

INVITATION TO CONTEST

2026

EAEAWARD
ETICS are amazing

EAE Awards 2026 | From EPBD to realization

Geopolitical developments in recent years have repeatedly demonstrated that Europe is still very much dependent on energy, raw material and strategic goods imports. Increasing costs showcase the vulnerability of our economies and societies to such external shocks. In relation to Europe's building stock this increases stress as we anyhow face a housing crisis.

- *Almost one in ten Europeans is struggling to keep the home adequately warm in winter and cool in summer.*
- *In Europe's major cities, pressure is even higher: one in ten urban residents spend more than 40% of their income on housing.*
- *The European Investment Bank EIB estimated a gap of more than 2 million housing units across Europe.*
- *At the same time 90% of the existing building stock will still exist in 2050, the majority of this is energy-inefficient according to already existing building standards.*

EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said already in her State of the Union address 2025: "A home is not just four walls and a roof. It is safety, warmth, a place for family and friends. It is belonging. But for too many Europeans today, home has become a source of anxiety. It can mean debt or uncertainty." Therefore, the European Parliament, the Member States and the European Commission launched different initiatives to protect our societies while providing great potential to grow European economies: the Affordable Housing Plan, the European Housing Strategy and the AccelerateEU initiative to give few examples. Buildings play a crucial role.

Europe's building stock accounts for 36% CO₂ emissions and 40% energy demand. It offers a huge leverage to contribute not only to environmental protection, but also to good health, living comfort, economic growth and social fairness. The European Union confirmed the climate goal to become net-zero carbon neutral by 2050, with an intermediate goal of a 90% greenhouse gas reduction by 2040. This requires that all new buildings comply already with the zero-emission standard and that the existing building stock undergoes energy-efficiency renovations. Then both new build and building renovations will be affordable and sustainable. Reducing the overall energy demand is a pre-condition for electrification, supports the energy switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy and helps improving the resilience of our energy systems.

The EAE Awards 2026 aim to demonstrate that energy-efficient buildings can be achieved with solutions available on the market. Even more: they can go hand in hand with superb architecture. We reward and showcase innovative technical, sustainable, and aesthetical solutions. Awarded projects will be used to further promote the benefits of energy-efficient facades. Transforming theory into real buildings will help to accelerate the urgently needed market uptake and motivate building owners to recognize the full benefits of thermally improved façades.

Energy Performance of Buildings: from vision to amazing implementation

This is the motto of EAE's high-level event at the heart of European decision-making! The EAE Awards 2026 Celebration will take place on 9th November 2026 at the THON Hotel EU in Brussels, closest to European institutions. It will bring together around 80 experts from various EU member states, the United Kingdom and Türkiye: architects, engineers, energy efficiency consultants, European Commission, political decisionmakers, project developers, ETICS manufacturers and their leading suppliers.

Jury and previous winners

To learn more about the jury members of the EAE Awards 2026 as well as the nominees and winners of the EAE Awards 2023/2024, please check our website:



Jury

<https://www.ea-etics.com/eae-award/jury/>



Nominees and winners

<https://www.ea-etics.com/eae-award/nominees/>

How to submit

Please submit the following information by **15th September 2026**:

- Submit the application form online via <https://www.ea-etics.com/ea-award/ea-awards-2026-application-form/>
- Renovation concept / project documentation
- Brief information about the ETICS kit: insulation material, insulation thickness, facings/surface structure, areas of ETICS use (if not applied to all parts of the facade)
- Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) / EPC calculation / EPC class (in case of renovation: preferably before and after)
- Short project description
- Picture documentation of the project, e.g. photos, drawings, and plans (PDF or JPG format, 300 dpi, CMYK, printable quality)
- Information about funding via national/regional support schemes (name) or innovative financing approaches welcome.
- Language for all applications, project descriptions, etc. is English

After submitting the online application form, you will receive a confirmation and an individual link to upload your project documentation like pictures, drawings, etc. (access only for applicants and EAE jury).

For questions about your submission, please visit our website or contact us directly.

Celebration and promotion of the winning entries

The awarding ceremony will be a core element of a high-level event on 9th November 2026 in Brussels. The event will be broadly promoted before and after. A short list of pre-selected candidates will be published in advance. After the presentation and awarding of winners, a press release will be circulated. In addition, the winners will be promoted through EAE's websites and media partners. Award nominees and winners will be licenced to use special logos in their marketing.

The focus of the EAE Awards is on promoting the architectural quality and the level of energy-efficiency. It is intended to reward architects, project owners and/or installers who turn energy-efficient construction or renovation concepts into reality. However, outstanding new solutions, be it sustainable use of resources, improved circularity or innovative processes like digitization or off-site solutions, or showcasing the benefits of one-stop-shops could deserve a special mention.



Conditions for application

The EAE Awards target projects in new construction, renovations, extensions and repurposing of existing building stock. Projects must include the use of ETICS to a reasonable extent. They may be combined with other measures to improve the energy performance and energy efficiency of the building, e. g. the use of renewable energy sources, electrification of heating and cooling or smart appliances.

Evaluation criteria (non-exhaustive):

- *Architectural quality. The aesthetic impression after the project has been finished, compared to the situation before (in case of building renovation).*
- *Calculated energy performance after construction or renovation (preferably with before/after comparison).*
- *Extent of renovation, e. g. renovation depth, redesign of courtyards, improvements of the interior, outdoor facilities.*
- *Quality of application, including quality control measures, involvement of energy consultants or one-stop-shops.*

In the case of renovations or extensions, information and pictures illustrating the situation before and after renovation will be highly appreciated to visualise the co-benefits of thermal renovation.

All private and public property owners, architects and planners, public or privately-owned institutions (including municipalities) as well as construction companies and installers are invited to apply for the EAE Awards 2026. All projects should be located in Europe. Projects shall be finished after 2020.

With the submission participants agree that EAE and its national or sectoral member associations may use the pictures and the information about the project received through the application free of charge for promotional uses linked to the EAE Awards 2026 such as websites, social media, newsletters, presentations etc. By submitting the application form via EAE's website, the applicant confirms that all parties involved in the project (especially architects, designers, property owners, applicators) agree to the application and to the promotional use of the project.

The awarding ceremony will be held on 9th November 2026 in Brussels (BE). The final schedule will be announced well in advance. Award winners per category will be invited to the high-level event.

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Members

EAE is the European association for ETICS, formed by 12 national ETICS associations, 5 major European supplying materials' associations and 32 supporting company members, which involve the entire ETICS value chain and research institutes. EAE represents more than 85 per cent of Europe's revenue from ETICS.





EAE European Association for ETICS

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