

Nominees and Jury announced for the 2026 European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture / Mies van der Rohe Awards (EUmies Awards)



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<u>Barcelona, 6 November 2025.</u> The **European Commission** and **Fundació Mies van der Rohe** are pleased to announce the nominees and the jury for the 2026 edition of the **European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture / Mies van der Rohe Awards (EUmies Awards)**, the most prestigious recognition of contemporary architecture in Europe.



This 19th cycle of the Prize, with the support of the European Union's Creative Europe Programme, brings together **410 works from 40 countries and 143 regions**, reflecting the diversity, creativity, and richness of Europe's architectural landscape. Submitted by a broad network of national architectural associations, independent experts, and the Advisory Committee, the nominations showcase the most significant built works completed between May 2023 and April 2025.

From this list, the jury will identify a shortlist of 40 outstanding projects which will be announced in January 2026, narrowing it down to seven finalists the following month. In spring 2026, jury members will visit the sites of the finalists, engaging directly with architects, clients, users, and local communities. The winners in the Architecture and Emerging Architecture categories will then be unveiled in Oulu — one of the two 2026 European Capitals of Culture — in April 2026, celebrating projects that define the future of European architecture.

"Architecture is not merely a technical or aesthetic matter – it is a cultural, environmental, and democratic issue. It reflects our shared European values such as cultural diversity, sustainability, democracy, and solidarity"

Normunds Popens, Deputy Director-General at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission

"The EUmies Awards 2026 celebrate the best of European architecture, a shared project that reflects our continent's creativity, innovation, and commitment to a sustainable present. In the special context of Barcelona as World Capital of Architecture, we are honoured to provide a stage where Europe's architectural excellence involves everybody." Laia Bonet, President of the Fundació Mies van der Rohe and Deputy Mayor of Barcelona City Council

The Jury

The 2026 jury unites internationally acclaimed architects and experts, chaired by the architect **Smiljan Radić**. The panel includes:

- 1. **Carl Bäckstrand (Sweden)** Deputy CEO of White Arkitekter, a leading voice in sustainable design and resilient cities.
- 2. **Chris Briffa (Malta)** Founder of Chris Briffa Architects, known for sensitive contemporary interventions in Malta's historic fabric.
- 3. **Zaiga Gaile (Latvia)** Architect and conservationist, acclaimed for revitalising Riga's wooden and industrial heritage.
- 4. **Tina Gregorič (Slovenia)** Co-founder of Dekleva Gregorič Architects, recognised for context-driven, research-based design.
- 5. **Nikolaus Hirsch (Germany/Belgium)** Architect, curator and educator, Artistic Director of CIVA in Brussels, co-founder of *e-flux architecture*.
- 6. **Rosa Rull (Spain)** Co-founder of BAILORULL + ADD Arquitectura, whose research-based practice explores architecture as a continuous urban process.



With their wide-ranging experience and distinctive perspectives, the jury will deliver a thorough and insightful assessment of this year's most outstanding projects.



The 410 works

23% of the works deal with the issue of housing, whether collective or single-family. Works related to cultural programmes account for 13%, a figure similar to that of educational projects (12%).

44% of the **410 works** correspond to transformations of existing constructions, compared to **56%** of new constructions **12%** are transnational works and **33%** of the studios are 10 years old or younger.

By country, the 410 works are located in:

France	32	Estonia	9
Spain	24	Latvia	9
Italy	21	Bulgaria	8
Slovenia	16	Georgia	8



Belgium	15	Netherlands	8
Greece	14	Sweden	8
Ireland	14	Luxembourg	7
Austria	13	Norway	7
Croatia	13	Serbia	7
Cyprus	13	Slovakia	7
Lithuania	13	Montenegro	6
Poland	13	Macedonia	6
Ukraine	13	Malta	6
Germany	12	Iceland	5
Portugal	12	Kosovo	5
Romania	12	Armenia	4
Czech Republic	11	Albania	3
Hungary	11	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3
Denmark	10	Moldova	1
Finland	10	Tunisia	1

See the list of works per region here.
See the list by country here.

Calendar

- 6 November 2025 → Announcement of nominees and opening of the public archive
- January 2026 → Announcement of the 40 shortlisted works.
- February 2026 → Announcement of the finalist works.
- April 2026 → Announcement of the winners.
- May 2026 → EUmies Awards Days with conferences, debates, exhibition and Awards Ceremony in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion in Barcelona.
- May onwards → Out&About programme and travelling exhibition and debates.

EUmies Awards Days 2026

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

- 1. The Awards Ceremony at the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion.
- 2. Debates, conferences and presentations with winners, finalists, clients, and past participants.
- 3. The exhibition of the EUmies Awards.
- 4. The launch of the **EUmies Awards Out&About programme**, inviting citizens to visit shortlisted works across Europe.

Partners

The EUmies Awards are organised by Fundació Mies van der Rohe and the European Commission, with the support of the European Union's **Creative Europe Programme**. They are anchored in a strong European architectural ecosystem through the institutional partnership of the **Architects' Council of Europe** (ACE) and the **European Association**



for Architectural Education (EAAE) and developed in collaboration with World Architects with the European Cultural Centre as a partner in Venice. The Awards are supported by sponsors Jung, Jansen, and Zumtobel, with additional support from USM and Hotel Alma Barcelona. The Advisory Committee, composed of leading European architecture institutions, contributes expertise that ensures the broad relevance and impact of the Awards across Europe.

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More information: www.eumiesawards.com

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- @eumiesawards (Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube)
- @fundaciomies (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)
- @CreativeEuropeEU (Facebook)
- @europe_creative (X)
- #EUmiesAwards2026
- #Architecture #Emerging #Jury





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Background

Initiated in 1988, the Prize is awarded by the European Commission and Fundació Mies van der Rohe. It recognises excellence, innovation, and sustainability in architecture, and highlights the transformative power of design in shaping Europe's environment and society. Since 2016, the Prize also includes the **Young Talent category**, which celebrates the best graduation projects from architecture schools in Europe and beyond. The "Architecture & Emerging" categories proceed together in one jury process, while a separate independent jury reviews the "Young Talent" category.

All the works participating in the EUmies Awards Architecture & Emerging are nominated by European independent experts, the national architecture associations and the Prize Advisory Committee.

The Architecture Winner receives €60,000 and the Emerging Winner €30,000, both accompanied by sculptures specially designed to symbolise the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion. Finalists and clients are also recognised with dedicated awards.

The Prize's reach extends globally through exhibitions, debates, and publications and the **EUmies Awards Archive**, making the EUmies Awards a unique platform for exchange between architects, institutions, and citizens.

Creative Europe is the European Commission's framework programme for support to the cultural and audiovisual sectors. Creative Europe invests in actions that reinforce cultural diversity and respond to the needs and challenges of the cultural and creative sectors. The main objectives of the programme are to safeguard, develop, and promote European cultural and linguistic diversity and heritage, and to increase the competitiveness and economic potential of the cultural and creative sectors, in particular the audiovisual sector.

Fundació Mies van der Rohe fosters debate on and awareness of themes related to contemporary architecture and urban planning, as well as encouraging studies on the work of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Lilly Reich, the Modern Movement and Contemporary Architecture.

Prize

The Architecture Winner receives €60,000 and a sculpture by Xavier Corberó that evokes the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion of Barcelona. The Emerging Winner receives €30,000 together with the sculpture. The finalists and the clients receive a sculpture by Tomoko Sakamoto, recognising their indispensable contribution to contemporary architecture.

The EUmies Awards draw the map of the best European Con<temporary Architecture with the Architecture Winner, the Emerging Winner, and the Young Talent Winners. The prestige of the Prize and the dissemination of the knowledge and savoir-faire of European architects is further enhanced with the organisation of exhibitions and debates worldwide, bringing architecture nearer to citizens.



All these works can be found in the online archive, which counts with 6,504 works.

Link to full list of works:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/l57rlhel7ckp1fupbnodz/AG34h7GXPOFxuYloU8RhoPU?rlke <u>y=96079asti8lu531ettb1m8yqa&st=42rpqq4g&dl=0</u>

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- #EUmiesAwards2026
- #Architecture #Emerging #Jury





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Partner in Venice:















