

JOINT STATEMENT ON EPBD TRANSPOSITION GIVING THE BUILDINGS SECTOR THE CERTAINTY TO INVEST

28/07/2026

The undersigned organisations welcome the European Commission's decision to follow up on the transposition of the revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, on 15 July, with all 27 Member States. This action is essential to uphold the credibility of EU building policy and ensure that the agreed requirements are implemented effectively. Proper transposition and enforcement will provide certainty for the market, mobilise investment, and enable the Directive to deliver tangible benefits for citizens, businesses, and public authorities.

Buildings account for around 40% of the EU's final energy consumption and around half of its gas consumption, while heating, cooling and hot water represent around 80% of household energy use. The EPBD is one of Europe's most important tools to reduce energy demand and optimise energy use across building services, including heating, cooling, ventilation, hot water and lighting; lower energy bills; strengthen energy security; improve indoor environmental quality and comfort; and support Europe's clean technology market.

These benefits will only materialise if the Directive is fully transposed, effectively implemented in practice, and properly enforced.

The 29 May 2026 transposition deadline was a key milestone. Based on exchanges with national authorities, market actors and stakeholders, the picture remains mixed. While some Member States are moving in the right direction and developing practical implementation tools, many remain delayed, address the requirements only partially, or focus mainly on legal transposition without the necessary guidance, verification and compliance checks being put in place. We are therefore concerned that several EPBD provisions risk being weakened, delayed or left unenforced in practice.

This matters for market certainty. Companies, investors, installers, engineers, building owners and public authorities need to know that the rules agreed at EU level will be applied in practice. Many building owners and market actors have already made, or are preparing, investments based on the EPBD framework. Delays at this stage could undermine confidence and send the wrong signal to the market. Without clear and consistent implementation, it becomes harder to plan investments, develop solutions, train professionals and scale up delivery across Member States.

In this context, mere legal transposition is not enough. Measures must be operationalised. Member States need clear compliance routes, practical guidance, proportionate verification methods and sufficient administrative capacity. Delivering the EPBD in practice must also be underpinned by social safeguards and stable financing to ensure that implementation is fair and reaches those who need it most. The Commission's implementation guidance clearly highlights the crucial role of regions, cities and their energy agencies in implementing the EPBD instruments on the ground. They should therefore be involved in the transposition and co-design of enabling frameworks.

We therefore support the Commission's role in monitoring EPBD transposition and implementation. Where Member States have not fully transposed the Directive, or where national frameworks are incomplete or unenforceable, Commission follow-up is essential. Necessary actions, such as the infringement proceedings just opened, should be taken to ensure the full transposition of the EPBD.

We call on the European Commission and national authorities to work together to:

1. fully transpose the revised EPBD without weakening or delaying existing provisions;
2. provide clear guidance on how compliance can be demonstrated in practice;
3. provide accessible information and targeted communication campaigns to ensure that citizens, building owners and occupants understand what the national requirements resulting from the revised EPBD mean for them in practice and what support is available;
4. develop proportionate verification and inspection routes, including for existing buildings;
5. avoid fragmented national approaches and support the third EPB mandate for standardisation, while respecting national specificities, to prevent unnecessary complexity across the internal market;
6. invest in skills and administrative capacity so that authorities and professionals can apply the rules consistently and operationalise actions on the ground.

The buildings sector is central to Europe's energy security and affordability, as well as to the health and well-being of its citizens. The construction sector is also a crucial economic sector and an engine of growth and competitiveness for Europe. By reducing the energy demand of buildings through renovation, and by using digitalisation and technical systems to make buildings smarter, we can enable demand-side flexibility to lower peak demand, reduce pressure on electricity grids, improve system reliability and cut dependence on fossil fuel imports.

The undersigned organisations stand ready to support the Commission and Member States with technical expertise, practical tools, case studies, training materials and market feedback.

The EPBD has been agreed and adopted. The task now is to ensure it works for citizens and businesses.

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