

26-30 SEPTEMBER 2022
EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY WEEK

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Walk & Talk

Making

sustainable

architecture work

**Guided tour & Policy debate
Thursday 29 September 2022
Brussels**

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Walk & Talk “Making sustainable architecture work”: Join us for a guided tour and a policy debate - 29/09/ 2022

On Thursday 29 September afternoon, as part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week, the Architects' Council of Europe is organising a « Walk & Talk » event, which will consist of:

- a GUIDED TOUR around the site of Tour & Taxis (Brussels) which will be followed by
- a POLICY DEBATE, on the legislative and policy levers needed to enable architectural design to accelerate the decarbonisation of the EU Building stock and create lasting cultural and quality change in the built environment.

With the New European Bauhaus (NEB), the European Union complements the economic, social and environmental measures of the Renovation Wave strategy with an essential *cultural dimension*. By making the Renovation Wave a *cultural project*, and by including *architectural quality* as a key principle to steer it, the Commission has initiated a fundamental shift, which can be a game-changer in the transition to a more sustainable economy and society.

It opens the door to a more *comprehensive approach* to our built environment, seeking to enhance, at the same time, economic, social, environmental, and cultural values. The holistic thinking and cultural approach that underpins the NEB must lie at the heart of the Renovation Wave strategy and Fit for 55 package, to achieve a 'quality renovation wave' and Europe's climate neutrality objective. In this context, and while the European Union is embarked in the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), this Walk & Talk event will aim to:

- demonstrate the crucial contribution of architecture to scale up the Renovation Wave and achieve quality in the built environment;
- discuss the necessary changes to the EU regulatory framework to support the architectural approach and achieve the NEB ambitions.

In the spirit of the New European Bauhaus, which calls for a cross-disciplinary approach, the event will bring together representatives from various EU Commission's Directorate-General, for a conversation with various stakeholders, researchers, and professionals from the built environment on the legislative levers for greater quality in the built environment.

Participation free of charge upon [REGISTRATION](#)
The event will be web-streamed through the [ACE website](#).



Agenda

Guided tour

- 14h00** **Guided Tour around the site of Tour and Taxis**
Meeting point at 13H50 at the reception desk of the Dépôt Royal.

Policy debate

- 15h30** **Welcome coffee**
Maison de la Poste (Tour & Taxis), Rue Picard 5/7, 1000 Bruxelles

- 16h00** **Welcoming words/introduction**
- **Judit KIMPIAN**, Chair of the ACE Sustainable Architecture Work Group

- 16h10** **Round table discussion with officials from the EU Commission**
Presentation by **Peter Andreas SATTRUP** and **Judit KIMPIAN**, Chairs of the ACE Sustainable Architecture Work Group followed by a roundtable discussion with:
- **Josefina LINDBLOM**, European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV), Policy Officer in the Unit "Circular Economy, Sustainable Production & Consumption"
 - **Philippe MOSELEY**, European Commission, Directorate-General for Internal Market (DG GROW), Policy Officer in the Unit "Sustainable Construction "
 - **Paula REY-GARCIA** European Commission , Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER), Deputy Head of Unit "Buildings and Products"
 - Official from the NEB Unit of the Joint Research Centre (TBC soon)

- 17h25** **Summary and concluding remarks**

- 17h30** **Cocktail**





Let's walk! Guided tour of the Gare Maritime

The Gare Maritime, once Europe's largest railway station for goods on the Tour & Taxis site in Brussels, has been transformed into a covered city with a mixed program of working and shopping and plenty of public space to relax. Under impressive steel roofs Neutelings Riedijk Architects designed the new Gare Maritime as a city district; 'a city where it never rains'.

Public gardens and squares

Under the existing roofs of the side aisles, twelve new pavilions have been added to accommodate the new program. They create a new structure of boulevards and street, gardens and squares, that follows the existing urban context and the building structure in a natural way, like a true city.

Largest CLT-project in Europe

The new pavilions have been constructed in Cross Laminated Timber (CLT), with an enormous reduction in the amount of cement as a result. The choice for wood also had a favorable effect on the construction process: thanks to prefabrication and the dry constructing method, the construction time was considerably shorter. State-of-the-art in sustainability Gare Maritime is entirely energy neutral and fossil free. The glass facades on Picardstreet are provided with solar cells. On the roofs a total area of 17,000 m² of solar panels has been installed.

At all levels far-reaching sustainability measures have been implemented, such as use of geothermal energy and reuse of rainwater. Gare Maritime is an important contribution to the sustainable development of the Tour & Taxis site and the Kanaalzone in Brussels.

Description of the site by Neutelings Riedijk Architects and Bureau Bouwtechniek.

Pictures: Gare Maritime, Architects: Neutelings Riedijk Architects.

Photo: Filip Dujardin.



Architects' Council of Europe

The Architects' Council of Europe is composed of 44 Member Organisations which are the national regulatory and professional representative bodies in the EU Member States, the accession countries, the UK, Switzerland and Norway. Through its members, the Architects' Council of Europe represents the interests of over half a million of architects from 30 countries in Europe.

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