

HOUSEEUROPE! GOES EUROPE





HouseEurope! goes Europe

The integrated seminar week of the Campaign Studio 'House Europe! Make it Count' will take the students to campaign in seven different countries with HouseEurope! A European Citizens' Initiative for EU-legislation that boosts the renovation of existing buildings and stops their demolition driven by speculation. Because the demolition of existing buildings is as outdated as food waste, animal testing and single-use plastics.

An ECI is a tool for direct democracy that enables citizens across the EU to propose new or improved legislation. If one million citizens from at least seven countries support a cause, the European Commission must consider the proposal. This process gives citizens a direct voice in shaping EU policy, influencing the lives of nearly half a billion people. HouseEurope!, initiated in 2023, enters its signature period in February 2025, which will run until February 2026. Beyond collecting signatures, HouseEurope! aims to bring the issue of the unsustainable building sector to the forefront of political agenda and public discourse. Europe demolishes existing buildings that could comfortably house more than 50 million people, while the harsh reality is that every year, countless people lose their homes due to demolition and new construction they then can't afford. Therefore, to combat not only the climate crisis but also the housing crisis, we must accelerate the transformation of existing buildings to house Europe sustainably.

While HouseEurope! and its partners collect signatures in all member states, in seven European countries the ECI has to surpass a mandatory threshold in signatures in order to be successful. For HouseEurope! these countries are Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, which therefore form an integral part in the campaign. Students in the Campaign Studio will be able to choose one of these seven EU countries that they will focus on during the semester.

Integrated Seminar Week

Cost frame B – C

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The integrated seminar week offers students the opportunity to 'swarm out'. In groups they will get on European ground and organize an event with student associations and unions in the respective member state. Setting up their campaign travels, students will profit from an already existing network of national organising members, partners and ambassadors of HouseEurope!. They will build lasting connections with fellow European students and gain visibility themselves, as an active part of HouseEurope!.

Organising

Besides collecting votes and views, students are asked to organize an event with student associations and unions in the chosen member state. The format of the event will be adapted in accordance with the local partners and the specific context within the country. This happening could, for example, take the form of a HouseEurope! film screening, a small-scale exhibition or a 'vote' party.

Documenting

Students are encouraged to document their travel and activities during the seminar week based on the skills they acquire during the technical seminar before their departure. Learning how to capture experiences, the content will serve as the basis for their storytelling throughout the semester.

Disseminating

By presenting the campaign and documenting how votes and views are gathered, they will learn how to explain, convince and collectivize on the ground. Connecting to their peers across Europe, the goal is to foster a platform to fight for more sustainable building practices.

with Giacomo Ardesio, Severin Bärenbold, Arno Brandlhuber, Alina Kolar, Maximilian Lewark, Josiane Schmidt and Alexander Throm

AT DK FR DE IT LU NL

Integrated Seminar Week

Cost frame B – C / 500 – 750 CHF / 2 ECTS

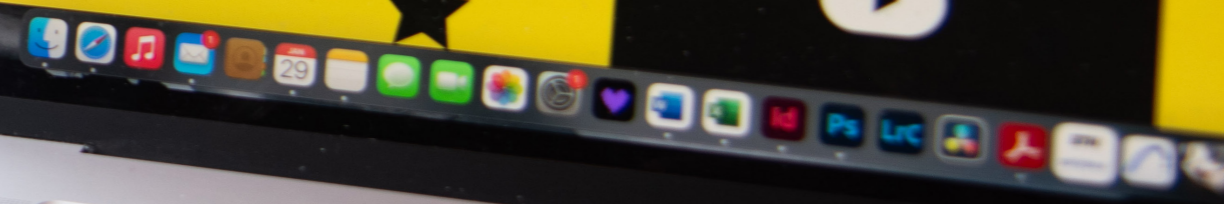
Due to the seven different destinations students are asked to book transportation and accommodation by themselves based on recommendations by the HouseEurope! team and national partners. Students are responsible for organising their travel documents and insurance. The seminar week is only open for students that enrolled in the Campaign Studio 'HouseEurope! Make it Count'. Participation in the integrated seminar week is voluntary for the students.

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HOUSEEUROPE! GOES EUROPE

How to house Europe?
In our existing buildings!

n → The European Citizens' Initiative
Info Trailer



MacBook Pro