

# LIVING CITIES —2

## Reimagining Architectures by Caring for Inhabited Milieus

Competition of ideas

Open to architectural, landscape and urban design  
professionals under 40 years of age  
In 51 European cities

Followed by implementation

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New European Bauhaus partner

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Under the patronage of  
Madam Marija Pejčinović Burić,  
Secretary General of the Council of Europe

## ONE THEME...

In the continuum of European 16, European 17 “Living Cities /2” wants to pursue the reflexion on the profound change in the manner of envisioning projects in a context of ecological transition by asking the question of the regenerative capacities of living milieus amidst new ecologies that attempt to overcome the opposition between nature and culture and anthropocentrism during times marked by natural disasters and a climate emergency.

### How can we care for inhabited milieus?

Climate emergency, overexploitation, pollution, inequality and iniquity —all these ills, upheavals and disorientations demand actions of “care” that address the coexistence and interrelationship of all the elements of the living world, and thus mandate a radical shift in paradigm. Joan Tronto, one of the chief political theorists of the “ethic of care”, defines care as “the characteristic activity of the human species which includes all that we do in order to maintain, perpetuate and repair our world so that we can live there as well as possible.”

This demands an awareness of the affiliations and interactions at work in the situations put forward for the competition. For European 17, the contexts demand a radical change towards a more immersive approach to the conception and production of space, an approach founded in care for living milieus. A new paradigm is at work, prompting us to wonder how to reconcile things and beings at a time when the habitability of Planet Earth is in question. Local and translocal strategies are to be associated both with issues of metabolism (new ways of managing flows of natural elements, materials and human beings with the aim of developing circular economy) and issues of fairness and solidarity (inclusivity of actors in processes) which were already partially operative in certain contexts in E16.

### Reimagining architectures that are embodied in “visions” or “narratives” of the evolution of sites between present and future

In response to these territorial challenges, it is more than necessary to create complex, global and dynamic spatial reconfigurations in damaged inhabited milieus in order to revitalise biological and human communities.

The care-based approach will lead to a necessary interplay of innovative, dynamic and varied project processes:

- Producing an active understanding of what is already in place (biological + socio-anthropological scales), a situational intelligence;
- On the basis of this immersion, repairing mistreated territories/spaces by subtraction and recreation;
- Engage in sober urban projects (reduced land consumption) and in architectural projects that are economical in terms of materials, technicality, energy, attentive to resources in their impact on the Earth;
- Reinforcing, regenerating or creating qualities of hybridisation between nature and culture;
- Linking the scale of strategic and dynamic reflection on territories (the large-scale structuring ecological challenges) with the scale of local spaces and their re-conception (everyday spaces and shared spaces);
- Imagining/creating spaces today with a view to the connection between present and future and therefore their production and adaptability over time (sustainable development);
- Tackling projects with a readiness for design and production processes that involve all actors with their diversity and their differing roles.

### The 51 sites are inhabited milieus for regenerate

Mixing nature and culture, the European 17 sites are located in numerous environments as city centres and suburban areas, big cities and small towns, urban brownfield sites and rural spaces.

All of them, however, include the two dimensions of nature (natural elements) and culture (inhabited spaces).

All of them also combine two scales:

- ▶ The territorial and geographical scale of the “reflection site” (delimited with a red line and which raises the big issues around ecology, mobilities and must be taken into account by the competitors and where they can propose ideas of evolution...)
- ▶ And the proximity scale of the “project site” (delimited with a yellow line which may range from a single building and its immediate environment to larger fragments where the architectural project links in with the wider territorial scale).

## AND 3 SUB-THEMES

### TO CLASSIFY SITES

#### Sub-theme 1: Let the Birds Sing!

Reimagining public space as a biodiverse landscape

#### Sub-theme 2: Imagine a Second Life!

Transforming neighbourhoods and buildings towards an inclusive milieu

#### Sub-theme 3: Think Tabula Non-Rasa!

Designing new habitats towards a holistic environment

# 51 SITES IN 12 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

- Let the Birds Sing!
- Imagine a Second Life!
- Think Tabula Non-Rasa!



## SCALES XL/L/S

Each site has two scales: that of the Reflection Site and that of the Project Site. Their interconnection gives a specific inter-scale relationship.

S: Proximity scale  
L: Urban or rural milieu scale  
XL: Territorial scale

### BELGIQUE / BELGIË / BELGIEN

● Brussels XL/L

### DEUTSCHLAND

● Bad Lobenstein L/L  
● Berlin XL/L  
● Borkum L/S  
● Ingolstadt L/S  
● Kassel XL/L  
● Leipzig L/S  
● München L/S  
● Regensburg XL/S

### ESPAÑA

● Barcelona XL/S  
● Chiva L/S  
● Eibar S/S  
● Eivissa L/S  
● El Prat de Llobregat XL/L  
● Madrid L/S  
● Nalón Estuary XL/S  
● Torrelavega L/L

### FRANCE

● Bernay Terres de Normandie XL/S  
● Courcy-Grand Reims XL/L  
● Fleurance L/S  
● Grenoble Alpes Métropole XL/L  
● Guérande XL/S  
● Le Palais, Belle-Ile-en-Mer XL/S  
● Marseille XL/L  
● Métropole Rouen Normandie XL/L  
● Nantes L/S  
● Rennes XL/S

### HRVATSKA

● Makarska L/S

### ITALIA

● Cantù L/S

### NEDERLAND

● Groenewoud L/S  
● Kenniskwartier S/S  
● Schorsmolen L/S  
● 't Zoet L/S  
● Waalwijk L/S  
● Etten-Leur L/S

### NORGE

● Åkrehamn XL/L  
● Grensen L/S  
● Krøgenes XL/L  
● Larvik L/S  
● Østmarka XL/L

### ÖSTERREICH

● Lochau L/S  
● Graz XL/L  
● Wien XL/L

### SLOVENIJA

● Celje XL/L

### SUOMI-FINLAND

● Helsinki XL/S  
● Vaasa L/L

### SVERIGE

● Nyköping XL/L  
● Rimbo XL/L  
● Skellefteå XL/L  
● Växjö XL/S

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The competition is open to professionals and students (master) of the architecture, landscape and urban design...

But multidisciplinary is strongly recommended and the teams can integrate, as associates or contributors, professionals and students (master) from other complementary fields such as sociology, geography, environment, ecology, biology, agriculture, arts...

However, any team must include at least one qualified architect. And each member of a team must be under the age of 40 on the deadline for submitting the projects.

## CALENDAR

### LAUNCH OF THE COMPETITION

Monday March 27, 2023

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING DOCUMENTS & PROJECTS

Sunday July 30, 2023

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

Monday December 4, 2023