



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO  
**SAVE ENERGY**  
*Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe*

## Energy efficiency and renewable energy stakeholders point out integrated buildings renovation plan as key to deliver a successful European Green Deal

2 December 2019, Brussels – On the first day in office of Ursula von der Leyen’s European Commission, business associations, cities and civil society organizations have joined forces, calling for a bold strategy concerning the renovation of the EU building stock to be part of the European Green Deal – with energy efficiency, on-site renewables and smart energy solutions at its core.

The statement highlights the need to develop ambitious actions for the renovation of Europe’s existing building stock, which accounts for 36% of the region’s CO2 emissions and approximately half of total European energy demand.

The signatories urge the European Commission to ensure that Green Deal policies include simplified and streamlined financing mechanisms accessible to all Europeans; the deployment of a strategy to ensure a skilled and knowledgeable workforce in the building sector; and the promotion of renovation strategies adapted to the diversity and heterogeneity of the European built environment. The establishment of a multi-level implementation platform for building renovations – engaging decision-makers from the local, national, and European level, as well as representatives from the energy, construction, and financing sectors – will be key to ensuring the delivery of these strategies on the ground.

The Statement stresses out that both concrete and ambitious actions as well as a robust implementation of the existing policy framework must be part of the European Green Deals. This is paramount in order to achieve and exceed the EU’s 2030 climate and energy objectives, serving as the bedrock to deliver a climate neutral economy by 2050.

*“We are at a defining moment - said **Monica Frassoni, president of the European Alliance to Save Energy** – and at the beginning of the decade of climate action, the European Green Deal must be a key driver towards increased ambition by 2030 and climate neutrality by 2050. In this perspective, we believe that increased legally binding energy efficiency and renewables targets and measures would mutually reinforce each other and deliver the GHG emissions reductions urgently required to meet the Paris Agreement objectives.*

*We are delighted to join forces with industry, civil society, cities, professionals, and workers. In the months to come, we look forward to work with the European Institutions to operationalize the energy efficiency first principle in every energy infrastructure investment decision and launch an integrated renovation plan to make all European homes highly efficient, smart and powered with renewable sources.*

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