



# Participation success in the competition to elect the curatorship for the UIA World Congress of Architects Barcelona 2026

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- A total of 24 applications have been received during the first phase.
- A high-level jury has chosen the 5 finalists who will compete for first place during the second round of an unprecedented contest.

**Barcelona, September 13** – The competition for the election of the curatorship for the UIA World Congress of Architects that Barcelona will host in 2026 has been a success, with a total of 24 candidatures received. This is the first phase of a two-round international competition that, in an unprecedented way at the UIA, will give conceptual form to the congress and is presented as an opportunity to rethink and update formats and themes regarding architecture congresses. It has been promoted by the Higher Council of the Orders of Architects of Spain (CSCAE), together with the Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC), the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, the Department of Territory of the Generalitat of Catalonia and Barcelona's City Council.

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The competition's jury is made up of **architectural professionals of recognized international** prestige (Ángela García de Paredes, Beth Capdferro, Carme Pigem, José María Sánchez, Josep Bohigas, Josep Ferrando, Josep Lluís Mateo, María Hurtado de Mendoza, Philip Ursprung and Zaida Muxí) and a representative of each organizing institution (the general secretary of Urban Agenda, Housing and Architecture of MITMA, Iñaqüi Carnicero, the coordinator of the General Directorate of Territorial Planning, Urban Planning and Architecture of the Generalitat, Elisabeth Tuà, the architect Mónica Rivera, in representation of the chief architect of Barcelona's City Council, Maria Buhigas, the president of the CSCAE, Marta Vall-Ilossera and the dean of the COAC, Guillem Costa Calsamiglia). All of them have valued the proposals presented, which they have defined as "innovative in content and format and, above all, of very high quality."

As established in the competition's brief, the five teams that will compete for the curatorship have been selected out of 24 candidates. In the coming weeks, the five applicants will have the opportunity to present their project, and the **winner will be announced during the month of December**.

The competition has a **150,000 euros fee** for the winning team. Financial compensation of **6,000 euros** is also foreseen for the teams that participate in the second phase and are not winners.



World Congress  
of Architects.  
Barcelona. UIA 2026.

### **A Congress with impact on society**

The competition process for the curatorship seeks to promote a congress that not only generates maximum relevance and interest for the global community of architects, but also that from its conclusions will yield knowledge and practices with real impact on the daily lives of people and the future of the planet.