

Let me begin by saying how gratifying it has been for me to have been the President of this jury. My role has brought me into contact with a rich array of excellent project and wonderful initiatives. Personally, I was particularly drawn to the Koprivnica project as it represents Phoenix like transformation of a war torn zone into an ecologically friendly, peaceful and pleasant modern town. The old military barracks have been replaced by a kindergarten, a primary school and a zero CO2 university campus.

The award is particularly timely given that, from the 1st of July, Croatia will be a part of the European Union. The project represents as clear a statement as one might wish of the values that all of us in Europa hold so dear. To finish, let me express my heartfelt congratulations to the whole team involved in the project for such a wonderful achievement.