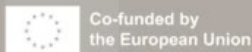


**Moments that  
redefine Europe's  
existing buildings**  
**Form Follows  
Transformation**  
**aice Policy Seminar**

*29 June 2026—2pm CET  
DHUB auditorium—4th floor*



World Congress  
of Architects.  
Barcelona. UIA 2026.

Becoming.  
Architectures for a  
planet in transition.

**Collateral  
event**

Europe's built environment is at a crossroads: the intersecting crises of housing and climate change demand a paradigm shift.

With 85–95% of today's buildings still standing in 2050, the urgency to renovate, adapt, and reuse the existing has never been clearer.

This seminar aims to explore how architecture can lead this transformation, not as a technical upgrade, but as a holistic, human-centric, and creative act. Through a curated selection of projects from the Form Follows Transformation exhibition, presented by the Architects' Council of Europe during the Congress, we will showcase how smart renovation and transformation can drive sustainability, resilience, and social cohesion.

The projects featured in this exhibition prove that smart renovation and transformation can be a catalyst for sustainability, resilience, and social cohesion. From circular economy principles to climate-adaptive design, these projects redefine architecture's role: not just as creators of new forms, but as curators of existing resources.

Guided by the Davos Baukultur criteria—and framed by the New European Bauhaus and the revised EPBD—we will discuss how policy, culture, and design can converge to scale solutions that are sustainable, inclusive, and aesthetically compelling.

We will in particular discuss the regulatory barriers and enablers to the adaptive re-use and transformation of the built environment.

Join us to explore how renovation can be a strategic opportunity—for our buildings, our communities, and our planet.

**THE EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE UPON REGISTRATION VIA THIS LINK.**

The event is co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.



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# Agenda

14h00

**Welcome & Introduction**

**Daniel FÜGENSCHUH**, ACE President

**Maria BUHIGAS**, Barcelona City Council's Chief Architect

14h15

**Presentations of 3 architecture projects featured in the ACE exhibition**

- **Laurens BEKEMANS**, BC Architects & Studies, presentation of the Usquare Feder project

- **Jakob Rabe PETERSEN**, Pihlmann Architects, presentation of the Thoravej 29 project

- **Josep RICART**, H Arquitectes, presentation of the Galenicum New Headquarters 1822 project

14h45

**Round table**

**Moderated by: Elizabeth GOSSART**, ACE Vice-President and **Andro MÄND**, City Architect of Tallinn and Member of the ACE Executive Board

Panelists:

- **Oliver MARTIN**, Head of Section Baukultur, Swiss Federal Office for Culture

- **Maria BUHIGAS**, Barcelona City Council's Chief Architect

- **Marcos ROS SEMPERE**, Member of the European Parliament

- **Sandra BESTRATEN**, Dean of the COAC ( Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya)

15h30

**End**



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