

24-26 September 2025

Valletta, Malta

# EUROPEAN HERITAGE HEADS FORUM

19TH ANNUAL MEETING

EUROPEAN  
HERITAGE  
HEADS  
FORUM



SOVRINTENDENZA  
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE





24-26 September 2025

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UPDATE

EUROPEAN HERITAGE

LEGAL FORUM



Tove Elise Ihler

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BEST PRACTICE/CHALLENGE  
EXCHANGE – EHLF FULL MEETING  
PRESENTATIONS

THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS



AUSTRIA - PLANNED TAX RELIEF FOR PRIVATE OWNERS OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

CZECH - EXAMPLE PARIS - CALCULATING ENERGY LABELS - SHARING EXPERIENCES ON HOW TO CALCULATE, POSSIBLE EXCEMPTIONS FOR HERITAGE BUILDINGS, STATIC VS DYNAMIC CALCULATION / WHOLE LIFE CIRCLE

FLANDERS - HERITAGE LOANS - 1 % INTEREST RATE FOR RENOVATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS. STATE AID

FINLAND - NEW REGULATION ON WIND FARMS AND SOLAR PANEL PLANTS  
SPECIFIC PROTECTION ON WORLD HERITAGE SITES DISCUSSED

POLAND - TRADITIONAL CRAFTS AND INTANGIBLE HERITAGE: HOW IS THE LEGAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS DEVELOPED AFTER RATIFICATION OF THE 2003 UNESCO CONVENTION AND WHAT KIND OF INPUT IT HAS ON THE NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM?

SPAIN – CULTURAL RIGHTS PLAN 2025 – 2030

MALTA - MALTA HAS RECENTLY BEEN FOCUSING ON THE RATIFICATION OF THREE CONVENTIONS: THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT, THE CONVENTION ON THE MEANS OF PROHIBITING AND PREVENTING THE ILLICIT IMPORT, EXPORT AND TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF CULTURAL PROPERTY AND THE CONVENTION ON STOLEN OR ILLEGALLY EXPORTED CULTURAL OBJECTS

NORWAY - PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMPETITION LAW – HOW TO ORGANIZE IT?





ICELAND

CHALLENGE CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS REGULATION (CPR) EU 305/2011: CRAFTSMEN PRODUCING TRADITONAL WINDOWS UNABLE TO SELL AND MARKET PRODUCTS LEGALLY - DUE TO NATIONAL REGULATIONS SPECIFYING ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND TESTING STANDARDS DIFFICULT TO MEET FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURERS.

THE EU REGULATION THIS NATIONAL REGULATION IS MENT TO IMPLEMENT, DO HAVE A DEROGATION FOR OUR FIELD, APPLICABLE IN THE ABSENCE OF NATIONAL OR UNION LAW. ‘GOLD PLATING’ AS A RESULT.

ICELANDIC BUILDING REGULATION ART. 8.2.6. REQUIRES ALL WINDOWS TO WITHSTAND A TEST LOAD RAIN PRESSURE OF AT LEAST 1100 PA. *FOR MANY YEARS ICELAND HAS NOT HAD A CERTIFIED TESTING CHAMBER FOR WINDOWS. THE COST FOR ICELANDIC WINDOW MANUFACTURORS IS THEREFORE VERY HIGH AND SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT SENT ANY WINDOWS ABROAD TO BE TESTED, AND MOST CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TODAY USE CHEAPER WINDOWS MADE OVERSEAS.*

BEST PRACTICE EXCHANGE

NORWAY’S PLANNING AND BUILDING ACT (PBL) § 31-4. THIS SECTION ALLOWS MUNICIPALITIES TO GRANT FULL OR PARTIAL EXEMPTIONS FROM TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK ON EXISTING BUILDINGS, IF CONSIDERED SAFE IN TERMS OF HEALTH, SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT. IN MAKING THE ASSESSMENT, THE MUNICIPALITY MUST CONSIDER THE BUILDING’S AGE, PRESERVATION STATUS, TYPE, USE, LOCATION, DURATION OF THE MEASURE, TECHNICAL CONDITION, MITIGATING FACTORS, AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS. CONDITIONS MAY BE IMPOSED TO REDUCE DISADVANTAGES OR NEGATIVE IMPACTS.

PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR LAWYERS AND NATIONAL LAW IF THIS APPLIES TO YOUR COUNTRY, DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US FOR ASSISTANCE. ENCOURAGE REVISION TO STIMULATE TRADITIONAL CRAFTSMANSHIP.

Article 5

Derogations from drawing up a declaration of performance

By way of derogation from Article 4(1) and in the absence of Union or national provisions requiring the declaration of essential characteristics where the construction products are intended to be used, a manufacturer may refrain from drawing up a declaration of performance when placing a construction product covered by a harmonised standard on the market where:

- (a) the construction product is individually manufactured or custom-made in a non-series process in response to a specific order, and installed in a single identified construction work, by a manufacturer who is responsible for the safe incorporation of the product into the construction works, in compliance with the applicable national rules and under the responsibility of those responsible for the safe execution of the construction works designated under the applicable national rules;
- (b) the construction product is manufactured on the construction site for its incorporation in the respective construction works in compliance with the applicable national rules and under the responsibility of those responsible for the safe execution of the construction works designated under the applicable national rules; or
- (c) the construction product is manufactured in a traditional manner or in a manner appropriate to heritage conservation and in a non-industrial process for adequately renovating construction works officially protected as part of a designated environment or because of their special architectural or historic merit, in compliance with the applicable national rules.



# EHLF NEWS



NEW board after voting, serving the next 4 years:

Tove Elise Ihler: Chair, Norway

Vera Ameels: Board Member, Flanders/Belgium

Antti Salonen (standing in for Juha Maaperä), Finland

Jeanine Rizzo: New Board Member, Malta

Sergio Vidal: New Board Member, Spain

Katarzyna Zalasińska : New Board Member, Poland

Gísli Óskarsson: New Board Member, Iceland



New members : Germany, welcome!

Update members list: Change of staff? Want your country to join us?

Please send an email to Manu to confirm your EHLF members :

[secretariat@ehhf.eu](mailto:secretariat@ehhf.eu)





## MEETINGS AND ACTIVITY

- TWO HYBRID BOARD MEETINGS
  - TWO FULL DIGITAL MEETINGS OF EHLF MEMBERS
  - TAXONOMY' WORRY – NOTE' AND EPBD ALERT
- REACH regulation, EED,

## OBSERVATORY FUNCTION

- WEEKLY UPDATES FROM CHAIR EHLF
- Reports available pr email every week.  
*Want a copy? Let us know!*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

European Commission's Public Consultation on the Affordable Housing Plan  
(Open until 17 October 2025)

A crucial opportunity to shape future EU action—especially to recognize vacant buildings as valuable resources. Innovative mechanisms are needed to actively connect empty houses with people and community projects.

➡ Respond here: [European Affordable Housing Plan consultation portal](#)



Addressing Europe's  
empty homes problem  
requires better tools





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# TAXONOMY - UPDATES

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**NORWAY: POSITION PAPER FROM THE MINISTRY  
ENABLES CONTACT DIRECTLY IN EU: CONTACT WITH  
NGO EUROPEAN HISTORIC HOUSES – UMBRELLA FOR  
OWNERS ASSOCIATIONS IN EUROPE – ICOMOS - FISMA  
- DG ENERGY - NORWEGIAN DELEGATION BRUSSELS**

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**‘WORRY – NOTE’ - PLEASE REACH OUT IF YOU NEED  
ASSISTANCE IN SENDING THIS DOCUMENT FROM YOUR  
COUNTRY**

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**EXAMPLE INSURANCE: GREEN DISCOUNTS FOR HIGH  
ENERGY CLASS BUILDINGS, SIGN OF MARKET  
ADAPTATION AND INDIRECT INFLUENCE FROM EU  
REGULATIONS ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY, BUT NOT A  
DIRECT REGULATORY OBLIGATION FROM THE EU.**





# Thank you !



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