



Barcelona  
2026

World Capital  
of Architecture

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OPEN CALL TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF BARCELONA 2026 UNESCO-UIA WORLD CAPITAL OF ARCHITECTURE

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE CALL

The purpose of these terms and conditions is to govern the procedure involved in submitting and selecting proposals linked to the programme of Barcelona 2026 UNESCO-UIA World Capital of Architecture, which will take place between **12 February and 23 December 2026** in the city of Barcelona.

## 2. DESCRIPTION AND AIM

**Barcelona is known worldwide as a city of architecture for its beautiful, unique buildings,** for the way in which we all strive to preserve our centuries-old architectural heritage, and for our solid commitment to providing welcoming, accessible and inclusive spaces for everyone.

Barcelona's designation as the World Capital of Architecture gives us a unique opportunity as international point of reference to bring architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture closer to the general public showing how these disciplines are key factors in their day-to-day life.

This is the spirit behind Barcelona as the World Capital of Architecture, as we strive to highlight the discipline and its capacity to transform and improve the urban environment and public spaces. Furthermore, this event will be a great opportunity to show how architecture has become more essential than ever in order to face the challenges in today's world, in a context in which cities, along with how they are managed and designed on a human scale, play a central role.

Barcelona seeks to stake a claim for itself as a city of architecture that is proud of the transformation that it has experienced over many years, aiming to show to the world what defines it as a city, a society and a community. Within this transformation, urban planning, architecture and landscape architecture are of the utmost importance.

What is the World Capital of Architecture:

**Dissemination:** This landmark event will be dedicated to spreading and communicating the transformative power and values of architecture, urban planning, and landscaping.

**Advocacy :** The heritage and architecture of Barcelona and Catalonia will be showcased worldwide.

**Plural:** The World Capital of Architecture is an open and networked structure that builds upon existing efforts, seamlessly integrating into the city's established system for promoting and disseminating architectural knowledge.

**Open:** The event invites the entire community—professionals and cultural organizations, institutions, schools, and above all citizens—to actively engage in the activities planned for 2026, fostering a sense of collective participation.

Legacy: The ambition is to leave a lasting material and immaterial legacy for the city, ensuring that the goals and impact of the event endure well beyond 2026.

The World Capital of Architecture for 2026 will feature a vast array of activities across Barcelona's 10 districts in order to decentralize the programme and connect with all the city's residents. Most of the events will take place over the course of 10 months, between mid-February and mid-December, on an itinerary that will span from Santa Eulàlia to Santa Llúcia festivities.

In order to complete the program, we have launched this call for proposals, promoted by the Barcelona City Council and the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, which invites all the entities and institutes dedicated to architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture and interior design, but also those of other technical, scientific, social, humanities and artistic disciplines, to participate in the creation of a programme aimed at showcasing the values and transformative capacity of architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture. This call also seeks to promote the heritage and architecture of Barcelona and Catalonia around the world for the event entitled Barcelona 2026 - World Capital of Architecture UNESCO-UIA.

The proposals can be linked to the programme of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture UNESCO-UIA if they promote activities of general interest and aim to:

- Facilitate quantitative and/or qualitative cultural growth in the city in terms of architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture.
- Enrich the reflection and debate about the impact that architecture has on the local residents' quality of life.
- Reinforce the essential bond between the built city and its inhabitants.
- Promote the social and cultural values of architecture.
- Showcase the tangible and intangible architectural cultural heritage in the city.
- Recognize the values of architecture, public spaces and urban landscaping from diverse disciplines.
- Encourage the cooperation of agents dedicated to raising awareness about architecture with organizations and educational, cultural and/or entrepreneurial entities in the city.
- Promote, defend and guarantee the rights of residents under equitable conditions in order to guarantee equality of opportunity and non-discrimination and to promote an intercultural perspective.

### **3. WHAT TYPES OF PROPOSALS CAN BE SUBMITTED?**

Applicants may submit any type of event that enriches the debate on the impact of architecture on society and the recognition of architectural and cultural heritage or any of the goals listed in these terms and conditions. The activities have an open format and can include:

- Individual or group artistic installations/events (dance, photography, theatre, music, performances, and more) connected to architecture.
- Exhibitions



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- Debates/conferences
- Presentations of books/publications, or other literary, sociological or humanistic activities linked to architecture.
- Screenings of films/documentaries
- Guided routes and visits
- Open houses at architectural studios or entities that promote architecture.
- Open classrooms / workshops / public activities organized by architecture or design schools.
- Training and outreach workshops/activities promoted with organizations, civic centers, institutes, school, adult training centers, and more.
- Other types of activities that fit within the content listed in the call for proposals.

#### **4. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROPOSALS**

The proposals must meet the following requirements:

- The proposals must have goals that are in line with those set forth in the call for proposals.
- The proposals must take place between 12 February and 13 December 2026.
- The proposals must take place within the city limits of Barcelona, with a district-wide or city-wide scope, or outside the city if the proposal is linked with other proposals that are carried out within Barcelona, or if the proposal promotes the city's visibility abroad.
- The proposals must be in line with the city's values, policies and practices.
- The proposals must abstain from sexist and/or discriminatory language.

#### **5. WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

The call for proposals is intended for entities or natural or legal persons of any national or international background who, from their discipline, whether or not it is directly related to architecture, want to carry out a proposal within the programme of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture UNESCO-UIA.

#### **6. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to participate, natural and legal persons must:

- Be legally incorporated and active.
- Be up to date with tax and fiscal obligations and reimbursement payments with the City Council of Barcelona and the Spanish Tax Administration, as well as with Social Security and other government entities.



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- Not have ever been subject to definitive administrative sanctions or definitive sentences due to having engaged in or tolerated discriminatory practices due to sex or gender according to Spanish Law 17/72015 on the actual equality between women and men.
- Tailor the activity to the ethical principles and the rules of conduct that make it possible to ensure compliance with equality, objectivity and transparency guidelines. In the case of non-compliance with the ethical principles and the rules of conduct, the process of penalties set forth in Law 19/2014, of 29 December, on transparency, access to public information and good governance, shall be applicable, along with the penalties set forth in Article 84 concerning grant beneficiaries, as well as that set forth in Article 18 of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the Barcelona City Council, without prejudice to other possible consequences set forth in current legislation concerning grants.
- Not have been sanctioned, in a definitive decision, by the Commission for a serious offence in the field of inclusive employment for the disabled or very serious offence in terms of labour relations or occupational health and safety, in accordance with the revised text of the Spanish Law on social infractions and penalties, approved by Spanish Royal Legislative Decree 5/2000, of 4 August. If an applicant organization has been sanctioned, they must have applied the corrective measures set forth and paid the required fines.
- Entities with 50 employees or more must meet the obligation set forth in Article 42 of the revised text of the Spanish General Law on the rights of people with disabilities and their social inclusion, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 1 /2013, of 29 November, to provide employment to people with disabilities so that these individuals represent at least 2% out of the total number of employees in the organization, or they must fulfil the application of the exceptional alternative measures governing Spanish Royal Decree 364/2005, of 8 April, and Decree 86/2015, of 2 June.
- Comply with intellectual property legislation. In order to carry out activity that is the subject of the grant, the legislation on intellectual property must be taken into account when using any item that may lead to copyright issues.
- Comply with the obligation set forth in Article 13.5 of Spanish Law 26/2015, of 28 July, amending the childhood and adolescent protection system, in that the staff of entities whose activities involve access and practice of professions, trades and activities that involve regular contact with minors, must not have been convicted with a definitive sentence for any crime against sexual freedom and integrity, which includes sexual assault and abuse, sexual harassment, exhibitionism and sexual provocation, prostitution and sexual exploitation, the corruption of minors, as well as human trafficking. The organization shall be responsible for having and keeping the corresponding certificates of crimes of a sexual nature for these professionals. The City Council can request the submission of the corresponding certificates if the council deems it appropriate.



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## 7. RIGHTS AND MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION

In order to form part of the programme of the Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture, the selected proposals must meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must coordinate with the Technical Office of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture, formed by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe - Barcelona City Council, to ensure the proper implementation and communications concerning the proposal.
- The selected proposals will be included in the programme of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture.
- These proposals will form part of the general communications of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture.
- The proposals must have visibility on the Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture social media platforms.
- The proposals will be promoted through the agenda and communications of the Barcelona City Council.
- The proposals must include the official visual material of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture if they are to be posted on the applicants' proprietary media platforms.

The proposals submitted to form part of the programme of the Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture can select between three modalities of participation:

### **Modality A**

The organization/person responsible for the proposal is covering all the tasks and expenses necessary to develop, produce and implement the proposal. Therefore, the technical office of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture is not responsible for any task or expense associated with the proposal.

The organization or person responsible for the proposal will hold meetings with the technical office to ensure the correct implementation and dissemination of the proposal.

### **Modality B**

The organization/person responsible is requesting the technical office of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture to partially cover the tasks and/or expenses necessary for the development, production and implementation of the proposal. In this case, you must indicate in the description of the proposal which tasks and/or expenses that the technical office is requested to cover.

The organization or person responsible for the proposal will hold meetings with the technical office to identify the tasks that require its support and agree on its development, production, implementation and dissemination.



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## Modality C

The organization/person responsible is requesting the technical office of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture to fully cover the tasks and expenses necessary for the development, production and implementation of the proposal. In this case, you must indicate in the description of the proposal all the tasks and expenses that the technical office is requested to cover.

The organization or person responsible for the proposal will hold meetings with the technical office to specify the economic and resources support for its development, production, implementation and dissemination.

## 8. HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CALL?

**Registration form, until 11:59 p.m. on 15 October 2024**

[capital2026.com/en/register](https://capital2026.com/en/register) *(if the link does not open, you can copy it into your browser)*

You must register your proposal through the form that you can find available on the website [capital2026.com/en](https://capital2026.com/en). You must fill in all the fields in order to submit the proposal.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

You must attach the following documentation to register the proposal under any of the s:

- Portfolios and CV of the team/people submitting the application, in Catalan, Spanish and/or English, which not exceed ten A4 pages in total. (The documents must be attached in PDF form and must not exceed 25 MB).

### ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

If you would like to include additional information, you can add a single document that may contain images, links and text in Catalan, Spanish and/or English. This document may be presented and laid out in any way you wish and can be submitted under any of the modes. (The documents must be attached in PDF form and must not exceed 50 MB.)

## 9. CALENDAR

- The call for proposals is open from 5 September until 15 October at 11:59 p.m. in order to submit the proposals.
- Decision on the call for proposals: 9 December 2024



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## 10. ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSALS

The following criteria will be taken into account:

### A. QUALITY OF THE PROPOSAL

The cultural interest and originality of the proposal will be valued.

The coherence of the proposal in relation with activities, the calendar, goals and results.

The viability of the proposal, in relation to the necessary resources (human, material and economic).

Communications strategy and the strategy to raise awareness about the proposal.

### B. SOCIAL BENEFITS AND CONNECTION WITH THE CITY

Local involvement and engagement with the districts.

Activities that facilitate inclusion, both in terms of the target audience as well as the language and accessibility services.

Networking, promoting and connecting the educational and/or cultural sector of the city.

Clear commitment to local professionals.

### C. IMPACT

Relevance of the proposal and the possibility of enhancing the training and knowledge of the people participating.

Adaptation to the social and cultural reality and to the needs of the target audience.

Improve awareness among the general population concerning the purpose of the project.

Improved level of access to the project information (the use of new technologies will be valued positively).

Internationalization: international collaboration and/or connections will be evaluated.

### D. GENDER AND INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE, ALONG WITH AN ECOSOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE.

The committee will assess how this perspective is included in the content of the proposal (taking into account the objectives, activities, target audience, values promoted), along with specific actions with environmental and social benefits.

### E. EXPERIENCE (NATURAL OR LEGAL PERSON)

History of the organization and/or the people who make up the team in the development and implementation of similar proposals over the last 3 years.

The proposals submitted to form part of the programme of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture will be assessed by a selection committee, formed by

- the chief architect of the Barcelona City Council, Maria Buhigas
- the director of the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, Anna Ramos
- the coordinator of the World Capital of Architecture, Ninaska Juan
- three independent experts in the field of architectural research and popular education.

The selection committee may request complementary information from the people or entities and propose adaptations, expansions or modifications to the proposal to make it viable within the programme of the Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture.

The selection of the proposals will be notified individually to the entities or to the applicants via the contact email provided and will be published on 9 December on the Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture website <https://www.barcelona.cat/capitalmundialarquitectura/ca>.

## **11. OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION OR PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPOSAL**

- Applicants must provide the information to the technical office within the period of time and in the manner indicated by the call for proposals according to the mode selected.
- Applicants must create a shared communication plan with the technical office.
- In Modalities B and C, applicants must set up a production plan with the technical office.
- Applicants must carry out the proposal.
- Applicants must notify the technical office of any significant change that occurs during the execution of the proposal (by submitting the modification of the proposal and/or reimbursing the expenses that have been covered by the technical office in the case of modalities B or C, due to the suspension or withdrawal of the corresponding proposal).
- Applicants must collaborate in the verification and informative actions carried out by the district and/or technical office.
- Applicants must participate in the meetings held by the technical office, starting in the development, production and implementation phases of the proposal with the goal of adapting the proposal (if necessary) for modalities B or C. These meetings will take place in the first quarter of 2025.
- Applicants must participate in the meetings held by the technical office to define the communications strategy during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2025.
- Applicants must deliver a report on the proposal within 2 months after all the activities have ended, indicating the activities carried out, the public's attendance by activity, the results and communications.
- Applicants must provide the technical office with the list of expenses necessary to carry out the proposal in modalities B and C.
- The following phrase must be included in the publicity and advertising materials: "With the support of the Barcelona City Council, seal of the World Capital of Architecture...", visible on all the messages that are created if the participants choose not to use the promotional material provided by the technical office.

The technical office can verify, at any time and by the means it deems appropriate, compliance with the implementation of the proposal in relation to its purposes.

## **12. COMPATIBILITY**

The proposal selected in Modality B shall be compatible with other types of funding and grants awarded by other government entities, public or private bodies, and municipal subsidies, unless the call for proposals establishes otherwise.

However, the amount of these grants, together with the expenses requested to be covered by the technical office, cannot exceed the total cost of the proposal. If the amount of the total budget is





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exceeded, the excess amounts shall be refunded proportionally with regard to the excess or expansion of the proposal.

### **13. WITHDRAWAL**

If the organization or person responsible no longer wishes to form part of the programme of the World Capital of Architecture and chooses to withdraw their proposal, they must inform the Fundació Mies van der Rohe in writing. Withdrawal from the programme shall entail the full refund of all sums received.

### **14. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, PUBLICATION RIGHTS AND IMAGE RIGHTS**

The natural and legal persons who participate in this call assume the ownership of their proposals and undertake not to submit multimedia, sound, musical and visual materials over which they do not have the duly accredited rights.

The Fundació Mies van der Rohe - Barcelona City Council shall not be liable for the inappropriate use of the intellectual property rights by the participating individuals and entities.

By participating in this call for proposals, the participating natural and legal persons authorize the Mies van der Rohe Foundation - Barcelona City Council to reproduce and publish the proposals in the case that they are selected as long as the publication is for promotional reasons and does not have a commercial objective.

However, natural and legal persons who participate with proposals who have been selected must grant to the Fundació Mies van der Rohe - Barcelona City Council, in a non-exclusive manner, the rights associated with the publication and promotion of the selected proposals in any formats for their promotional and communications channels. They must also authorize the Fundació Mies van der Rohe - Barcelona City Council to use and publish their name(s) and surname(s), image, photographs, audio clips, video clips and other materials obtained as part of the events and activities related with the call for proposals and with Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture UNESCO-UIA only for the purpose of communications and to promote this event. This authorization shall be given free of charge and is not subject to any time limitation or restricted to any specific geographical area.

### **15. RETURN OF THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED**

No submission shall be accepted unless it is in digital format and submitted through the established channels. Models, documents and any additional materials submitted by other means shall not be accepted and shall not be taken into consideration to evaluate the proposals. These materials shall not be returned.



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## 16. PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

Participation in this call for proposals requires the collection and processing of the data of the persons responsible for the proposals. The personal data will be processed with the goal of managing the call for proposals in accordance with personal data protection legislation. The data controller is the Fundació Mies van der Rohe.

The Fundació Mies van der Rohe will communicate the data of the persons and entities participating in this open call for proposals, as long as they have expressly granted their consent in the proposal registration form for the World Capital of Architecture for 2026, to third party participants in the event entitled Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture UNESCO-UIA, with the purpose of seeking synergies with other entities.

Participants may exercise their rights to access, rectification, cancellation, erasure, objection, limitation and portability by a written notification addressed to the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, at c/ Provença, 318, pral. 2, 08037 Barcelona, and by email to [lopd@miesbcn.com](mailto:lopd@miesbcn.com), to which they must attach a photocopy of their idorganization document and indicate the right they are requesting. For more information, please consult our privacy policy at [www.miesbcn.com](http://www.miesbcn.com).

## 17. RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS/DISPUTES AND COMPETENT JURISDICTION

Amicable resolutions by mutual agreement of any discrepancy or dispute that may arise concerning the interpretation and execution of these terms and conditions shall be prioritized. We have enabled a mechanism for this purpose on the website <https://www.barcelona.cat/capitalmundialarquitectura/>

If an amicable resolution by mutual agreement is not possible, the participants expressly waive their right to any other jurisdiction that they may be entitled to and submit themselves to the jurisdiction of the courts of Barcelona.

## 18. ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Participation in this call entails the acceptance of these terms and conditions and of the rights and obligations that derive from them.

The act of submitting a proposal for registration entails the tacit acceptance of all the terms and conditions set forth in this call for proposals.