



To:

- ACE member organisations,
- Organisations representing designers and planners, namely ECTP (Town-planners), IFLA-Europe (Landscape architects, ECIA (Interior designers), ECEC (Engineers)
- European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE)
- International Union of Architects (UIA)
- International Confederation of Architectural Museums (ICAM)
- Fundació Mies van der Rohe
- Members of the OMC Group on High-Quality Architecture and Built Environment for Everyone
- Members of the Commission's Expert Group on Cultural Heritage
- Participants in European Conferences for Architectural Policies

Brussels, 5 October 2020

Re: EU Commission President's State of the Union speech – Call for a New European Bauhaus

Dear all,

"I want NextGenerationEU to kickstart a European renovation wave and make our Union a leader in the circular economy. But this is not just an environmental or economic project: it needs to be a new cultural project for Europe. (...) This is why we will set up a new European Bauhaus – a co-creation space where architects, artists, students, engineers, designers work together to make that happen".

These quotes are taken from the State of the Union speech given by Ursula von der Leyen in the European Parliament on 16 September 2020.

Our profession is mentioned as a relevant stakeholder and contributor in the construction world. This is the first time we have heard such words from a high representative of the European Union. We know the potential of our work in relation to climate change and the Green Deal, as the planning process is the phase when the most crucial and influential decisions are made.

We should and can answer together. Together means many representative organisations and also individuals from the creative sector - wanting to build a better world in harmony with nature and with our societies and their development.

The Architects' Council of Europe¹ proposes to launch an open call to all relevant organisations, representative associations, platforms, committees and groups, but also to individuals, to work together, to network and create a platform.

¹ The Architects' Council of Europe (ACE) is the representative organisation for the architectural profession at European level. Its membership currently consists of 45 Member Organisations, which are the regulatory and professional representative bodies in all EU Member States, UK, Switzerland, Norway and Serbia. Through them, the ACE represents the interests of 562.000 architects from 31 countries in Europe.



We invite you to share your initial comments and views on this proposal within the next two weeks, i.e until Friday 16 October 2020. In the following week, we will schedule an online meeting with those organisations and individuals interested in this initiative, in order to exchange ideas, study common opportunities and ways, and hopefully find a mutual/common understanding and voice for the creation of the new European Bauhaus.

Looking forward in hearing from you

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Georg Pendl', is positioned below the text.

georg pendl

President of the Architects' Council of Europe