



The European Prize for Urban Public Space 2024 announces the finalists.

The International Jury of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2024, meeting on 27 and 28 June, has chosen the 10 finalists of this edition, 5 in the General category and 5 in the Seafronts category.

The projects selected are located in Belgium, Spain, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Switzerland. Most correspond to medium-sized cities, showing that sensibility and attempts to promote quality public spaces exist throughout European territory, beyond big cities.

A total of 297 projects, corresponding to 35 European countries, were submitted, reflecting the important project activity that takes place in European public space, essential for the development of cities.

The European Prize for Urban Public Space is an honorary biennial competition that, since 2000, has recognized the best interventions in the creation, transformation and recovery of public spaces in European cities. This edition exceptionally incorporates the Seafronts category in response to the particular vulnerability of coastal cities to climate change and in the framework of the Cultural Regatta, the programme of activities promoted by Barcelona City Council to accompany the celebration of the America's Cup in the city.

On 9 September, the 5 finalists in the Seafronts category, and on 28 October those in the General category will present their projects to the Jury. The winning works in the two categories will be announced on 29 October. All the events will take place at the CCCB and will be open to the public.

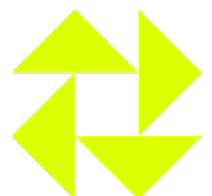
In April this year, the Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB) closed registration for the 12th European Prize for Urban Public Space with a total of 297 projects entered, corresponding to 35 European countries. The International Jury has chosen the 10 finalist works of this edition (five for the General category and five for the Seafronts category) in a call for works carried out in 2022 and 2023, a period that, in the case of Seafronts, extends back to 2019. The winning works will be announced at a public event that will be held at CCCB on 29 October 2024.

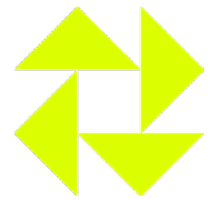
The 12th edition of the prize received 253 entries in the General category and 44 in the Seafronts category. The countries with the highest number of works presented are Spain, Poland, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, France, Italy and Romania. The high number of countries represented (35), similar to that of the 11th edition and higher than previous ones, reflects the consolidation of the prize in Europe.

On this occasion, the prize incorporates the Seafronts category into its usual call to highlight the role of coastal cities, laboratories for rethinking the city and ways of inhabiting it in the face of rising sea levels and extreme climate phenomena.

On 9 September, the finalists in the Seafronts category will present their projects at the Cities and the Sea conference, open to the public, which will take place at the CCCB. Then, on 28 October, the finalists in the General category will present their projects to the Jury in a session that will also be public. Finally, the winners of the 12th European Prize for Urban Public Space will be announced at the awards ceremony that will take place at the CCCB on 29 October.

Meeting on 27 and 28 June at the CCCB (Barcelona), the **International Jury**, presided by the urbanist architect and landscape and industrial designer **Beth Galí**, lecturer at the Barcelona School of Architecture and guest lecturer in Lausanne, Delft and Harvard; and made up of **Sonia Curnier**, architect and researcher at the Urban Sociology Laboratory of the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne; **Fabrizio Gallanti**, curator and architect, director of Arc en Rêve, a centre for architecture in Bordeaux; **Žaklina Gligorjević**, architect and urbanist, consultant on urban issues in the European Union and World Bank projects in Serbia; **Beate Hølmebakk**, architect and co-founder of Manthey Kula, lecturer at the Institute of Architecture of the Oslo School of Architecture; **Manon Mollard**, architect, writer and editor of *Architectural Review*; **Francesco Musco**, urban design architect specializing in sustainable development and maritime environments, lecturer at the Università IUA di Venezia; with the support of **Lluís Ortega**, architect, lecturer at the UPC and Prize Secretary, selected the following works as finalists:





Finalists in the General category



Park at the Warsaw Uprising Mound. *Warsaw, Poland.*

topoScape, Archigrest

A new park offers a public space connected to the memory of the place. It does so in an innovative way, creating a new urban area with character that acknowledges and visibilizes history, recycling the ruins of World War II destruction, and with the future in mind, providing a park that is accessible and enjoyable for citizens. It achieves this by means of strategies that are sensitive to the ecological needs of the area, projecting a unique integration of memory, leisure and ecology.



Boca de la Mina Promenade. *Reus, Spain.*

Batlleiroig

A new promenade exemplifies the seamless integration of landscape, history, ecological needs, and health and leisure activities by means of meticulous design. The use of handmade brick gives the site a coherent character, while the clear water management strategy enhances landscape-urban permeability. This approach supports open-air activities for the citizens of Reus and its surroundings, promoting both ecological and recreational benefits.



Seven interventions in Monte. *Castel San Pietro, Switzerland*

studioser

This project is the result of a thorough study of several peripheral regions of Ticino, where the needs and challenges faced by the elderly population in their everyday lives were identified as issues to be addressed. Following these recommendations, Monte implemented a proposal that, through careful, sophisticated architectural craftsmanship, transformed the town into a more accessible, inclusive and supportive environment.



CHAPEX. *Charleroi, Belgium.*

AJDVIV, AgwA

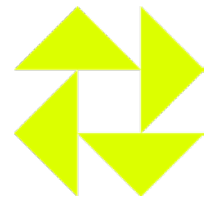
This large structure exemplifies how post-industrial sites can be reintegrated into the urban landscape and public life. It achieves this by leveraging the power of the unused structure and the project's open-ended nature. This optimistic intervention embraces the existing site, identifies new opportunities with architectural intelligence and uses very limited resources to maximize urban qualities. It becomes an infrastructure ready for life to take over.



Urban Forest. *Tbilisi, Georgia.*

Ruderal

This ambitious 700-hectare project aims to rectify a flawed plantation strategy from the 1920s that involved exclusively planting pines. This ageing pine plantation has suffered significant die-off due to pests and fungi, creating a fire hazard and posing a risk to public safety. The project serves not only as a remediation strategy, by increasing biodiversity through the introduction of autochthonous species, but also to develop new tools for addressing urban ecological interventions. It offers a new public space and an urban forest that helps contain unchecked urban growth, providing Tbilisi with a forward-looking, open-ended project.



Finalists in the Seafronts category



Beach improvement and redevelopment of the harbour edge.

Porto do Son, Spain.

CREUSECARRASCO, RVR Arquitectos

This project renaturalizes the seafront, currently occupied by an urbanized strip, by creating a terrain with dunes that protects an existing park and rebuilds the relationship between port activity and the citizens. The intervention employs a gradient of strategies that respond to the varying conditions of the frontline, and recognizes the identity of this village—salting, drying nets, shipbuilding—, while demonstrating the benefits of collaboration over time between various political, civic and economic stakeholders.



Redevelopment of Dún Laoghaire Baths. Dublin, Ireland.

DLR Architects' Department, A2 Architects

The project revitalizes the long-abandoned seafront facilities, reconnecting the town with the sea. This was achieved through the careful, skilful use of materials that acknowledge the ocean's energy, resulting in a robust, socially inclusive new route to the water for all citizens. The project included the removal of old, dilapidated buildings, opening new public spaces that restore the citizens' relationship with the sea.



Coastal walk. Palamós, Spain.

Estudi Martí Franch Arquitectura del Paisatge, Ardevol Consultors Associats

This 5 km coastal intervention exemplifies excellent design, preserving and enhancing the coastal landscape while connecting the town, nearby beaches and a natural park. Through minimal interventions that maximize impact, it demonstrates a deep understanding of the site. This approach celebrates the sublime landscape, reduces user impact and ensures its protection.



Sea Park. Rimini, Italy.

Benedetta Tagliabue - EMBT Architects

The park transforms the previously unstructured, fragmented seafront into an urban park, seamlessly integrated with its surroundings. Along its 6 km length it recognizes and embraces the city's exuberance, providing a new identity and a green urban space for tourists and locals alike. This park plays a crucial role in reducing the impact of climate change while mitigating the intense touristic impact on the urban character and quality of the area.



Beach boulevard. Delfzijl, Netherlands.

LAOS landscape urbanism

The project has reconnected the city centre of Delfzijl to the Wadden Sea. Due to rising sea levels and climate change, there was a need to increase defences, which had created a visual barrier between the city and the sea. The new boulevard addresses this issue by linking the two and generating a new public space by means of infrastructural improvements and ecological restoration. The engineering work inspired the design, and the resulting intervention promotes and improves access to the sea, and facilitates a better understanding of the landscape.

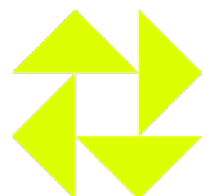
Selected Works

In addition to shortlisting 5 finalists for the prize, of the total of 253 works entered in the Prize's General category, the Jury has selected another 20 projects for their high quality. They will be included in the Digital Archive of the European Prize for Urban Public Space.

The **Archive** brings together the best projects submitted (finalists and selected works) since the Award was created in 2000. A total of 320 exemplary public spaces in 200 European cities, available for consultation on the website, with extensive documentary material illustrate the intervention strategies carried out in Europe in the last 24 years.

The **works selected** by the Jury are:

- **Example's green axes and squares.** *Barcelona, Spain.* 08014, Agence Ter, Ana Coello Paisatge i Arquitectura, B67 Palomeras Arquitectes, BOPBA Arquitectura, Ciertto Estudio, Clara Solà-Morales Studio, Esteyco, Estudi Martí Franch Arquitectura del Paisatge, Fabric Office, González Cavia y Cabrera Arquitectura Urbanismo y Paisaje, GPO Ingeniería y Arquitectura, LANDLAB Laboratorio de Paisajes, METRONOM, nablabcn studio, Oficina Superilla, Under Project Lab
- **Riverfront.** *Loures, Portugal.* Topiaris
- **City Lake.** *Horn, Austria.* YEWOLandscapes
- **Reclamation of former slaughterhouse area as an extension of Plato gallery.** *Ostrava, Czech Republic.* KWK Promes
- **Bridgefoot Street Park.** *Dublin, Ireland.* DFLA
- **Brigittines Park.** *Brussels, Belgium.* GÉNÉRALE
- **Covering the remains of the church of St. John the Baptist in the Žiže Charterhouse.** *Stare Slemene, Slovenia.* Medprostor
- **Prague Eyes.** *Prague, Czech Republic.* Petr Janda
- **Space for Solidarity – a pilot project.** *Bucharest, Romania.* Atelier Ad Hoc Arhitectură | Comunitate
- **Reconversion of the central market square.** *Tienen, Belgium.* 51N4E, Plant & Houtgoed, BAS, ARA
- **The «Promenades».** *Reims, France.* Osty et associés, Encore Heureux, Les Éclaireurs, OGI, TPFI
- **AIRE (Pavilion for TAC! Urban Architecture Festival 2022).** *Granada, Spain.* P+S Estudio de Arquitectura
- **Extension of Bijgaarde Park.** *Ghent, Belgium.* &Bogdan architects, LAND landschapsarchitecten, NEY & Partners, VK architects+engineers, Greenspot
- **Rooftop Walk, Rotterdam Rooftop Days.** *Rotterdam, Netherlands.* MVRDV, LOLA Landscape Architects, Dutch Steigers
- **Marketplace and Lammegarten.** *Bad Salzdetfurth, Germany.* POLA Landschaftsarchitekten
- **Bench Invasion.** *Bruges, Belgium.* Compagnie krak
- **Temporary Market in Horta. A project in two stages.** *Barcelona, Spain.* Carles Enrich Studio, Ravetllat Arquitectura
- **Rijnvliet Edible Neighborhood.** *Utrecht, Netherlands.* Felixx Landscape Architects & Planners
- **Aphrodite cultural environmental route.** *Ineia, Cyprus.* Agisilaou & Kalavas Architectural Studio
- **Center for Building with Earth - Park of Oracles.** *Dobrava pri Škočjanu, Slovenia.* Z.O.P. - Institute for Spatial Design



Advisory Committee

The European Prize for Urban Public Space is an initiative of the **Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB)**, with the collaboration of the following European institutions:

Arc en Rêve, Bordeaux, France

Architekturzentrum Wien – AzW, Vienna, Austria

ArkDes, Stockholm, Sweden

La Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine, Paris, France

CIVA, Brussels, Belgium

Deutsches Architekturmuseum – DAM, Frankfurt, Germany

Eesti Arhitektuurimuuseum, Tallinn, Estonia

Kortárs Építészeti Központ – Kék, Budapest, Hungary

Muzej za Arhitekturo in Oblikovanje – MAO, Ljubljana, Slovenia

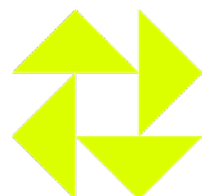
The Architecture Foundation – AF, London, United Kingdom

The history of a Prize of European and social vocation

The European Prize for Urban Public Space has a natural home in the European city which, despite its diverse nature, has some shared historic attributes, including a human scale, a compact design, and the mixed character of its uses.

In this idea of the European city, public space plays a key role as a collective meeting place imbued with political, economic, and social values that are inseparable from a physical design that accommodates them and makes them possible.

In its 24 years and 12 editions, the Prize has received 2,829 entries and, to date, awarded 19 awards and 35 special mentions.



The Centre of Contemporary Culture of Barcelona (CCCB)

The **CCCB** is a multidisciplinary cultural centre dedicated to exploring the big themes of contemporary society, using different languages and formats, with a broad programme that includes major thematic exhibitions, cycles of conferences and literary meetings, audiovisual screenings and festivals. Since it was created, the CCCB has promoted reflection on contemporary cities, seeing them as the prime space for the transformations and challenges of today's world.

This project is made possible by contributions from the following institutions:



The press release and high-resolution images from the Prize may be found at:

>>>> [Link to the press release](http://www.publicspace.org)>>>>
www.publicspace.org

For further information, reportages and interviews please contact with:

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