



UNIBAIL-RODAMCO-WESTFIELD

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Press Release

## **Ruhr Park Bochum focuses on renewable energies – construction of what will be Germany's largest photovoltaic system on the roof of a shopping centre<sup>1</sup>**

**Together with Stadtwerke Bochum, Ruhr Park is taking a big step towards sustainability: by spring of next year, the Bochum energy provider will install a photovoltaic system on the roof of Ruhr Park. With over 3,600 modules and an annual electricity yield of over 1.4 million kilowatt hours, this will be the largest photovoltaic system on the roof of a shopping centre in Germany. The project underlines that the retail and leisure destination takes its corporate responsibility in the city and region seriously and is expanding and strengthening strategic partnerships with local companies and organisations.**

The state-of-the-art plant is an important milestone on the way to the medium and long-term goals of Ruhr Park's operator and owner company, Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW): to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions along the entire value chain by 50 percent by 2030, and by 90 percent by 2050, compared to 2015.

The first work on the plant has already begun, and it is scheduled to go into operation in April 2024. The photovoltaic system, which consists of a total of 3,626 modules, will generate around 1,434,000 kilowatt hours of green electricity annually. This is roughly equivalent to the electricity consumption of 410 single-family homes. The plant will save about 656 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. With the targeted self-consumption from the plant, 643,000 kilowatt hours, 44.8 percent of the total electricity consumption of the public areas of Ruhr Park will be covered.

**Lars Horn, Centre Manager** at Ruhr Park Bochum, says: "Making regenerative energies usable for our shopping centre is an important step in our sustainability concept. The plant is not only a sign of the ecological responsibility we take on locally, but also offers direct economic advantages because it has a positive impact on energy purchases. With Stadtwerke Bochum, we have an expert at our side with whom we have already worked successfully in the past. We are pleased about the project and the expansion of the cooperation with Stadtwerke."

**Frank Thiel, Managing Director** of Stadtwerke Bochum, says: "The large roof areas of Ruhr Park are an ideal location to produce green electricity and thus ensure self-sufficiency with renewable energy. The photovoltaic system on the roofs of the shopping centre will be Bochum's second largest installation. We are very pleased to be able to implement this exciting project from planning to commissioning and to supply Ruhr Park with energy in a safe and sustainable way in the future."

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<sup>1</sup> At the end of October 2023, Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield commissioned what is currently Germany's largest photovoltaic system on the roof of a shopping center at Paunsdorf Center in Leipzig. The system in Leipzig comprises 2,682 solar modules and generates an annual electricity yield of 1,100,000 kWh.

## **„Better Places“: Sustainability at Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield**

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield has committed to an ambitious sustainability strategy to address the biggest challenges facing the real estate industry. The Better Places strategy aims to sustainably transform and future-proof the portfolio, be meaningful to the company's teams, support business partners in their sustainability efforts and provide exciting, sustainable experiences for visitors. In addition, the strategy aims to create shared value and benefit for communities in the locations where the company operates. Better Places is in line with the company's overall vision of "Creating sustainable places that reinvent being together".

### **More Information on Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's Sustainability Strategy:**

<https://www.urw.com/en/csr/better-places>

### **The photovoltaic system at Ruhr Park at a glance:**

- Area: 7.070 qm
- Number of solar modules: 3.626
- Annual electricity yield: 1,434,000 kWh (corresponds to the electricity consumption of 410 single-family homes)
- Ruhr Park own consumption: 643,000 kWh (corresponds to 44.8 % of the total electricity consumption of the public areas of the Ruhr Park)
- Power: 1.487 kW/p
- Saved emissions: 656.000 kg CO<sub>2</sub>

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### **About Ruhr Park**

The centre, which has existed since 1964, was reopened on November 4, 2015, after extensive renovation work lasting almost four years. The modernisation created Germany's largest open-air shopping centre, whose shopping streets are connected by a circuit known as the Fashion Loop. The shopping centre, which has been awarded four stars, offers first-class customer service, free parking and attractive rest areas with integrated charging stations for smartphones and tablets as well as free wi-fi in the entire centre area. More than 160 shops are presented on 115,000m<sup>2</sup> (GLA) – including well-known and international brands such as Zara, Mango, Pull & Bear, Swarovski and Superdry. Ruhr Park is owned by the world's leading shopping centre developer Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield.

### **About Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield**

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield is an owner, developer and operator of sustainable, high-quality real estate assets in the most dynamic cities in Europe and the United States.

The Group operates 74 shopping centres in 12 countries, including 39 which carry the iconic Westfield brand. These centres attract over 900 million visits annually and provide a unique platform for retailers and brands to connect with consumers. URW also has a portfolio of high-quality offices, 10 convention and exhibition venues in Paris, and a €3 Bn development pipeline of mainly mixed-use assets. Currently, its €51 Bn portfolio is 87% in retail, 6% in offices, 5% in convention and exhibition venues, and 2% in services (as at June 30, 2023).

URW is a committed partner to major cities on urban regeneration projects, through both mixed-use development and the retrofitting of buildings to industry-leading sustainability standards. These commitments are enhanced by the Group's Better Places 2030 agenda, which strives to make a positive environmental, social and economic impact on the cities and communities where URW operates.

URW's stapled shares are listed on Euronext Paris (Ticker: URW), with a secondary listing in Australia through Chess Depository Interests. The Group benefits from a BBB+ rating from Standard & Poor's and from a Baa2 rating from Moody's. For more information, please visit [www.urw.com](http://www.urw.com)