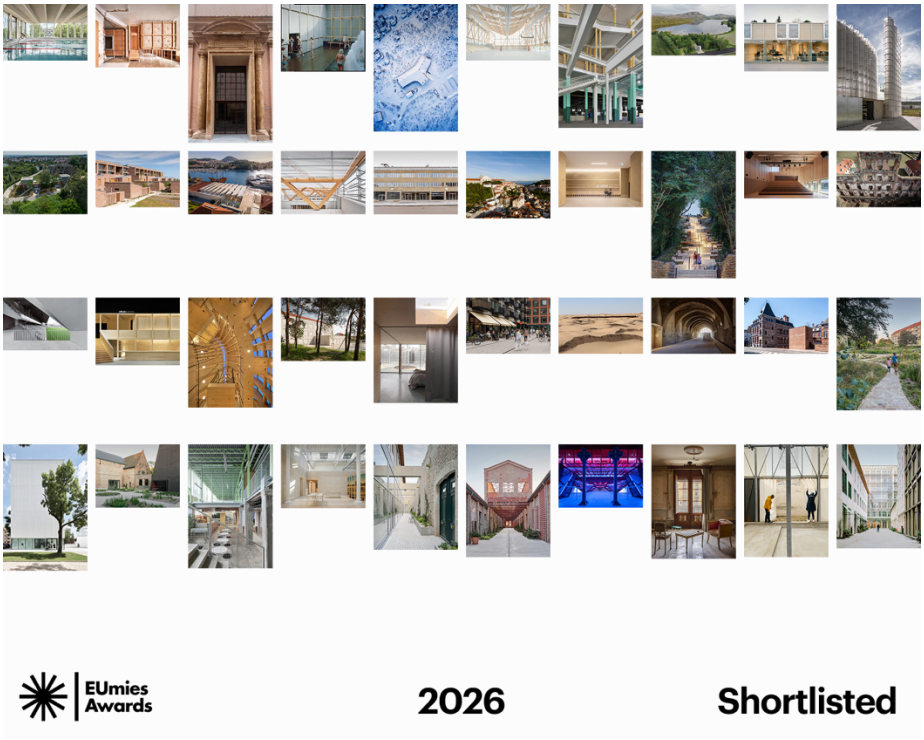
THE JURY SHORTLISTS THE 40 WORKS OF THE
2026 EUROPEAN UNION PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE
MIES VAN DER ROHE AWARDS



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- The 40 shortlisted works offer an updated panorama of European architecture over the past two years, revealing how practices are reshaping public space, sustainability, and social impact across the continent.

- The selection spans 36 cities in 18 countries and covers 15 architecture programs, reflecting a striking diversity of scales, contexts, and approaches — from major urban interventions to small rural projects.

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- Architecture studios range from newly founded teams to decades-old practices, many working through compact architectural cores supported by multidisciplinary collaborators, showing how fresh perspectives and collective expertise are driving innovation today.

Barcelona, 8 January 2026. The European Commission and the Fundació Mies van der Rohe are proud to announce the 40 shortlisted works for the 2026 European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture / Mies van der Rohe Awards. This year's edition, supported by the European Union's Creative Europe Programme, received 410 nominations, which were thoroughly analysed and discussed by the seven-member jury – President Smiljan Radić, Carl Bäckstrand, Chris Briffa, Zaiga Gaile, Tina Gregorič, Nikolaus Hirsch, and Rosa Rull – before drawing up the shortlist.

Over three days in Barcelona, the jury examined the current state of architecture in Europe, reflecting on the dual goal of delivering high-quality design for all while contributing to advancing the climate objectives of the European Green Deal. The 40 shortlisted works exemplify how architects are responding to the responsibility of designing ethically, sustainably, and with long-term social impact. They also demonstrate the importance of collaboration between architecture, urban planning, governance, and investment, as many projects had to navigate limited budgets that shaped their final form. This highlights how financial support remains a crucial factor in enabling ambitious, high-quality architecture. "Freshness" emerged as a recurring theme, highlighting the jury's appreciation for works that bring new ideas, perspectives, and energy to the public realm, confirming architecture as a vital, forward-looking force at the heart of society.

Geographic diversity

The shortlisted works span 36 cities across 30 regions and 18 countries, illustrating the diversity of contemporary architecture in Europe and beyond. **Austria** hosts **1** work (Vienna); **Belgium** has **3** (Charleroi, Kortrijk, and Ixelles); **Croatia** features **2** (Dubrovnik and Zagreb); the **Czech Republic** hosts **1** (Karlovy Vary); and **Denmark** has **4** (Copenhagen-4). **Finland** hosts **1** (Tampere), while **France** features **9** works (Laguiole, Arles, La Bouëxière, Lit-et-Mixe, Vannes, Paris, Châtenay-Malabry, Arpajon, and Sallanches). **Hungary** has **1** work (Debrecen); **Italy** hosts **2** (Milan and Bologna); **Lithuania** features **1** (Panevėžys); **Norway** has **2** (Kautokeino and Sømna); **Poland** hosts **1** (Warsaw); **Portugal** features **1** (Lisbon); **Slovakia** has **1** (Bernolákovo); **Slovenia** hosts **1** (Ljubljana); **Spain** features **7** (Barcelona-2, Logroño, Olot, Palencia, Terrassa and Villanueva de Sigena), Sweden has **1** (Linköping) and **Tunisia** has **1**

work (Kébili Governorate). From major metropolitan centers to villages of just a few hundred inhabitants, this selection reflects a wide spectrum of architectural environments.

Programs and typologies
The 40 shortlisted works represent 15 different programmes, including culture (8), mixed use (6), education (5), landscape (4), single houses (3), and sport and leisure (3), alongside works addressing collective housing, infrastructure, urban planning, ephemeral architecture, health, industrial facilities, social welfare, and commerce. They encompass 21 regeneration works, 17 new constructions, and 2 extensions, illustrating the diverse strategies through which contemporary architecture addresses social, cultural, and environmental challenges.

Clients and local engagement
Among the shortlisted works, 23 were commissioned by public clients, 12 by private clients, and 5 as mixed public-private partnerships (PPPs). Public investment continues to play a crucial role in shaping architecture that serves the wider community. Public works often provide the most ambitious opportunities for experimentation and innovation, while private and mixed commissions explore specialized programmes and alternative approaches.
Among the 40 works, 28 were designed by studios located in the same region as the work, emphasizing the value of local knowledge and engagement. Two works are transnational, involving multiple studios from different countries, each with a local team collaborating with an international partner. The remaining 10 works are transregional, designed by studios working outside the region of the work. This balance demonstrates both the strength of local expertise and the creative potential of cross-regional and international collaboration.

From emerging to established practices
The 40 shortlisted works represent a remarkable range of experience and team structures across Europe. The studios range from young practices of just a few years to firms with over seven decades of work, led by architects aged 25 to 76. Many combine small teams of 2–5 leading architects with larger multidisciplinary groups that bring together architects, landscape designers, planners, and other specialists. This diversity reflects the dynamic and inclusive nature of contemporary European architecture, where innovation is fostered through a combination of experience, fresh perspectives, and cross-disciplinary collaboration.

The 40 shortlisted works are:

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Work Name	City	Region	Country	Program	Studio	Studio City	Client
Public Swimming Pool Großfeldsiedlung	Vienna	Vienna	Austria	Sport & Leisure	illiz architektur	Vienna	Stadt Wien - MA44 Bäder
Charleroi Palais des Expositions	Charleroi	Hainaut	Belgium	Culture	AgwA architecten jan de vylder inge vinck	Brussels Gent	City of Charleroi
Abby Kortrijk	Kortrijk	West Flanders	Belgium	Culture	Barozzi Veiga Tab Architects	Barcelona Ghent	Stad Kortrijk
USquare Feder	Ixelles	Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest	Belgium	Education	Callebaut architecten BC architects & studies evr-Architecten bvba VK architects+engineers	Drongen Brussels Ghent Roeselare	VUB, ULB, SAU / MSI
Gruž Market in Dubrovnik	Dubrovnik	Adriatic Croatia	Croatia	Commerce	Peračić-Veljačić / ARP	Split	Sanitat Dubrovnik
Double Villa Bukovac	Zagreb	Grad Zagreb	Croatia	Single house	njiric+ arhitekti	Zagreb	Hrvoje Njiric, Niko Njiric
Multifunctional Hall in Imperial Spa	Karlovy Vary	Northwest	Czech Republic	Culture	Petr Hájek ARCHITEKTI	Prague	Karlovy Vary Region
Thoravej 29	Copenhagen	Capital Region	Denmark	Mixed use - Cultural & Social	pihlmann architects	Copenhagen	The Bikuben Foundation
Grønningen-Bispeparken	Copenhagen	Capital Region	Denmark	Landscape	SLA	Copenhagen	City of Copenhagen
Masterplan for Carlsberg Byen	Copenhagen	Capital Region	Denmark	Urban planning	entasis	Copenhagen	Carlsberg Byen
Centre for Health	Copenhagen	Capital Region	Denmark	Health	Dorte Mandrup A/S	Copenhagen	City of Copenhagen
Tammela Stadium	Tampere	Southern Finland	Finland	Sport & Leisure	JKMM Architects	Helsinki	City of Tampere
Multi-Service Cultural Centre Le Foirail	Laguiole	Occitanie	France	Mixed use - Cultural & Social	Betillon & Freyermuth* Crypto Architectes	Toulouse Toulouse	Communauté de communes Aubrac, Carladez et Viadène
Lot 8, LUMA Arles - Renovation of Le Magasin Électrique	Arles	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	France	Industrial	Atelier Luma BC architects & studies ASSEMBLE	Arles Brussels London	The Luma Foundation
Josephine Baker - Marie-Jose Perec Sports and Cultural Centre	La Bouëxière	Brittany	France	Sport & Leisure	onze04	Barcelona	Commune de La Bouëxière
M37 house in Contis	Lit-et-Mixe	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	France	Single house	BAST LITTORAL	Toulouse Bordeaux	Pasquet
Third Place Flow	Vannes	Brittany	France	Mixed use - Commercial & Offices	Office Zola architectes	Nantes	SCI Pasithéa
206 Lafayette - Restructuring and Densification of a Mixed-Use Block Including Offices, Social Housing and Stores	Paris	Ile-de-France	France	Mixed use - Commercial & Offices	DATA ARCHITECTES THINK TANK architecture	Paris Paris	SNC Cours Lafayette

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Seed School: Growing Schools from Rammed Earth, Wood, and Recycled Concrete	Châtenay-Malabry	Ile-de-France	France	Education	a+ samueldelmas architectes urbanistes	Paris	Ville de Châtenay-Malabry
56 Social Dwellings	Arpajon	Ile-de-France	France	Collective housing	Jean et Aline Harari architectes	Paris	Immobilière 3F
School of Music, Dance and Theater	Sallanches	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	France	Education	LINK architectes Doucerain Lièvre Delziani Architectes	Lyon Lyon	Mairie de Sallanches
The Dryer Workshop	Debrecen	Northern Great Plain	Hungary	Education	dmb műterem Ltd.	Budapest	Debreceni Egyetem Műszaki Kar Építészmérnöki Tanszék
Bicocca Superlab	Milan	Lombardy	Italy	Mixed use - Commercial & Offices	BALANCE ARCHITETTURA	Torino	MASINI 011 S.R.L.
The Project of Time - Restoration of the Former Church of San Barbaziano	Bologna	Emilia-Romagna	Italy	Culture	Studio Poggioli	Bologna	National Museums of Bologna – Regional Directorate of National Museums of Emilia-Romagna – Peripheral Institute of the Ministry of Culture
Stasys Museum	Panevėžys	Central and Western Lithuania	Lithuania	Culture	IMPLMNT Architects	Vilnius	Panevėžys city municipality
Čoarvemátta - Sámi Theater, High School and Reindeer Herding School	Kautokeino	Northern Norway	Norway	Mixed use - Cultural & Social	70°N arkitektur Joar Nango Snøhetta	Tromsø Tromsø Oslo	Statsbygg
Sundshopen - Norwegian Scenic Routes	Sømna	Northern Norway	Norway	Landscape	Rever & Drage Architects	Oslo	The Norwegian Public Roads Administration
Warsaw Uprising Mound	Warsaw	Mazovia	Poland	Landscape	TopoScape Archigrest	Warszawa Warszawa	Warsaw Greenery Authority / Capital City of Warsaw
Graça Funicular	Lisbon	Greater Lisbon	Portugal	Infrastructure	Atelier Bugio	Lisboa	EMEL - empresa de mobilidade e estacionamento de Lisboa
Extension of a Primary School - New School Pavilion and Multipurpose Hall	Bernolákovo	Bratislava Region	Slovakia	Education	BAKYTA ARCHITEKTI	Bratislava	municipality of Bernolakovo
Temporary Spaces for Slovenian National Theatre Drama	Ljubljana	Western Slovenia	Slovenia	Culture	Vidic Grohar Arhitekti	Ljubljana	L56 d.o.o.
Rehabilitation of Vapor Cortès - Prodis 1923	Terrassa	Catalonia	Spain	Social welfare	H ARQUITECTES	Sabadell	Prodiscapacitats Fundació

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Interventions in the Monestry of Santa Maria de Sijena	Villanueva de Sigena	Aragon	Spain	Culture	Pemán y Franco Sebastián Arquitectos	Zaragoza Zaragoza	Dirección General de Patrimonio Cultural del Gobierno de Aragón
10K House	Barcelona	Catalonia	Spain	Single house	TAKK // Mireia Luzárraga + Alejandro Muiño	L'Hospitalet del Llobregat	Martí Delclòs
Round About Baths	Logroño	La Rioja	Spain	Ephemeral	Leopold Banchini Architects	Barcelona	Festival Concéntrico
DH Ecoenergy Plant #1	Palencia	Castile and León	Spain	Infrastructure	FRPO Rodríguez & Oriol	Madrid	DH Ecoenergías
GREENH@USE 140 Social Housing in 22@ BCN	Barcelona	Catalonia	Spain	Collective housing	peris+toral.arquitectes L3J Tècnics Associats	Barcelona Barcelona	IMHAB
Plaça Major - Public Space. Heritage, Housing and Urban Life	Olot	Catalonia	Spain	Urban planning	Un Parell d'Arquitectes Pep de Solà-Morales Arquitectes Quim Domene	Olot Girona Olot	Olot town hall and owners
Stjärnorp Castle Ruin	Linköping	East Middle Sweden	Sweden	Culture	Wikerstål Arkitekter / Tengbom Arkitekter	Helsingborg	Slottstornet
Land of Wells	Kébili Governorate	Tunisia	Tunisia	Landscape	Collective Bled el Abar	Ariana	The Sabria community

The jury's evaluation took into account both works that renew existing buildings and those that introduce new construction. They considered the variety of ways in which existing buildings and spaces are transformed: through extensions, heritage consolidation, partial demolition and reconstruction, restoration, interventions on existing structures, reuse of materials on-site and in other works, or the use of local materials to adapt and transform. Observed across buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces, these approaches demonstrate how thoughtful design can combine creativity, sustainability, and respect for context, giving renewed life to the built environment.

According to the jury members:
"Over my 30 years of working with heritage, I've learned how to connect the past with contemporary thinking. Seeing the final selection of 40 shortlisted works, including emerging architects, fills my heart with joy – it shows how architecture can honor memory while shaping the future." **Zaiga Gaile**, architect, conservator and founder of Zaigas Gailes Birojs.

"Architecture today should also surprise, inspire, and explore what is possible. The most compelling works combine innovation with respect for existing structures, materials, and communities. By rethinking regeneration, reuse, and collective housing, we can create architecture that not only serves people but also expands the creative potential of our

profession.” **Tina Gregorič**, architect, educator and co-founder of Dekleva Gregorič Architects.

"Architecture today carries an extraordinary responsibility. It’s not just about designing buildings – it’s about shaping the spaces where people live, meet, and interact. From regenerating existing structures to innovating with sustainable materials, architecture can address social, environmental, and cultural challenges simultaneously. I am particularly inspired by works that enhance public spaces, foster biodiversity, and demonstrate Europe’s diverse approaches to design. These works show the real potential of architecture to guide our cities – and our societies – through this period of profound change." **Carl Bäckstrand**, architect and Deputy CEO at White Arkitekter.

Calendar

- **8 January 2026:** Announcement of the shortlist
- **February 2026:** Announcement of the finalist works
- **April 2026:** Announcement of the winners
- **May 2026:** EUmies Awards Days with conferences, debates, exhibitions, and Awards Ceremony at the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion in Barcelona
- **Ma-June:** Out&About programme and travelling exhibitions

EUmies Awards Out&About

Starting in April 2026, the EUmies Awards Out&About programme will bring these works closer to the public through visits, lectures, and events with their authors, enabling wider access and understanding. The works can also be explored virtually at eumiesawards.com.

EUmies Awards Days 2026

The EUmies Awards Days will take place on 11 and 12 May 2026 in Barcelona, within the framework of Barcelona World Capital of Architecture 2026. Events will include:

- The **Awards Ceremony** at the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion
- **Debates**, **conferences**, and **presentations** with winners, finalists, clients, and past participants
- The EUmies Awards **exhibition**
- The launch of the EUmies Awards **Out&About** programme

Partners

The EUmies Awards are organised by Fundació Mies van der Rohe and the European Commission, with support from the EU Creative Europe Programme. The Awards are anchored in a strong European architectural ecosystem through institutional partnerships with the Architects’ Council of Europe (ACE) and the European Association for Architectural Education

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(EAAE), and developed in collaboration with World Architects and the European Cultural Centre (Venice). Sponsors include Jung, Jansen, and Zumtobel, with additional support from USM and Hotel Alma Barcelona. The Advisory Committee ensures the Awards' relevance and impact across Europe.

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