PUSH

CONSULTING

NEWSLETTER 2026/1

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Germany

Building Type-E tested in first housing project

A new multistory apartment building panned by nbundm*Architects near Ingolstadt serves as a pioneering project within the new controversial of “E-category building (E standing for einfach= simple) with drastically reduced standards. This includes raw concrete ceilings, less heat and noise insulation, a lower number of sockets per room, while all safety rules must still be followed. 3 more blocks are being planned in the same area but in other parts of Germany about 15 housing and office developments are being built following the same model. The ingolstadt building is expected to prove that simpler and cheaper housing construction is possible without a loss of comfort and of safety.

For more info see:
www.nbundm.de



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Cologne

Little Homes for the Homeless

There is no doubt that the best way to help the homeless is to prevent eviction and homelessness by offering affordable housing for all. But if the worst happens, those who are already on the streets for whatever reason must be supported in a quick and efficient way. "Little Homes", small and easy to set up wooden structures of about 4 to 8 square meters may be such a solution. Apart from just offering a protective roof they are equipped with electricity providing light and heating as well as a toilet and water. Several hundreds of such basic living boxes have been given to homeless people in several German cities with a focus on the city of Cologne. As costs are only about € 1.000,- per box. Private sponsors are donating these units to the persons in need if a suitable plot of land is provided by private or public owners. Meanwhile in Austria the city of Linz has developed a similar model called DÜK (Dach über dem Kopf= roof over the head).



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For more info see:
www.little-home.eu

and for Linz: "Dach über dem Kopf"
https://www.htl1.at/soziale-verantwortung-an-der-htl1-projekt-duek-dach-ueberm-kopf/

USA

Investors Forbidden to Buy Single Family Houses

Donald trump has meanwhile developed a lot of strange ideas but this one seems to be interesting: As thousands have lost their homes following the 2008 financial crisis owners should in the future be protected in case of debts. Trump suggests to stop institutional investors like Blackstone to purchase such homes saying that "People live in houses, not companies". Congress will still have to decide about the legal procedures but Trump is expected to announce his plan at the upcoming World Economic Forum at Davos.

For more info see for example: https://www.cnbc.com/2026/01/09/trump-ban-on-institutional-investors-in-housing-experts-have-doubts.html?msockid=0bf8091788c168



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