

The logo features the year '2050' in a stylized, overlapping format. The '20' is white on a green square, and the '50' is white on a teal square. A small orange square is positioned above the teal square.

CONSTRUCTION  
ALLIANCE

# Building tomorrow's Europe today

A photograph of a cityscape, likely Warsaw, featuring a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and traditional European architecture with red-tiled roofs. In the foreground, there is a green park area with trees and a body of water with a paved promenade.

MANIFESTO 2025

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An open request to the EU Institutions

# CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE

20  
50



# 1. The importance of **construction** in Europe

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Construction is the **second largest** of the 14 Ecosystems defined by the European Commission during its 2019-2024 mandate by employment, and the third largest by Gross Value Added. According to the European Commission's "Construction Transition Pathways", construction generates almost **10% of EU value added**, provides **25 million jobs** and covers more than 5 million businesses. With 1 in 10 of every euro created in the EU coming from construction, it is essential that the sector's potential is maximised in the European Commission's 2024-2029 agenda and beyond.







## 2. The impact of construction in Europe goes **beyond** just numbers

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Construction is about more than just its financial and employment numbers. As we spend on average over **90% of our time indoors**, our health and wellbeing strongly depend on how our buildings and infrastructure are built, used, maintained and renovated. Further, construction is by nature a secure source of local employment, supporting regional development.



### 3. The **purpose** of the Construction 2050 Alliance

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The Construction 2050 Alliance brings together **52 European organisations**, aiming to deliver social, economic and environmental benefit to EU citizens, whilst advancing the needs and priorities of construction. The Alliance cooperates with the European Institutions, Member States and social partners. We seek to align with policymakers to maximise the positive contribution of the built environment to the EU's goals and our stakeholders.

Further detail on the Alliance's objectives and commitments can be found in our [founding paper](#) or on our [website](#).

## 4. What are the Alliance's **5 priorities** for 2024-2029?

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### SUSTAINABILITY & NET-ZERO

As buildings are responsible for **40%** of our **energy consumption** and **36%** of our **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**, we must urgently decarbonise our buildings and improve their energy efficiency by addressing the whole life cycle.

*We call for more sustainable products, technologies, processes and energy solutions, combined with a **holistic renovation approach**, **innovative financing** and business models. These will deliver Net Zero Carbon buildings and allow us to achieve our EU climate goals.*

### CIRCULARITY

Construction and demolition waste accounts for approximately **25-30%** of our EU waste stream. This must be reduced.

*We call for circular construction to **increase competitiveness** by **improving resource efficiency**, recycling and material reuse. This could reduce the EU's dependency on imports whilst reinforcing our resilience against supply chain distortions.*

## COMPETITIVENESS & AFFORDABILITY

The Draghi report on competitiveness called for **closing the innovation gap**, a joint decarbonisation and competitiveness plan, and strengthening security and **reducing dependencies**. The EU construction sector stands ready to deliver. To these affordability can be added, particularly of housing which is at a crisis point in the EU.

*We call for the **harmonisation, simplification and alignment** of regulations and standards to allow for streamlining in all stages and types of construction. This will deliver faster builds and lower costs thereby alleviating general sector pressure, especially on the housing market.*

## SKILLS & QUALITY JOBS

In a context of recurrent **labour shortages**, it is important for the EU to deliver a **Union of Skills**, focusing on investment, adult and lifelong learning, skill retention and the recognition of different types of training. The construction sector should increase its attractiveness towards all age groups and genders by promoting business models based on quality jobs, social progress, fair competition and a just transition.

*We call for social partners to engage in **social dialogue**, and to offer quality jobs, vocational training, lifelong learning and meaningful employment opportunities.*

## DIGITALISATION & INNOVATION

**Digitalisation is a must** in Europe for every sector, construction included. It is essential for competitiveness and for ease of use by consumers. This transformation is already underway in the construction sector.

*We call for all stakeholders to deliver the enormous potential of **innovation** in construction to support its move to further sustainability, enhanced competitiveness and affordability, from the design stage to **offsite manufacturing** (e.g. prefabrication), **onsite construction** and the **end-of-life** stage.*



The above priorities are part of an overarching **ambition** towards greater **competitiveness**, **affordability** and **strategic autonomy** in Europe. These overlaps between the sector, the stakeholders and the EU's citizens reflect a **common vision** for Europe's future — one that is **sustainable**, **inclusive** and **digitally advanced**.

## 5. Summary

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- With 40% of our energy consumption and 36% of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions coming from buildings, the **EU construction sector** urgently **needs to decarbonise** to deliver a better built environment and infrastructure for its citizens.
- With approximately **10% of EU GDP** and **25 million workers**, the construction sector can drive this transition.
- Construction wants to embrace **circularity**, **sustainability**, **safety**, **resilience** whilst driving our **competitiveness** through improved regulatory framework and market conditions.
- **Energy-efficient buildings** are key to the energy transition, to reducing the EU's dependence on energy imports to eliminating energy poverty, and to driving affordability.
- Bringing together **52 EU sector associations**, the Construction 2050 Alliance is in a unique position to deliver the change that the EU needs.



## 6. Our **request** to the EU Institutions



This manifesto is made **available** to **all relevant actors** in the field of construction to show what manufacturers can deliver towards EU goals if producers and regulators can work together in an ever more **mutually supportive** way.



A constructive **dialogue** is sought between **industry and legislators** to deliver a predictable, balanced and fair market environment so that construction can leverage its assets and make the maximum possible contribution to Europe's social, economic and environmental transition via the built environment. That is our commitment.



We ask that the responsible teams in the European Institutions accept the Construction 2050 Alliance's **request to meet** so that words can become actions and promises can become reality.

For more information visit:  
[euconstruction2050.eu](https://euconstruction2050.eu)

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