

The European Platform for Architectural Design Competitions.

Why a platform for Architectural Design Competitions (ADCs)?



Architectural Design Competitions (ADCs) are crucial for creating a safe, fair, sustainable, inclusive, and beautiful built environment. They serve multiple purposes: providing innovative solutions for projects, ensuring fair and transparent procurement processes, avoiding cost escalations, considering holistic perspectives beyond technical aspects, and supporting economic and societal development.

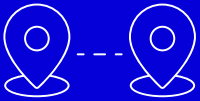


However, due to national frameworks and a lack of information sharing, transnational participation in ADCs is relatively low, which excludes many architects from participating and hinders competition. This disproportionately affects small and micro-enterprises, particularly those led by young and female architects, which can harm their professional development. Improved procedures, digital tools, and cross-border collaboration are necessary to address these challenges and enhance the effectiveness of ADCs.



That's where ARCH-E comes in.

Co-funded by the European Union, ARCH-E promotes high-quality architectural solutions by boosting the use of ADCs in Europe and overcoming cross-border market barriers in architectural services.



By creating a unified platform for cross-border network and circulation of architectural expertise, ARCH-E fosters sustainable building practices, generates job opportunities, and improves the architecture quality at EU scale.

Project's objectives and ambitions

1) Development of knowledge on EU Architectural Procurement:



ARCH-E aims to bridge the knowledge gap in participation in ADC tendering. By conducting a Europe-wide survey and comprehensive knowledge build-up, the project provides accessible and cost-free data to support professionals. Key indicators include describing and analysing ADC situations per country (ARCH-E Map), collecting key terms (ARCH-E Glossary), and understanding architects' experiences in ADC participation.

2) Promotion and development of digital tools to simplify knowledge-transfer and access to ADCs:



ARCH-E promotes the use of digital solutions and tools in ADC systems. Through the ARCH-E Platform, good examples of digital solutions are shared among partner countries. The project aims for at least 75% of participating chambers to promote digitalisation of ADC procedures. By advancing digitalisation, ARCH-E contributes to the evolving societal and professional landscape.

3) Improving equal access to the market:



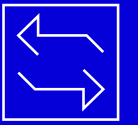
ARCH-E seeks to improve access to the market, particularly for underrepresented groups such as women and young architects. By establishing the ARCH-E network, the project aims for diverse representation within the network itself, with benchmarks set for gender balance and age diversity.

4) Promotion of Davos Baukultur Quality System and New European Bauhaus:



ARCH-E advocates for incorporating the Davos Baukultur Quality System and New European Bauhaus principles and standards into national policies, frameworks, and guidelines at all levels - thus not only communicated on a broad scale, but also demanded.

5) Increase of transnational participation in ADCs:



ARCH-E aims to increase transnational participation of architectural firms in ADCs, which is extremely low. Through national ADC statistics, data collection, and interviews with ADC procurers, the project strives to raise cross-border participation across partner countries and beyond.

The ARCH-E Consortium reaches over 560,000 European architects who will have free access to the project results. ARCH-E is a project co-funded by the European Union under the Creative Europe framework (CREA).

Project Partners:



Cooperation Partners:



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