



PRESS RELEASE

Build Europe publishes its Manifesto on housing

18 April 2019

BRUSSELS, 18 April 2019 – On the occasion of these European elections, Build Europe intends to play a key role through its Manifesto on the theme of housing, especially affordable housing. It is essential for the Association to mobilise all European actors on such a theme that is at the heart of the concerns of European citizens, and this in all Member States. This Manifesto is an integral part of the transformation of the Association, whose action is, according to its President Marc Pigeon, above all “to respond to the social and environmental aspirations of society. It is this ability to meet the challenges of today that gives legitimacy to Build Europe’s actions.”

The Manifesto explores the challenges European citizens face in finding housing that meets their expectations. This challenge is all the more difficult to resolve because it is a question of taking into account the aspirations of the European citizens for housing in sufficient quantity, at an affordable price and where the demand is the strongest. Build Europe does not claim to offer a single solution, which can be applied uniformly to the European territory. On the contrary, it proposes a range of complementary solutions, which take into account the question of housing in a new holistic perspective, no longer thought of in isolation of what makes the living environment of Europeans: employment, education, culture, mobility, environment and planning.

For Filiep Loosveldt, Managing Director of Build Europe, “the Manifesto responds to issues common to European countries. We offer solutions to meet the growing demand for affordable housing and the necessary mobilisation of private financing to support public policies.”

Among the fifteen proposals, Build Europe suggests including a five-year moratorium on any new regulations that have an impact on the cost of new housing; to urge the Member States to ban



over-transposition of European Directives; and, in the context of the European Semester, make recommendations on housing in Europe.

Marc Pigeon concludes: "Solutions can only work if European and national politicians realize the extent of the housing crisis in Europe, the solution will necessarily involve cooperation and private and public actors to respond to the expectations of our fellow citizens. "

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Note aux éditeurs :

Sur Build Europe :

Build Europe is the umbrella organisation for European Union Member States' national federations of Developers and House Builders, representing more than 30,000 developers and house builders affiliated to the federations of 10 States.

Build Europe's main objective above all to meet the social and environmental aspirations of the community. Build Europe works with its Members to promote practical deliverable policy approaches to build more, with better quality and at an affordable price.

Its Members includes:

- Belgium: Union Professionnelle du Secteur Immobilier -Beroepsvereniging van de Vastgoedsector (UPSI-BVS);
- France: Fédération Promoteurs Immobiliers (FPI) ;
- France : Union Nationale des Aménageurs (UNAM);
- Germany: Bundesverband Freier Immobilien-und Wohnungsunternehmen (BFW);
- Ireland: Irish Home Builders Association (IHBA);
- Malta: Malta Developers Association (MDA);
- Norway: Boligprodusentenes Forening (NHBA);
- Poland: Polski Związek Firm Deweloperskich (PZFD);
- Romania: Patronatul Societatilordin Constructii (PSC);
- Spain: Developer and House Builders Association of Zaragoza (ACPZ);
- United Kingdom: Home Builders Federation (HBF), National House Building Council (NHBC).

On Build Europe's Manifesto :

The Manifesto aims to be a reference document on housing in Europe, proposing several complementary solutions:

- Designate a European Commissioner to be in charge of town and country planning and of construction EU-wide;
- Create a European observatory body;
- Align and unify environmental protection with housing need;
- Encourage urban transformation;
- Make medium-sized cities more attractive;
- Create new smart and green cities;
- Support public communications/public advocacy campaigning to meet housing needs;
- Accelerate the delivery of new homes;
- Create a new European Construction Council;
- Declare a 5-year moratorium on all new European regulations on new housing;
- Encourage Member States to stop gold-plating EU Directives and actively engage in deregulation;
- Make country-specific recommendations on key issues related to housing;
- Remove the production of new housing from the provision relating to real estate speculative activity of the 'Basel IV' agreements;
- Make the open system the benchmark for European social housing; and
- Build an EU-wide coalition of support for the case for affordable housing for all.

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