



ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE

## ACE INFO

[JUNE 2012]  
# 59

### INTRODUCTION

**Welcome to the third edition of the ACE *Info* for 2012, which I hope you will find informative and engaging!**



While May sunshine finally warms the air and spirit of island peoples on the western fringes, - like most of Europe, millions of us go about our daily work in a permanent state of expectation for signs of a clear direction and vision for the EU that will balance the focus on 'markets' with a better understanding and sense of shared values and responsibilities, with genuine understanding of the interconnectedness of quality of life, the economy and the environment and with pride and respect for our resourcefulness, creativity, diversity and cultural heritage.

We, architects always feel that we have a big say and a big role to play in contributing to that balance and continue to seek the appropriate channels to communicate the role and the interest of the profession. Through the Architects Council of Europe and its member organizations, we have developed an impressive network and good will, but also awareness that our passion has to be matched with the realistic assessment of our own resources, effectiveness and our ability to engage and motivate others. At the Executive Board and with the ACE Secretariat, we continue to explore ways to work better together and carry out or delegate work at hand. In order to reach effective consensus on a number of topics in the past two-year period, we have conducted a number of facilitated workshops with the Board, on ACE priorities, on management and lobby goals and recently on the work programme in Thematic area 3 (Architecture and Quality of Life) each resulting with a clear set of action points. This practice is continuing and in line with my election program and a general call for improved communication, the Executive Board will participate in a facilitated workshop on ACE Communication during its meeting in Dublin on 15 June, with the expectation of developing a program of action to improve internal and external communication.

At the ECO Forum in Amsterdam in April, which many of you attended just before the ACE General Assembly, we had one such opportunity to communicate and interact with a wide number of the stakeholders in the complex value chain of sustainable construction. We heard speakers ranging from EU policy makers, public sector officials and local authorities to professionals who are part of construction and development processes. On your behalf, I re-stated the readiness, ability and versatility of our profession, seeking a leading and coordinating role in sustainable development, -and seeking work for architects in general! We look forward to continued communication with the DG Environment and the impact of the Forum's recommendations on its working programme.

The spring ACE General Assembly had lively debates and exchanges of views on our main area of advocacy, as we continue to engage with the EU Commission on the implementation of the modernized PQD (Professional Qualifications Directive). Whilst there are many welcome improvements in the document, the adoption of the ACE position "5+2" based on the UIA (Union Internationale des Architectes) Education Charter remains a goal yet to be fully achieved. The discussions at the Assembly moved forward the preparation of the common position on the Public Procurement Directive and the ACE's submission with proposed amendments to the EU Commission's document is being finalised.

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The General Assembly was also an opportunity to welcome a number of international guests and heads of partner networks with which we work and share passion for the architectural profession, and with whom we strive to combine efforts. It is rewarding to learn how ACE is held in high esteem by many of them and commended for its focused and structured work. Initiatives by many of the regional architectural organizations to work closer at the regional level reflects the realization that in a changed socio-political-economic context and with technological connectivity, a relatively small profession like ours can and has to work closely together, examining and re-shaping models of co-operation, in order to adapt and survive the changes. We can be grateful to many of the ACE delegates and our colleagues from international organizations whose involvement in such work and networking ensures vitality, continuity and focus and we treasure the commitment to friendship as demonstrated by signing the MOU between ACE and ARCASIA.

Some of us recently participated in the Round Table 'Architecture Plus' in Sofia earlier this month, followed by a facilitated ACE workshop within Thematic Area 3. Our colleagues from the Bulgarian Chamber of Architects together with the Union of Architects of Bulgaria provided a platform for the debate on the current issues of architectural practice in the context of the European legislation, supported by a large number of prominent speakers, many of them from the ACE network. The event was honoured by the presence and welcome from the Bulgarian President Mr Rossen Plevneliev who acknowledged the significance of the Sofia Declaration co-signed between the ACE and a number of professional groupings. The Declaration calls for the implementation of clear legislation governing our work and access to it. The event was only marred by the sudden death of our dear colleague Mr Petko Yovchev, who had tirelessly worked till the last on making this event such a success. We salute and remember Petko!

Selma Harrington  
ACE President  
MAY 2012

*This edition is also available in French.*

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## ACE CORE ISSUES

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### Tracking progress on the Professional Qualifications Directive



On 25 April 2012, ACE attended the IMCO Public Hearing on Modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD). In the first panel, discussion focused on modernisation of minimum training requirements, partial access to a regulated profession and common training principles. Regarding partial access, Dr Sarah Schoenmaekers reminded the audience that it should not be considered as the first resort since compensation measures apply first to fully recognized professionals wanted to work in a host country. After listing negative and positive aspects of partial access, she also mentioned that overriding reasons of general interest might be used by a Member State to refuse partial access, as long as the objective pursued is secured and proportional. In the second panel, contributions focused on how to implement the professional card. Several speakers raised questions on practical issues regarding the implementation of the professional card in both home and host Member States. Mr Buttarelli, Assistant European Data Protection Supervisor, made an interesting presentation on privacy protections regarding the European Professional Card. He insisted on the fact that the alert system, which is designed to prevent fraudulent professionals from working abroad, must also be proportionated. Finally the European Federation of National Engineering Associations explained how they had implemented a professional card ten years ago and described its main characteristics. The main points of the IMCO Public Hearing were presented during last ACE General Assembly held on 27 April 2012 in Amsterdam. Now the ACE is finalising its position on the modernisation of the PQD for submission to the European Parliament and the European Commission in mid-June, after consultation with its Member Organisations.

Source: ACE & IMCO

## ACE Proposed Amendments for Public Procurement Directive



Following the IMCO hearing at the end of March and the publication of the Rapporteur Marc Tarabella's draft report proposing modifications to the Public Procurement Directive, ACE has been working on its proposed amendments.

In particular, ACE is keen to ensure that:

- Intellectual / design services are not subject to electronic auctions;
- The concept of a single procurement is clarified as regards calculation of the value of public works;
- Contracting authorities consider holding design competitions except in cases where the subject matter is unsuitable;
- That techniques and instruments for electronic and aggregated procurement are not applied to intellectual services;
- That conditions for participation in procedures concerning intellectual services are not restricted to non-quantitative criteria, and
- Contracts for intellectual services are awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender (and not lowest price).

The deadline for tabling amendments is now fixed on 14 June 2012.

Source: ACE

## The 3% target for Public Buildings' Renovation looks less likely to be rescued!



In seriously challenging times of serious challenges, from the consequences of the financial crisis to the global issue of climate change and its impacts, ACE believes that the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) should be a driving force in the economic recovery and a major contributor to the implementation of sustainable prosperity in the European Union. However, up to this point, the Danish Presidency proposal on the EED has weakened nearly all MEP's requests for binding national targets. In particular it seems to have abandoned the proposal on public building renovation requirements (art. 4), which called for 3% renovation of the total floor area (over 250 m<sup>2</sup>) of buildings owned by public bodies each year, and is now proposing the inclusion of an article on long-term building renovation strategies and indicators. As a consequence energy renovation of public buildings may no longer be one of the priorities of the EED, which would be a serious step backward. In fact, since public entities are the major investors in the construction field and the construction sector accounts for approximately 10% of the European Gross Domestic Product, a 3% deep renovation would contribute to making the European economy more competitive and independent. For every euro spent in construction, there is an additional boost to economic activity of approximately 3 euros. Therefore this should be taken into account when Europe decides on whether to introduce an obligatory scheme. For the ACE, closing the gap between 2020 energy saving targets and actual reductions in energy use should not be voluntary: Europe needs a compulsory scheme to provide sustainable growth.

Source: ACE & The Coalition for Energy Savings

## EU NEWS

### Cities' Declaration promoting Sustainable Urban Development for Rio+20



On the 22 and 23 March 2012 the Fifth European Summit of Regions and Cities was held in Copenhagen. For two days, over 300 mayors and presidents of regions from the 27 EU Member States, together with leading architects, urban planners and researchers shared their experiences and thoughts with a view to ensuring that urban issues feature more prominently on the European and world agendas. On this occasion, political leaders stated that sustainable development and green growth in Europe's cities and regions are not just responses to combat climate change but they are also crucial parts of the roadmap to finding a path through the economic and financial crisis. At the end of the summit, members of the Committee of the Regions

stressed the role to be played by urban development in each region through the adoption of the Copenhagen Declaration. In this agreement, prepared in view of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, demands were made to develop more competitive, inclusive and green cities. This should be their legacy at Rio+20. To read the Copenhagen Declaration, go to:

<http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/summits/Documents/Copenhagen%20Summit%202012%20Declaration/EN.pdf>

(If you cannot access to the website, please copy and paste the address in your browser)

**Source & Picture:** Committee of the Regions

### Resource Efficiency Roadmap: Progress & Setbacks



On 25 April 2012 the European Parliament's Environment Committee supported a Resource Efficiency Roadmap for Europe, making an important step towards providing a framework in which future actions for sustainable growth can be designed and implemented coherently. However, in their effort to find an agreement, MEP's left aside ambitious deadlines and measures proposed by Mr Gerbrandy, the Dutch Liberal MEP who drafted the first report. For example, one of his proposals was to create within a year several task forces with clear benchmarks to address resource food consumption, housing and mobility with

the aim of devising efficiency action plans. But the deadline was not retained in the Parliament compromise, even if some MEPs and the European Commission are convinced by the necessity of having-implementing milestones. As explained by Mr Miege, Director, Strategy at DG Environment, the current situation is complex as the scale of change needed is huge. It is about changing the system, changing behaviours and changing the set of incentives. If the Energy Efficiency Directive is emblematic it is also necessary to work with other resources, such as water, etc. The challenge is about bringing issues together, by promoting resource efficiency, in order to induce changes. For him, the main opportunities for resource efficiency are in buildings since this could save 3 trillion dollars world-wide. In fact, energy efficiency in buildings requires an integrated approach, which is taking into account material used and other components, and can therefore save up to 50% of all extracted materials and 50% of water used. To read the European Parliament compromise text, go to:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009\\_2014/documents/envi/dv/899/899789/899789en.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/documents/envi/dv/899/899789/899789en.pdf)

(If you cannot access to the website, please copy and paste the address in your browser)

**Source:** Euractiv & The European Commission

### Meeting of Directors-General responsible for Urban Development

On 13 and 14 March the Danish Ministry of Housing, Urban & Rural Affairs organised the meeting of Directors-General responsible for urban development. The ACE, represented by its WG Chairman Antonio Borghi, participated to this important event. The meeting underlined the Danish Presidency's commitment to supporting the launch of the definitive version of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC) a web tool outlining a number of concrete actions to be undertaken by actors involved. It also featured the EU's Future Cohesion Policy Legislative Proposal, and aimed to further develop the political platform for European Urban Policies through an in-depth, discussion on technical urban development issues. The Danish Presidency will circulate a summary report of the meeting shortly.

**Source:** ACE

### "CitizenHouse.eu" enabling European Citizens to be heard



Since 1 April 2012 European citizens have a new portal enabling them to claim their European rights. The website offers easy access to several services such as: complaints to the European Commission, petitions to the European Parliament, requests to the European Ombudsman, European citizen's initiatives and access to documents of the European Institutions. To have a look, go to:

[www.citizenhouse.eu](http://www.citizenhouse.eu)



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**ACE Sector Study: Third edition underway!**



ACE launched the third edition of its Sector Study on 14 May 2012. After the success of the first two editions in 2008 and 2010, this year's survey will analyse and present an overview of the architectural profession in Europe, show how the profession and market have changed since previous Sector Studies (particularly in light of the changed economic circumstances) and analyse and present vital statistics of the architectural profession in each member country participating in this research. If you are an architect and receive an invitation to participate to this survey from your national representative organisation, please take a few minutes of your time to answer this questionnaire, as it will allow us to draw a clear picture of the architectural profession and help architects to develop data to defending their interests at national or European level. The questionnaire is now available in 17 languages to encourage architects to participate to the survey. ACE expects to receive over ten thousand responses. Full results will be presented during the second ACE General Assembly in November 2012.

### **ACE General Assembly & 12<sup>th</sup> Eco-Innovation Forum in Amsterdam**



The Architects Council of Europe held its first 2012 General Assembly on 27 April 2012 in Amsterdam (Netherlands). It took place in conjunction with the 12<sup>th</sup> Eco-Innovation Forum, on 25 and 26 April 2012, organised by the European Commission, with the following theme: Scaling-up sustainable construction through value chain innovation. On the first day of the forum, ACE President, Selma Harrington, participated in a panel, which gave perspectives, opportunities and challenges from key players across the sustainable construction value chain. On the second day, participants focused on recommendations for scaling-up sustainable construction. They agreed on several recommendations, such as the establishment of round tables promoting responsible construction, the development of a strategy for the retrofitting of existing buildings with minimal ecological impact, the introduction of life cycle assessment of the buildings for public procurement, the creation of mechanisms to reduce the risks of eco-innovation in the construction value chain, etc. The final version of these recommendations will soon be accessible on the ACE website.

Then, on 27 April, during its General Assembly, the ACE signed agreements with the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA). The two organisations agreed on six measures to reinforce their cooperation. ACE – ARCASIA agreements can be accessed at the following address:

[http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/getdocument/content\\_id/1362](http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/getdocument/content_id/1362)

### **Signature of the Sofia Declaration on Procurement of Architectural Services**



On 11 May 2012 the round table Architecture Plus was held in Sofia (Bulgaria). ACE President, Selma Harrington, together with the Chairman of the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria, Mr Vladimir Damyanov, the Chairman of the Chamber of Engineers in the Investment Design, Mr Stefan Kinarev and the Chairman of the Bulgarian Construction Chamber, Mr Svetoslav Glossov signed the Sofia Declaration calling for the procurement of architectural and construction services to be based on four crucial considerations: consideration for a holistic and integrated procurement process, consideration for adequate community consultations and involvement in the procurement process, consideration for long term planning rather than prioritising short term goals and consideration for adequate building control procedures through the procurement and construction process in favour of citizens health and safety, the quality and stability of the built environment and optimal operational and maintenance costs. To read the entire Sofia Declaration, go to:

[http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/index/category\\_id/90/language/en](http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/index/category_id/90/language/en)

### **ACE Launches Two New Work Groups**

In the context of the modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive and the new proposals introduced by the European institutions, ACE saw the need to establish two new work groups: one on continuous professional development and another on practical professional experience (+2).

### Continuing Professional Development (CPD) WG

ACE recently decided to set up this new working group (WG) in collaboration with the UIA in order to exchange information and conduct an inventory of the various situations present in Member States on continuous professional development. A first meeting was organised in Paris on 19 March. It led to an initial overview, to clarify procedures and components of the continuing professional development. In the coming months, this WG will propose a draft guide on the tools and systems to be implemented by the ACE regarding continuing professional development. For the next meeting, scheduled to take place in Rome on 19 June, member organisations are asked to check and complete an inventory of CPD in their own country and designate a delegate that will correspond with the WG and possibly participate to future meetings.

### Practical Professional Experience (PPE+2) WG

This working group (WG) will examine the question of professional practical experience, which constitutes an essential complement to academic training to enable future professionals to obtain the necessary skills for independent practice. In the past, a previous WG of the ACE had already examined this issue and produced a report and charter. However this subject needs clarification since the proposed modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive now mentions for the first time PPE as a part of the overall six years of training (5 years of academic training + one year of PPE or 4+2). As with other issues, the PPE+2 WG is requested to first conduct an inventory of national situations (sometimes very different) that exist in the European Member States before drawing up principles and general characteristics to make proposals that would allow for greater convergence. The first meeting of this WG is scheduled on 11 June. Member organisations are requested to check and complete an inventory of PPE in their own country and designate a correspondent that will be in contact with the WG members and, if possible, attend its meetings.

### **ACE Activity Report 2010-2011**

ACE Activity Report 2010-2011 was presented to ACE Member Organisations during the last ACE General Assembly in Amsterdam. It presents all three thematic areas (access to the profession, practice of the profession and architecture and quality of life) and describes progress made over the last two years. It also includes goals and priorities for next two years. The full report is now accessible online on the ACE website at the following address:

[http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/getdocument/content\\_id/1367](http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/getdocument/content_id/1367)

### **Announcements from Member Organisations**

#### **CAB – Bulgaria**



It is with regret that the ACE learned of the sudden death of Mr Petko Yovchev, co-founder, first president and leader of the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria, who passed away on 11 May 2012. For eight years, and until the last minute, he worked with professionalism and dedication, being a shining example of human dignity and fellowship. On the day of his death the Sofia Declaration that he had co-written was signed, and which has now become a symbol of his efforts to improve architectural services in Europe. ACE extends its sincere condolences to his friends and relatives.

#### **CAT – Turkey**

On 13 – 15 April 2012, the Chamber of Architects of Turkey held its General Assembly and elected a new Central Executive Board, which is composed of the following members: Eyup Muhcu (President), Guven Arif Sargin (Vice-President), Necip Mutlu (Secretary General), Ali Ekinici (Treasurer), Esin Hacialioglu (Member), Ahmet Imran Karaman (Member) and Sabri Konak (Member). This Board will serve for two years, from April 2012.

#### **CCA – Czech Republic**

On 15 May 2012 the members of the Board of Directors elected Mr Josef Panna as the new President of the Czech Chamber of Architects (CCA) for the coming year. He succeeds to Mr Jan Vrana, who was President for the past two years. Mr Panna previously served as Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Chamber.

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## News about the ACE Involvement in EU-Funded Projects

The involvement of ACE in EU funded research projects allows it to further its policies and to engage with a wide range of stakeholders in the European Union. For more information, please contact: Eleni Goni, Project Officer at the following address: [eleni.goni@ace-cae.eu](mailto:eleni.goni@ace-cae.eu)

### Shelter – An Intelligent Energy Europe Project



The aim of the [SHELTER \(www.shelterproject-iee.eu\)](http://www.shelterproject-iee.eu) Project is to promote and facilitate the use of new models of cooperation, inspired by integrated design, for the energy renovation of social housing. In the context of the SHELTER project, CECODHAS Housing Europe in collaboration with ACE and the European Builders Confederation, are organising an event hosted by the European Sustainable Energy Week in Brussels, on Tuesday the 19 June. The event's title is "Innovate to Renovate" and it is intended to raise awareness of the need to upscale energy retrofitting of the existing Social Housing stock as well as the need for a policy framework to boost and facilitate changes at Member States' level by focusing on three main issues: Innovative Financial Instruments, Public Procurement, Local development and role of SMEs. For more information and to register to this event please click [HERE](#)

### TrainRebuild – An Intelligent Energy Europe Project



The [TrainRebuild \(www.trainrebuild.eu\)](http://www.trainrebuild.eu) project aims to design a strategy to generate a change of thinking of public and private property owners regarding the link between energy efficiency and increased property value. In the context of the TRAINREBUILD project and as a back-to back event to the European Sustainable Energy Week, the second event of the European Forum on Training and Skills for Re-"Building" will take place in Brussels, on June 22. The main theme of this event will be: "Partnerships between local authorities and private property owners in launching retrofit programs". This event will seek to elicit the views of local private property owners' associations and municipality members of the Covenant of Mayors in jointly undertaking local retrofit programs. To acquire more information and register for the event, please access the following link: <http://trainrebuild.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/INVITATION.pdf>

### ACE at External Events

*ACE is frequently represented by its President, Members of its Executive Board, Chairmen of Work Groups and/or the Secretariat at external events and conferences. These activities often go unnoticed, but are very important to the pursuit of ACE policies. Readers who wish to know more about these activities can access the reports, prepared after the events, in the calendar of external representations maintained on the ACE website at the following address:*

[http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/index/category\\_id/211/language/en](http://www.ace-cae.eu/public/contents/index/category_id/211/language/en)

### ACE Events and Meetings from June to August 2012 (all in Brussels unless stated otherwise):

Meeting of the WG Professional Practice Experience WG –11 June 2012

Fourth Executive Board Meeting –14 June & 16 June 2012 (Dublin)

Communication Workshop – 15 June 2012 (Dublin)

Meeting of Continuing Professional Development WG – 19 June 2012 (Rome)

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## OTHER MATTERS

### New Platform about Sustainable Construction



Construction21 is a new European collaborative platform for sustainable buildings professionals. It was born from the desire to quickly share progress in this field at European level. This tool will gather a collection of innovative built achievements in a database easily accessible to all parties in the construction field. It will allow quick comparisons to encourage emulations and, thereby, advance the entire sector. Active users will be able to exchange information and feedback, develop their network and engage in thematic communities. Access to the Website is totally free and the content is created

by users and moderated by recognized experts. For more information, visit:  
<http://www.construction21.eu/>

Source: Construction21

### Cultural Heritage omitted in Horizon 2020



As you may have heard, cultural heritage has been completely omitted from the European Commission proposal for the 8<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme for Research & Innovation (Horizon 2020). As a result all funds previously available for research in this field will be eliminated along with the whole basis for conservation of cultural heritage in Europe, probably for many years to come.

Therefore, in order to keep cultural heritage in Horizon 2020, the cultural heritage research community has initiated an online petition addressed to the European Parliament and the European Council. More than 7,000 people have already supported the petition but more signatures are needed to ensure further promotion of cultural heritage research. To sign the petition, go to:  
[http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/cultural-heritage-research\\_8th-framework-programme/](http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/cultural-heritage-research_8th-framework-programme/)

Source: European Cultural Heritage Research Community

### Short list for 2014 European Green Capital Award



Every year the *European Green Capital Award* rewards cities' efforts to improve the urban environment and move towards healthier and sustainable living areas. The objectives of this competition are to (1) reward cities that have a consistent record of achieving high environmental standards; (2) encourage cities to commit to on-going and ambitious goals for further environmental improvement and sustainable development; (3) provide a role model to inspire other cities and promote best practice and experiences in all other European cities. For the 2014 award, eighteen

cities applied and three of them were chosen as finalists: Bristol, Copenhagen and Frankfurt. The winner will be announced at an award ceremony in Vitoria-Gasteiz, the European Green Capital for 2012, on 29 June. To learn more on this award, go to:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/europeangreencapital/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/europeangreencapital/index_en.htm)

Source: European Green Capital - European Commission

### Results of Global Award for Sustainable Architecture

Architect and professor Jana Revedin created the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture in 2006, which honours annually five living architects who move towards sustainability. To win this competition, architects' work must offer clear insights into the search for a rational contemporary architecture, which is innovative in the areas of energy, materials and technology; proposing new standards for housing and public amenities and fighting ecological imbalance and social inequality. The five winners of the 2012 edition are: Salma Samar (London, UK), Anne Feenstra (Kabul, Afghanistan), Suriya Umpansirratana (Bangkok, Thailand), Philippe Madec (Paris, France) and TYIN Architect (Trondheim, Norway). To read more on the winners, go to:

<http://locus-foundation.org/GlobalAward/globalaward.htm>

Source: Global Award for Sustainable Architecture

### Winners of the Blue Award 2012

The Blue Award is organised every two years by the Department for Spatial and Sustainable Design at the Vienna University of Technology, with the support of the UIA. It is an international student competition and provides awards to projects addressing the topic of sustainability in the academic fields of architecture, regional planning and urbanism. This competition is an open invitation to future-oriented and sustainable solutions. Selected from 232 entries, 11 nominees from 8 countries were awarded first prizes, special prizes, special mentions and honourable mentions during the 2012 Blue Award ceremony at Vienna's University of Technology. First prizes went to Nikhil Chaudhary (CEPT University Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India) in the category "Urban Development and Transformation, Landscape Development"; to Gregor Fasching (Vienna University of Technology, Austria) in the category "Ecological Building" and to Veronika Holczer (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary) in the category "Building in Existing Structures." For more information, visit the Blue Award website at: <http://www.blueaward.at/>

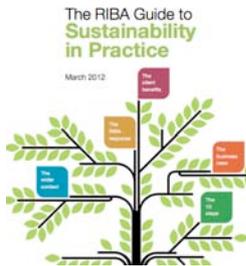
Source: Blue Award

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### RIBA Guide to Sustainability in Practice



The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has just published a guide developed to help architects build sustainability into their daily practice. After mentioning the drivers for sustainability and explaining how the RIBA is responding to the challenge of sustainable development, the guide highlights the benefits of sustainable buildings for clients and architects. The guide then defines ten steps architects should take to build a sustainable practice. To download the publication, go to:

<http://www.architecture.com/Files/RIBAProfessionalServices/RIBAGuidetoSustainabilityinPractice.pdf>

### Urban Adaptation to Climate Change in Europe

Climate change is happening, is projected to continue and poses serious challenges for cities. Extreme weather events resulting in hazards such as heat waves, floods and droughts are expected to occur more frequently in many parts of Europe. However, as cities drive Europe's economy and generate substantial wealth, climate related problems occurring in important hubs could threaten Europe's economy and quality of life. This report, written in the context of the development and implementation of the European climate change adaptation strategy for 2013, provides information to facilitate a multilevel European process and the effective participation of local governments. It also complements a range of other studies and information sources. To download full report realized by the European Environment Agency, please go to:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/urban-adaptation-to-climate-change>

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## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

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### Emptiness: The Potentials of Vacancy

IE University and TU Graz have launched the international 2012 IE/TUG Summer School that will be held in Madrid from 6 to 13 July 2012. This year's program, titled: "Emptiness: The Potentials of Vacancy", will deal with the consequences and opportunities that derive from the gross overbuilding of the past decade. In fact, cities are now confronted with empty masses, incomplete plans and urban spaces hastily conceived and neither fully constructed nor isolated. The moment is challenging and profoundly liberating; it is a crisis that demands creativity and give architects license to invent. The intensive, 8-day studio-based design workshop is open to enthusiastic architecture students at the undergraduate and graduate level. For more information and application (open until July), go to:

[http://ie\\_tugsummerschool.ie.edu/welcome?lang=en](http://ie_tugsummerschool.ie.edu/welcome?lang=en)

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## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

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### Le Corbusier Scholarship 2012

The *Le Corbusier Foundation* will award a scholarship for the year 2012 to help researchers willing to study the work of Le Corbusier. Moreover it will also give a grant to a young artist, who wishes to realise a creation based on Le Corbusier's architectural, plastic or graphic work. For the research grant, proposals should primarily concern some aspects of Le Corbusier's work that have not been researched thoroughly enough, or provide unique approaches for areas already investigated. Applications can be submitted in English, French, Spanish or Italian. Candidates should send their applications pursuing digital media (digital file sent via email, cd-roms, etc.) to the following address [Info@fondationlecorbusier.fr](mailto:Info@fondationlecorbusier.fr) Applications must reach the Foundation by 16 July 2012. Publication of results is scheduled on 1 October 2012. For more information (available only in French), go to: <http://www.fondationlecorbusier.fr/corbuweb/morpheus.aspx?sysId=13&IrisObjectId=7432&sysLangua>

[ge=fr-fr&itemPos=2&itemSort=fr-fr\\_sort\\_date1%20DESC%20&itemCount=2&sysParentName=&sysParentId=48](#)  
(If you cannot access to the website, please copy and paste the address in your browser)

### **Bauhaus Solar Congress 2012: Second call for papers!**

Since 2008 the International Bauhaus Solar Congress has promoted interdisciplinary dialogue among architects, planners, civil engineers, technicians, designers and representatives of the solar, real estate and financial industry in order to exchange and further develop pathbreaking innovative concepts, projects and research results from the field of renewable energies, particularly solar technology. At the same time, the focus has always been on the aesthetic influence of energy-related elements with regard to architecture and urban planning. In 2012, the Bauhaus Solar Congress will be dedicated to the special topic « Redevelopment of Residential Areas & City Centres ». Organisers are looking for lectures or (research) projects in the following topics: architecture and solar structural elements, energy efficient construction and renovation, real estate industry and life cycles, landscape architecture and energy facilities, urban development and sociological change. If you are willing to participate, please submit your application for an individual presentation (speaking time: 20 minutes) with a short description of your lecture (maximum 2 pages of A4) by 15 June in German or English to [bauhaus.solar@messe-erfurt.de](mailto:bauhaus.solar@messe-erfurt.de) For more details, visit: <http://www.bauhaus-solar.com/index.html>

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## COMPETITIONS

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### **New Museum of Architecture – London, United Kingdom**

The program challenges participants to design a new Museum of Architecture (MOA) in London on the site of the iconic Battersea Power Station and takes into account the sensitivity of the existing structure and site location. The design should create a new internationally recognized landmark in London. The proposal should include both design for the existing Power Station building, extension and plans for the garden around it. Submissions can be the work of an individual or a group up to 4 members (architects, architecture graduates or architecture students, etc.) between the age of 18 and 45 years at the time of registration. Submission deadline is 28 January 2013. Winning participants and special mentions will receive prizes totalling US\$ 12,000. For more information and registration, visit: [http://www.archicool.com/index.php?option=com\\_k2&view=item&id=815:open-new-museum-of-architecture-moa-in-london-battersea-power-station](http://www.archicool.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=815:open-new-museum-of-architecture-moa-in-london-battersea-power-station)

(If you cannot access to the website, please copy and paste the address in your browser)

### **Ideas Competition: “adream 2012”**

The ideas competition “adream 2012 – Architecture and design using renewable and ecological materials” is a European project under the joint auspices of the Regional Council of Picardie and the Free State of Thuringia aimed at giving impetus to new developments. The potential of renewable and ecologically sound materials is still substantially under-exploited. Through this competition, the partner regions are therefore inviting and promoting innovative proposals for developing a sustainable economy by means of contemporary designs, which make well-considered use of such resources. The competition is open to all people studying or working in the field of architecture and/or design. To submit your project, you can register until 31 July 2012 on the competition website, [www.adream2012.eu](http://www.adream2012.eu).

### **“Re-think Athens” towards a New City Centre**

Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation launched a European architectural competition for the re-constitution of Athens city centre along the axis of Panepistimiou Street. The objectives for the city centre re-constitution, extending from Amalias Avenue to Patission Avenue, are the transformation of the city centre into a destination for the public instead of a traffic area for motor vehicles, the functional, aesthetic and environmental upgrade of the city centre, the re-enhancement of commercial, administrative and financial activities in the city, the re-population of the city centre, the highlighting of the historical and cultural identity of the capital and the improvement of the quality of life for all citizens. All interested architects (person or legal entity) fulfilling the eligibility criteria are required to complete and submit online the entry application form in order to receive their personal access codes (PAC) and acquire access to the technical data files of the competition. The deadline for the submission of the first stage proposals is Friday 7 September 2012. For more information, eligibility criteria and registration, go to:

<http://www.rethinkathenscompetition.org/competition.php#CompetitionNotice>

### **Festarch 2012, Perugia, ITALY**

The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Festarch is taking place in Perugia from 7 to 10 June. The topic of this year event is “cities within the city” and will be discussed by a young generation of architects together with several personalities. They will share their knowledge and experiences with a multidisciplinary approach aimed at involving citizens. For more information, visit the following website:

<http://www.abitare.it/festarch-2012-en/>

### **Canadian Architecture Festival 2012, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador – CANADA**

The Festival of Architecture is the annual Conference for architects across Canada. It focuses on architects' contributions to the improvement of today's world, the built environment, sustainable urban development and social commitment, as well as the importance of architecture. Taking place from 12 to 16 June, this year's Festival theme is “Deep Roots in a New Energy City. To read the complete programme, go to: <http://festival.raic.org/>

### **EU Sustainable Energy Week, Brussels – BELGIUM**

Between 18 – 22 June 2012, the European Union is organising the annual Sustainable Energy Week. On this occasion, the ACE is co-organising with CECODHAS Housing Europe and the European Builders Confederation a conference on Tuesday 19 June under SHELTER project. The event is entitled: “Innovate to Renovate” and it is meant to raise awareness on the need to upscale energy retrofitting of the existing Social Housing stock and the need for a policy framework to boost this. The link to this event is available in the section “ACE Involvement in EU-Funded Projects” of this ACE Info. Then, on Friday 22 June, Title and Bricks Europe is organising a workshop entitled “2012 Near Zero Energy Buildings” where an ACE expert, Benoit Thielemans, has been invited to speak. For more information and registration, go to: <http://www.tiles-bricks.eu/en/events/2012-near-zero-energy-buildings-workshop-22-june>

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Event of the European Forum on Training and Skills for Re-Building, Brussels - BELGIUM**

In the context of the TRAINREBUILD project and as a back-to-back event to the European Sustainable Energy Week, the second event of the European Forum on Training and Skills for Re-“Building” will take place in Brussels on 22 June. The main theme of this event will be: “Partnerships between local authorities and private property owners in launching retrofit programs”. For more information and to register, go to: <http://trainrebuild.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/INVITATION.pdf>

### **UNECE Forum, Geneva – SWITZERLAND**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the UNECE Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM) are organizing the event “Recovery, Sustainability and Evolutions: Perspectives on the Real Estate Economy”, a forum on the role of the real estate market in the global market to be held on 26 June 2012 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. For more information, go to: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29511> or contact [evelina.rioukhina@unece.org](mailto:evelina.rioukhina@unece.org)

### **United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro – BRAZIL**

At the Rio+20 Conference, world leaders, along with thousands of participants from governments, the private sector, NGOs and other groups, will come together to shape how we can reduce poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection on an ever more crowded planet to get to the future we want. The Conference will focus on two themes: a green economy in the context of sustainable development; poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio +20) will be held from 20 to 22 June at the Riocentro Convention Center, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. For more information, go to: <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.html>

### **London Festival of Architecture, London – UNITED KINGDOM**

The London Festival of Architecture, which will be held from 28 June to 8 July 2012, is a citywide celebration of architecture and architectural talent in the UK capital. It brings architects and communities together to examine how they can make London a better place. The theme of the 2012

Festival, "*the Playful City*", responds to the presence in London of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. To view the entire programme, go to: <http://www.lfa2012.org/>

#### **Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice – ITALY**

Every two years, when summer ends, architects' attention from all over the world is captured by the Venice Biennale. Forty-one countries will participate in this year's biennale, for which British architect David Chipperfield will serve as commissioner, along with Italian cinema critic Alberto Barbera. The emphasis of the 2012 Biennale, explains David Chipperfield, is on what we have in common. Above all, the ambition of *Common Ground* is to reassert the existence of an architectural culture, made up not just of singular talents but a rich continuity of diverse ideas united in a common history, common ambitions, common predicaments and ideals. In architecture everything begins with the ground. It is our physical datum, where we make the first mark, digging the foundations that will support our shelter. For more information on the Venice Biennale:

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/architecture/>

#### **International Congress "Urban Energies", Berlin – GERMANY**

The Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development in conjunction with the Standing Conference of Federal State Ministers and Senators responsible for Urban Development, Building and Housing, the German Association of Cities and the German Association of Towns and Municipalities is organising the international congress "Urban Energies" that will take place on 11 & 12 October 2012 in Berlin. Congress detailed programme and further information regarding registration will be given in next edition of the ACE Info.

#### **Green Architecture: Innovative Approaches, Scientific Conference, Vilnius – LITHUANIA**

The Faculty of Architecture of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University in cooperation with Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania is organising a conference, which plans to develop a professional dialogue between researchers, architects, engineers, contractors, manufacturers as well as national and local governments and communities. Speakers will present their recent studies in the fields of sustainable urban development, landscape architecture, high-quality architecture, public participation, energy efficiency and housing modernisation. This event will take place in Vilnius from 25 – 26 October 2012. For more information, visit the following website:

<http://old.vgtu.lt/konfer/index.php?link=EN.2.564.3384>

#### **Architecture as Human Interface, Espoo – FINLAND**

This scientific conference, a joint venture between researches in Finland and Sweden, will be held in Espoo on 26 and 27 October 2012. The conference theme is developed in cooperation between the 4th Architectural Research Symposium in Finland and the 4th International conference on architectural competitions. The symposium will address the following themes: competing in architecture, complexity and contradiction in architecture, research and design – bridging the gap, human oriented living environment, the future of the past and sustainability and creativity. More information on:

[http://www.safa.fi/fin/safa\\_in\\_english/forthcoming/?print=1](http://www.safa.fi/fin/safa_in_english/forthcoming/?print=1)

#### **15<sup>th</sup> Asian Congress of Architects, Bali – INDONESIA**

Once every two years, the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) organises a Congress to show latest developments in architectural trends. During the 2012 event, that will take place between 28 October and 2 November, several sessions will feature the pictures and reports of successful achievements of architects from eighteen member countries of ARCASIA in addition to speeches, discussions and presentations on global as well as regional issues. To read the complete programme, go to: <http://arcasiabali2012.com/index.php?menu=1>

#### **EcoBalance Conference, Yokohama – JAPAN**

Every two years, the Institute of Life Cycle Assessment in Japan (ILCAJ) organises an International Conference on EcoBalance, which is an important forum where academics, industries and professionals can discuss the evaluation of environmental performance as well as the development and implementation of new methods. The Conference will be held at Keio University in Yokohama from 20 to 23 November 2012. For more information, go to:

<http://ilcaj.snnt.or.jp/EcoBalance2012/index.html>

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## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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### Selection of Useful and interesting links:

European Commission homepage

[http://ec.europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm)

Search page for Commission documents

[http://europa.eu/documents/comm/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/documents/comm/index_en.htm)

The Barroso Commission:

[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_barroso/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/index_en.htm)

Commission page containing reference documents for the Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications:

[http://ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/qualifications/future\\_en.htm#docs](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/qualifications/future_en.htm#docs)

The European Parliament Homepage:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu>

Website of the Danish Presidency (Jan to Jun 2012):

[www.eu2012.dk](http://www.eu2012.dk)

Website of the Cyprus Presidency (Jul to Dec 2012):

<http://www.cy2012eu.gov.cy>

European Forum for Architectural Policies:

<http://www.efap-fepa.eu/>

EU Video Website:

<http://www.youtube.com/eutube>

URBACT Hous-Es Network website:

<http://urbact.eu/projects/hous-es.html>

Sustainable building website

[www.sustainablebuilding.info](http://www.sustainablebuilding.info)

Collegi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (COAC) international relations database:

<http://www.coac.net/international/>

Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori (CNAPPC) database - ArchiEuro:

<http://www.awn.it/AWN/Engine/RAServePG.php/P/26111AWN0905/L/1>

Website of the network of French Architecture Centres:

[www.ma-lereseau.org](http://www.ma-lereseau.org)

Website of the European Construction Technology Platform:

<http://www.ectp.org>

Website of the *Build Up* website on energy efficient buildings:

<http://www.buildup.eu>

ArchiEuropa website – comparative information on practice of architecture:

<http://www.arvha.net/selectionlang.php?s=AXMIG1FZFB>

Archi-Student website – a wealth of information on schools and students of architecture in Europe:

[www.archi-students.org](http://www.archi-students.org)

Link to the Newsletter of the International Union of Architects (UIA):  
<http://www.uia-architectes.org/texte/england/Menu-2/4-lettre.html>

Passive and Draught Cooling in Buildings – The website of an EU-funded project that shows the way towards a pragmatic alternative to conventional air conditioning in buildings:  
[www.phdc.eu](http://www.phdc.eu)

Database of Digital Architecture – A subscription based website that contains several sections including one that provides images of the works of the great masters of architect and videos of talks by famous architects has been set up. For full information go to:  
[www.pidgeondigital.com](http://www.pidgeondigital.com)

Interactive Database for Architects – Launched in March 2008, this site provides an opportunity for all architectural practices to become globally recognised. Check it out at:  
[www.worldarchitecture.org](http://www.worldarchitecture.org)

ACE Website:  
[www.ace-cae.eu](http://www.ace-cae.eu)

#### Useful tip:

In the website addresses given in *ACE Info* for the documents of the EU, you will frequently see the following near the end of the address: “\_en”. These two letters define the language of the document (English in the case of “en”) and you can usually change these two letters in order to bring you to a different language version as follows:

French_fr	German_de	Danish_da	Swedish_sv
Italian_it	Spanish_es	Greek_el	Dutch_nl
Portuguese_pt	Finnish_fi	Czech_cs	Maltese_mt
Estonian_et	Latvian_lv	Lithuanian_lt	Polish_pl
Hungarian_hu	Slovene_sl	Slovak_sk	Bulgarian_bg
Romanian_ro			

#### The editorial board for the compilation of this *ACE Info* is:

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The ACE Secretary General:	Ian Pritchard
The Junior Communication and Policy Officer:	Laurie Hastir

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<http://www.ace-cae.org/MemberN/Content/EN/sub/sub/subscribe.asp>

If you have information that you wish to have included in the next edition then e-mail it (in English or French please) to [laurie.hastir@ace-cae.eu](mailto:laurie.hastir@ace-cae.eu). Next deadline for submissions is 13 August 2012.

**End**