

ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN DESIGN COMPETITION

“Skopje of the New Generation”

We are excited to launch an exclusive competition seeking young architects and urban planners to re-envision Skopje's environment. This joint initiative aims to revitalize abandoned and underused public areas for the new generation. We invite young and innovative students and professionals under the age of 35 to participate in this ground-breaking endeavor and contribute to the reimagining of Skopje's urban fabric.

1. Background:

Skopje, the capital of North Macedonia, possesses a rich, diverse historical and cultural heritage. Despite this, several challenges including political, economic, and administrative upheavals, natural calamities, and the 1963 earthquake have affected the city's urban and architectural growth.

These developments led to the creation of new public nuclei, while the old ones were ignored and abandoned. Unfortunately, this situation has led to the isolation of some essential public places and architectural sites. This competition aims to reintroduce and revitalize these areas, **taking into consideration the perspectives of the new generation.**

2. Objective:

The competition's main aim is to inspire architectural and urban design concepts that enhance Skopje's sense of community in public spaces: urban cores and streets that are an intrinsic part of the collective memory. Participants are invited to focus on the re-imagining and/or redevelopment of these Skopje treasures, as long as they fit the setting of the region, in order to create a sustainable and inclusive urban/architectural generative environment. Interventions should respond to the place in a way that does not degrade the present quality of life or communication but simply adds value to the region.

3. Selected locations:

1. Luna Park,
2. City Park Fountain “Lotus Leaf”,
3. Ezerce
4. Square “Cube”,
5. Shopping Center “Butel”
6. Street “Ilindenska”, (from Government building to city park fountain)
7. Street “Ilindenska”, (The end of the street in Karpos 4),
8. Street “Plasticarska”
9. Quay “Dimitar Vlahov” on the river Vardar (from building of MANU to Makpetrol gas station)
10. Quay “Francophonie park”
11. Quay Vlae
12. Parking lot around the Theater “Komedijska”

Participants are free to pick any specific place from the list.

4. Required content

- Description of the architectural/urban concept and idea (max. 3000 characters Word document)
- Site plan (scale – 1:2000 or 1:1000 or 1:500)
- Diagrams (analysis)
- Plans (scale - 1:250 or 1:200)
- Sections (scale - 1:250 or 1:200)
- Elevations (scale - 1:250 or 1:200)

Optional:

- 3D views (e.g. renderings, model pictures, hand sketches);

***Note:** Each graphic drawing should contain a graphic scale underneath

***Note:** Above mentioned scales are suggestions. Scales to be adjusted by location.

5. Entry Rules and guidelines:

- The competition is free and open exclusively to local participants.
- Professionals and students up to 35 can compete with only one project.
- Participants can submit their proposals as individuals or teams (up to 4 people), comprising architects, urban planners, landscape designers, and related professionals.
- A minimum of 5 entries is required for the competition to be considered valid. If not the organizer have the right to postpone the dead line or cancel the call and do not award prices for the winners.
- In potential implementation of the winning project authors of the winning projects are obliged to give away the copyrights to the implementer of the project who will be obliged to continue the work with the author.
- Only Europe House as the main organizer to this competition will have the connection between the real identity of the authors and the identification code and will swear not to share this information with the jury.
- Questions regarding the rules for the competition can be sent to competition@euhouse.mk no later than 18th of September. All the answers will be published on September 25th.
- The design proposals will be submitted electronically through the [web page](#).

6. Submission requirements:

Interested participants should submit:

- One (1) B2 portrait-oriented presentation board (**PDF** not exceeding **150MB**)
- One (1) Word document with all requested text.
- Both files should be added to zip file witch will be uploaded on the submission form.
- Layout templates will be provided on the website no later than 11th of September.
- All submissions must be submitted in the provided templates.

How to Participate:

Individuals or teams up to 4 people, interested in competing must visit the official competition [website](#) where they can obtain the required materials. Submitting your final project on the submit button after 11th of September. For anonymity please DO NOT enter any personal information in the PDF file that you will submit. Only use your identification code that you will create during submitting your project. Digital submission only, no need for printing.

7. Competition Program / Evaluation Criteria

- **Inventiveness**
The concept design should reinforce the unique identity of the selected city area. Innovation in terms of program, shape, materiality, spatial organization, detailing, etc. will score highest.
- **Social impact and inclusion**
The solutions should strive to enhance social connections, foster stronger communities, and contribute to the creation of a better world through thoughtful design. The design proposal should include the activities and features for all citizens, regardless of their age, physical condition or interests. The public space should be accessible by everyone.
- **Contextual sensitivity**
Participants must consider the historical, cultural, and social aspects of Skopje while proposing their design solutions. In terms of spatiality and design, proposals should articulate respectful consideration of the site's context, including its natural and cultural heritage.
- **Landmark features**
The design must evoke a positive functional and visual impact on the visitor, as well as the surrounding context.
- **Sustainability and regeneration**
Aspects of sustainability, green and restorative architecture, biophilic design, inclusivity, and accessibility should be integral components of the proposed designs. Participants are encouraged to consider innovative and sustainable materials, construction techniques, and smart city solutions where applicable.
- **Graphic presentation**
Clear presentation of the concept is one of the important evaluation criteria.

7. Competition Schedule:

- Competition Teaser Launch: **July 26, 2023**
- Competition Launch: **September 04**
- Questions Deadline: **September 18**

- Questions answers publication: **September 25**
- Submission Deadline: **October 22, 2023**. 23:59H
- Jury Evaluation Announcement(internal): **November 6, 2023**

8. Prizes:

- Main Award: 1.500 EUR
- Second Place Award: 800 EUR
- Third Place Award: 500 EUR

9. Jury:

The jury will remain anonymous for the sake of transparency and to avoid undue influence until the winner announcing ceremony.

Jury members include professors from various esteemed universities: International Balkan University, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, UACS | University American College Skopje, MIT University and UAE FON University.