CONSTRUCTION 2050 ALLIANCE

Building tomorrow's Europe today

MANIFESTO 2025

An open request to the EU Institutions

CONSTRUCTION 2050 ALLIANCE

EBC · FIEC · Construction Products Europe · CECE · UIPI · Housing Europe · European Federation of Building and Woodworkers · efca · CEMBUREAU

EAE · EAPA · European Council of Civil Engineers · Cerame-Unie · EFCC · ECSPA European Calcium Silicate Producers Association · EMO European Mortar Industry Organisation

EDA European Insulation Association · Build Europe · European Rental Association · EGGA Galvanizing Europe · EPPA · eufca European Floor Coverings Association · eurima

Efficient Buildings Europe · ERMCO European Ready Mixed Concrete Organization · Eurogypsum · EuLA European Lime Association · European Panel Federation · European Aluminium · EuropeOn

EXCA · FEICA · GCP Europe · Glass for Europe · UNEP · Metals for Buildings · PlasticsEurope · EUROLUX

European Association for Panels and Profile · PU Europe · RICS · SolarPower Europe · teppfa · UEPG · vinyl plus

EUPC · ehpa · CEI-Bois · ACRP European Association for Construction Repair, reinforcement and Protection · EDI · ARGE · bibm · EFCA

1. The importance of **construction** in Europe

Construction is the **second largest** of the 14 Ecosystems defined by the European Commission during its 2019-2024 mandate by employment, and the third largest by Gross Value Added. According to the European Commission's "Construction Transition Pathways", construction generates almost **10% of EU value added**, provides **25 million jobs** and covers more than 5 million businesses. With 1 in 10 of every euro created in the EU coming from construction, it is essential that the sector's potential is maximised in the European Commission's 2024-2029 agenda and beyond.

2. The impact of construction in Europe goes beyond just numbers

Construction is about more than just its financial and employment numbers. As we spend on average over **90% of our time indoors**, our health and wellbeing strongly depend on how our buildings and infrastructure are built, used, maintained and renovated. Further, construction is by nature a secure source of local employment, supporting regional development.

3. The purpose of the Construction 2050 Alliance

The Construction 2050 Alliance brings together **52 European organisations**, aiming to deliver social, economic and environmental benefit to EU citizens, whilst advancing the needs and priorities of construction. The Alliance cooperates with the European Institutions, Member States and social partners. We seek to align with policymakers to maximise the positive contribution of the built environment to the EU's goals and our stakeholders.

Further detail on the Alliance's objectives and commitments can be found in our founding paper or on our website.

4. What are the Alliance's **5 priorities** for 2024-2029?

SUSTAINABILITY & NET-ZERO

As buildings are responsible for **40%** of our **energy consumption** and **36%** of our **CO_2 emissions**, we must urgently decarbonise our buildings and improve their energy efficiency by addressing the whole life cycle.

*We call for more sustainable products, technologies, processes and energy solutions, combined with a **holistic renovation approach**, **innovative financing** and business models. These will deliver Net Zero Carbon buildings and allow us to achieve our EU climate goals.*

CIRCULARITY

Construction and demolition waste accounts for approximately **25-30%** of our EU waste stream. This must be reduced.

*We call for circular construction to **increase competitiveness** by **improving resource efficiency**, recycling and material reuse. This could reduce the EU's dependency on imports whilst reinforcing our resilience against supply chain distortions.*

COMPETITIVENESS & AFFORDABILITY

The Draghi report on competitiveness called for **closing the innovation gap**, a joint decarbonisation and competitiveness plan, and strengthening security and **reducing dependencies**. The EU construction sector stands ready to deliver. To these affordability can be added, particularly of housing which is at a crisis point in the EU.

*We call for the **harmonisation, simplification** and **alignment** of regulations and standards to allow for streamlining in all stages and types of construction. This will deliver faster builds and lower costs thereby alleviating general sector pressure, especially on the housing market.*

SKILLS & QUALITY JOBS

In a context of recurrent **labour shortages**, it is important for the EU to deliver a **Union of Skills**, focusing on investment, adult and lifelong learning, skill retention and the recognition of different types of training. The construction sector should increase its attractiveness towards all age groups and genders by promoting business models based on quality jobs, social progress, fair competition and a just transition.

*We call for social partners to engage in **social dialogue**, and to offer quality jobs, vocational training, lifelong learning and meaningful employment opportunities.*

DIGITALISATION & INNOVATION

Digitalisation is a must in Europe for every sector, construction included. It is essential for competitiveness and for ease of use by consumers. This transformation is already underway in the construction sector.

*We call for all stakeholders to deliver the enormous potential of **innovation** in construction to support its move to further sustainability, enhanced competitiveness and affordability, from the design stage to **offsite manufacturing** (e.g. prefabrication), **onsite construction** and the **end-of-life** stage.*

The above priorities are part of an overarching **ambition** towards greater **competitiveness, affordability and strategic autonomy** in Europe. These overlaps between the sector, the stakeholders and the EU's citizens reflect a **common vision** for Europe's future — one that is **sustainable, inclusive** and **digitally advanced**.

5. Summary

- With 40% of our energy consumption and 36% of our CO_2 emissions coming from buildings, the **EU construction sector** urgently **needs to decarbonise** to deliver a better built environment and infrastructure for its citizens.

- With approximately **10% of EU GDP** and **25 million workers**, the construction sector can drive this transition.

- Construction wants to embrace **circularity, sustainability, safety, resilience** whilst driving our **competitiveness** through improved regulatory framework and market conditions.

- **Energy-efficient buildings** are key to the energy transition, to reducing the EU's dependence on energy imports to eliminating energy poverty, and to driving affordability.

- Bringing together **52 EU sector associations**, the Construction 2050 Alliance is in a unique position to deliver the change that the EU needs.

6. Our request to the EU Institutions

This manifesto is made available to all relevant actors in the field of construction to show what manufacturers can deliver towards EU goals if producers and regulators can work together in an ever more mutually supportive way.

A constructive dialogue is sought between industry and legislators to deliver a predictable, balanced and fair market environment so that construction can leverage its assets and make the maximum possible contribution to Europe's social, economic and environmental transition via the built environment. That is our commitment.

We ask that the responsible teams in the European Institutions accept the Construction 2050 Alliance's request to meet so that words can become actions and promises can become reality.

CONSTRUCTION 2050 ALLIANCE

For more information visit:
euconstruction2050.eu

LinkedIn: Construction 2050 Alliance
X: Construction 2050 Alliance

CONSTRUCTION 2050 ALLIANCE