

**DESCARBONITZANT  
L'ARQUITECTURA**

**DESCARBONIZANDO  
LA ARQUITECTURA**

**DECARBONIZING  
ARCHITECTURE**

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#Agenda2026

## The Barcelona Declaration

1. Decarbonization is the most important challenge that our society has taken on and has implications in all production and consumption areas. The building industry greatly impacts gas emissions that contribute to global warming, both during construction and afterwards, as they require resources needed to maintain living conditions. In fact, these living standards will be limited by the changes imposed by decarbonization, and all agents in the sector must act in unison to reduce emissions and with maximum efficiency in satisfying social shelter needs.
2. Architects play a decisive role in the construction industry. Not only in providing the answers to social requirements through the creation of specific architectural forms, the prescription of materials and techniques, or the coordination of other agents involved in the construction process but also in preserving, promoting and producing cultural values linked to architecture that is respected and which are expressed in buildings, in cities and in the landscape.
3. The New European Bauhaus, initially promoted by the European Commission and now by the European Parliament, marks a milestone in this sense by publicly stating the need to combine the processes that guide us toward sustainability in a framework that includes the maintenance and promotion of values such as inclusion and beauty, that we understand as the quality of the experience and culture beyond strict functionality. This is an opportunity for all architects to respond directly who play a key role in the process and as a responsibility to the profession.
4. Due to the urgency of fulfilling the decarbonization deadlines and the turbulence of the energy transition, an updated version of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is currently awaiting approval in Parliament by the European Union. This new proposal includes more powerful and coordinated instruments with ambitious requirements and objectives. Under these new requirements, it should be possible to decarbonise all buildings, both new and already constructed, by 2050.
5. From the Superior Council of the Associations of Architects of Spain, an institution that unitarily represents Spanish architects and their respective organizations, this opportunity acts as leverage to reaffirm our responsibility and to lead the transposition of the Directive to integrate the values that the New European Bauhaus promotes. It also hopes to include this responsibility in the decarbonization agendas that various groups are leading throughout the country, as well as in the public administrations, so that they can rely on architects as professionals that are actively committed to decarbonization.

6. The proposed 2026 Agenda, assuming the approval of the current draft, wants to reestablish the foundations of the building industry such that following the promotion of the Next Generation funds that end in 2026, a viable, and scalable, model will have been established, that pretends to encourage the fulfillment of the objectives of decarbonization with the hope of proving to be solvent, socially inclusive, and enhancer of the values of Architecture and its expression in buildings, cities, and territories.
  
7. Based on these reasons, we request the adhesion and collaboration of the administrations and institutions involved in decarbonization to accept the promotion of the 2026 Agenda and make it accessible to society.

Barcelona, November 17th 2022

**Guillem Costa Calsamiglia**, dean of COAC

**Marta Vall-Iossera**, president of CSCAE

**Ruth Schagemann**, president of ACE-CAE

**Javier Martín**, DG Housing and Soil (MITMA)

**Iñaqi Carnicero**, DG Architecture and Urban Agenda (MITMA)

**Laia Bonet**, first deputy mayor of the City Council of Barcelona

**Francesc Sutrias**, Secretary of Territory, Urbanism and Urban Agenda of the Catalan Government

**Marcos Ros**, Member of the European Parliament

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