



PRESS RELEASE

EUASE WELCOMES THE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE EPBD, DESPITE THE SIGNIFICANT WEAKENING OF ITS ORIGINAL AMBITION

Today's final approval of the EPBD by the Council marks an important step in the finalisation of the Green Deal. Despite the significant weakening of its original scope and ambition throughout the legislative process, this Directive demonstrates the continued commitment of the EU and its Member States to improving energy efficiency and sustainability in the buildings sector.

The revised EPBD introduces measures aimed at accelerating the transition to zero-emission buildings and improving the overall energy performance of the EU building stock. All new buildings in the EU will be required to be zero-emitting from 2030, with public buildings leading the way from 2028.

The final agreement does not include a mandate for harmonized energy performance certification across Member States, as originally proposed by the European Commission and supported by the European Parliament. Instead, each country will continue to use its own energy performance certificates (EPCs). While this is an unwelcome departure from the original harmonisation proposal, the agreement still underlines **the importance of empowering consumers** to make informed choices and **incentivising energy-efficient investments**.

Member States will have to renovate 16% of the **worst performing buildings** in the non-residential sector by 2030, rising to 26% by 2033. Member States have the flexibility to choose whether to achieve reductions in primary or final energy consumption. For the residential sector, Member States are required to set a national trajectory to reduce the average primary energy consumption of buildings by 16% by 2030 and by 20-22% by 2035. In particular, 55% of this reduction is expected to come from the renovation of the worst performing residential buildings. In addition, Member States have the flexibility to exempt certain categories of buildings, including historic and agricultural buildings, recognising their characteristics while ensuring that energy efficiency remains a priority.

The EPBD also paves the way for a much longer **phase-out of fossil fuels** in heating and cooling systems, in line with the EU's long-term **decarbonisation** targets. Subsidies for gas boilers will be phased out, encouraging the uptake of renewables and low-carbon heating solutions, but we regret that the possibility of continuing to support hybrid systems sends the wrong signal to businesses and consumers alike.

In conclusion, the approval of the revised EPBD is an important step in Europe's journey towards a greener, more sustainable future.

Monica Frassoni, President of European Alliance to Save Energy, commenting on the Council approval said: *"While we welcome these achievements, especially in the current volatile and uncertain political and economic context, it is important to recognise the challenges that lie ahead. **Swift and robust implementation** of the revised EPBD will be critical to realising its full potential."*



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO
SAVE ENERGY
Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe

It is also important to ensure that Member States, the European Commission and industry effectively fulfill their responsibilities. The provision of **funding for home renovation**, with a particular focus on vulnerable communities, is essential. We need to ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to **ambitious renovation plans** to make an effective contribution to emission reduction targets, but also to the creation of **new jobs and quality of life for citizens**.

Media contact:

Luigi Petito
Head of Secretariat
info@euase.eu

About us

The European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE) is a cross-sectorial, business-led organisation that ensures that the voice of energy efficiency is heard across Europe. EU-ASE members have operations across the EU27, employ over 340.000 people in Europe and have an aggregated annual turnover of €115 billion

