



**public space
2026**

european prize for urban public space 2026

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background



The European Prize for Urban Public Space is an initiative of the CCCB (Center for Contemporary Culture of Barcelona) which, since 2000 and on a biennial basis, recognizes the best interventions in the creation and transformation of public spaces in European cities.

The Prize has an honorary nature and is awarded jointly to the authors and promoters of works carried out in the 46 countries that make up the Council of Europe. It gives the maximum dissemination to the selected works through the project's network of European collaborators and partners.

The Prize offers a unique perspective on European cities and aims to become a benchmark for discussing the challenges of urban public space, in collaboration with experts and architectural, academic, and cultural institutions from all over the European territory.

Throughout its 26-year history and 12 editions, 2,800 works have been submitted to the Prize. A selection of the best 413 works from all editions is published on the project's website (www.publicspace.org).



public and urban space

The European Prize for Urban Public Space centres on European cities, which despite their diversity, share some common historical elements, such as a human scale, a compact design and a mixed-use character. In this idea of the European city, public space plays a key role in collective encounters, imbued with political, economic and social values that are inseparable from a physical design that admits them and makes them possible. In this way, the Prize, as an observatory for the quality of public spaces, also becomes a project that generates attention and reflection on the quality of life and the democratic quality in European cities.

Cities in Europe are facing challenges and transformations that affect urban areas around the world. From this perspective, the Prize presents a specific look that draws on our most immediate reality to a debate on the future of cities that is global, and that, in a progressively urbanized world, is gaining more and more importance every day. Reflecting on European cities means looking at concrete solutions that are being implemented today in Europe to respond to the global challenges of the urban future.

Today, the climate emergency has transformed global agendas; it has added more challenges to the current social problems facing our cities, and it has become a central vector for urban thinking. Issues such as mobility, inequalities, migration, and climate emergencies present challenges for which there are still no clear answers and which have a direct impact on urban design and public space, due to their clearly social or public function. Additionally, the impact of technological transformations also intervenes directly in our urban realities.

The Prize aims to reflect the centrality of these issues and to become an observatory for best practices that will allow us to imagine possible solutions for a future in which cities will play a key role in defining how society evolves. It is a unique prize in Europe, as it promotes spaces that is both public (open and universally accessible) and urban.



object of the prize: 13th edition (2026)

The CCCB is launching a new call for the European Prize for Urban Public Space with the aim of acknowledging interventions in public space carried out **between 2021 and 2025**.

The competition is open, free, and will take place in two rounds.

In the first round, the jury will select 25 works to be published on the archive of the Prize website and in the 2026 Prize catalogue. From the 25 works selected in

the first round, 5 finalists will move on to the second round.

In the second round of the competition, the jury will evaluate the finalist works. Finally, the jury will designate a winner.

advisory committee

The Award has an institutional network around Europe that aims to consolidate the project throughout the territory and to guarantee recognition of the most outstanding interventions in public space.

The institutions that form part of the Advisory Committee for this year's edition are:

[Arc en Rêve](#) (Bordeaux), [ArkDes](#) (Stockholm), [Architekturzentrum Wien](#) (Vienna), [Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine](#) (Paris), [CIVA](#) (Brussels), [Deutsches Architekturmuseum](#) (Frankfurt), [Eesti Arhitektuurimuuseum](#) (Tallinn), [Kortárs Építészeti Központ](#) (Budapest), [Muzej za Arhitekturo in Oblikovanje](#) (Ljubljana) and [The Architecture Foundation](#) (London).

jury

The Jury for this year's Prize consists of eminent professionals from all over Europe, namely:

President: Eva Prats, architect (Barcelona)

Members:

- Angelika Fitz, architect, director of the Architekturzentrum Wien
- Monika Konrad, architect and urban planner
- Inês Lobo, architect, educator, and curator
- Bas Smets, architect and landscape designer
- Philip Ursprung, architectural historian

Secretary: Lluís Ortega, architect (Barcelona)

The Jury will consider only those interventions that comply with the terms and conditions established herein and can also declare the award null and void. The secretary will assist the Jury and will take the minutes for the sessions during the voting proceedings.



conditions for participation

Eligible to present for the Prize are works of creation, recovery, and improvement of public space, **completed between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2025** (both dates inclusive), and located in the geographical area of the Council of Europe at the time of submission, and which have not been submitted to previous editions of the Prize.

The list of countries that make up the Council of Europe can be consulted at [this link](#).

Since some urban planning interventions have very long periods of implementation, a work may still be eligible for submission even if it has not been entirely finalized during the period indicated in cases where enough phases of the work have been completed to enable evaluation of the urban effects of the project in its totality.

Works can be presented for the Prize by authors or promoters with the clear understanding that both parties consent to the registration process and inclusion of their respective personal data.



registration

The registration of works opens on **10 December 2025** at 12 noon (GMT +1) and closes on **26 February 2026** at 12 noon (GMT +1). Registration is to be completed exclusively online by means of an electronic form that is available on the Prize website: www.publicspace.org.

Once the registration form for a work has been completed and the registration code obtained, participants can modify or add to the form as often as they wish until the registration period ends.

Detailed instructions for registration will be found in the guide that will be available on the Prize website on 11 November 2025 (www.publicspace.org).

Submitting an entry for the Prize implies the participant's acceptance of all the terms and conditions.

Documentation

When registering, candidates for the Prize must supply the following information:

- Title of the work in the original language and its translation into English.
- Technical file for the work.
- Credits: authors, promoters, collaborators.
- A minimum of 10 and maximum of 20 digital images (photographs, drawings, and plans) in jpg or png format with a minimum length of 2,000 pixels on the long side, a maximum weight of 3MB per image, and the photographs' credits.
- A descriptive report in English divided into four chapters: previous state of work, aim of the intervention, description of the intervention, and final evaluation. Each chapter should be between 800 and 1,200 characters long (with spaces).



selection process

1st round:
selected works and
finalists
july 2026

2nd round:
Prize-winning works
october 2026

- **Selected works:** The Jury will evaluate all the entries registered and select the 25 most highly rated projects.
- **Finalist works:** The Jury will select 5 finalists from among the 25 selected works and these finalists will continue to the second round.

Only the five finalists selected in the first round will participate in this phase.

The Jury reserves the right to ask each finalist for additional information in order to properly evaluate the works and select the winners.

The finalists will present their works to the Jury at a public event at the CCCB. The following day, the Jury will meet to consider the finalist works and vote on the winning work.

The results of the vote and the prize winner will be announced during the awards ceremony.

The finalist works will be included in a publication on the 2026 Prize with contributions from the winner and the Jury members.



calendar

10 December 2025

Start of submissions at 12:00 (GMT+1)

26 February 2026

Closing of submissions at 12:00 (GMT+1)

2-3 July 2026

Jury meeting to select the shortlisted and finalist works

6 July 2026

Announcement of the shortlisted and finalist works

15-18 October 2026

Presentation of the 5 finalist works at a public event at the CCCB;
final jury deliberation and award ceremony



rights and obligations of participants

Participation in the call for submissions implies full acceptance of its terms and conditions and subjection to the following legal terms. Therefore, the participants:

- Guarantee that they meet the requirements to participate in the call.
- In the case of submitting the application on behalf of a legal entity or group, they guarantee that they are duly authorized to act on their behalf.
- They warrant that they hold all rights, including (but not limited to) intellectual property rights. If the proposal includes rights of third parties, participants guarantee that they have previously obtained the necessary rights, authorizations and/or licenses, and exonerate the CCCB from any claim regarding this.
- They will be responsible for any claim that may arise in relation to the authorship of the proposals and in relation to the rights assigned. To this end, the CCCB reserves the right to take legal action against any person or group for this reason.



intellectual or industrial property

Participants declare their authorship and/or to hold the intellectual property rights or license to participate in the Prize in accordance with the provisions of current intellectual property regulation.

The requirement of participating in the Prize entails the free transfer to the CCCB and to the institutions that made up the Advisory Committee of the exploitation rights on the material submitted to the Prize, in a non-exclusive way, for all the countries of the world and until the rights pass into the public domain for the sole purpose of dissemination and promotion, in any means and any form, in all events or activities related to the Prize and the CCCB (exhibitions, publications, etc.), including permanent consultation on the website and social networks of the Prize and the CCCB. The CCCB will at all times respect the moral rights of the authors and will ensure that their names are indicated when necessary.



data protection

Participation in the European Public Space Prize requires the collection and processing of data from participating entities and individuals. Personal data will be processed for the purpose of managing the European Prize for Urban Public Space, in accordance with current legislation on the protection of personal data. The Data Processor is the Consorci del Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB).

Regarding the finalists and the winners, their data will be disseminated on the CCCB website on the European Prize for Urban Public Space (www.publicspace.org), on social media sites and in other public media in order to inform the finalists and winners of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2026. Images will be captured during the activities and the awards ceremony with the aim of disseminating them by any means and in any form.

The CCCB expressly undertakes not to use photographs / videos in such a way as to affect the privacy or reputation of the persons appearing therein. Consent to the publication of the images may be revoked at any time by contacting the CCCB organization. No Personal Data will be transferred to third parties,

except for the dissemination of the finalists and winners and the authorship associated with the publication of the material submitted to the Prize, unless it is required by law.

The CCCB undertakes to guarantee with the duty of secrecy and confidentiality of personal data, applying the necessary technical, organizational and security measures to prevent its alteration, loss, process or unauthorized access, in accordance with the provisions of current regulations.

For more information, please refer to the privacy policy at www.cccb.org.

In order to access, rectify, oppose or exercise the rest of your rights you may send a letter accompanied by a copy of your ID card to CCCB, Data Protection Officer, Montalegre Street nº 5, 08001 Barcelona or to the email dpd@ccb.org.



dispute resolution

For all issues not covered in these rules, the Law 38/2003 of 17 November, on general subsidies, and the Law 39/2015 of 1 October, on the common administrative procedure of public administrations, shall be applicable.

In case of any doubt, discrepancy, claim or question that may arise, directly or indirectly, due to the interpretation and execution of these rules, the parties expressly waive their own jurisdiction and expressly submit to the jurisdiction of the courts and tribunals of the city of Barcelona.



information & consultations

For further information, please contact publicspace@cccb.org at the CCCB, Montalegre, 5 (08001) Barcelona.



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