



AGENDA

Decarb Cities 2025
Cities driving the energy transition

Krakow, Poland
13 & 14 May

13 May

9h30 – 10h30 Networking coffee

[AGH University of Krakow](#), Amphitheater Hall

10h30 – 11h00 Welcoming

[AGH University of Krakow](#), U2 Amphitheater

- **Conference Chair: Paul Kenny**, Director, European Heat Pump Association, EHPA

Key-notes

- **Paulina Hennig-Kloska**, Minister of Climate and Environment of Poland*
- **Paul Kenny**, Director, European Heat Pump Association, EHPA
- **Rafał Wiśniowski**, Vice-Rector for Cooperation, AGH University of Krakow
- **Karolina Kapustka**, Socio-economic and Spatial Geographer, Krakow City*

11h – 12h30 **Session 1: Decarbonizing Heating and Cooling in Kraków: A Path Forward**

[AGH University of Krakow](#), U2 Amphitheater

This panel will explore current decarbonization efforts in Kraków's heating sector. The discussion will explore national and local incentives such as Czyste Powietrze (Clean Air) and Mój Ciepło (My Heat) Heat programmes in Poland, including the transition from coal-based heating, the role of renewable energy, and technological innovations such as heat pumps and district heating. The panelists will discuss challenges, opportunities, and future goals for the city.

- **Moderator: Thomas Nowak**, VP Public affairs and government relations, Quantum

11h00 – 11h15 Input speech by Krzysztof Bolesta, Secretary of State, Climate Policy and Green EU Funds, Poland*

11h15 – 12h15: Panel discussion

- **Krzysztof Bolesta**, Secretary of State, Climate Policy and Green EU Funds, Poland*
- **Paweł Madejski**, Associate Professor, AGH University of Krakow
- **Andrzej Gula**, President, Krakow Smog Alarm
- **Paweł Lachman**, President, PORT PC

12h15 – 12h30: Dialogue & Slido with the audience

12h30 - 14h00 Lunch

[AGH University of Krakow](#), [University Restaurant Krakus](#)

14h00 - 15h30 Session 2: Regional cooperation: Best practices for cities decarbonization

[AGH University of Krakow](#), [U2 Amphitheater](#)

This session will examine the role of the region in shaping green energy policies, sharing best practices for heating and cooling decarbonization, and collaborating on regional projects to foster sustainable energy solutions. Neighboring programmes aiming at renovating the building stocks and implementing renewable energy and efficiency measures such as the Greening Savings Programme (CZ), Greenery for Households (SK) and Warmth of Home (HU) will be presented, with a focus on challenges in meeting EU climate targets for heating and cooling, and opportunities for joint projects that can enhance energy security and fuel the green energy transition.

- **Moderator: Morgan Henley**, EU Heating Sector Decarbonization Campaigner, CEE Bankwatch Network

14h00 – 14h15 Input speech by Ciaran Cuffe, Co-Chair, European Green Party, Former MEP

14h15 – 15h15: Panel discussion

- **Karol Galek**, Member of Slovak Parliament
- **Berndt Vogel**, CEO, Austrian Climate and Energy Fund
- **Adam Grochala**, Expert, Fala Renowacji & Sales Manager, Grundfos
- **Ciaran Cuffe**, co-Chair, European Green Party
- **Ryszard Pawlik**, Director, Polish Electricity Association in Brussels (PKEE)*

15h15 - 15h30: Dialogue & Slido with the audience

15h30 - 16h00 Networking Break

[AGH University of Krakow](#) [U2 Amphitheater Hall](#)

16h00 - 17h30 Session 3: How can the EU encourage cities' decarbonization?

[AGH University of Krakow](#), [U2 Amphitheater](#)

This session will focus on how the EU can support cities like Kraków, as well as regional and European urban areas, in their decarbonization efforts. Panelists will discuss EU funding, policies, and technical expertise that can help cities reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency, and meet climate goals. The conversation will highlight local initiatives in Kraków and explore broader strategies for urban climate action across Europe.

- **Moderator: Sarah Azau**, Head of Communications, EHPA

16h00 – 16h15: Input speech by Waltraut Schmid, Head of Energy, Urban Innovation Vienna*

16h15 – 17h15: Panel discussion

- **Małgorzata Smuczyńska**, Vice-President, PORT PC
- **Margault Pinault** Policy Officer, DG ENER, European Commission
- **Jessica Glicker**, Energy Team, Trinomics
- **Tbd**, European Climate Foundation (ECF)
- **Mariusz Kawnik**, Energy Attaché, Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU*

17h15 – 17h30: Dialogue & Slido with the audience

17h30 – 18h30 Session 4: Decarbonize cities? Let's do it!

[AGH University of Krakow, U2 Amphitheater](#)

This session will explore practical steps, challenges, and opportunities in decarbonizing urban areas, focusing on the role of city leaders, national policy, and industry in advancing climate action. In Poland, the shift to heat pumps is key to reducing carbon emissions, creating jobs in the green energy sector, and offering reskilling opportunities. The session will discuss how to accelerate decarbonization through policy, energy system transformations, and the integration of heat pump technologies, boosting local economies and job growth in Poland.

- **Moderator: Adrian Hiel**, Head of Media and Campaigns, Energy Cities

17h30 – 17h45: Input speech by **Marek Miara**, Heat Pumps coordinator, Fraunhofer ISE “Heat Pumps in Multi-Family Buildings for cities: Space Heating and DHW”

17h45 – 18h15: Panel discussion

- **Laura de Rosa**, Renewable energy and energy democracy Campaigner, Greenpeace Central
- **Bernard Swoczyna**, Senior Climate and Energy Policy Analyst, Reform Institute Poland
- **Marek Tobiacelli**, Senior Expert, International Cooperation and Expertise, KAPE, (REDI4Heat)
- **Tbc**, (SKILLSAFE EU)

18h15 – 18h30: Dialogue & Slido with the audience

18h30 - 19h00 Wrap-up

- **Paul Kenny**, Director, European Heat Pump Association, EHPA

20h00 – 23h00 Gala dinner

[Karkow Historical City Hall](#)

Opening speeches

- **Aleksander Miszalski**, Mayor of City of Kraków
- **Paul Kenny**, Director, EHPA

14 May

9h00 – 11h00 World Café : Solutions for affordable Heating & Cities

[AGH University of Krakow, University Restaurant Krakus](#)

With table rotations every 15-20 minutes, industry representatives will pitch on existing tools/best practices for local, national, regional and EU players to design and roll out their strategy (technologies, planning and decision-making tools, business models, start-up ideas).

- **Moderator: Paul Kenny**, Director, EHPA
- **Patrick Crombez**, General Manager Heating and Renewables, **Daikin**
- **Emanuele Mazzola**, Sales Engineer, **Turboden**
- **Piotr Kubera**, CEO, **Qvantum**
- **Piotr Gęśła**, Deputy Division Manager, **Mitsubishi Electric**
- Tbd, **Danfoss***
- Tbd, **Trane***
- Tbd, **Siemens**

- Tbd, **Grundfos***
- Tbd, **EHPA projects**

11h00 - 11h30 Networking Break

[AGH University of Krakow](#), U2 Amphitheater Hall

11h30 – 12h30 **Session 5: "Funding the energy transition of cities today"**

[AGH University of Krakow](#), U2 Amphitheater

This session will explore the complexities of financing the energy transition in urban areas, with a particular focus on the critical need for collaboration between public institutions, the private sector, and sector-specific stakeholders. While EU policies and financial instruments have made important strides, additional efforts are required to ensure that energy solutions for cities are scalable, sustainable, and integrated.

- **Moderator: Agnieszka Szymczyk**, Senior Banker, Green Financial Systems, Climate Strategy and Delivery, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

11h30 – 11h45: Input speech by Kristina Lygnerud, Professor, Efficient Energy Systems, Lund Research University, Sweden

11h45 – 12h15: Panel discussion

- **Monika Morawicka**, Senior advisor, Regulatory Assistance Project
- **Anita Cieślicka**, Director of the City Programme, Forum Energii
- **Kristina Lygnerud**, Professor, Efficient Energy Systems, Lund Research University, Sweden

12h15 – 12h30: Dialogue & Slido with the audience

13h00 – 15h00 Lunch

[Wesele Restaurant](#) Kraków Main Square - 15 minutes walk

15h00 - 17h00 **Site visit**

Visit of an innovative gothermal heat pump installation at the National Archives of Krakow
Guided tour by **Jakub Koczorowski**, Vice-President, PORT PC

17h00 – 19h00 Cultural visit

Guided City Tour, offered by the City of Krakow

*To be confirmed