

Right to Housing! Now and Forever

Speaker's Guide



This guide is for anyone who wants to speak up for affordable housing on a livable planet.

This document includes:

- the initiative's demands p. 04
- supporting facts and arguments p. 08
- campaign strategies p. 20
- social media strategies + templates p. 22
- frequently asked questions p. 28

Feel free to use the information provided and add what is relevant and urgent for you. You do not need to represent anyone but yourself.

Not an individual? Organisations, initiatives and companies can join the initiative. Get in touch through www.right-to-housing.eu

Start from why housing matters to you:

- Are you renting a place that you can barely afford?
- Are you a parent who wants a future for their child?
- Do you own your home but struggle to afford heating it?
- Have you been gentrified out of your own neighborhood?
- Are you an architect witnessing the demolition of homes?

Make it your call to action: sign now!

We have one goal to reach with this campaign: collect 1.2 million signatures. Your contribution should not only be a statement of why you believe in the cause, but a clear call to action to sign the petition and share it with others.

Save the date and sign from September 14.

We have 12 months: from 14 September 2026 until 13 September 2027 to collect the necessary signatures across at least 7 EU member states. Any EU national who is old enough to vote in EU elections can sign for the initiative. You sign once, and it counts in your country of nationality, no matter where you live.

Sign safely online at the official EU website.

We understand that signing with your personal data online is a commitment and we hear people's concern on data protection and privacy. Please understand that all information is encrypted in the EU's Central Collection System and used only by national authorities to verify your signature. Your data is never shared, not even the organizers can see it. It cannot be used to contact you and it is never sold.

**Your story moves people –
more than any statistic.
Thank you for being part
and sharing your voice.**

Europe doesn't have a housing crisis – it has an affordable housing crisis.

We see and feel it everyday: workers who can no longer afford the city they build, young people who cannot afford to leave their parents' homes, tenants pushed out of their neighbourhoods after renovation, empty buildings while people sleep on the street.

The current housing market is putting profit over people and the planet.

We call on the EU to recognise housing as a right, to act right now with the existing building stock, and to ensure affordability forever through fair rules, public investment in non-profit housing, and climate safeguards.

Existing buildings are our fastest way out of the housing crisis - let's use what we have!

That's why we started the European Citizen's Initiative (ECI) Right to Housing! Now and Forever, which advocates for EU legislation that turns existing buildings into homes for people.

We are collecting 1.2 million signatures until September 2027.

Here we gathered the information you need to know, organised by the themes you care about.

- [Social Arguments](#)
- [Ecological Arguments](#)
- [Economic Arguments](#)
- [Democratic Arguments](#)

We demand access to housing that is affordable, sustainable and fair!

Europe's buildings are empty, broken, expensive:

Empty

Buildings are vacant while people need homes.

- 47.5 million homes stand empty across Europe. ([FEANTSA, 2025](#))
- Almost double the office space stands empty since 2019. ([Savills, 2025](#))
- 2.2 million m² of offices stand empty in Berlin alone. ([Cushman & Wakefield, 2025](#))

We want to fix that and make them accessible.

We demand to count empty buildings, make it possible to turn them into housing, and give them to non-profit housing providers like cooperatives, community land trusts and social housing operators rather than back to speculators.

- Legal tool: EU register of empty buildings and fast building permits.

Broken

Buildings are in a bad condition. When they get renovated, prices go up and people lose their homes.

- 47 million people cannot afford to heat their homes. ([CORRECTIV, 2025](#))
- 75% of buildings in Europe are not renovated. ([European Commission, 2023](#))
- 38% of CO₂ Emissions worldwide are caused by the construction sector. ([UNEP, 2023](#))
- Every minute a building in Europe is demolished. ([European Environment Agency, 2022](#))

We want to fix that, make renovation the norm and ensure people can stay.

We demand that renovation becomes faster, easier and cheaper, through tax reductions, fair risk assessment and valuing grey energy embedded in existing buildings. But renovation too often leads to renoviction. Public money pays for the works, the rent goes up, the people who lived there are priced out of their own street. We demand that when EU money is used to renovate a building, no one loses their home because of it.

- Legal tool: tax reduction for renovation and conditions on EU funding.

Expensive

Housing costs are too high and even affordable housing doesn't stay affordable long term.

- Almost 1 billion nights booked in short-term rentals in 1 year. (Eurostat, 2025)
- +28% rental and +60% buying price increase since 2010. (Eurostat, 2025)
- Three times more housing bought by investors than a decade ago. (European Central Bank, 2025)

We want affordable housing, now and forever.

We demand to forbid short-term rentals where housing is needed most, penalise homes held empty, and close Golden Visa programs and money laundering loopholes. Housing is a right and must not be traded like stock. We demand that when public money is used to create housing, these homes stay affordable forever.

- Legal tool: EU-wide vacancy penalties and permanent affordability locks.



Social Arguments.

Housing is a human right.

More than enough buildings exist to accommodate unhoused people, but they are out of reach.

- Over 1.2 million people are homeless in Europe, while 47.5 million homes stand empty. [\(FEANTSA, 2025\)](#)
- Europe has forty times more empty homes than people without one.
- Up to 107 million homes could be created and up to 246 million people housed within Europe's existing buildings, without a single new development. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)
- 20% of existing EU dwellings are underoccupied, while 16.8% are overcrowded. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

Having a home does not mean you can afford to live in it. Too many people have to decide between heating or eating.

- 47 million people in Europe cannot afford to heat their homes in winter, 5.2 million in Germany alone. [\(CORRECTIV, 2025\)](#)

When housing becomes a luxury, everything else that makes up life becomes unaffordable too.

- 10% of households in cities spend more than 40% of their income on housing.
- In Lisbon, rents have exceeded the average income with 116%.

[\(Eurostat; Deutsche Bank, 2025\)](#)

We are losing affordable housing faster than we can build it.

→ In less than two decades, Germany has almost halved its social housing supply. When the limited social commitment runs out, landlords are free to rent at market price. ([Cologne Institute for Economic Research, 2026](#))

The crisis has reached the middle of society: the nurse, the teacher and the police officer keep a city running but can no longer afford to live in it.

→ In 1 in 7 municipalities in Europe, a nurse's salary is not enough to rent or buy a 45 m² apartment. ([CORRECTIV and ESPON, 2026](#))

Renovation without keeping people in their homes, creates a new problem instead of solving one.

→ In Berlin, 15% of tenants who recently moved, have been displaced against their will. Most often after a rent increase caused by renovation. ([Beran & Nuissl, 2023](#))

Holiday rentals are taking over. Tourism must benefit local communities, not drain them.

→ Almost 1 billion nights are booked in short-term rentals in one year.

→ In Florence, the offer more than doubled over seven years while average rents rose by over 40%. ([Eurostat, 2025](#); [Reuters, 2023](#))

→ Homes have been turned into holiday rentals, leaving streets full of tourists and empty of residents.

Corporate landlords make money from rising house prices, not from housing more people.

→ Between 2004 and 2024, the value of homes owned by large EU landlords grew over 40x, while the rent they collected grew by less than 20x. [\(Aalbers et al., 2026\)](#)

An entire generation cannot start an independent life. Without an affordable home, young people cannot move out, build a family and plan a future.

→ Young people turn 26, or older, before they leave their parental home in the EU, and over 30 in Italy, Spain, Greece, Slovakia and Croatia. [\(Eurostat\)](#)

A renovated home is not a luxury. It is a public health measure.

→ One in three European children lives in a home that is damp, dark, cold or noisy. Children exposed to multiple housing hazards are over 4x more likely to report poor health. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

→ Indoor cold contributes to more than 38,000 excess winter deaths a year, across eleven European countries studied. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group,](#)

[2026\)](#)

→ Living in a damp or mouldy home raises the likelihood of asthma by around 40%. An estimated 2.2 million asthma cases in Europe are linked to indoor dampness. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

**Our homes are the
foundation of our lives.**

Ecological Arguments.

The most sustainable building is the one that's already built.

Housing and climate are the same fight. The way we build is one of the biggest burdens on the planet.

→ More than a third of Europe's CO₂ emissions and more than a third of its waste come from the building sector. ([European Commission](#); [European Environment Agency](#))

Reuse is a necessity, not a choice. We cannot solve the housing crisis only by building new, or else we deplete our carbon budget.

→ Only about 176,000 homes a year can be newly built within Europe's carbon budget, far below the more than one million the EU says are needed. ([Dark Matter Labs, 2024](#))

→ Renovation-led measures — repurpose, reclaim, reshape and refine — account for roughly 75% of the total mitigation potential identified. ([BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026](#))

Rather than destroy usable space, we must leverage the buildings that already exist by transforming them into housing solutions.

- By 2050, we will have demolished approximately 1.5 billion m² of existing space in the EU. ([European Environment Agency, 2022](#))
- This is more than Athens, Berlin, Bucharest and Paris combined.
- It would be enough living space to house around 50 million people.

Transforming existing buildings into homes saves material and energy already invested in the previous construction.

- A quarter of the emissions of Europe's buildings comes from their materials alone, before anyone lives in them. ([European Environment Agency, 2022](#))
- Between 5.8 and 13 gigatonnes of material use could be avoided through better use of the existing building stock — roughly two years of Europe's total material consumption. ([BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026](#))

We don't need to build more space. We need to use the space we already have.

- 38% of buildings in the EU are underoccupied. ([BPIE & Ramboll, 2024](#))
- Using that space fully could cut demand for building materials by over 60%. ([BPIE & Ramboll, 2024](#))

Renovation and transformation is the single biggest lever to reach our climate goals.

- Better use of Europe's existing buildings could save over 19 billion tonnes of CO₂ over the next 50 years. ([European Commission; European Environment Agency](#))
- This is equal to 50 times the annual emissions of France. ([European Commission; European Environment Agency](#))
- Reshaping an underused existing home requires roughly five times less material than compact new construction, and the carbon cost of renovation is typically paid back within 3 to 7 years. ([BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026](#))

[2026](#))

In times of material scarcity and supply chain crisis, we have to stop material extraction and house Europe within the existing.

- Around half of the world's resource extraction is used for construction. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)
- Housing accounts for 52% of the EU's material footprint. [\(European Environment Agency, 2026\)](#)

Constructing a new building means destroying biodiversity elsewhere.

- Building materials cause more than 90% of construction's damage to nature. [\(Steinmann et al., 2017\)](#)
- 95% of construction-related biodiversity impacts happen off-site, not on the building plot itself. Resource consumption accounts for over 90% of the damage to biodiversity caused by construction. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

Renovation rates are lagging. Making buildings climate ready and making them fit to live in is the same task.

- 75% of Europe's buildings are energy inefficient, yet only 1% are renovated each year.
- Three times too slow to meet the EU's 2050 climate goals. [\(European Commission: ACE Sector Study, 2022\)](#)

New construction is disproportionately carbon-intensive.

- The roughly 1% of the EU building stock added new each year generates 18% of the sector's annual emissions, while the remaining 99% of buildings account for around 82%. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

**Housing and climate are
the same fight.**

Economic Arguments. **Existing buildings are our** **fastest response.**

Simply building more homes will not fix prices. Public investment has to be protected so that it produces homes that are affordable forever.

→ Across the EU, new housing ends up in the expensive segment of the market, not the affordable one. Investors buy up the new supply and rent or sell it at the highest price the market allows. [\(Aalbers et al., 2026\)](#)

Europe doesn't have a housing crisis, it has an affordable housing crisis.

→ House prices and rents in the EU have kept rising even in places where there is no actual shortage of homes. [\(Aalbers et al., 2026\)](#)

→ House prices in the EU rose by 53% between 2015 and 2024, and housing costs now exceed 40% of disposable income for nearly 10% of EU urban households. [\(BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026\)](#)

Where housing is more expensive, fewer people have jobs.

→ A region with housing costs 10% higher than the EU average has 4% fewer people in employment. [\(CEPR/IMF, 2026\)](#)

We need results right now, not only in ten years.

→ The EU needed 2.25 million additional homes in 2025, around 50% more than were actually built. [\(European Investment Bank, 2025\)](#)

Using what exists is the fastest answer to the housing crisis. New construction takes years while the crisis is happening now.

→ A building permit for new construction in Europe can take two years or more followed by an even longer construction period. ([European Commission, 2025](#))

Building new has never been more expensive. Using what is already there is not only cheaper but also more secure.

→ Building costs in Europe have risen by more than 30% since the pandemic, while sales of new homes have fallen by about 25% in one year. ([JLL, 2025](#))

→ Reuse and conversion projects have been delivered at 20–60% lower cost than equivalent new construction. ([BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026](#))

Using what exists is better for the local economy.

→ In Europe, over 90% of architecture offices consists of under 5 people. ([Architect's Council of Europe, 2024](#))

→ Unlocking the transformation and renovation market would translate into three times as many projects for local architects, builders and workers. ([Architect's Council of Europe, 2024](#))

Renovating existing homes improves health and economic productivity.

→ €194 billion could be saved every year by renovating Europe's unhealthy homes.

→ The investment pays for itself within two years through fewer sick days and lower healthcare costs. ([Eurofound, 2023](#))

Renovation cuts energy bills and housing costs.

→ Combined with energy renovation, better-use measures cut household operational energy demand by 25–75%. ([BPIE & VELUX Group, 2026](#))

Democratic Arguments. **Housing is where trust in** **Europe is won or lost.**

The crisis is damaging trust in democracy itself. When people feel Europe cannot deliver something as basic as a home, they lose faith in its institutions.

→ Voting patterns across Europe have found that as housing becomes less affordable, support shifts from established parties toward the right and far right. ([Ansell & Cansunar, 2021](#))

The housing crisis is the biggest concern for the people in Europe.

→ 40% of EU citizens name affordable housing as the most urgent problem where they live, rising to 51% in cities. ([Eurobarometer, 2025](#))

The housing crisis does not stop at borders. It must be solved at European level.

→ European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called the housing crisis a social crisis: “If it matters to Europeans, it matters to Europe.” ([European Commission, 2025](#))

The EU has started to act but the solutions are not there yet. Now is the time for citizens to stand up and have a say.

→ For the first time, there is an EU minister, the Commissioner for Housing. But so far, the EU's main tool is data collection and bold answers or hard limits. [\(European Commission, 2024\)](#)

We need citizens, not lobbies, deciding what matters for people and the planet.

→ The European Parliament's own housing committee spent months hearing evidence on how the financial system drives up prices, then adopted a final report focused mainly on deregulation and faster new construction. [\(European Parliament, 2026\)](#)

A European Citizens' Initiative lets people, not lobbies, place an issue on the EU's agenda. This is democracy in action. Citizens directly support policies, not politicians.

→ It is the second most powerful democratic tool after elections.

[\(European Commission, 2026\)](#)

Supporting a European Citizens' Initiative is more than a symbolic act. Your signature is a call Europe cannot ignore. Add yours, and force the answer.

→ Within 6 months of a successful initiative, the European Commission is legally required to respond in public. [\(European Commission, 2026\)](#)

A European Citizens' Initiative succeeds when the people on the ground are the ones leading the campaign.

This campaign works best decentralized.

The way the housing crisis manifests in one place is different in others, and the visible problems for citizens of one country will be different than those of another.

For that reason, the emphasis of this ECI is that local co-organizers (that's you!) take charge of their campaign activities so the messaging and themes feel relevant to those who live there.

Specific is better than generic:

- make it about your local context
- communicate in your local language
- keep it simple and action oriented
- treat the ECI like it's yours, because it is!

Target those who are inclined to sign, not those who need to be persuaded.

Those who want to sign will sign, and those who do not want to sign won't sign. It is not your burden to convince someone who is not aligned with the Right to Housing! Now and Forever agenda. Instead, focus your efforts finding individuals and organizations who would likely sign the initiative, but may not be familiar with it already. Spending time trying to persuade someone who disagrees is a waste of your time.

Follow up, follow up, follow up!

People rarely sign the first time they hear about the ECI. Be persistent when encouraging people to sign or share the petition. Be prepared to send emails twice but make sure to let go of reluctant people quickly.

Personalisation pays off.

People receive so many emails, messages and notifications, so a brief, personal note from a human is the best way to get somebody on board. If you're communicating digitally or face-to-face, consider what the receiver cares about and tailor your message to them.

You are not alone! Share your successes with other co-organizers.

While this initiative is decentralized, the community of co-organizers is a resource. If something is going well in your campaign activities, share what's working so we can learn from each other. The Right to Housing! Now and Forever WhatsApp community is a great place to connect with co-organizers across this campaign and within your country. Join through www.right-to-housing.eu

Fix it! Don't fight it!

Tips for working with the algorithm, not against it.

So much of signature collection and campaigning takes place online, and when the goal is to reach 1.2 million signatures, we must reach 120 million people. Sounds scary, but it's possible. How? Through collaboration!

The following are guidelines for online engagement. We all think we know how social media works. But actually, we are doing it wrong most of the time. By understanding how digital media platforms boost, prioritize, and reward certain types of content, this campaign can leverage the power of online communities more efficiently.

Engagement is the metric that social media companies use to decide which content gets shown to the most people. Actions that increase engagement:

- like, comment, and share posts
- save posts to your favourites
- send posts in a direct message
- watch videos to the end, multiple times

Engagement starts a chain reaction.

Suppose someone posts on Instagram calling for people to sign the ECI. When you like and comment, the algorithm rewards that interaction by showing the post to strangers and suggesting it to people in your network. When they interact with the post, this chain reaction continues, reaching more and more people.

Comment often and create community.

Comments with 3+ words and emojis generate higher engagement than one-word comments. The comment sections for creators with similar ideals to Right to Housing! Now and Forever are also a great place to write about the ECI, as it amplifies that creator and attracts their followers to our campaign.

Build on existing momentum.

One post with high engagement reaches way more people than 10 posts that have no engagement. Follow the herd and comment where there are already many comments. Reuse formats and produce content types that have worked for you or others before.

If at first you don't succeed, try again.

Sometimes a post does not perform well in terms of engagement, but that does not mean the content is 'bad.' The time something is posted, the music chosen, even the news cycle, can all contribute to whether a given post flies or flops. If a post doesn't generate high engagement, don't stress, just post it again.

Let videos play start to finish.

For video formats like TikTok, Instagram reels and YouTube, engagement also comes in the form of views, or how many people watch the video. Watching a video all the way to the end increases how those views are counted. Watching it multiple times multiplies it even more.

Use tags, hashtags and collaborative posts.

Tag relevant accounts in the comments of anything you post. Invite relevant accounts to be collaborators to maximize your reach. Use hashtags for keywords that can bring in appropriate audiences. You can always tag [@houseeurope.eu](https://www.houseeurope.eu) and the post will be shared by the HouseEurope! account.

Email Template.

Join as a co-organizer.

Outreach is everything in a European Citizens' Initiative. The more individuals and organizations that we can bring into our community, the better we can collectively advocate for the Right to Housing! Now and Forever.

If you know of an architecture office, tenants association, sustainability activism group, policy maker or other type of group that may resonate with the ideas of this campaign, invite them to be part of it.

Email guidelines:

- be direct and action-oriented
- personalise every message
- share the benefit for the receiver
- follow up, multiple times

Dear _____,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is _____ and I am _____. I'd like to invite you to join forces with us for a Europe-wide campaign that will launch on 14 September 2026.

Please find all information below. I'd be happy to hear back from you by _____.

Looking forward!

- _____

+++

We, the citizens of Europe, demand access to housing that is affordable, sustainable and fair.

Together with partners including Habitat for Humanity, Make the Shift, the European Community Land Trust Network, the European Environmental Bureau, and many others, we are building the largest civic campaign for housing in Europe: the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) Right to Housing! Now and Forever.

Across Europe, buildings are broken, empty and expensive. The ownership models, community-led structures, and knowledge to turn them into homes for people already exist. What is missing are the rules, incentives, and narratives to make it happen everywhere.

The goal is clear: to deliver results tomorrow, not only in ten years. This initiative calls on the EU to recognise housing as a right, to act now with the existing building stock, and to ensure long-term affordability through fair rules, public investment in community-led housing, and climate safeguards. You can find the campaign trailer and the growing list of partners here: www.right-to-housing.eu

The ECI legal texts have been accepted by the European Commission and are downloadable on the website. The campaign runs from September 14, 2026 through September 13, 2027. The goal is to collect over 1 million signatures and bring our demands straight to the European Parliament.

We would love to have you join us. Could you kindly let me know by _____ whether this resonates with you? Thank you so much, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Warmly,

Social Media Template. **Post online.**

**Social media is the ECI's most impactful tool.
We don't need one account, we need many.**

As part of the decentralized media campaign, please go ahead and post on your channels, in your style, following your logic.

Social media guidelines:

- assume the viewer knows nothing
- share what matters to you
- always include the link to sign
- tag others and comment often

**Note: Two website URLs will be live starting
14 September, 2026.**

www.signforchange.eu links directly to the official EU Commission signature portal.

www.right-to-housing.eu links to the campaign website where news, downloads, and other helpful information can be found.

Attention Grabber.

Use a fact or figure from this Speaker's Guide, or share something compelling and unique to your perspective.

Passion Statement.

Explain, in your own words, why this initiative matters to you. Personal anecdotes, observations and questions resonate deeply with people.

Right to Housing! Now and Forever introduction.

Treat every post as if someone has never heard of it before. Depending on where you live, you may want to frame this based on the issues that matter most there. Feel free to use one of these statements, or write an explanation in your own words:

- Right to Housing! Now and Forever is the European Citizen's Initiative fighting to end the housing crisis by making better use of existing buildings.
- The European Citizen's Initiative (ECI) Right to Housing! Now and Forever, advocates for EU legislation that makes existing buildings homes for people.
- We call on the EU to recognise housing as a right, to act right now with the existing building stock, and to ensure affordability forever through fair rules, public investment in non-profit housing, and climate safeguards.

Explain the mechanism.

Describe the European Citizens' Initiative and how it is used as a tool for citizen-led direct democracy. This could include statements like:

- By collecting 1 million signatures across 7 EU countries, the European Citizens' Initiative forces the European Commission to review our demands.
- The European Citizens' Initiative is not just another petition. It is a powerful democratic tool, which let's European citizens propose new laws and set the agenda of the EU Parliament.

Call to action: SIGN NOW.

- Sign and share now! www.signforchange.eu
- Learn more and get involved at www.right-to-housing.eu

Tag and hashtags.

Tag relevant people, pages and organizations. You can always tag @houseeurope.eu. Use hashtags for keywords to themes in your post.

Images.

Share your own photos, simply post the key logo, or download images from www.right-to-housing.eu

FAQ

Is this just a petition?

No. A petition is an opinion with no legal weight. A European Citizens' Initiative is anchored in EU law. If the initiative collects enough signatures, the European Commission must respond formally. The ECI is the most powerful tool we have as EU citizens to shape the rules that impact our lives.

If the initiative succeeds, does it become law automatically?

Not automatically. The initiative needs to collect 1.2 million signatures. At least 1 million must be verified, with minimum thresholds met in at least 7 countries. This obliges the Commission to meet us, hear us in the European Parliament, and set out publicly, with reasons, what it will do. The final legislative steps still lie with the EU institutions.

Why do we need 1.2 million signatures vs 1 million?

Our ECI needs 1 million valid signatures. Every single signature is sent to the respective national authorities of the signer's country to be checked against voter registries. During this verification, authorities discard invalid signatures that contain typos, fake names, incorrect personal ID numbers, or are from people who are underage. Our goal of 1.2 million signatures gives us a safety net to ensure that even after national authorities toss out the invalid ones, we will still cross the 1 million signatures needed for the ECI to be successful.

The EU is already taking care of housing. Why do we need an initiative?

Until now, the EU has done very little. The Affordable Housing Plan published in December 2025 was only an overview of possible measures. The forthcoming Affordable Housing Act will help authorities identify areas under housing stress. All useful, but none of it is binding. This initiative demands Europe to act immediately, put the right to housing at the centre of EU policies and fight the housing crisis within Europe's existing building stock as fast as possible.

Who is behind this initiative?

It is a citizens' initiative, co-organised by people and organisations from across Europe. It was initiated by the non-profit, HouseEurope!, and is driven by a growing group of co-organisers. The ECI is not a party, an election or a political alliance. It is an open coalition. Any person, group or democratic party is invited join who supports the legal proposal Right to Housing! Now and Forever brings forward. Funding of the initiative is published transparently, as ECI rules require.

What about political affiliations?

The ECI is not an election or a political alliance. All co-organisers are only advocating for a policy solution together. This has nothing to do with voting for a party or being limited to one. Whoever feels that the ECI asks for the right way of dealing with the housing crisis is welcome to support, promote and eventually sign it.

What would this campaign actually change in my country?

Europe's housing crisis does not stop at borders. This initiative sets common EU rules that would apply everywhere, but what changes most depends on your country's main symptoms. For example, in countries with a lot of people renting like Germany, it would stop renovation from pushing tenants out of homes. In countries that suffer from touristification like Italy, it would limit short-term rentals hollowing out neighbourhoods. In countries with a lot of vacancy like Poland, it would bring the country's 1.5 million empty homes back into use.

Any more questions?

Get in touch through www.right-to-housing.eu

IMPRINT / LEGAL NOTICE

Information According to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2019/788 & National Media Laws

1. About the Initiative

Official Title of the Initiative: Right to Housing! Now and Forever
European Commission Registration Number: ECI(2026)000010
Registration Date: 17 July 2025
Official Website: www.right-to-housing.eu

2. Represented by the Group of Organizers

The initiative is organized and legally represented by the official Group of Organizers, specifically:
Representative: Josiane SCHMIDT
Substitute: Francesca Romana D'ANTUONO

3. Responsible for this Document

This Legal Proposal was compiled by HouseEurope! gGmbH on behalf of the group of organisers of the European Citizens' Initiative – Right to Housing! Now and Forever, represented by its managing director Olaf Grawert.

4. Contact Information

Postal Address: HouseEurope! gGmbH, Am Wasserwerk 22F, DE-10365 Berlin Email Address: right-to-housing@houseeurope.eu

5. Funding, Sponsorship, and Transparency Statement

In accordance with EU transparency rules, this initiative is fully committed to disclosing its financial sources. This European Citizens' Initiative is supported by citizens and organisations across Europe. A comprehensive, legally binding, and continuously updated overview of all funding and sponsorship sources exceeding €500 per year can be publicly inspected on the official European Commission ECI Register under the registration profile.

6. EU Commission Liability Disclaimer

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