



Press release

Ljubljana – European Green Capital 2016

Copenhagen, 24 June 2014 - In Copenhagen on 24 June 2014, Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, was awarded the prestigious title of European Green Capital 2016.

At the time of this success, **Mayor Zoran Janković** remarked that to him the prestigious title was an exceptional honour and pleasure and that he was incredibly proud of the sustainable achievements in Ljubljana, not only because we take excellent care of the most beautiful city in the world but because we showed in Copenhagen how the Green Ljubljana sustainability projects can be an example to many European cities. This European award puts us among the best.



Ljubljana's victory proves that our sustainable orientation and common work is recognised and ever better appreciated abroad. The Mayor gave sincere congratulations to all colleagues with Deputy Mayor Tjaša Fičko to the fore, as it was excellent, professional teamwork that brought Ljubljana this prestigious title.

Deputy Mayor Tjaša Ficko took the opportunity to state that the honorary title, an award by the Commission and society of European cities for excellence in the field of sustainability, means to Ljubljana not just recognition for the work done so far, but a new start, new challenges, new possibilities to improve the quality of life in the city and of course proof that we are on the right road. The title puts Ljubljana on the European map and offers new possibilities to co-operate with other European cities. The Deputy Mayor praised the great City family for their outstanding work and NGOs, businesses and the people of Ljubljana for their priceless contributions and partnership on the road to a sustainable and green Ljubljana. We have all contributed to this success, which is one more commitment that we will continue to assure the quality of life in every field to all generations of residents of and visitors to our city.

A European Commission press release on the awarding of the prestigious title of 'European Green Capital 2016' (in English) is available at the following link:
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/europeangreencapital/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/EGCA-winning-city-2016-Ljubljana-F01.pdf>

European Green Capital is a European Commission initiative. The title of **European Green Capital** is given annually to a city with high environmental standards and a commitment to ambitious targets for further environmental improvement and sustainable development. The goal of this initiative is to express recognition to and reward local efforts to improve the environment, economy and quality of life in cities.

The title was first awarded in 2010 when Stockholm was the winner. The European Green Capitals since then have been Hamburg, Victoria-Gasteiz, Nantes, Copenhagen and Bristol. The other finalists for the title European Green Capital 2016 were Essen (Germany), Nijmegen (Netherlands), Oslo (Norway) and Umea (Sweden).