

## Solar Decathlon Europe – Versailles Declaration

We, the academic community organising, participating and / or cooperating within the Solar Decathlon Europe make the following proclamation in Versailles, France on July 12, 2014:

- The Solar Decathlon Europe has again exceeded expectations as a learning experience for students from all over the world, providing international exchange and the interdisciplinary educational opportunity of a lifetime
- The Solar Decathlon has advanced the research and development of sustainable architecture, energy efficiency and solar energy use in buildings
- The Solar Decathlon Europe has continued to be effective as a demonstration and educational showcase for building designers & industry as well as the general public.

Two of the recommendations from the Declaration of Madrid in 2010 have been met. This has strengthened the profile of the competition to reflect on density, renovation, life-cycle costs and affordability – all of which embody the needs of human habitation. Hosting the event in two major European capitals has involved about 2000 students and attracted over 500,000 visitors.

With the importance of energy and the proven strength of the competition in mind, we have the following recommendations for the future of Solar Decathlon Europe:

1. We restate our wish that the European Union will provide the leadership for future events. This means assuming stewardship for the Solar Decathlon Europe by establishing a committee to oversee awarding the franchise to organise individual events. This includes support for the organisers, participating teams, the subsequent use of houses and the wider dissemination of research and results.
2. In keeping with the open and international character of the event, a network of participants of all Solar Decathlons has to be established to assist new participants and organizers, to document the differing strategies and technologies used and to support efforts after each competition.


We congratulate the organizers of Solar Decathlon Europe and the CTSB Solar for an impressive and highly successful competition. Solar Decathlon Europe 2014 is a defining point in the evolution of a European housing competition. We are all committed to make this event a continual catalyst for change.

Signed in Versailles:


  
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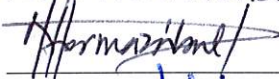
  
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Also signed in: Versailles on: 12.07.2014

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