate challenges, to meet the societal needs of a territory more in touch with its longstanding roots – "roots" is here understood as our culturally embedded society's link to a context, but also roots in a literal way: again finding our fertile earth in towns, looking for alternative and more sustainable management, proposing other layers of projects within our towns (urban and rural) to augment better living.

Acting thanks to the use of landscape architects is important, as it is a discipline which acts in a holistic mode: projects reveal the context, take into account what is already there – living systems and social use of a space – and, through planning design and management, promote long-term thinking about our spaces. The grounding of all projects is to continue a "story", not "interrupt" it.

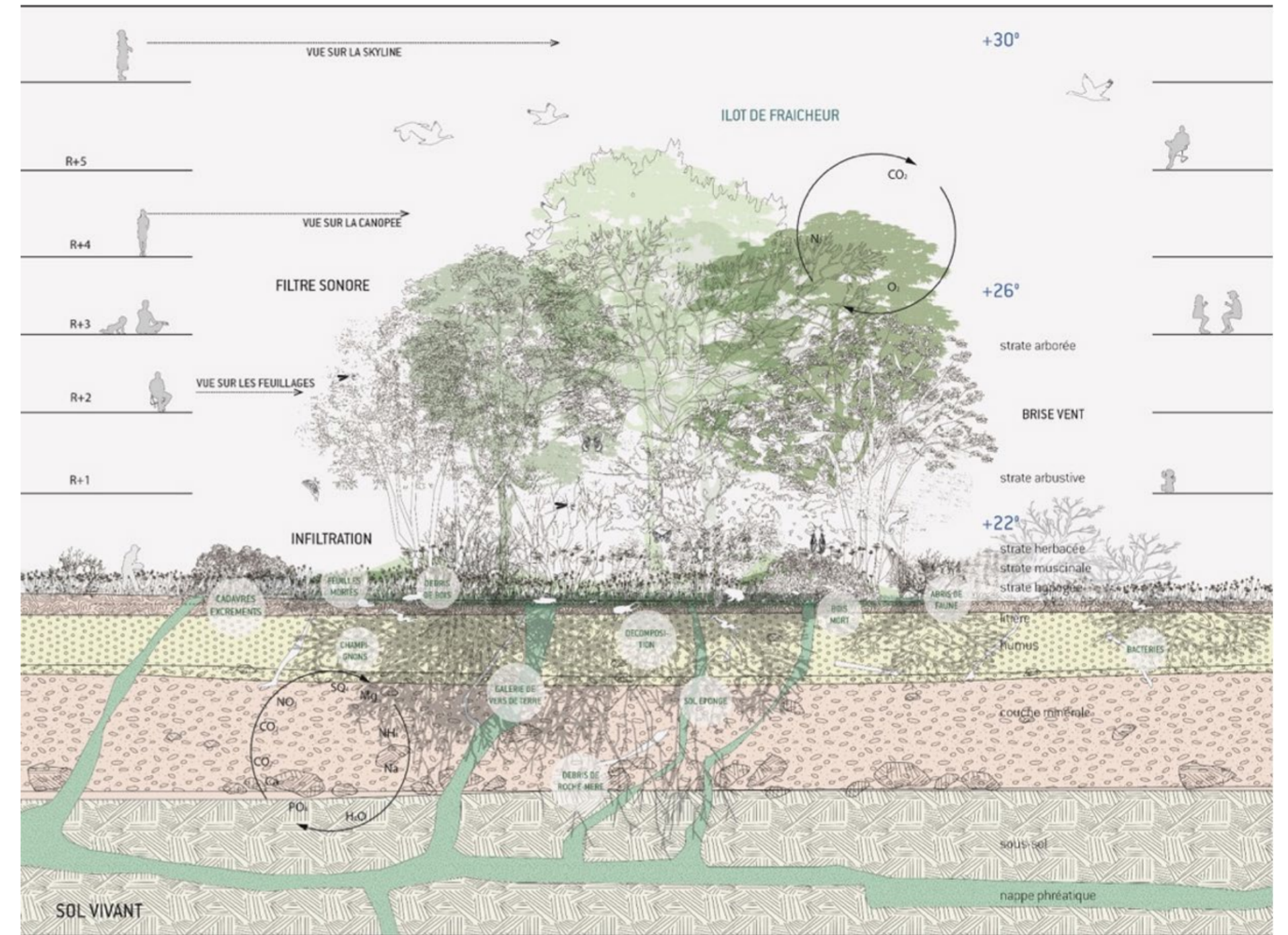
## Recommendations

**Think about towns in layers: ground and sky.**

**Think about the leftover areas as having the potential for biodiversity, and an accordance of inhabitants to the specificity of their place.**

- **Work in towns to reveal and activate the ground as a fertile strata, to bring more biodiversity into the town and cool them down.**
- **Design the unseen; there is an urgent demand from the contributors to design the air, air corridors, the moist of our towns – design the light. Our atmospheric environment is part of our visual design.**
- **Covid-19 has taught us that we need more public spaces – qualitative spaces, living spaces, not static spaces, as are too many city centre parks. Activate the leftover spaces of our towns and cities, act thanks to a "usage décalé" mode of doing. Gilles Clément's concept of "third landscape", as in the Girona project, is a mode that we highlight as tomorrow's mode of making public spaces that are co-designed, active, living spaces. They are "beautiful-sustainable-together" spaces.**





Sections – Give back fertility to the ground, “URBAN + ECO-SYSTEMIC METABOLISM”.

Through design planning and management, transform the urban in-between spaces into active living places that contribute to the biodiversity and cool down the towns.

Document: AGENCE TER Paris, Henri Bava, Landscape Architect, President of the French Federation of Landscape Architects FFP.

# LAB 5 / PRAGMATIC ALLIANCE

## Craft, earth, timber – New European Bauhaus meets building culture Vorarlberg

This breakout session discussed Europe as a paradigm of sustainability, based on building with existing natural resources such as earth and wood.

### Recommendations

Earth as an alternative, nature-based building material with which to achieve the Green Deal.

### POLICY: Accelerating EARTH and navigating necessary transitions for climate ambition targets.

- **Less concrete – more earth:** Earth needs to be considered a viable natural alternative building material to support the ambitions of the Green Deal – as it has been throughout every region in Europe for centuries.
- **Earth needs clear legal and supportive frameworks:** Currently, there are different rules for building with earth within Europe that need to be updated and reframed. These entail long processes for certification, as standardised building components and building code restrictions add additional costs to the operating construction budget. In some EU countries, it is not legal to build with earth, even though it has long been part of the regional building culture.

- **True and accurate CO2 cost pricing:** The building sector must be decarbonised, not just in the sense of carbon-neutral production, but also socially equitable implementation. Earthen structures can have a vital impact on climate change and social justice. The costs of materials need to reflect their effects on the environment and society. If building with natural materials remains more expensive than building with materials that have high levels of embodied energy, truly sustainable buildings will not be affordable for the majority of people.
- **Rewarding the life-cycle orientation of earth:** Low consumption of energy and resources plus easy recyclability. Loamy rock is an excavated material, a purely mineral raw material that is available in unlimited quantities almost everywhere. Extraction is done locally and excavation materials can be upcycled and made environmentally friendly with low mechanical costs and energy consumption. If earth is not stabilised with chemical additives, it is water-soluble and can be easily separated from other components without any pollution.

### RESEARCH & INNOVATION: Demonstrating low-risk solutions with EARTH and creating regional values

- **Earth needs subsidies:** Public and private pilot projects of high aesthetic value and sustainable impact need seed funding to improve the image of local materials, particularly earth. At the same time,

### Session hosts and facilitators

- Clarissa Rhomberg and Anna Heringer, University of Liechtenstein

projects could function as built experiments to test new technologies and gather new data on the performance of natural building materials structurally, as well as in relation to building physics, energy efficiency, and well-being.

- **Earth needs grants:** Research and innovation in the field of earth construction are essential to foster the potentials of the development of new technologies and tools (e.g., solutions on how to combine earth with sustainable building materials such as timber and plant fibres). Strong collaboration and extensive networking with universities needs to be enhanced and financially supported.
- **Fostering upscaling of earth to engender the transformation of the building industry:** Until today, earth construction has been perceived as a “niche” product in the EU. However, with a new wave of innovations in prefabrication, earth is becoming a potential solution to solve the urgent problem of sustainable building, precisely because of its capacity to oscillate between industrialised production and human-powered construction. Improvements in transport, logistics, factors regarding local availability, production energy, and recyclability, and the ongoing ecological crisis are pushing the loam construction industry forward.

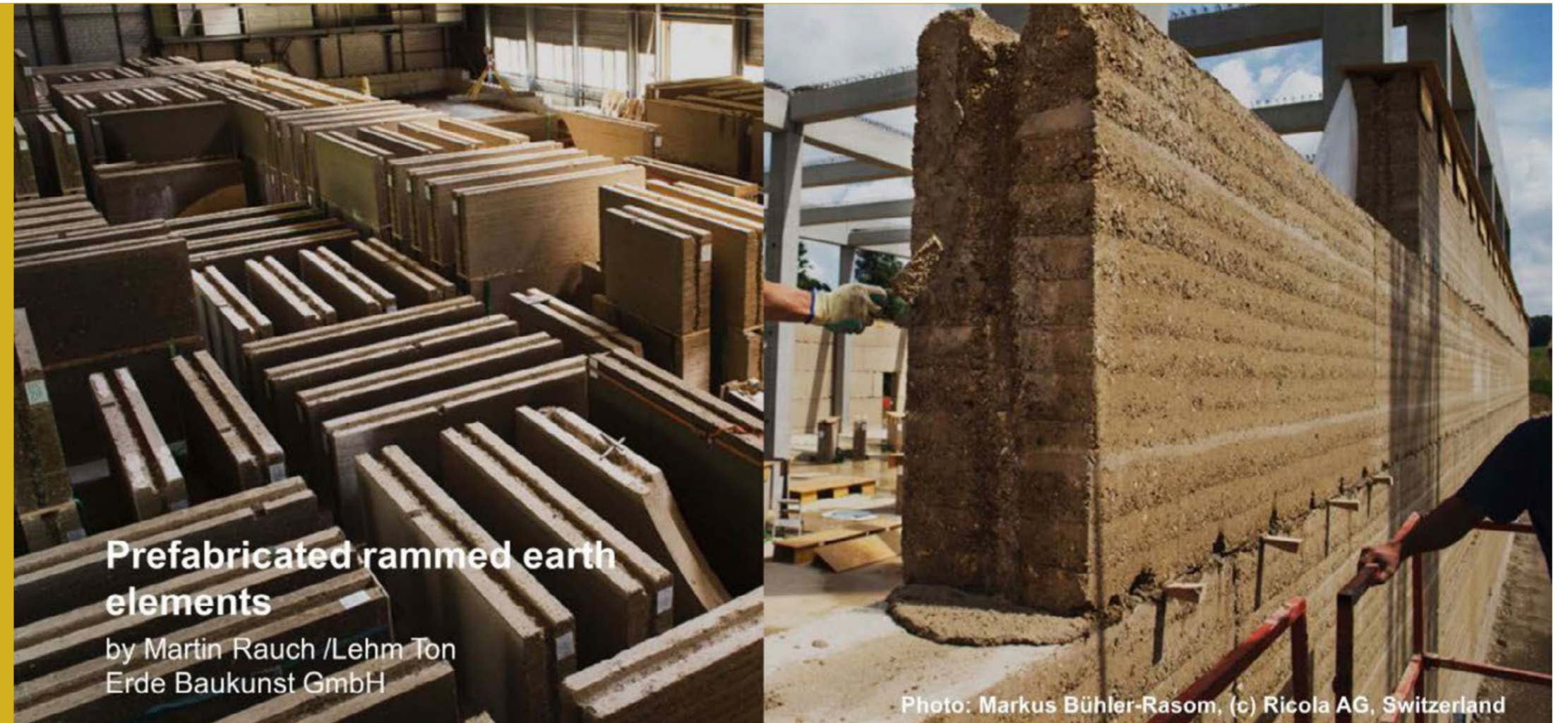
### OUTREACH: Knowledge transfer and engaging a broad range of stakeholders to participate in EARTH solutions

- **Earth needs an ecosystem:** Currently, the companies building with earth, professional earth builders, and planners working in the wider field of earth construction do not yet have a professional body of interest or lobby.
- **Curriculum updates to educate planning professionals:** Natural building materials (earth, timber, plant fibres) need to be part of the curriculum on all levels of education for architects, engineers, specialist planners, and craftspeople. In particular, training programmes as well as technical certifications for earth builders are urgently required.
- **Natural building materials require knowledge and high-quality craft for implementation:** Craft must become affordable again, especially in relation to transport costs. It cannot remain cheaper to buy new objects or shipbuilding parts all over the globe, instead of working with local craftspeople for production and repair.
- **Earth strengthens local and regional value chains:** Building with earth creates meaningful jobs and strengthens regional economics. It needs to become a more inclusive social process to support local communities.

reframing earth  
100% recyclability



Figure: Circular earth life cycle  
\*Fig. based on Data from Anna Heringer, Lindsay Blair Howe and Martin Rauch, Upscaling Earth, (gta Verlag: ETHzürich).



# LAB 6 / COMMON GOOD

## Quality of the built environment

### Session host

- [Architects' Council of Europe \(ACE\)](#)

### Session facilitator

- Georg Pendl, President of the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)

While there is a broad consensus on the fact that a high-quality built environment impacts positively on people's everyday lives and is of common good, it can prove difficult for different people involved to assess and guarantee the quality of the buildings and urban spaces. Quality is not an absolute truth. It draws its meaning from the context and is therefore different every time and in every place. Quality is also, to a certain extent, dependent on the perception of the beholder. Stakeholders in a project (developer, designer, public, user, etc.) may assess quality in different way. Especially for laypeople, it is often difficult to follow the considerations concerning quality made by professionals in the field. Finding a widely accepted definition for the term *quality in built environment* may not be easy, but a European academic study implemented in practice can be very helpful for contracting entities to better use the possible factors and criteria – bearing in mind the Commissions from various programmes for more innovative and green procurement – for the Common Good.

- **Sense of place – contextuality:** Contextuality is an essential dimension of architectural quality, and the reflection of the sense of place can be seen in the context of the existing (neighbourhood) and new development.
- **Sustainability:** In addition to the three traditional pillars of sustainability (economic, social, environmental) we must also recognise the cultural dimension of sustainability, as well as the role/ contribution of culture to achieve greater outcomes in the three traditional pillars.
- **Beauty:** Beauty signals human values. We are attached to environments that arouse our interest or bring us pleasure. Beauty matters.
- **Reuse:** Using and reusing existing buildings, taking care of the spirit within them, changing and adding new elements for new needs. **Demolition only in exceptional cases.**
- Adaptive reuse requires the adoption of a “living” attitude vis-à-vis our built environment; an attitude that considers our built heritage as a human-made landscape that can be remodelled.
- **Heritage:** Strong respect for built heritage as a crucial element of our history. Strong protection of heritage and public support for its maintenance.
- **Diversity:** Various expressions of design following the various needs of citizens. No monofunctional buildings or even quarters; a vital mix of uses is important for a healthy built environment.
- **Harmony:** Right balance between nature and buildings, between heritage and new elements, between low and high, dense and unbuilt areas.
- **Adaptability:** Multiple uses possible, as needs may change; easy adaption for various changing needs in a building are the result of new needs. To avoid unneeded demolition and ensure a building's longest possible lifespan, they should be designed by fulfilling possible future needs.
- **Affordability:** Best design and built environment makes only sense if it is affordable. High-quality built environment must not be luxurious but has to be available and affordable for all people. Quality housing is a human right.

### Recommendations

**Quality in the built environment cannot be assessed in a quantitative manner. Beyond the outcomes, it is important to think about the process: quality places can only be the outcome of quality processes, which exclude price-only selection.**

**Quality must be discussed from different perspectives, by experts with various competences, able to build bridges and balance the various interests at stake in a project.**

**Architectural Design Competitions (ADCs) are a quality-based and project-oriented selection procedure which enables a contracting authority to acquire a plan or design selected by a jury. They are a source for innovative, economic, and sustainable solutions.**



Outcome of the poll among participants of LAB 6

# LAB 7 / SOLAR CITIES WITH SOLAR MOBILITY

## Exploring contributions to the New European Bauhaus

### Session host

- [Alliance for Solar Mobility \(ASOM\)](#)

### Session facilitator

- Angèle Reinders, Industrial designer and solar expert in the built environment, University of Twente, Netherlands

### Description of challenges and opportunities

With zero emissions during use, solar energy can play a significant role in the energy transition by designs of solar cities and solar mobility [1, 2 – references in Annex]. Solar cities exhibit a large share of solar power applications in buildings, such as in building integrated photovoltaics (BIPV) and net-zero energy buildings, which are being developed on the basis of EC policies. Solar mobility comprises all electric vehicles which are powered by photovoltaic (PV) electricity [3]. Because of the huge sustainability potential of solar energy for mobility and the built environment (zero CO<sub>2</sub>, zero NO<sub>x</sub>, and zero small particles), it will have significant health benefits for those who live in urbanised areas. On the other hand, solar innovations which will be integrated in building envelopes bring along relatively new

technologies for end users, which will need to adapt to them. Proper designs of solar-powered applications [4, 5] encourage the acceptance of integrated solar-powered solutions in buildings and transport, tailored to the needs and wishes of end users and other stakeholders. In this framework, various design and engineering disciplines have to collaborate together [5], since we will be confronted with the following challenge: How can we design with solar energy in the built and social environment? This challenge will be focused on new construction projects and predominantly renovations of existing built environments [6] as well as the creation of new forms of mobility [7]. This will only be possible by “Good Design” [8], which results in innovative, useful, aesthetically pleasing, long-lasting, understandable, and environmentally friendly solutions for people with diverse cultural backgrounds and diverse behaviours. On a broader level, design can be seen as the human capacity for changing the world around us in a preferable, more sustainable direction: *“Design, stripped to its essence, can be defined as the human capacity to shape and make our environment in ways without precedent in nature, to serve our needs and give meaning to our lives”* [9].

### Topics emerging from the discussion

- The design of a solar city should encourage sustainable choices of the residents, sustainable lifestyles, and also related sustainable mobility modes.
- The architects present in LAB 7 indicated that they were personally strongly interested in solar energy applications, however, that their clients did not always seem to be convinced about the use, reliability, low costs, and aesthetic appeal of solar panels which are commercially available at present. These architects believed that local governmental bodies could play an important role in incentivising citizens to adapt to solar energy by setting an architectural design framework and local regulations.
- Culturally seen, energy consciousness and sustainable energy are well embedded in the European population, with some outliers, according to the architects and researchers in the meeting. The fact that, so far, this is approached at an individual level is not a solution; namely, collective approaches would be more effective.

### Recommendations

- **Demonstration projects can have a beneficial influence by incentivising and helping to motivate citizens to adapt to sustainable forms of living and transport. For instance, a new part of the city (neighbourhood) that has been fully tailored to all possible forms of solar-powered buildings and solar mobility.**
- **Regulations are required; perhaps NEB can set a new standard for whole Europe which would facilitate the work of architects, city designers, and infrastructural resources.**
- **Costs come up in all cases, however, sustainability choices may be more challenging in lower-income groups in society; the NEB should therefore be accessible to these groups as well.**

# LAB 8 / ADAPTIVE REUSE

## Preserving and enhancing the values of our built environment

### Session hosts

- [Architects' Council of Europe \(ACE\)](#)
- [Europa Nostra](#)
- [Trans Europe Halles](#)

### Session facilitator

- Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailović, Europa Nostra Secretary General

The reuse of heritage buildings supports the green transition by applying circular economy principles in the built environment and inspires new playing fields and perspectives for citizens and local communities, in line with contemporary social, cultural, economic, and environmental needs. Our cultural heritage is what makes Europe unique, attractive, and beautiful!

Throughout this workshop, we discussed how respectful, participatory, and sustainable reuse of heritage buildings offer many examples of: 1) use of traditional techniques and materials to mitigate climate change; 2) buildings that are renovated in a spirit of circularity; 3) regenerated urban and rural spaces; 4) preserved and transformed cultural heritage; 5) mobilisation of culture, arts, and communities; and 6) reinvented places to meet and share.

### Policy implications of the selected case studies

- **Healing spirits, experience and memory:** Zentralwerk, Oppenheim house, and True sphérique/Stanica cases are the on-site examples of collective memory transformation through culture and arts for local communities. The key is to create new experiences and memories for the audience. The question is how to create these experiences and memories in a sustainable and inclusive way across Europe – *Cultural needs of our time*.
- **Activism and community:** True sphérique/Stanica is a good example of activism rejuvenating a “problematic” neighbourhood in Zilina, Slovakia. After more than 20 years, they still are the main hub in Zilina for a more democratic, egalitarian, and inclusive society – *Social needs of our time*.
- **Sustainable and ethical ownership structures and models** for cultural and artistic sites and their relationship to land value. Zentralwerk is a good example of this. The Lithica Quarry of s’Hostal in Menorca managed a long-term sustainable redevelopment and restoration plan to transform an abandoned mine into a dynamic space. The need is to build a sustainable financial support system around the practitioners that balances out structural deficits (i.e., market-driven land valorisation, gentrification). In a nutshell, how to approach the term *equity* while building on the equality – *Economic needs of our time*.

### Recommendations

Adaptive reuse brings multiple benefits, as it means:

- **Cultural consciousness indicator of a society, working in an effective, positive way with nostalgia, demanding courage from all – owners, citizens, politics, and governance – by giving a sense of place in an engaged sense of responsibility to the gift of inheritance.**
- **A sustainable way to host circularity, efficiency, localism, and continuity.**
- **Connecting Culture, Education, and Memory in a shared visionary narrative, contributing to sustainability in creative and knowledge cities, enhancing urban regeneration.**
- **Superimposed layers provide diversity, towards a holistic effect of cultural heritage, for better communication, co-creation, and co-discovery of a common purpose, representing the Community Voice and closing open wounds in landscapes, cities, and society.**

# LAB 9 / WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY? Different perceptions

## Session hosts

- [Architectural Research European Network Association \(ARENA\)](#)
- [European Council of Engineers Chambers \(ECEC\)](#)

## Session facilitators

- Klaus Thürriedl, ECEC President
- Ana Betancour, ARENA

## Concept(s)

The workshop discussion emphasised the contentious nature of “sustainability” as a broader set of interrelated concepts. It was found important to develop a common definitional platform through which future strategic direction and actions could align. It was also found that “sustainability” concepts can be diverse within specific contexts and in-between different stakeholders – and that diversity needs to be examined and understood.

## Challenges

The discussion highlighted that current widely accepted definitions of sustainability present societal and systemic challenges. Broad definitions allow for

haziness and confusion and do not promote responsive immediate action. For sustainability challenges to be addressed meaningfully, it was found that challenges needed clearer definitional scope, including climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, growing inequalities, migration, and much more. There are also cultural, inclusivity, and justice challenges across many domains of everyday life, including energy, transport, food systems, and digitalisation. These manifest differently in different contexts – the challenge is to allow greater specificity in definitional scope. We are in a pivotal decade, characterised by interconnectedness of challenges, irreversibility, and need to act resiliently.

## Methods and opportunities

Many in the session discussed the need for new terminology that appropriates local contextual issues, places greater importance on questions of social sustainability and individual as well as collective responsibility. There is a significant opportunity to expand the range of methods and experimentation to enable the sector to move beyond reliance on regulatory and certification methods. This is already manifested in newly formed initiatives such as [Radical Architecture Practice for Sustainability](#), ACAN, NEB Collective, LETI, and many others.

## Solutions

It was recognised that, though dispersed and fragmented, there are many exciting solutions that are nevertheless untested and need rapid upscaling.

## Recommendations

### Need for New Terminology, Culture, and Vision:

- **New visual and narrative lexicon – There is little understanding of modes of visualising sustainable outcomes in the built environment. Architectural drawing and representation cultures have not evolved a shared sustainability lexicon that enables effective and transformative communication across modes of practice.**
- **New culture – There is an accepted understanding that sustainable outcomes in any setting depend on values, attitudes, and behaviour. Yet little of that focus is placed within design and construction curricula or practice; much greater emphasis on developing a new culture driven by sustainable designed outcomes and environments is needed.**
- **Visionary approaches – Historically there have been visionary approaches to tackling cultural, social, or environmental global crisis. Evidence is needed on design- and research-driven visions that embrace interdisciplinarity and complexity in an inspiring manner.**

### Need for Methodological Diversification:

- **Opportunities for diversifying means of assessment and regulatory landscape development need to be emphasised in policy and research.**
- **Evidence is needed on modes of assessment and delivery of sustainable designed and built environments that place less reliance on quantifiable assessment and instead include qualitative, artistic, design-based, and culturally and socially based values and behaviour.**
- **Methodological innovation – There has been an established reliance on the known and quantifiable in policymaking and strategy forming. There is a dearth of published empirical experimental and risk-taking studies that provide visionary methodological and theoretical analytical tools well-suited to study of complex interrelated phenomena.**



# LAB 10 / PARTICIPATORY PRACTICES

## Session host

- [Culture Action Europe \(CAE\)](#)

## Session facilitator

- Tere Badia, Culture Action Europe Secretary General

A key challenge for creating an inclusive, sustainable, and aesthetic context is collective participation. But participation needs to be re-signified in terms of the real influence of citizens' agency, the capacity of participants (whoever they are) in defining and changing the structures, institutions, and policies where they act. The main issues discussed in the session were how to create open contexts where multidisciplinary approaches and practices have a place in trust, equality, and ownership; and how to give a room for transversal dialogues between different agents and disciplines, to trigger collective thinking and actions in the context of the New European Bauhaus initiative.

Three topics emerged from the debates:

**Infrastructures for collaboration between distant and different people working together is more than a declaration of a bottom-up process.** There is a fundamental need to facilitate platforms that allow self-organisation for building new communities of practices to experiment together, with dedicated teams of facilitators for creating and supporting these communities. Specifically, the cultural field is a good ground for experimentation in every context, even the most rigid ones, as it easily connects different fields of knowledge and experience.

**Co-learning processes in the community need to be sustained.** There is a need for stable, long-term processes. In this sense, in the cultural field there is no need to have quick solutions to problems, as it is a place to continuously ask questions and make meaningful the inefficiency.

**The role of the architect/urban planner in participatory processes has to be reviewed.** There is a need to rethink the role and skills of architects and urban planners under the perspective of developing better social skills and facilitation skills, to acknowledge the importance of participatory practices.

The background of the discussion took into account three main ideas:

**Inclusiveness** beyond tokenism.

**Sustainability** of tools and infrastructures (material and immaterial) for enabling self-organisation and governance ownership.

**Aesthetics** considered as a much wider concept than beauty. Aesthetics is not defined by the creation of identities or beauty standards but by the capacity to extend our capabilities – including our sensitive capabilities – of sharing perspectives. And it is closely linked to the way we construct meaning and sense.

The projects that inspired the discussions were:

- [Laboratorios Ciudadanos distribuidos](#) by Marcos García
- [Cultural Creative Spaces & Cities](#) by Marjolein Cremer (ECF)
- [SoPHIA](#), by Nicholas Anastasopoulos

## Recommendations

- **Different ways for partnership, collaboration, and participatory methodologies are to be built and clearer proposals for collective design should be put in place to provide a peer-learning ecosystem, grassroots production of knowledge.**
- **A flexible, long-term process for the definition of challenges and for the prototyping processes is crucial, to ensure horizontality and allow co-responsibility and ownership.**
- **Efforts to decentralise and decrease the hierarchies among disciplines and institutions are fundamental, to allow open-minded processes where collective thinking is at the centre. Need for Methodological Diversification:**
- **Opportunities for diversifying means of assessment and regulatory landscape development need to be emphasised in policy and research.**
- **Evidence is needed on modes of assessment and delivery of sustainable designed and built environments that place less reliance on quantifiable assessment and instead include qualitative, artistic, design-based, and culturally and socially based values and behaviour.**
- **Methodological innovation – There has been an established reliance on the known and quantifiable in policymaking and strategy forming. There is a dearth of published empirical experimental and risk-taking studies that provide visionary methodological and theoretical analytical tools well-suited to study of complex interrelated phenomena.**

# LAB 11 / PARTICIPATORY DESIGN IN CULTURAL THIRD SPACES FOR COMMUNITIES AND CITIZENS

## Session host

- [Trans Europe Halles](#)

## Session facilitator

- Michele Bee (Trans Europe Halles)

This session aimed to share the experiences of grassroots cultural centres across Europe, including users, citizens, and communities in the design phase of cultural third places.

### Challenges

- What features constitute a cultural third space?
- What is a participatory process and how does it work in cultural third spaces practically?
- How can cultural third spaces contribute to the New European Bauhaus movement?

### Emerging questions

- How to deal with propriety and ownership in such situations?
- Which is the social impact of these experiences?
- How to accept emptiness in architecture and law?

## Opportunities

In third places, communities create a space which encourages social interactions and fosters connectivity and creativity.

Third places are spaces not completely organised or planned, without falling into chaos. They are spaces of indecision. Their imperfection calls for participation. They are like the “third landscape” of Gilles Clément, open to diversity and biological invention. Third places are open to human diversity and social invention. They are the laboratory of the future. They are prototypes.

Third places are open to any kind of risk, that is why they are more resilient. They are open to the unexpected and any kind of diversity, that is why they are more inclusive. Third places are inhabited, that is why they are more beautiful (from an aesthetic, ethic, and political points of view).

These places are there to show that openness to indecision is possible.

## Recommendations

- **To accept emptiness, to accept indecision.**
- **To create good conditions in order to be open to the unexpected.**
- **Do not decide and plan everything.**



## FEEDBACK FROM THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE



**Xavier TROUSSARD**  
Joint Research Centre

X. Troussard congratulated the NEB Collective for the organisation of the conference – *“One of the best examples of what should be happening everywhere through the design phase of NEB”* – and thanked participants for their very rich contributions in the breakout sessions.

Echoing one of the key messages of the conference, on the importance of *uncertainty*, X. Troussard underlined that the NEB is precisely an “undecided” concept that needs inputs from everyone to take form, based on concrete projects and rooted in experiences. Contributions from participants in the conference resonate with what the JRC has already received so far. Key topics include:

- the local level and small scale
- local supply circuits (notably for materials)
- the underlying economics of the NEB, in particular public procurement issues
- the relationships between rural and urban environments
- the reuse of buildings and spaces
- nature based-solutions
- participatory governance and co-creation with citizens

## CONCLUDING REMARKS



**Barbara GESSLER**  
DG Education and Culture,  
European Commission, Head of  
Unit “Creative Europe”

B. Gessler thanked the NEB Collective for the organisation of this event, which is fully within the spirit of the NEB. She underlined that the NEB is the outcome of a number of projects and processes in the cultural policy area that have evolved and converged to take our concerns for quality architecture, heritage, and sustainable development to the highest EU level.

She highlighted *“the role of the Architects’ Council of Europe, which has reinforced the cultural dimension of its activities with our support over the past years; from design competitions to the adaptive reuse of built heritage and quality architecture”*. ACE has contributed to *“better recognition of the cultural contribution to a sustainable and inclusive built quality environment”*.

The Creative Europe programme 2021–2027 will support the NEB through its horizontal and sectorial actions. Future beneficiaries will be able to include activities in line with NEB in their programme of activities.



**Marcos ROS SEMPERE**  
Member of the European  
Parliament

The Parliament’s New European Bauhaus Friendship Group, which is made up of members from all political groups, aims to raise the voice of EP in this initiative. The NEB initiative comes at a crucial moment, while we are facing many challenges and opportunities: economic recovery, digitalisation, social cohesion, and the Green Deal. M. Ros Sempere underlined that architecture relates to all these concepts, and that *“good architecture can improve our lives”*.

He called on the Commission not to limit the NEB to five pilot projects. NEB should be designed in a way that benefits primary go-to citizens and not companies.

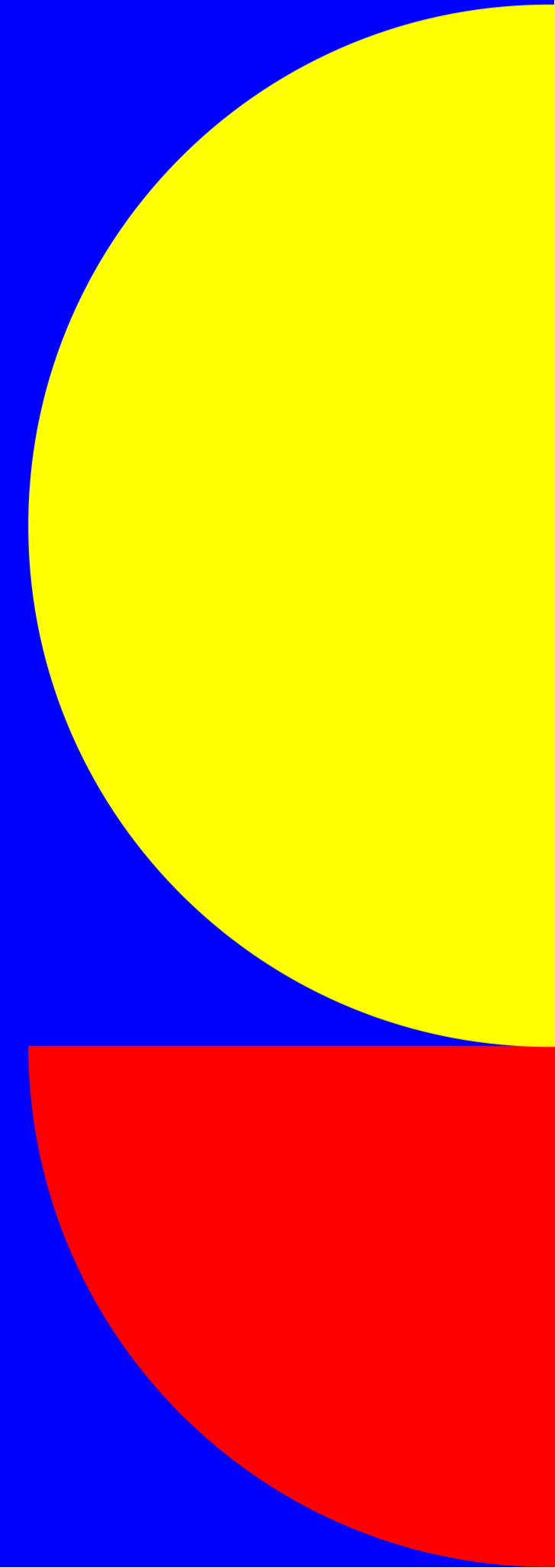
## POLL AMONG PARTICIPANTS

# What do you expect from the New European Bauhaus?



**ANNEX**

# **Additional information on the breakout sessions**



## LAB 1 / INVENTING THROUGH EVERYDAY MAKING

The contribution of practice-driven research  
in art, architecture, and design

### Programme

- Introduction by the organisers
- Best practice examples
  - Ernie Roby-Tomic: Reclamation
  - Dr Emily Doolittle and Dr Stuart MacRae:  
Art-Making in the Anthropocene
  - Silke Hofmann: Need Based Clothing Design
  - Jana Kozamernik: Green Walls
- Reflections/Conversation
- Discussion: Answers to questions
- Wrap-up

### Relevant external resources

- [Vienna Declaration](#)
- [Florence Principles](#)
- [The collective evaluation of practice-driven research experiences](#)
- [AJAR](#)
- [EAAE Charter on Architectural Research](#)

## LAB 2 / EDUCATING FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Lifelong and “lifewide” learning in arts, architecture,  
and engineering

### Programme

- Johan De Walsche (EAAE/ARENA, University of Antwerp): Introduction to Lifelong / Lifewide learning
- Mia Roth-Čerina (EAAE, University of Zagreb): UIA working group architecture and children
- Florian Hadler (ELIA, University of Arts, Berlin): Ongoing art students’ online workshop
- Vera Kaps (University Liechtenstein): New Schools of Thoughts
- Roberto Cavallo (EAAE/ARENA, Delft University of Technology): Stad van de Toekomst / City of the Future project

### Relevant external resources

- [https://s3.eu-central-1.amazonaws.com/bna-downloads/documents/BNA\\_StadVanDeToekomst\\_lr.pdf](https://s3.eu-central-1.amazonaws.com/bna-downloads/documents/BNA_StadVanDeToekomst_lr.pdf)
- [https://issuu.com/universitaet\\_liechtenstein/docs/nest\\_newspaper\\_final](https://issuu.com/universitaet_liechtenstein/docs/nest_newspaper_final)
- <https://www.uni.li/de/thema/architektur/architekturvermittlung-1/nest-1/nest>
- <https://www.bundesstiftung-baukultur.de/handbuch-baukulturelle-bildung>
- <https://www.akbw.de/baukultur/architektur-macht-schule.html>
- <https://www.architectureandchildren-ua.com/mission>

# LAB 3 / UNCOMMON GROUND

## Session on rural areas

### Programme

- Landscapes for diversity: Cultivating ecological and cultural diversity in our landscapes
- Hybrid ruralities: Giving voices to rural communities and building new creative rural industries
- Re-scaling the rural: Recognising the importance of small-scale rural enterprises and communities to global environmental health
- Notes towards a New European Bauhaus rural manifesto: What strategies can the NEB adopt in order to strengthen the diversity and health of the countryside and all of its inhabitants?

### Speakers/presenters

- Niek Hazendonk (IFLA), Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
- Urs Hirschberg (ARENA), Professor/Director, TU Graz
- Jane McAllister (ARENA), Senior Lecturer in Architecture, London Metropolitan University
- Sophia Meeres (see above)
- Ben Stringer (see above)
- Chris Younes (ARENA), Professor of Architecture, ENSA La Villette and ESA Paris

### Interlocutors

- Almut Jirku (IFLA), Landscape Architect, Berlin
- Lena Athanasiadou (IFLA), Horticulturalist, Lecturer at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Dominic Stevens (ARENA), Architect, Professor at Dublin Institute of Technology
- David Vanderburgh (ARENA), Professor of Architecture, UCLouvain, Belgium



LAB 5 /  
**PRAGMATIC ALLIANCE: CRAFT, EARTH, TIMBER**  
New European Bauhaus meets building culture  
Vorarlberg



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**PRAGMATIC ALLIANCE: CRAFT, EARTH, TIMBER.**  
**REGIONAL BUILDING CULTURE ECOSYSTEM VORARLBERG**



## LAB 6 / COMMON GOOD Quality of the built environment

### Relevant external resources

- [Perspectives: Young Architects' Forum](#), Statement presented on 23 November 2019 in Barcelona on the occasion of the Young Architects' Forum organised by the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)
- [Architectural Design Competitions: A Key Policy Tool to Ensure Quality in the Built Environment](#)
- [Achieving quality in the built environment](#), Statement presented on 4 May 2019 in Innsbruck on the occasion of the ACE conference "How to Achieve Quality in the Built Environment: Quality assurance tools and systems"
- [Leeuwarden Declaration on the adaptive re-use of the built heritage](#), adopted on 23 November 2018 in the Netherlands

## LAB 7 / SOLAR CITIES WITH SOLAR MOBILITY Exploring contributions to the New European Bauhaus



### Programme

Presentations by:

- Prof. Angèle Reinders
- Dr Bonna Newman, Solar expert in built environment and automotive applications, TNO, Netherlands
- Lars Löhle, Solar car developer, Sono Motors, Germany
- Ruud Derks, Building integrated photovoltaics expert and solar mobility developer, IM Efficiency, Netherlands
- Tom Selten, Solar car developer, Lightyear, Netherlands

### References

- [1] European Commission, 2030 climate & energy framework, accessed 20 May 2021, [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2030\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2030_en)
- [2] European Commission, 2050 long-term strategy, accessed 20 May 2021, [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2050\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2050_en)
- [3] International Energy Agency, IEA PVPS Task 17 PV for Transport, accessed 20 May 2021, <https://iea-pvps.org/research-tasks/pv-for-transport/>
- [4] Reinders, A.H.M.E., Diehl, J.C. and Brezet, J.C. (2013). *The Power of Design: Product Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technologies*. London, UK, John Wiley & Sons.
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- [6] Von der Leyen, U., Speech by President von der Leyen at the New European Bauhaus Collective online conference "Common Ground: Making the Renovation Wave a Cultural Project", accessed 20 May 2021, [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_21\\_2047](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_21_2047)
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- [9] Heskett, J. (2002). *Toothpicks and Logos: Design in Everyday Life*. Oxford University Press.

## LAB 8 /

### ADAPTIVE REUSE

Preserving and enhancing the values of our built environment

#### Relevant external resources

- [Davos Declaration on "High-Quality Baukultur"](#)
- [2018 Leeuwarden Declaration "Adaptive Re-use of the Built Heritage: Preserving and enhancing the values of our built heritage for future generations"](#)

## LAB 9 /

### WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

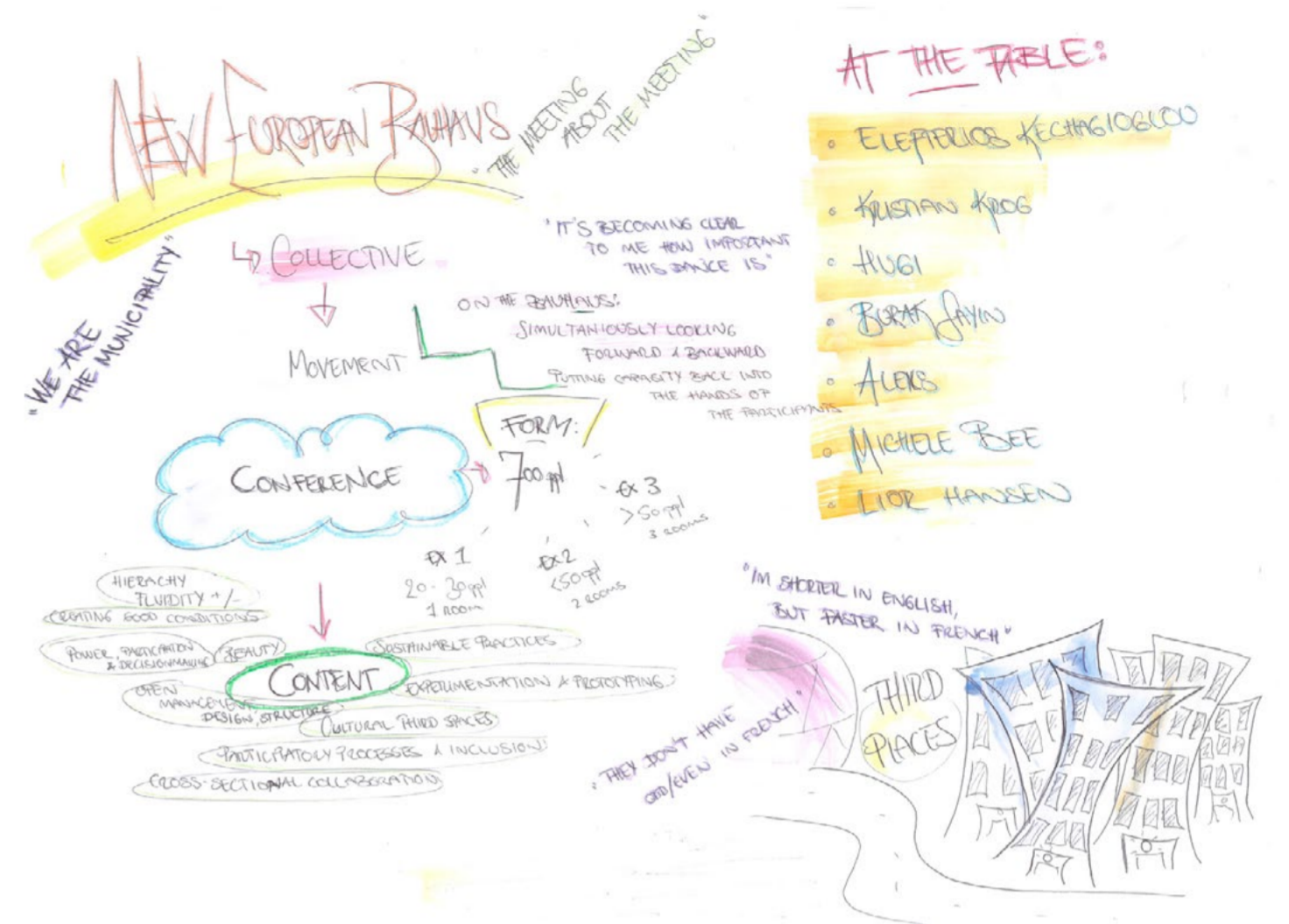
Different perceptions

#### Programme

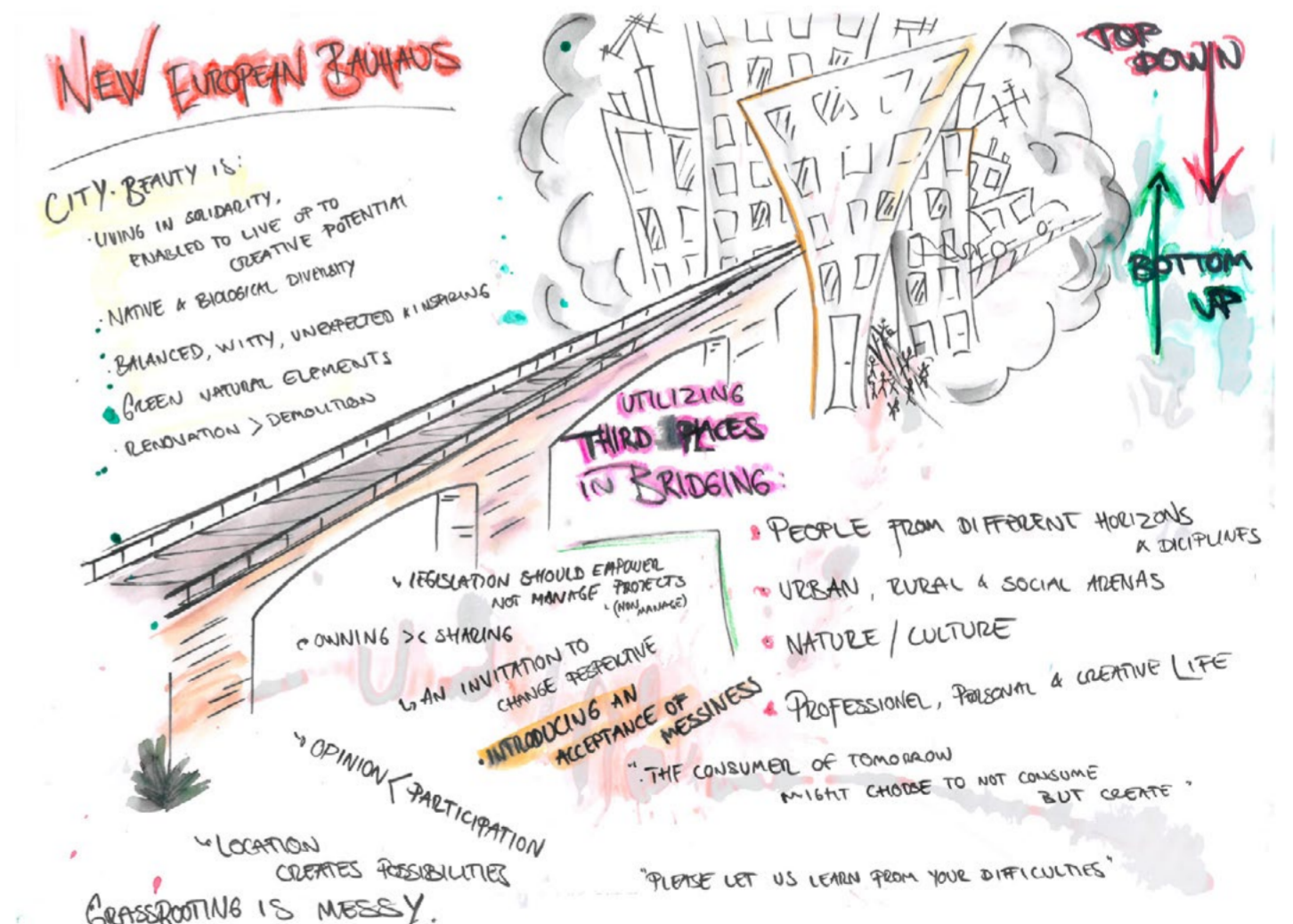
Presentations by:

- Klaus Thürriedl, President of the European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC) and Chartered Engineer for hydraulic engineering and water management, Austria
- Ana Betancour, Professor of Architecture, Umeå University, Sweden
- Sonja Oliveira, Founder of Radical Architecture Practice for Sustainability (RAPS) and Associate Professor in Architecture and Design Innovation UWE, Bristol, UK
- Andrea Buchinger, Carpenter Apprentice, Austria
- Torsten Schroeder, Assistant Professor of Sustainability in Architectural Design, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands

# LAB 11 / PARTICIPATORY DESIGN IN CULTURAL THIRD SPACES FOR COMMUNITIES AND CITIZENS



## TRANS EUROPE HUBS | LAB 11: PARTICIPATORY DESIGN IN CULTURAL THIRD SPACES FOR COMMUNITIES & CITIZENS



## Sources of photos:

Innenstadt

Drohnenbild Innenstadt: Airgonautics GbR / LHM

Isartor Grünes Zimmer: Lukas Maria Barth

Kreativquartier: Präsentation PLAN

Munich Urban CoLab: UnternehmerTUM GmbH

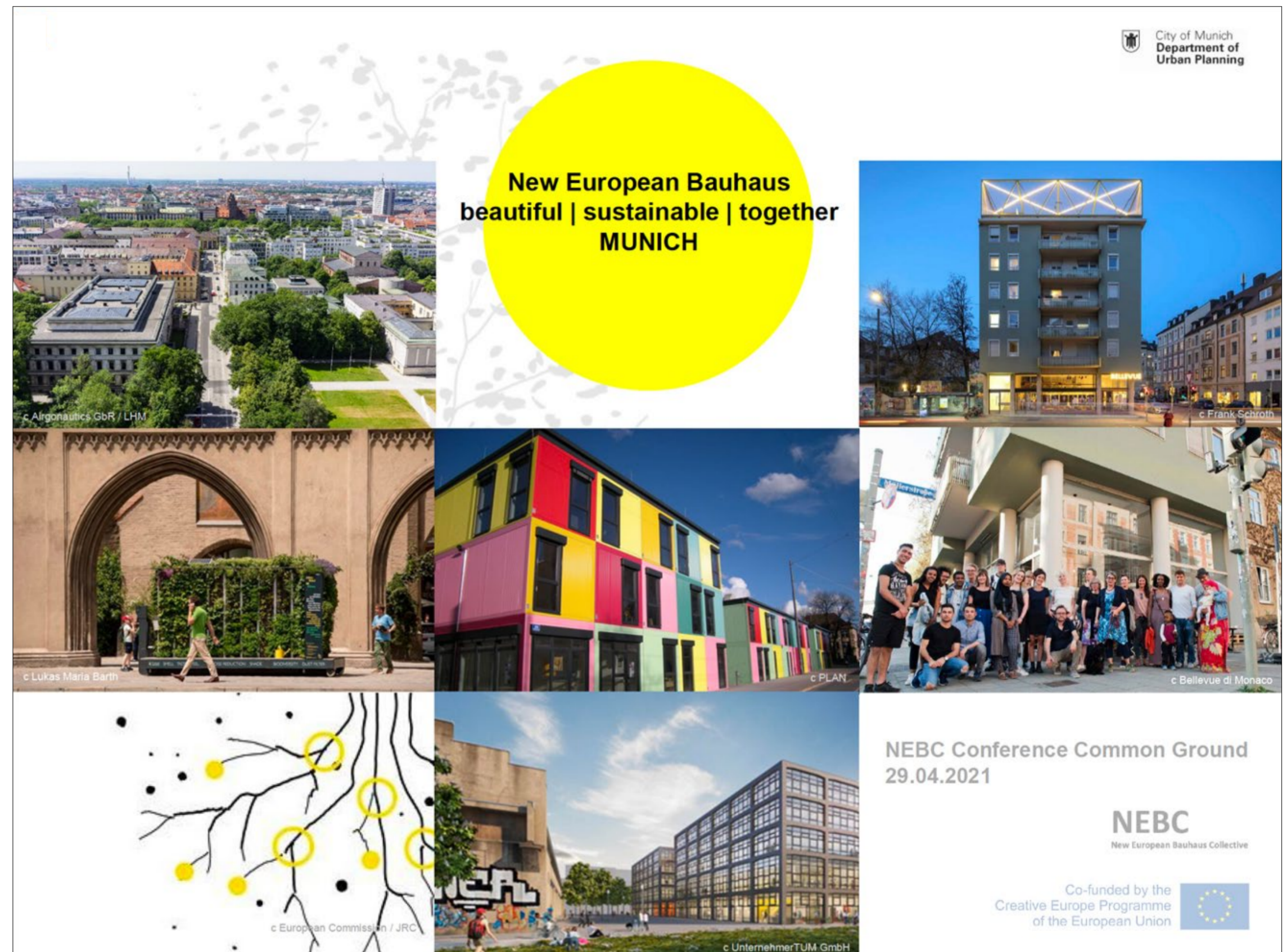
Bellevue di Monaco\_Haus: Frank Schroth

Gruppe vor dem Cafe: Bellevue di Monaco

NEB-Baum European Commission / JRC

[https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/sites/default/files/styles/oe\\_theme\\_medium\\_no\\_crop/public/2021-01/Slide3.JPG?itok=Ft-mOolg](https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/sites/default/files/styles/oe_theme_medium_no_crop/public/2021-01/Slide3.JPG?itok=Ft-mOolg)

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# RESPONSES TO THE PRE-CONFERENCE SURVEY

## What should be the main goals of the NEB initiative?

- Share best practices
- Presentation of new perspectives
- Add artistic knowledge to the process for sustainability reasons
- Coherence
- To connect the past with the future, i.e. build on the past without destroying our historic built heritage in villages and cities
- Getting people from all parts of life and professions excited about the sustainable issues and holding them responsible.
- Re-using empty existing buildings in our small towns for housing as a priority.
- Introducing sustainable energy as a prerequisite for such re development
- Having a mandatory tree policy for all our cities and towns
- Find out what sustainability really means and start out together for it
- Sustainable
- Sustainability inclusive design renovation
- Housing, urbanism, local development, pluridisciplinarity
- Inclusivity with diversity

- To engage with social, racial and environmental justice
- Open the mind of our politicians
- To activate citizens, to reprioritize the aims of architecture
- Quality of life
- Connect professionals across various sectors (creative – scientific – policy) and create new ways of exchanging knowledge and practices that could live beyond the timeline of the project
- Focus on re-evaluations of the already built and created systems, practices, cultural productions on national or regional levels – analyse where we are now and why
- Focus more on local, on implementation
- Co-creation taking into account interdependence
- Nature integrated in the project
- To create a bottom-up sustainable revolution, where everyone participates not because they have to, but because they truly believe in it.
- Support innovation and quality design and art. In particular through cross-European experiences and dynamics, as suits an EU-level initiative
- Cooperation with non-institutional people & listen to their ideas. Please don't skip the ideas because of administrative issues.
- Practical application
- Foster the cultural revolution that is needed to achieve an ecological and social transition at the European level.
- Promote interdisciplinary approaches to address the climatic, ecological and social crisis
- Investment in quality parks and communal external spaces
- To extend innovation from buildings to cities – in terms of social and spatial density, mix, connectivity, accessibility and inclusion.

- Learn to deliver innovations, with local teams of partners, by constructing prototypes, city by city. Buildings, compared to products, face +30% transport costs as part of the construction costs, which characterises the local organised construction process, instead of fabricating at great distance.
- The goals are set well. I think it is important to make sure that the initiative itself will last.
- Ecology, education and culture
- Faire enfin comprendre qu'on ne peut pas réduire la rénovation au seul champ énergétique et technique, on parle de notre cadre de vie.
- To reduce built-on grounds to support more renewable energy with architects' support to give funds to holistic buildings that consume less energy to recycle building materials to support green terrace housing with plants
- Sustainability (economic, cultural, social, and environmental)
- Affordable healthy living spaces for all
- Energy-efficient buildings, eco-friendly materials in construction, small footprint on the environments. Reducing CO2 not only in the construction phase but also win the production of the building materials. Water is a huge factor also. I could go on and on but I think you get the point.
- How the crises come? In order to have a better future, international cooperation is a must. And do democracy have its weakness?
- Diversity, recovering creativity from innovation and extractive rhetoric, opening towards non-modern, non-Western, post-colonial development
- To build up a community of experts, prepare pilot projects and advise the Commission about funding publicly engaged transdisciplinary research and action
- Find sustainable solutions that are embraced by all the design professionals and the public at large
- Strengthening solidarity, citizenship, community building and sustainable living conditions

- Connection between research, project and action, having in view the nowadays statement of the natural and built heritage, within the rural and urban landscapes
- Education
- Realising: I am trying to carry out a project in the area of sustainable mobility, crossing design, architecture, planning, mobility, engineering and nanotechnologies, to try to find new ways to occupy public space, namely bus stops and treadmills (crosswalks?)
- Make the governments to go the green and sustainable way.
- Fossil fuel-dependent economic growth has been catastrophic for both the human species and for the environment.
- Nature / Architecture. Everything is landscape. Reuse. People-centred approach.
- Better understanding of the templates and materials (including their procurement, reuse, and disposal) with the least long-term negative impact on the whole environment, and therefore humans. Improved understanding of key elements for the built and refurbished environment that improve human experience and health.
- Mehr Handwerk, mehr Zierde oder Schmuck an den Häusern, mehr Holz und Schnitzereien, bzw. gepflegter und geplanter Grünraum.
- To build infrastructures that enable the creation of both local and global commons. These infrastructures can have the share of citizen laboratories where people can get together to experiment, collaborate and start up projects that search the common good
- Refocusing on human-centric design. Formalism and "starchitecture" is the main focus point for popular perception of architecture. All initiatives are focused on professional circles with a low involvement in gaining more presence in the public circles and in the conscience of the population by and large.
- This line is still new to me, I try to study it. It is the reason why I have subscribed here.
- 1. Among professionals: Gaining knowledge about (1) the social, economic and ecologic value of our built heritage and how to treat it, and (2) about new, socially and ecologically more sustainable building techniques, ways of living together, etc. 2. Spreading this knowledge in the public (journals, newspapers, events, politics,...)
- The main goal should be to make sustainability living environments attractive for citizens, showing that a climate-friendly future does not have to be bleak and inhibiting.
- Rethinking form finding: taking into account the building sector's huge impact on the global ecological footprint and acting accordingly. Less is more.
- Disseminate the European Green Deal and its objectives; Show examples and ways to achieve the objectives proposed by the European Green Deal; Present support channels and potential partners to achieve these goals; Make known and encourage interaction between different participants
- Integration
- Affordable and inclusive solutions
- Improve the living environment for people in terms of health, nature and accessibility
- A better built environment with a much lower ecological footprint
- Educate on what true sustainability is about; encourage change; support and connect private individuals or entities that have the "right" vision for that change.
- Change
- We need to act on two fronts at the same time: political and educational
- Sustainable & inclusive
- Change our habits and thinking
- Improve our built environment and quality of life while/by enhancing our architectural heritage and preserving nature
- Rethink our way of living and working.
- To minimise the carbon emissions of the construction sector by the avoidance of new build, maximising the adaptive re-use of older buildings for their sequestered carbon and their cultural value
- Including all, especially those who have never been included, those who are excluded on a daily basis in one way or another, those who have never been considered; the poor, the homeless, the elderly, the LGBT community, the immigrants, those who don't have a voice, those who risk exclusion, recently released prisoners who find it challenging to feel a part of the community again, single parents who struggle, the cities are for all and should hear all voices without excluding anybody even and specifically those who have never been taken into account.
- Raggiungere la coesione tra Enti locali e cittadini per obiettivi condivisi
- Transforming cities building more parks, gardens even forests into the city centre, along with artistic projects, such as music and performance or urban art
- Multidisciplinary connection and virtual or physical space searching for ideas comparison, like Renaissance squares. Sharing of problems and excellences about external and internal habitat. Why, before pandemic, Italian villages' squares, wonderful spaces, were empty? How to bring new hubs back to past?
- More beauty and less waste, reuse and life-circle focus on the use of space and materials.
- Combining green infrastructure and nature-based solutions with design as a basis for social inclusive greening our cities on an everyday level.
- Sustainable architecture and design as prevention of climate change
- Sustainable construction specifications
- To ensure that policies, education and professional developments initiatives promote the protection and respectful use of the inherited built environments of Europe

- To enable identification and development of cross-sectoral networks, partnerships, and twinning which could contribute to the implementation of this initiative.
- To bring disparate groups together around shared objectives, goals and dreams for the future.
- Local materials + local energy + global creativity/know how. Less cement, more EARTH!
- Leave no one behind
- Creating a movement throughout Europe, involving as many people as possible to ensure action will be made. Including research on sustainable building materials, innovative solutions and educating the builders of the future on sustainable building
- Make our cities accessible for people again making beauty affordable activating citizens to get involved in public debates
- Reduce energy for cooling, protect our cities from heat in summer.
- 1. Cities, 2. Public Spaces, 3. Public buildings (social, cultural), 4. Housing, 5. Urban Physical spaces (rivers, urban forests, etc.)
- The main goal of this initiative should be defining the new role of the architect as a proactive socially responsible forward-thinking professional.
- Smart and constant innovation in all sectors of public life and human response towards a brighter future for all
- To connect the Green Deal agenda with inclusive urban planning and cutting-edge aesthetics architecture
- The main goal of this initiative should be designing a sustainable future.
- Strengthening common and spread of awareness of the crucial and unavoidable role of built environment and heritage
- To sensitize European citizens on the importance of the European Green Deal, showing how multidisciplinary cooperation and innovation can positively impact our life and how important is the contribution of each of us
- Resolve the problems that we need to deal with, thinking in our present and future
- To build together a sustainable and inclusive future
- Create interdisciplinary networks to conceive the regeneration of urban environments
- The main goal of this initiative should be defining social architecture parameters.
- The goal of this initiative is to include all members of society in creating a more sustainable future.
- FORM FOLLOWS RESOURCES: natural building materials as earth and timber FORM FOLLOWS CRAFT: Appreciation towards craft and making FORM FOLLOWS COLLABORATION: partnerships with many different stakeholders to foster the change and to empower the next generation to lead the change
- Energy reduction to answer the problem of the climate change. Respond to the new needs of flexibility in the ways of living in the city.
- To put together the full construction supply chain and stimulate the dialogue between manufacturers, builders, contractors, planners, architects and end-users and involve them in a cooperative approach to building sustainable design with different building materials.
- Mobilise the creative power of all European citizens to regain the cultural and technological leadership of Europe.
- Make people and professionals feel as active part of a community, the European People. Boost participation in shared processes aimed to shape our present and future common environment. Create a common ground for local and general development in Europe. Make European politics and representatives hear and listen to the voice of planning professionals which operate in local communities all over our continent.
- Sustainable architecture towards lowering climate change and meeting components of sustainable development.
- We should take into consideration Social Sustainability and create public spaces for all generations
- To connect the most innovative and creative idea for a brighter future
- Rethinking a “social beauty” is the new frontier. It’s the new Utopia. It’s an approach through creativity, innovation, sustainability, inclusion, communities, territories. Speaking of inclusion is very challenging, it asks for a cultural change. Everyone wants to take part in something exclusive. The initiative should drive this awareness process looking for a widespread democracy of beauty.
- To provide the experience of gathering architects and other specialists from different countries to discuss and collectively design prototypes that embrace sociocultural sustainability



# MEMBERS OF THE NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS COLLECTIVE

The [New European Bauhaus Collective \(NEBC\)](#) is a grouping of several pan-European organisations representing architects, spatial planners, landscape architects, interior architects, engineers, designers, artists, educators and researchers of the built environment, and more broadly the cultural and creative sectors. Members and supporters of the NEB Collective have joined forces to collectively support the development and implementation of the [New European Bauhaus](#) initiative that they enthusiastically welcome. The NEB Collective released in November 2020 a [Statement “Making the Renovation Wave a cultural project”](#) to express initial views on the New European Bauhaus and offer its support to the Commission.



The [Architects' Council of Europe \(ACE\)](#) is the representative organisation for the architectural profession at European level. Its membership consists of 43 Member Organisations, which are the regulatory and professional representative bodies in all EU Member States, United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Norway. Through them, the ACE represents the interests of 562,000 architects from 31 countries in Europe.



[Cumulus](#) is the leading global association to serve art and design education and research. It is a forum for partnership and transfer of knowledge and best practices; with more than 340 members in 61 countries around the world and over 50 bilateral institutional partners. In 2021 in Europe, Cumulus has 155 university members. Cumulus community represents a committed advocate for the positive role of designers and artists in making a positive change in the world. Cumulus Secretariat is hosted by Aalto University in Finland.



The [Architectural Research European Network Association \(ARENA\)](#) is an open, inclusive, and comprehensive network for architectural researchers across Europe. Founded in 2013, ARENA at present consists of 38 research centre representatives from 35 institutions in 15 different European countries.



The [European Association for Architectural Education \(EAAE\)](#) is the network for architectural and planning schools in Europe. The purpose of the Associations is to advance the quality of education and research in all areas of the built environment and thus to promote the quality of architecture and urban landscape in Europe. The EAAE promotes the interests of 135 member schools as institutions and academic environments, lobbies for common goals, and connects globally.



The [Alliance for Solar Mobility \(ASOM\)](#) aims to become the cooperative European platform to establish and foster Solar Mobility. We share a vision of solar-powered, eco-positive electric transport, a passion for functional and beautiful products and multi-disciplinary engineering and design. ASOM's members are research institutes, companies, universities, and design schools.



The [European Council of Engineers Chambers \(ECEC\)](#) is the umbrella organisation of European Engineers Chambers. It represents the professional interest of Chartered Engineers on European level. Its members are national Chambers or other legally established public bodies representing authorised Chartered Engineers. Currently, the ECEC represents 16 Chambers and over 300,000 highly qualified European Chartered Engineers who are members in these Chambers.



[Culture Action Europe \(CAE\)](#) is the major European network of cultural networks, organisations, artists, activists, academics, and policymakers. It is the first port of call for informed opinion and debate about arts and cultural policy in the EU. As the only intersectoral network, it brings together all practices in culture, from the performing arts to literature, the visual arts, design, and cross-arts initiatives, to community centres and activist groups. CAE believes in the value and values of culture and its contribution to the development of sustainable and inclusive societies.



The [European Council of Interior Architects \(ECIA\)](#) is the representative body for the professional organisations in Interior Architecture and Design. Founded in 1992, ECIA currently represents 17 European Member – National Organizations, and through them the interests of over 14,000 professional Interior Architects/Designers.



[The European Council of Spatial Planners \(ECTP\)](#) brings together 28 professional spatial planning associations and institutes from 24 European countries as well as corresponding members. It is an umbrella association providing its members with a common framework to promote the visibility and recognition of the important societal role and practice of planning and urban development in Europe.



The [European League of Institutes of the Arts \(ELIA\)](#) is a globally connected European network that provides a dynamic platform for exchange and development in higher arts education. It represents 260 member institutions in 48 countries, with over 300,000 students across all art disciplines. By placing emphasis on the value of arts education and artistic research, ELIA is dedicated to enhancing the conditions in which higher arts education can flourish, both nationally and internationally.



[Europa Nostra](#) is the European Voice of Civil Society committed to Cultural Heritage. For over 50 years, we have celebrated, protected, and advocated for Europe's natural and cultural heritage. Europa Nostra is today recognised as the largest and most representative heritage network in Europe, with 350 member and associate organisations and over 1,000 individual members from over 40 countries in Europe and beyond. We are forceful advocates of heritage – with its multiple benefits for our economy, society, culture, and the environment – towards policymakers at all levels of governance: local, regional, national, and European. We campaign to save Europe's most endangered heritage sites and promote best practices in the heritage field across Europe.



[ICLEI](#) – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient, and circular development. ICLEI Europe provides its members with a voice on the European and international stage, a platform to connect with peers and tools to drive positive environmental, economic, and social change. ICLEI Europe works closely with an extended network of local and regional governments and partners on a broad range of topics.



[IFLA Europe](#) is the European Region of the International Federation of Landscape Architects, formed by 34 professional Landscape Architects' Associations with 20,000 landscape architects across Europe. It aims not only to promote the landscape architecture profession, recognising excellence in educational courses and promoting the best practice operations, but also strives to enhance the quality of landscape planning, monitoring, and management, provide nature-based solutions in climate change mitigation and adaptation, and ensure transformational changes in landscape, urban, and rural areas.



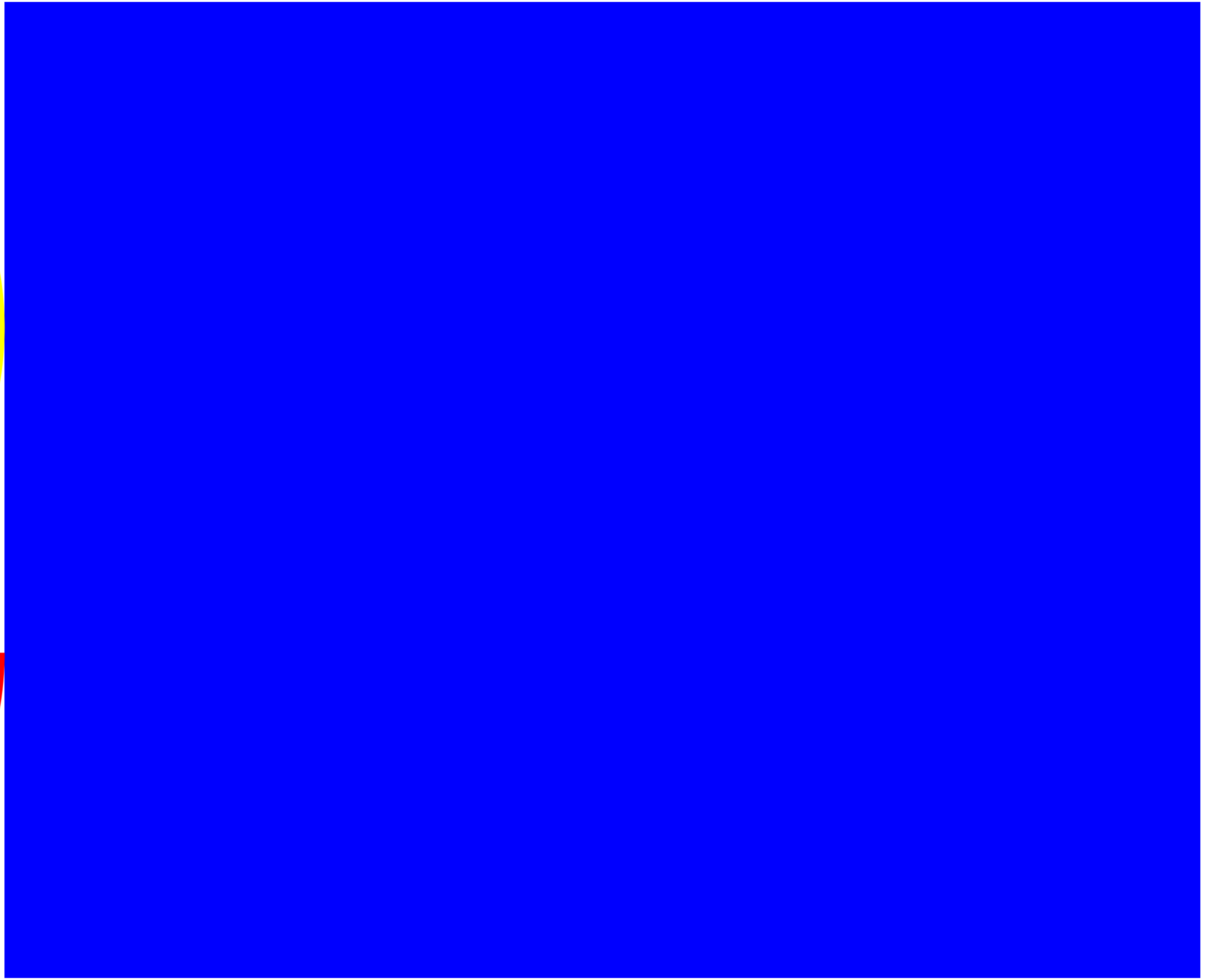
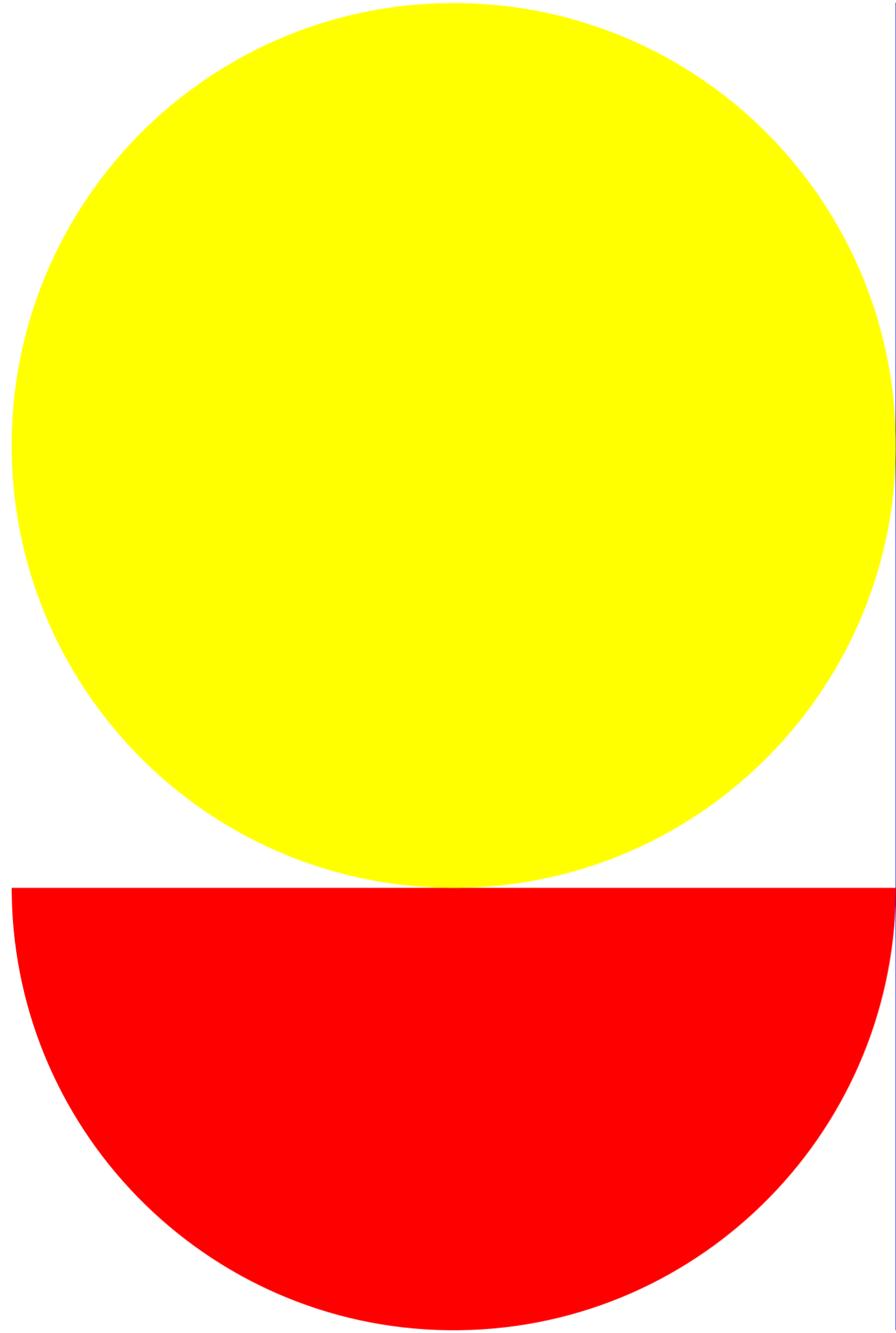
[Trans Europe Halles \(TEH\)](#) is a network of grassroots cultural centres with members in 38 European countries. With 131 members, TEH is one of the oldest and most dynamic cultural networks in Europe. We have been at the forefront of repurposing abandoned buildings for arts, culture, and activism since 1983. Our three founding pillars are: People, Arts, and Buildings.



[The German Academy for Urban and Regional Spatial Planning \(DASL\)](#) aims to support urban and regional spatial planning in theory and practice. The Academy also provides a forum in which people from a wide range of interests across the economy and society can pursue their shared interest in territorial development in discussion with planning professionals.



[The Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects \(SIA\)](#) is Switzerland's leading professional association for construction, technology, and environment specialists. With over 16,000 members from the fields of engineering and architecture, the SIA is a highly professional and interdisciplinary network whose central aim is to promote sustainable and high-quality design of the built environment in Switzerland.



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