OFFICIAL RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SHARE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS 2026

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The SHARE Architecture Awards were founded to celebrate architectural excellence and give international visibility to the creative vitality emerging from Central and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. Conceived as a cultural platform rather than a conventional competition, SHARE encourages dialogue between tradition and innovation, heritage and contemporary expression, promoting architecture as a transformative force in shaping the social, urban, and environmental fabric.
Held under the patronage of the SHARE Architects Society, the Awards reflect its commitment to fostering a professional community grounded in responsibility, creativity, and cultural authenticity. By connecting architects who share a vision for a
more sustainable and meaningful built environment, the program strengthens regional identity while bridging it with global architectural discourse.

1.1. Contest organiser

The SHARE Architecture Awards is a program initiated by the SHARE Architects Society and organized by SHARE Architects SRL, headquartered in Iași, Romania, at Bulevardul Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt no. 26.
SHARE Architects is the founder of the SHARE Network of International Architecture Forums, organized across 25 countries in Europe, Central Asia, and the Middle East. The SHARE Architects Society brings together a professional community of more than 1,500 architects from 42 countries.
For more information about SHARE Architects, please visit: https://share-architects.com/.

2. PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEST

2.1. Applicants for Awards

Architects, contractors, real estate developers, financiers, and beneficiaries may enter the competition with a project if they have the architect's consent. Entrants are allowed to submit multiple projects but shall submit a separate entry form for each one.

- The nominated projects must adhere to the following criteria:

- **Projects completed between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2025.**
- Projects need to be in one of the countries: **Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Malta, Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, Uzbekistan.**
- A project can be submitted in multiple categories. The organizer reserves the right to direct the project, in agreement with the applicant, to the category deemed most appropriate.
- An applicant can submit multiple projects.

2.2. Participant Eligibility

To be taken into consideration, the projects submitted to the competition must comply with the rules of the contest and the deadline.

3. HOW THE CONTEST WORKS

The competition includes two stages of evaluation. In the first stage, which will be conducted online, the jury will assess the submitted projects and nominate those selected for the shortlist. In the second stage, the shortlisted projects will be presented live to the jury and the audience during the SHARE Architecture Awards Festival, with the location to be announced in due course.
The live presentations will take place from December 3rd to 4th, as follows:
a. Presentation of shortlisted projects for category awards: on December 3rd and 4th.

Each presentation will be limited to 6 minutes, with a maximum of 20 slides, followed by a 3-minute Q&A session with the jury.

Presentation of projects

The projects entered in the competition that pass the first stage of judging and make it to the shortlist of nominations will be presented to the jury and the participants of the SHARE Architecture Awards 2026 festival.
If the project wins, following the second stage of judging, a special prize or the Grand prize, at least one representative of the office/company/ beneficiary of the project will be announced in the for the purpose of collecting the prize at the Grand Gala.

3.1. Mandatory requirements for participation

All projects will be presented in English. The closing date for free entries is **July 31, 2026, at 7:00 PM GMT+2.**The documents required for registration must be submitted exclusively.
online. It is not necessary to print and send them in physical format.

3.2. Content of the application form

For your submission, please adhere to the following specifications and content guidelines:

The submission form consists of three modules of information: **Applicant Information**, **Project Information**, and Information Required for **Project Publication**.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Document Submission:

- Compile your project images into a single PDF file.
- The file size should not exceed 25 MB and should be within 20 A4 pages.
- Compress the document before uploading to facilitate the submission process.
- Ensure anonymity by omitting the architect's and/or firm's name from file names, images, plans, or narratives to prevent disqualification.
- Where possible, include images depicting the building in use.

Narrative and Layout:

- Your submission should narratively illustrate your project's story to the jury, encompassing:
    - Images showing each visible side of the building or setting.
    - For projects with multiple buildings, a single encompassing image may suffice to showcase the whole project and its context.
    - At least one interior image for every major functional area.
    - Include conceptual diagrams, elevations, floor plans, sections, and a site plan (with a North arrow indicated).
    - For preservation/restoration projects, include relevant images.

Additional Instructions:

- Composite pages are allowed.
- You may annotate images or drawings with text or notes.
- Ensure any drawings or plans clearly show the scale.
- Label renderings, particularly those depicting unbuilt project aspects.

- Utilize the maximum page limit to provide a comprehensive presentation.
- Maintain a consistent layout orientation (horizontal or portrait) throughout your submission.

PROJECT PUBLICATION:

Image Requirements:

- Format: .jpg only.
- Minimum Size: 3200 pixels in width by 1800 pixels in height, landscape orientation.
- Minimum Resolution: 300 dpi.
- Borders: Images should not include a white border.
- Compliance: Images not meeting these specifications will be excluded from display.

Submission Content:

1. **Main Visual ("Hero" Image):**
    - Include 1 high-resolution image representing the entire project, tagged as 'HERO'.
    - This image will be featured in the SHARE Architecture Awards Gallery and for shortlisted entries.
    - Must include image credits.
2. **Additional Photographs:**
    - Provide 4 more photographs of the project, each with image credits.
3. **Plans and Sections:**

Supply 3 images showing a site plan, floor plan, and a crucial section of the project.

3.4. Principles of project evaluation

1. Added values
1.1. Complexity of the program.
1.2. Difficult location.
1.3. Regulations' restrictions.
1.4. Budget restrictions.
1.5. Satisfying the Client's brief.
1.6. Respecting the Timetable.
1.7. Creating value for money and budget.
2. Formal values
2.1. The work looks good: a very subjective evaluation based on personal experience and the sensibility of the jury.
2.2. The formal language of the work is coherent with its architectural ambitions and goals.
2.3. The work is coherent on every scale.
2.4. Project scale and proportions are suitable.
3. Environmental values
3.1. Positive impact on the natural or built environment.
4. Social values

4.1. Being capable of stimulating, engaging, and delighting the building occupants, visitors, and passers-by.
4.2. Providing social added values?
5. Critical practice
5.1. The project is posing new questions.
5.2. It gives an appropriate response to the posed problems.
5.3. It has a critical attitude toward the built environment or architecture in general.
6. Innovation, originality, and experimentation
6.1. The work can be considered original.
6.2. There are elements of innovation in the project.
6.3. The response makes the project unique and different.
6.4. The architect had an experimental approach toward the project.

5. Timing of the contest

A. Commencement of Open Call for Entries: May 1st 2026
B. Registration Timeline:
- Standard Registration, **no fee**: From **May 1st to July 31, 2026, at 7:00 PM GMT+2**
- Late Registration, with a fee of 100 euros without VAT for processing: **From July 31 to August 31, 2026.**

C. Closure of Registration August 31, 2026, by 7pm GMT+2
D. Project eligibility assessment and jury selection session for the projects invited to the final stage, during the first two weeks of September.

E. Required to choose *the SAA services package* and make payment between 05 and 20 September, as a prerequisite to be announced on the "Awarded Shortlist" and be invited to the final judging stage**.**

The SAA Services Package Price: €399 without VAT/project

1. Display of your project in the “Awarded Finalists” gallery on awards.share-architects.com
2. License to use the “Awarded Finalists” logo
3. Jury review on 3–4 December 2026
4. A dedicated presentation page in the official printed catalog of finalist projects
5. Two copies of the printed catalog

3.6 Categories

COMPLETED BUILDINGS

1. Culture. Heritage

A. Museum / Exhibition Center / Gallery / Installation / Preservation Site /Pavillion / Visitor Center / Aquarium, Planetarium / Youth Center / Science Center / Visual Arts Center / Watching Tower

B. Theater / Cinema / Performing Arts Center / Concert House / Opera House / Music Venue / Auditorium

C. Heritage/ Monuments

2. Education.

A. Infant schools / Primary schools / Secondary schools / Special needs facilities

B. Research Facilities / University/college buildings / University/ college campuses

3. Office. Mixed-Use.

A. Office

B. For buildings that have multiple uses.

4. Healthcare. Wellbeing

A. Hospital / Dental Clinic / Rehabilitation Center / Asylum / Retirement /Clinic/ Laboratory

B. Spa / Therm

5. Sport. Civic and Community.

A. Stadiums / Sports Hall / Fitness Club / Swimming Pool / Ski Center / Skatepark

B. Civic and Community - Community centers/ Embassies/ Law courts/ Prisons / Town halls / Ambulance/ Fire stations / Police

6. Shopping. Production and Logistic

A. Store / Showroom / Temporary Stores / Charging Station / Gas Station / Retail / Shopping Centers

B. Factory / Distribution Center / Warehouse / Logistics / Warehouse/distribution/agricultural / Wineries

7. Adaptive. Retrofit.

A. Adaptive reuse

Projects that can be entered into the Creative Re-use Completed Buildings category are buildings or complexes that have been adapted for an entirely new purpose, for example an old factory converted into a cultural center.

B. Retrofit.

Projects that can be entered into the Completed Buildings Retrofit category are buildings or complexes that have been substantially upgraded/modified, but with the same use, for an example a hotel building which continues to function as hotel.

8. Transport.Display

A. Airport / Port / Train Station / Bus Station / Cruise Terminal / Transportation Hub / Metro Station / Spaceport / Tram Station / Pier / Parking / Hangar / Boathouse / Bridge

B. Aquariums / Exhibition centres / Showrooms /Visitor centres / Zoos and aviaries

9. Housing (Not for single use)

A. Mixed complexes / Private housing

10. Sigle House (individual use)

A. Rural

B. Urban

C. Mobile Houses. Cabin

11. Hotel. Leisure

A. Hotels / Motels / Bars / Restaurants

B. Theme parks

FUTURE PROJECTS

1. Masterplanning. City Planning. Transport. Urban landscape
2. Office. Civic and Community. Commercial and Production
3. Culture.Education. Display.
4. Rezidential. Hotels
5. Sport & Health.

INTERIORS

1. Bars & Restaurants. Hotels
2. Workplace. Retail. Community
3. Cultural. Education. Heritage. Temporary. Experimental
4. Residential
5. Sport. Health. Wellbeing and Display

6. AWARDS

The Jury will grant mentions and awards for each category, which will be announced after the first day of the event. The grand prizes will be presented during the Awards Gala on the second day of the event:

SHARE Architecture Awards – Overall Winner
SHARE Interiors Awards – Winner
SHARE Future Awards – Winner
SHARE X Awards – Winner

The **SHARE X Awards** recognize outstanding proposals from the *Completed buildings* and *Future projects* nominations that push the boundaries of design while addressing critical global challenges. These include tackling the climate emergency, strengthening community resilience, and advancing health, technology, ethics, and core values.

Additionally, the Jury may nominate *Highly Commended Projects* and other *special nominations.*

3.7. Copyrights

Becoming a nominee for the SHARE Architecture Awards grants the Organizer, SC SHARE Architects SRL, the non-exclusive rights to use the submitted materials for the purpose of promoting and disseminating information about the SHARE Architecture Awards. This includes the right to use these materials in any medium and format, worldwide, until such rights enter the public domain, and in connection with any SHARE Architects-related events or activities (such as exhibitions, publications, etc.).

4. BENEFITS

- Global recognition and the opportunity to present projects live to a panel of judges.
- Valuable feedback, enhanced credibility, and networking with industry peers.
- Significant visibility in the architecture community, with media coverage and international showcasing.
- Opportunities for new business and collaboration.
- Emphasis on the contribution of architecture to sustainable development and well-being.
- An awards ceremony and a catalog to further showcase the achievements of the shortlisted and awarded projects.

1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

As mandated by these regulations, the Organizer is obligated to reveal the names of the winners and the specifics of their prizes. This information will be available on awards.share-architects.com for public access.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

The organizer is not liable for:
Submissions made outside of the designated competition timeframe or through methods not specified in the guidelines.
Any conflicts concerning the ownership of email addresses used for participant registration.
Claims of ownership regarding images, sketches, projects, or any other content uploaded to the competition website. By entering a submission, participants inherently assert their ownership rights over the submitted materials.
The organizer reserves the right to implement any necessary actions in response to attempts that could potentially harm the reputation or incur costs for the competition.

3. FORCE MAJEURE

This competition may only be terminated due to a force majeure event, which includes situations where the Organizer is rendered incapable, due to circumstances beyond their control, to proceed with the competition.

Force majeure refers to any unforeseeable and uncontrollable event that arises after the enactment of these Official Rules, preventing one or more parties from fulfilling their contractual obligations. In such cases, the party invoking force majeure shall be relieved from liability for the duration of the event, as confirmed by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania.

Should a force majeure event occur, including but not limited to scenarios where the Organizer is unable, for reasons beyond their control, to execute the Official Rules fully or partially or continue the competition, the Organizer will be absolved of their obligations for the duration that such execution is hindered or delayed.

If the Organizer needs to invoke force majeure, they are obligated to notify the participants of its occurrence within 5 (five) business days following the onset of the force majeure event.

4. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

All disputes that arise between the Organizer and the Participants will be resolved through amicable negotiations. If these disputes cannot be settled amicably, they will be subject to the jurisdiction of the competent courts in the country of origin of the Organizer, which is Romania.

CONTACT

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