

Beta Awards 2026

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General information

Beta – the Timișoara Architecture Biennale is a cultural project of the Timiș Territorial Branch of the Romanian Order of Architects¹, organized by a dedicated team. Beta 2026 represents the sixth edition, marking more than ten years of activity.

Beta brings together a series of actions, projects, events, and exhibitions around three pillars: Education, Profession, and City. What we propose is an architecture of action, defined by the desire to be proactive, to collaborate, to engage in dialogue, and to build relationships — to thus understand the complete and complex map of the built environment.

We aim to promote an interaction between the entities involved in architectural processes before discussing actual interventions. We propose dialogue instead of statements, collaboration instead of isolation, and processes instead of isolated events. Beta has two main components: the **Curated Exhibition** and the **Beta Awards**.

The Curated Exhibition

The theme of each Beta edition is strongly reflected in the Curated Exhibition, which represents the outcome of in-depth research and presents a topic relevant to the relationship between architecture, the city, and society. The curatorial approach of each edition aims to establish a discourse connected to internationally relevant themes, interpreting them through and for the uniqueness of the local and hyper-local context. For more information about the current edition's theme, "*In Practice – as opposed to 'in theory'*", with the main exhibition curated by Andreas Kofler and Tudor Vlăsceanu, visit the website <https://betacity.eu/>.

Beta Awards

Beta Awards 2026 represent the main event of the **Profession** pillar, supporting and promoting quality architecture and the professionals who contribute to improving the built environment. They are conceived as an interface for fostering connections both within the profession and between the profession and the socio-cultural context in which it operates.

The Beta Awards will take place from **July 2nd to October 25th 2026** and will have a Euroregional character, by opening the competition to the DKMT² region, including the Western region of Romania as well as regions in Hungary and Serbia. Organizing the competition in this format is based on the similarities in context across the three neighboring regions, encouraging participation on a broader scale and thus contributing to the development of a multilateral dialogue about the future of the profession. The competition is conducted through the awards.betacity.eu platform, available in Romanian and English, which contains all the materials and information required for registration in the dedicated section.

¹ The Timiș Territorial Branch of the Romanian Order of Architects aims to communicate to society that architecture represents an act of culture of public interest, with urban, economic, social, and ecological implications. The Branch's objectives are to promote quality architecture in all its forms and manifestations, to create and support an environment of interaction between the professional community, public administration, civil society, and various stakeholders, to adapt architectural education to the trends of the socio-economic and cultural environment, as well as to promote Euroregional cultural identity in both national and international contexts.

² The DKMT Euroregion (Danube–Criș–Mureș–Tisa) is a cross-border cooperation area that includes counties from Romania (Timiș, Arad, Caraș-Severin, Hunedoara), Hungary (Csongrád-Csanád, Bács-Kiskun), and Serbia (the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina).

Awards Calendar

1. Questions: July 2nd - July 5th 2026
2. **Submissions open: July 2nd 2026**
3. Publishing answers to questions: July 7th 2026
4. **Submissions close: August 9th 2026 - 23:59***
5. Publication of preliminary analysis results: August 17th 2026
6. Registration period for appeals: August 17th – August 20th 2026
7. Publication of the results following the resolution of appeals: August 21st 2026
8. **Opening of the 1st evaluation stage: August 21st 2026**
9. Abstract jury session: August 21st – August 27th 2026
10. Publication of the selected projects advancing to the next stage of the competition in the Text category: August 28th 2026
11. **Beta Main Exhibition opening: September 4th 2026**
12. **Publication of the 1st stage of results: September 28th 2026** – *Projects selected to advance to the next stage of the competition and to be featured in the Beta Awards public exhibition, in the categories Built space, Interior space, Public space, Graduation projects, Endeavours, Photography, and In theory.*
13. Last day for the submission of the **final texts** in the Text category: October 8th 2026
14. **Opening of the Beta Awards exhibition: October 9th 2026**
15. **Jury conferences: October 24th – October 25th 2026**
16. **Awards Gala and final results of the competition: October 25th 2026**

*For the Text category, only the abstract will be submitted in the first phase.

Categories

Participants will be able to submit their works in the following eight competition categories:

- 1. Built space**
 - 1.1. Residential
 - Single-family housing
 - Collective housing
 - 1.2. Non-residential
 - New
 - Interventions on existing
- 2. Interior space**
 - 2.1. Interior design
 - 2.2. Temporary design
- 3. Public space**
 - 3.1. Urban design
 - 3.2. Urban studies
- 4. Graduation projects**
- 5. Endeavours**
- 6. *'In theory'***
- 7. Text**
- 8. Photography**

General participation requirements

Works³ are eligible if they fall within one of the eight competition categories and meet the following conditions:

- for the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, and Endeavours categories, eligible submissions are works completed between July 2024 and July 2026 that were either carried out within the DKMT Euroregion or created by authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who graduated from a specialized university within the region.
- for the 'In Theory' category, eligible submissions include unbuilt or unrealized projects, unsubmitted proposals, academic projects, concepts, sketches, and similar works by authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, who are currently students, or who have graduated from a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion.
- for the Text category, eligible submissions are texts by authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have graduated from a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. Texts submitted in this category must respond to the Biennale's overarching theme, "In Practice – as opposed to 'in theory'", which can be consulted on the Biennale's website: <https://betacity.eu>;
- for the Photography category, eligible submissions consist of series of three photographs by authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have graduated from a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. The submitted photographs must respond to the Biennale's overarching theme, "In Practice – as opposed to 'in theory'". (<https://betacity.eu>).

The same work may not be submitted in more than one category, except for cases where different fields of intervention can be distinguished, belonging to different authors (for example: an individual house submitted in the Built Space category cannot also be submitted in the Interior Space category if both were created by the same author/team). In the event that a work is presented in multiple categories, the decision regarding its classification (maintaining it within all categories in which it was submitted or excluding it from certain categories) belongs to the organizers.

By submitting works to the competition, the participant implicitly declares that they hold the copyright to the submitted works and assumes all legal consequences in the event that it is proven that they do not hold the intellectual property rights to all submitted materials. Furthermore, if, within one year from the awarding of a prize, it is proven that the recipient does not hold the copyright to the awarded work, the prize amount shall be returned to the organizer.

The copyright to the materials submitted in the competition remains with their authors, who, by submitting works in the competition, implicitly express their agreement for the organizers to store, communicate, publish, and distribute the submitted materials, as well as information regarding their authors, without any restrictions of substance or form, both within the Biennale and throughout future events or activities. This is intended to support and promote the work, the author, and the act of creation, as well as to promote the competition, its categories, activities, and results, including through the presentation and dissemination of submitted materials.

³ for the purposes of this competition, "works" shall refer to projects (realized or speculative) / texts / photographs

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To be included in the Beta Awards 2026, all works must comply with the technical requirements specified in the section corresponding to each category, as well as with the competition timeline. Otherwise, the organizers reserve the right to disqualify from the competition any works that do not meet these requirements.

All texts submitted as part of the registration process must be written bilingually, mandatory in English and in the applicant's native language (respectively Romanian–English, Hungarian–English, Serbian–English).

The competition organizers take no responsibility whatsoever if third parties download and/or use the materials from the competition website or other sources. Members of the jury, as well as their associates, employees, or first-degree relatives, may participate in the competition only with works submitted in categories that they are not responsible for judging. Members of the Beta team (the team that prepared these Rules and that organizes the Beta Awards 2026), members of the competition office, and members of the appeals resolution committee may not participate in the competition (see the Organiser section).

The competition organizer reserves the right to make amendments to these Rules in strictly necessary cases (particularly in order to clarify certain aspects), announcing such amendments in the **News** section of its website (awards.betacity.eu).

Built space

In the Built Space category, we are looking for outstanding projects of individual and collective housing, restoration projects, or extensions and interventions on existing buildings, as well as commercial, industrial, service, institutional, or cultural buildings, completed/commissioned within the past two years (July 2024 – July 2026). This category will be divided into two subcategories, as follows:

1. Residential

For this subcategory, eligible projects include newly built single-family or collective housing projects, as well as extensions, completed between July 2024 and July 2026, according to the following two criteria:

- **Single-family housing**
- **Collective housing**

2. Non-residential

For this category, non-residential projects may be submitted according to the following criteria:

- **Newly built** - newly built buildings completed between July 2024 and July 2026 may be submitted in fields such as commercial⁴, services⁵, institutional⁶, cultural⁷, industrial.
- **Interventions on existing** - heritage projects or interventions⁸ on existing buildings, with or without heritage value, may be submitted in fields such as commercial³, services⁴, institutional⁵, cultural⁶, industrial.

Participation requirements

For this category, eligible participants are architects and architectural engineers who have the right to practice in accordance with the legislation in the country where they carry out their profession, as well as teams coordinated by them.

Works may be submitted if they are either located within the DKMT Euroregion or belong to authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant shall declare on their own responsibility that the work is located in the DKMT Euroregion, that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion.

⁴ commercial buildings / offices / mixed-use / industrial;

⁵ hotels, restaurants, bars, clubs, wellness / recreation buildings;

⁶ public institutions or institutions of public interest belonging to the following fields: socio-cultural (education / healthcare / social assistance / sports and youth), national defense (military units / specialized educational institutions), public order (police units / firefighting units), public authority (central public administration institutions / local institutions such as town halls, prefectures, judicial institutions), tourism (tourist information centers / tourism institutions), and other fields (environmental protection institutions, water management institutions, research institutions);

⁷ libraries, museums, theatres, cinemas, churches;

⁸ restoration, rehabilitation, extension

In case of any doubts, or if the author receives a prize in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if, within one year from the awarding of a prize, it is proven that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize amount shall be returned to the organizer.

Project submission

Registration will be carried out through the website awards.betacity.eu, and the following materials will be required:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

The exhibition panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan;
- level plans with legends;
- sections;
- images (photos of the work, photos of the model, etc.)
Photorealistic renderings or project collages are not accepted as substitutes for photographs.
- optional: facades, details, axonometry, perspectives, conceptual sketches, analysis materials or any other relevant information in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project

materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.
To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:
01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg
We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.
- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Interior space

In the Interior Space category, we are looking for outstanding interior design projects, with different functions and scales — residential, commercial, service, institutional, cultural, or industrial spaces, as well as temporary scenography, interior lighting, installations, and exhibitions, completed within the last two years (July 2024 – July 2026).

This category will be divided into the following two subcategories:

1. Interior design

This subcategory is open to permanent interior design projects (residential, commercial⁹, services¹⁰, institutional¹¹, cultural¹², industrial).

2. Temporary design

This subcategory is open to interior lighting installations, scenography (performance spaces), exhibitions, and interior architectural installations.

Participation requirements

This category is open to professionals from fields such as architecture, interior architecture, design, furniture, decorative arts, scenography, and lighting, holding diplomas or certifications recognized in their countries of origin and by relevant professional organizations, who have the right to practice in accordance with the legislation in the country where they work, as well as the collectives coordinated by them.

Works may be submitted either if they are located within the DKMT Euroregion or if they belong to authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that the work is located in the DKMT Euroregion, that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In case of doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence/completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year from the awarding of a prize that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the awarded prize amount must be returned to the organiser.

Project submission

Registration consists of filling in the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu page, as well as:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

⁹ commercial buildings / offices / mixed-use / industrial;

¹⁰ hotels, restaurants, bars, clubs, wellness / recreation buildings;

¹¹ public institutions or institutions of public interest belonging to the following fields: socio-cultural (education / healthcare / social assistance / sports and youth), national defense (military units / specialized educational institutions), public order (police units / fire brigade units), public authority (central public administration institutions / local institutions (municipalities, prefectures, judicial institutions)), tourism (tourist information centers / tourism institutions), other fields (environmental protection institutions, water management institutions, research institutions).

¹² libraries, museums, theatres, cinemas, churches;

The exhibition panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan - optional, if needed;
- level plans with legends;
- sections;
- images (photos of the work, photos of the model, etc.)
Photorealistic renderings or project collages are not accepted as substitutes for photographs.
- optional: facades, details, axonometry, perspectives, conceptual sketches, analysis materials or any other relevant information in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we

recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.

To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:

01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg

We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.

- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Public space

In the Urban space category, we are looking for remarkable projects, in both urban design and urban studies.

The category will be split into two subcategories:

1. Urban design

This subcategory is open to urban and landscape design projects, restructuring of urban/rural areas, squares, pedestrian areas, parks, accessibility works, technological infrastructure, transport networks (including depots and garages), street networks (streets and street profiles, bridges, road passages, footbridges). Works completed between July 2024 and July 2026 may be submitted in this category.

2. Urban studies

This subcategory is open to urban strategies, master plans, general urban plans, territorial planning projects, and urban revitalization projects, completed or currently undergoing implementation/approval during the period July 2024 – July 2026.

Temporary installations in public space, such as pavilions, public artworks in the fields of visual arts, fine arts, decorative arts, or public lighting installations may be submitted in the Endeavours category.

Participation requirements

In the Urban design and Urban studies subcategories, works may be submitted by architects, architectural engineers, conductor architects, urban planners, or landscape architects, representatives of public administration who have the right to practice in accordance with the legislation in the country where they work, as well as collectives coordinated by them.

Works may be submitted either if they are located within the DKMT Euroregion or if they belong to authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that the work is located in the DKMT Euroregion, that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In case of doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence/completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year from the awarding of a prize that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the awarded prize amount must be returned to the organizer.

Project submission

Registration consists of filling in the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu page, as well as:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

The exhibition panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan, location plan - depending on needs;
- level plans with legends - optional, if needed;
- sections - optional, if needed;
- images (photos of the work, photos of the model, etc.)
For the Urban design subcategory, photorealistic renderings or project collages are not accepted as substitutes for photographs.
- optional: facades, details, axonometry, perspectives, conceptual sketches, analysis materials or any other relevant information in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we

recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.

To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:

01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg

We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.

- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Graduation projects

In this category, we are looking for final undergraduate graduation projects in the fields of architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, interior architecture, or conservation and restoration, completed between July 2024 and July 2026.

Participation requirements

This category is open to graduates of higher education institutions—universities, faculties, or departments of architecture, urban planning, interior architecture, or arts (provided that the undergraduate or master's thesis is related to the built or urban environment).

Works created within higher education institutions in the DKMT Euroregion, or works by authors with permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, may be submitted. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that the work was completed at a higher education institution located within the DKMT Euroregion or that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion. In case of doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year of receiving an award that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize amount must be returned to the organizer.

Project submission

Registration consists of filling in the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu page, as well as:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

The Exhibition Panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan - mandatory for architecture, urbanism, landscape, restoration projects; optional for interior design projects;
- level plans with legends - if needed;
- sections;
- images (photos or renderings of the work, photos of the model, etc.)
- optional: facades, details, axonometry, perspectives, conceptual sketches, analysis materials or any other relevant information in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.
To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:
01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg
We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.
- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Endeavours

In the Explorations – Initiatives category, we aim to promote visions, initiatives, and experiments in architecture and related fields that, through their activities, contribute to improving the quality and understanding of architecture as both an object and a practice. Projects carried out between July 2024 and July 2026 may be submitted (including projects started before July 2024 that are still under implementation) - cultural projects, architectural education initiatives, participatory initiatives, public policies, new materials, material studies, object design, guided tours, summer schools, creative camps, research projects, and temporary installations in public space.

Participation requirements

This category is open to projects carried out or initiated by members of the professional community¹³, public administration¹⁴, or civil society¹⁵.

Commissioned but unrealized works, as well as architecture, design, or public space projects **created for the purpose of participating in other competitions, are not eligible for submission** (for example, a non-winning European proposal cannot be submitted as an initiative in the Beta Awards).

Works may be submitted either if they are located within the DKMT Euroregion or if they belong to authors who have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or who have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant declares, under their own responsibility, that the work is located in the DKMT Euroregion, that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In the event of any doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year of receiving an award that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize amount must be returned to the organizer.

Project submission

Registration consists of filling in the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu page, as well as:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

¹³ by *professional community*, we refer to the range of professions responsible for the design, construction, and proper maintenance of the built environment: architects, urban planners, landscape architects, engineers (structural, mechanical, electrical, traffic, etc.), conservation specialists, contractors, and professionals from the IT sector, provided that they are legally entitled to practice in accordance with the legislation in the country where they exercise their profession;

¹⁴ by *public administration*, we refer to all members of the public sector who, as state employees, are responsible for managing the present and future built environment;

¹⁵ by *civil society*, we refer to members of society who are neither part of the professional community nor the public administration, and who both influence and are influenced by the built environment on a daily basis. This includes non-partisan associations established in accordance with the legislation in their country of origin, which engage with decision-makers and public institutions to advocate for the rights and interests of the groups of citizens they represent.

The Exhibition Panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan - optional, if needed;
- level plans with legends - if needed;
- images of the work (photos during events, project results etc.
- any other relevant pieces of information, analysis materials or any other specific details in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.

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To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:

01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg

We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.

- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

In theory

In the "In Theory" category, we are looking for works that, for various reasons, have remained unfinished or unsubmitted—ideas, concepts, and unseen projects that we wish to bring to light through this new category. To be eligible, submitted projects must not have received awards in other professional competitions or events.

The "In Theory" category was introduced as a direct response to this year's biennial theme, *In Practice – as opposed to "in theory"*, formulated by curators Andreas Kofler and Tudor Vlăsceanu as an investigation into contemporary architectural practice by highlighting the real processes that shape space and community. In 2026, Beta seeks to transform an existing building into a site of ongoing practice, bringing to light the negotiations, experiments, mistakes, solutions, and lessons that emerge throughout the working process.

If the biennial's overall theme brings to the forefront the real, applied processes behind the built environment—the materials, constraints, decisions, and people that shape it—this new category aims to highlight the aspects that remain unseen: the experiments and ideas that remain at the theoretical stage.

This category welcomes a wide range of forms of representation.

Participation requirements

This category is open to projects carried out or initiated by students or professionals in the field of architecture, either individually or as part of a team, between 2016 and 2026.

Architecture, design, and public space projects that were created for the purpose of participating in other competitions may also be submitted, provided that they were not awarded in the respective competitions.

Works created within higher education institutions in the DKMT Euroregion, or works by authors with permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, may be submitted. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that the work was completed at a higher education institution located within the DKMT Euroregion, that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion, or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In the event of any doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year of the award being granted that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize money must be returned to the organizer.

Project submission

Registration consists of filling in the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu page, as well as:

- an image for the exhibition panel - [see application guide](#);
- documents to promote the project and the author/authors' team;
- filling in the online registration form - [see application guide](#).

The Exhibition Panel

The image for the exhibition panel must be designed according to a layout provided by the organizers on the website. For the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and In Theory categories, the layout is identical and can be found on the competition website. Failure to comply with the presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the work by the organizers - [see application guide](#).

To significantly simplify the application process, the exhibition panel will be generated based on the layout and on the information entered in the registration form.

The exhibition panel will contain the following visual items:

- site plan - optional, if needed;
- level plans with legends - if needed;
- images of the work, project results etc.
- any other relevant pieces of information, drawings, analysis materials or any other specific details in order to further understand the work.

The exhibition panel must be attached within the online registration form according to the following specifications:

- .jpeg, .jpg, .png format;
- 1:1 dimension with the given layout - [see application guide](#);
- 300 dpi preferred resolution, minimum 150 dpi
- file size: maximum 20MB

If the project is selected, the exhibition panels will be printed by the organizers on a rigid support and displayed as part of the awards exhibition.

When preparing the exhibition panel, participants must ensure that they provide all the necessary information for understanding the work as a whole, thus facilitating the judging process. Other project materials/objects that are not included on the panels or specifically requested by the organizers will not be considered in the judging process.

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 documents in .jpeg, .jpg, .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px, for good image quality on HD monitors, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB/image. The images can be either landscape or portrait format, but we recommend predominantly using landscape images. These images will be used to present the project on the website and will also be viewed during the judging process.

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To control the order in which the images are displayed on the website, we recommend naming the image file names as follows, with the first image being the project cover:

01.photo.jpeg, 02.photo.jpeg, 03.photo.jpeg

We encourage you to include both atmospheric photographs and technical materials, etc.

- a short presentation text of the work, written bilingually (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language variant. This will be uploaded to the website through the registration form.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Text

In the Text category, we are looking for works that question, critically examine, document, or investigate ideas and subjects for reflection, starting from the theme of the current edition, *In Practice – as opposed to "in theory"* (available [here](#)).

This year's theme shifts the focus toward practical experimentation rather than merely presenting finished architecture—from projects that test ideas to texts that test theories.

This category is open to anyone interested in theoretical, critical, or documentary discourse, regardless of their field of practice. Only individual submissions are accepted in this category.

The submission of written works generated with the help of artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT is not permitted. The use of digital tools for grammar correction, such as Grammarly, or for translating works from the author's native language, such as DeepL or Google Translate, is allowed. If any images included in this category have been generated using AI, please provide a disclaimer explaining the process and how this technology was used.

Works may be submitted by authors who either have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In the event of any doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year of the award being granted that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize money must be returned to the organizer.

Text submission

For the Text category – 2026 edition, the competition will be conducted in two phases (see the Awards Timeline chapter).

Phase I - abstract based pre-selection

Registration consists of completing the online form for the Text category, available on the awards.betacity.eu website, and includes:

- an abstract;
- documents for the promotion of the text and its author.

The Abstract

The abstract must be prepared according to the layout provided by the organizers on the website, which can be downloaded from the Application Guide section (awards.betacity.eu). Failure to comply with the prescribed presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the submission by the organizers.

The use of the presentation layout specific to the Text category is mandatory for all participants.

The abstract must be uploaded through the dedicated online form as a PDF document and must comply with the following requirements:

- it must not exceed 2,500 characters, including spaces — please preserve the text formatting provided in the layout;
- it must include at least one representative image of the work;
- it must include the author's name and the title of the work;
- the text must be written in English;
- it must use the Oxford citation system, with source references provided as footnotes (the rules of this citation system can be consulted [here](#)).

Documents for promoting the project and the author/authors' collective

With the aim of promoting and publishing the work and the author/authors' collective on the organizer's and partners' promotional networks, the organizer requests the following materials:

- a bilingual presentation text of the author/office/collective (in English and in the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language, which will be filled in within the online registration form.
- a photograph of the author/office/collective, format: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, minimum size: 440 × 440 px — the photo will be displayed on the website and in related materials in square format, resolution: 72 dpi, maximum file size: 1.5 MB.
- a representative photograph in .jpeg, .jpg, or .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px to ensure good image quality on HD displays, a resolution of 72 dpi, and a maximum file size of 1.5 MB.

Registration will be carried out through an online form on the website awards.betacity.eu. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process, in order to avoid errors or the form being blocked during submission.

Consult the [application guide](#) to make the application process easier.

In the event that participants encounter issues regarding the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organiser using the following contact details: e-mail awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471** (Monday–Friday, 10:00–18:00).

A submission is considered valid upon receipt of a confirmation email from the organizers.

For more details about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Phase II - abstract based selection

Only authors selected by the jury during the first phase of the competition are eligible to participate in this phase.

The results of the first-stage evaluation will be sent by email to each selected participant.

The text must be submitted via the registration form available on the awards.betacity.eu website. The following documents are required:

- the full text;
- other supporting documents.

The Text

The text must be prepared using the same layout as in the first phase, which can be downloaded from the awards.betacity.eu website. The use of the presentation layout specific to the Text category is mandatory for all participants. Failure to comply with the prescribed presentation layout will result in the disqualification of the submission by the organizers.

The text must be sent to the organizer's email address as both a PDF document and an editable Word document, named after the following format: **AUTHOR NAME_TEXT II**, with a maximum file size of 5 MB. It must comply with the following requirements:

- the first page must include the author's name and the title of the text (which may be the same as the abstract title or a different one, although we recommend keeping the same title);
- the main body of the text must not exceed 20,000 characters, including spaces (approximately 3,000 words), using Arial 12 pt font with 1.15 line spacing;
- the text must be written in English;
- the text may be accompanied by images (illustrations, diagrams, photographs); each image must include the author's credit, and participants are responsible for securing all image copyrights;
- the Oxford citation system must be used, with source references provided as footnotes (the rules of this citation system can be consulted [here](#)).

Registration must be completed through the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu website. We recommend preparing all materials and texts in a separate document before starting the registration process to avoid errors or interruptions during submission.

If participants encounter any issues with the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organizer using the following contact details: email awards@betacity.eu / phone **+40 723 232 471**.

For more information about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the **Judging** chapter.

Photography

In this category, we are looking for photographic series that address this year's biennial theme, *In Practice – as opposed to "in theory"*, through a critical observation. The theme brings to the forefront the real processes behind the built environment—the materials, constraints, decisions, and people that shape it—and can be explored in greater detail on the biennial's website, betacity.eu. We encourage participants to interpret the theme through photography in the freest and most diverse way possible, bringing forward new perspectives and subjects for reflection on our relationship with the built environment around us.

We invite you to approach the overall theme through your own lens and to see this as an opportunity to generate multiple interpretations that, taken together, enrich the conversation.

Between 2015 and 2017, over the course of three editions, the Octavian Radu Topai Award (PORT) sought both to pay tribute to the architect and to question aspects of modern and contemporary Romanian architecture. Within the Beta Biennial, this category was introduced in the 2020 edition as a continuation of his legacy—that of a young architect and photographer who lost his life in a mountain accident in 2014.

This year, we are once again including the category dedicated to architectural photography as part of Beta 2026, which will be open to participants from across the DKMT Euroregion.

This year's Photography exhibition will bring together the selected images in a curated exhibition presented in the public space.

Participation requirements

This category is open to anyone with an interest in photography, regardless of their field of practice.

Works may be submitted by authors who either have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or have completed their studies at a specialized university within the DKMT Euroregion. By entering the competition, the participant declares under their own responsibility that they have permanent residence in the DKMT Euroregion or that they have completed their studies at a specialized university located within the DKMT Euroregion. In the event of any doubt, or if the author receives an award in the competition, the organizer will request supporting documents proving residence or completed studies. Furthermore, if it is proven within one year of the award being granted that the recipient does not meet the conditions set out in the regulations, the prize money must be returned to the organizer.

Only photographic series consisting of **three images** that explore this year's biennial theme will be accepted. The photographs may be created using any photographic medium.

The main selection criteria are the strength of the idea, its engagement with the biennial theme, and the quality of the images, rather than the photographic technique itself.

Image submission

Registration will take place through the dedicated section of the awards.betacity.eu website and requires several materials for the promotion of both the photographic series and its author.

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As this year's Photography category will culminate in a curated public space exhibition, an exhibition panel will no longer be required.

To promote and publish the submitted work and its author on the organizer's and partners' communication channels, the following materials are required:

- an author biography, submitted bilingually (in English and the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces per language version, to be completed in the online registration form;
- an author portrait in .jpeg, .jpg, or .png format, minimum dimensions of 440 × 440 px. The image will be displayed on the website and in related materials in a square format, at 72 dpi, with a maximum file size of 1.5 MB;
- the photographic series consisting of **three images** in .jpeg, .jpg, or .png format, with a minimum height of 960 px to ensure good image quality on HD displays, at 72 dpi, with a maximum file size of 1.5 MB per image. Images may be either landscape or portrait, although landscape orientation is recommended. These images will be used both for the project presentation on the website and for the jury's evaluation; to control the order in which the images appear on the website, we recommend numbering the files as follows, with the first image serving as the project's cover image: 01.image.jpeg, 02.image.jpeg, 03.image.jpeg;
- a short project description, submitted bilingually (in English and the applicant's native language – RO/HU/SRB), with a maximum of 2,500 characters including spaces per language version. This text must be uploaded through the online registration form.

Registration is completed through the online form available on the awards.betacity.eu website. We recommend preparing all required materials and texts in a separate document before beginning the registration process to avoid errors or interruptions during submission.

Please consult the [Application Guide](#) to facilitate the application process.

If participants encounter any issues with the registration procedure, they may request assistance from the organizer using the following contact details: email awards@betacity.eu or phone **+40 723 232 471**.

For more information about the competition stages and the judging process, please consult the Judging chapter.

Appeals

Submission of appeals

Applicants may submit appeals only regarding the preliminary review.

The preliminary review refers to the competition office's management of the submitted materials, including verifying the submitted files, recording any irregularities, preparing an official report, and publishing that report on the competition website.

For the appeal submission period, please consult the *Awards Calendar* chapter.

Appeals regarding the preliminary review carried out by the competition office must be submitted online to awards@betacity.eu.

Appeals must be submitted as an A4 PDF document and may be written in either English or Romanian.

In addition to stating the reason for the appeal, the document must include the participant's name and the title of the work submitted to the competition, for which the appeal is being filed.

Appeals review

Appeals submitted within the period announced by the organizers (see the *Awards Calendar chapter*) will be reviewed by a committee of three members, who will appoint a chair member out of the three.

The final results following the review of the appeals will be published on the competition website, in the News section, on the date specified in the *Awards Calendar* (see the *Awards Calendar chapter*).

For the composition of the competition office and the Appeals Review Committee, please consult the *Organizer* chapter.

Jury

The works submitted to the competition will be evaluated by three juries, organized according to the eight competition categories.

The composition of the juries has been determined by the Beta 2026 Awards organizing team, taking into account the jurors' professional expertise and experience in the fields represented by the competition categories.

Jury process

The judging process will be conducted with the participation of all appointed members of each of the three juries. The schedule of deliberations, as well as the evaluation criteria, will be determined independently by each jury.

Each jury will appoint a chair from among its members and will evaluate the submitted works in accordance with the criteria and methodology agreed upon collectively.

Throughout the judging process, each jury will be assisted by a non-voting secretary, who will ensure the proper process of the deliberations.

After deliberations, each jury will prepare and submit an official report to the organizers, presenting the competition results in relation to the established evaluation criteria.

The jury reserves the right not to award prizes or honorable mentions in any category if the submitted works do not meet the required standard. The jury may also decide to split a prize between multiple participants, award more than one prize in a category, or grant honorable mentions only.

The decisions of the juries are final and are not subject to appeal.

In exceptional circumstances, should a jury member be unable to fulfill their duties for any reason, the organizers reserve the right to appoint a replacement or alternate member.

Jury process for the Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours and *In theory*

For the above categories, the jury process will be held in two phases. The first stage consists of an online evaluation based on the previously established judging criteria. Following this evaluation, a shortlist of selected works will be announced, and these works will be exhibited in the public space throughout the biennial.

The second stage consists of a public discussion in Timișoara, where the finalists will discuss their projects before the jury and the audience.

For the judging schedule, please refer to the *Awards Calendar* chapter.

The discussions surrounding the selected works are intended to facilitate a broader understanding of each project—including its process, key decisions, and development—both for the jury, as part of the final evaluation, and for the attending audience.

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Details regarding the presentation format and supporting materials will be communicated at a later stage on the competition website (in the News section) and by email to the authors of the selected works.

For the categories Built Space, Interior Space, Public Space, Graduation Projects, Endeavours, and *In Theory*, during the online jury stage, the jury will evaluate submissions based on the subcategories defined in the regulations. However, the jury members also act as curators, with the possibility of reassigning works to different subcategories or merging the categories specified in the regulations. They may also evaluate the works based on specific criteria (to be presented by the jury) and award prizes accordingly.

Jury process for the Text category

For the Text category, the two judging stages correspond to the two phases of the competition (see the Text category schedule in the *Awards Calendar* chapter). Both stages of the Text category jurying will take place online.

In the first phase, the jury will select abstracts to be developed into full texts by their authors.

In the second phase, the jury will select the winners based on the submitted full texts.

Jury process for the Photography category

For the Photography category, there will be two stages of evaluation. The first stage will be an online jury process, following which a selection of photographic essays will be made from the submitted entries; these will be exhibited in the public space throughout the biennial. The second stage of evaluation will take place in Timișoara, where the jury will convene to select the category awards.

Awards

The Beta Awards 2026 have a total prize fund of RON 140,000, equivalent to EUR 26,720*.

The awards will be distributed as follows:

The jury reserves the right to determine the final allocation of prizes, honourable mentions, and nominations, including their number, provided that the total value of the prize fund is not exceeded.

Built Space

Residential - 2 Awards of EUR 1000 each, 4 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 each, 4 Nominations (non-monetary). These distinctions are distributed equally between the two subcategories:

Single-family housing - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Collective housing - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Non-residential - 2 Awards of EUR 1000 each, 4 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 each, 4 Nominations (non-monetary). These distinctions are distributed equally between the two subcategories:

New - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Interventions on existing - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Interior Space

Interior design - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Temporary design - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Public space

Urban design - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Urban studies - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Graduation Projects - 1 Award of EUR 500, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 250, 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Endeavours - 1 Award of EUR 1000, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 500 and 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

'In theory' - 1 Award of EUR 500, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 250, 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

Text - 1 Award of EUR 800, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 400, 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

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Photography- 1 Award of EUR 500, 2 Honourable Mentions of EUR 250, 2 Nominations (non-monetary).

*All prize amounts are gross. For participants residing in Romania, prize payments will be made in Romanian Leu (RON), equivalent to the stated prize value.

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Organizer

The organizer of the competition is the Timiș Territorial Branch of the Romanian Order of Architects, through the organizing team of Beta – the Architecture Biennial of Timișoara.

The organizer's contact details are:

12 Diaconu Coresi Street, postal code 300558, Timișoara

+40 723 232 471

awards@betacity.eu

ORGANIZING TEAM:

Oana Bănescu

Alexandru Naghiu

Simina Grindean

COMPETITION SECRETARIAT:

Oana Bănescu

Alexandru Naghiu

APPEALS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Oana Bănescu

Alexandru Naghiu

Boris Peianov

Processing and Protection of Personal Data

By submitting an entry to the **Beta Awards 2026**, participants consent to the processing of their personal data as provided to the organizer.

The organizer is committed to processing participants' personal data fairly and transparently, solely for purposes related to the organization and administration of the competition and in the legitimate professional interest of both parties, in accordance with the provisions of **Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council (GDPR)**.

Images or photographs that contain or promote any form of violence, or that are offensive, abusive, indecent, defamatory, or obscene, will not be accepted. Likewise, images containing advertising, promotional material, or visible logos or brands occupying more than 50% of the image are not eligible for submission.

Photographs depicting people in public spaces are accepted only when the individuals appear as incidental elements within a broader scene. Portraits or photographs in which identifiable individuals are the primary subject will not be accepted.

Photographs of buildings located in public spaces may be submitted, with the exception of military or strategic sites designated as such under Romanian law. Such sites may only be photographed with prior authorization and under the supervision of a representative of the Romanian Ministry of National Defence.

By submitting an entry, participants declare that they have read, understood, and agree to all the provisions set out in these Competition Regulations.