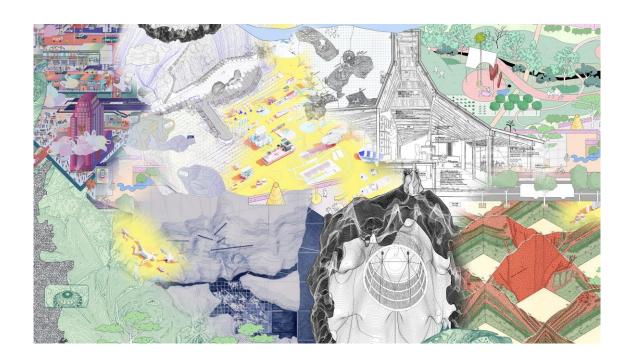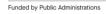*Catalysts of Resilience*

UIA International Student Competition

Questions and answers

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The competition organiser reserves the right to address similar questions together.

REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

1 Can the identification Number ID, be on the left or right of the panel because mine is on the left would that be a problem? [24]

All entries should only indicate the registration code provided by the competition organisers, located on the top right side of each panel, as well as the identification of each panel (panel 1, 2 or 3). (Brief, 2.8)
Entries that do not meet the requirements set forth in this document or that contain any kind of irregularity shall be indicated to the Jury by the Technical Committee. The Jury shall decide whether to disqualify the entry, registering the decision in the Report of the Jury Decision. (Brief, 2.10)

2 Can students from [REDACTED—country/region] participate? [47]

Students from all over the world are welcome to apply.

3 Should every student present an academic certificate for the registration? [103]

Not required at registration.
According to Section 6 ("Registration") of the brief, students must provide their academic institution and year of enrolment, but there is *no requirement to upload or submit an academic certificate during initial registration.* **However, the Secretariat or the jury** *may request proof of enrolment later* **for verification purposes.**

4 Where is the project brief? [112] On the website, we only found a brief description, and we would like to ask if there is an official document or set of guidelines that explain the competition and its requirements in more detail. [147][81]

You can find the project brief and guidelines in the Congress website International Student Competition - World Congress of Architects. Barcelona and in the UIA Competition page: Catalysts of Resilience - International Union of Architects.

5 I want to entry this competition, but our plan changed and I'm going to do this with my friend. Is it okay to write his name when we submit our proposal? [120]

You can always add team members. Further team members can be added after registration is closed. The team leader cannot be changed. (Brief 2.6)

6 Finally, in terms of registration: if a participant initially registers as an individual, is it possible to add further team members afterwards, provided that the team leader remains the same, and if so could you please clarify the procedure for adding them (for instance, through the online platform or by contacting the Secretariat via email)? [121]

Yes, you can always add team members. From the brief (p. 12–13): "Further team members can be added after registration is closed. The team leader cannot be changed."
To add members, please **contact the competition secretariat** at: competitions@uia-architectes.org
You will need to provide names, academic institutions, and proof of enrollment for the new members.

7 ***I realized that I did not include the registration year for our team leader, who is responsible for our competition registration. Could you please advise on how to correct this? [35]***

To include the registration year for our team leader please contact secretariat at: competitions@uia-architectes.org

8 ***How to attach the project. How to send the project. [30]***

Participants will be required to register on the official competition website (www.uia-competitions.org). Competitors will receive a number or code that they will use to log into the system, access the Q&A private area and submit the project.

9 ***I have registered for the competition, and I need to know more details. [72][83]***

All the information regarding the competition can be access at the UIA competition´s website Catalysts of Resilience - International Union of Architects and in the Congress 'website International Student Competition - World Congress of Architects. Barcelona.

ELEGIBILITY & TEAM COMPOSITION

General clarification

The competition is open to any full-time registered students (individual or team) from all over the world. Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged. Only students of architecture, landscape architecture, urban design or urban planning can register as authors or co-authors. Students from other disciplines can register as collaborators. The participants can't be accompanied by tutors/teachers.

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. Teams may have from 1 to 5 students. Competitors are only allowed to participate in one team. Students, associates, employees and family members of jury members and persons involved in the preparation of this competition are not allowed to participate in the competition.

10 I wanted to know whether you only need to be enrolled as a student at the time of registration, or until when your student status must be valid in order to participate in the competition. [40]

"All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission."

11 I would like to inquire whether I am eligible to participate in the competition as a full-time architecture student enrolled in the first semester, or if I am required to be enrolled full-time for both semesters of the 2025–2026 academic year. [01] [61] [62] [99]

The student´s enrolment must be active at the time of the proposal submission.

12 Our team members have recently graduated in 2023 and are no longer students. Could you please clarify whether graduates are allowed to register and compete, or if the competition is limited strictly to current students? [02] [63] [92] [93] [95] [101] [106] [114]

All members in the team must be students at the time of the submission proposal. The Competition is for full-time registered students, and no graduates are accepted in the team.

13 I recently graduated with a bachelor's degree this year, and I am currently a master's student as well as a teaching assistant. Could you please confirm if I am eligible to participate in the competition? [10] [100] [105] [109] [156]

The competition is open to any full-time registered students (individual or team) from all over the world. (Brief, 2.1.) That includes Bachelor and Master´s degrees students.

14 We would like to kindly ask whether our team can participate with the Interior Architecture and Environmental Design students listed as co-authors or collaborators alongside the Architecture students. [11][14]

Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged. Only students of architecture, landscape architecture, urban design or urban planning can register as authors or co-authors. Students from other disciplines can register as collaborators. (Brief, 2.1).

15 We want to know if one of our team members can participate. He has already graduated from the architecture degree, and he reports that he is about to begin his diploma in social housing, so we wanted to know in what way could he participate in this contest, whether as a partner, collaborator or in some other way?[15]

If at the time of the submission he is still a student, he can participate in the competition. "Only students of architecture, landscape architecture, urban design or urban planning can register as authors or co-authors. Students from other disciplines can register as collaborators." (Brief, 2.1).

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16 I am currently studying interior architecture. Am I allowed to join the competition? [73]

Interiors architects can participate as collaborators. Only students of architecture, landscape architecture, urban design or urban planning can register as authors or co-authors. Students in interior design can register as collaborators inside a team.

17 I'm a student in the Fundamentals of Architecture program and would like to participate in the competition. My question is that I'm enrolled in all the credits for the first semester only. For financial reasons, I couldn't enrol for the full course (two semesters), and I'll do so in January when the deadline for extending my enrolment is. Given this situation, can I still register for the competition? I'm currently enrolled for 30 credits (if necessary, I can provide a copy of my enrolment). [17]

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. (Brief, 1.1), Given the deadline is 7th November 2025, you will still be in your first semester and there won´t be any issue with your application.

18 (Colaboradores seria o nome da instituição em que pertenço ou empresas que colaboraram comigo?) Would "Collaborators" be the name of the institution I belong to or companies that have collaborated with me? [18]

Collaborators are students from other disciplines in your team, never institutions or companies. Students from other disciplines can register as collaborators. (Brief 2.1.)

19 Líderes de equipes e autores seria o líder e a equipe toda? (Would "Team leaders and authors" be the leader and the whole team?) [18]

When in a group, one of the authors signs up as Team Leader / contact person.
As you can check in the form, other team leaders can be added, the first one being the contact person.

20 One of our team members previously studied architecture but is now pursuing another design-related field. Would this member still be eligible to be listed as a co-author in the competition entry? [20]

No. Only currently enrolled students in architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, or urban design **may be listed as authors or co-authors**. Students in unrelated disciplines may **only be acknowledged as collaborators**, as stated in Section 1 of the brief.

21 I have completed my bachelor's degree and am currently taking a gap year to gain practical experience and complete internships before pursuing my master's studies next year. At the moment, I still have a valid student registration; however, I plan to pause it for the upcoming academic year. I am particularly interested in forming a team with a colleague who is fully registered as a student. Could you please clarify whether I would be eligible to participate under these circumstances? [22] [85]
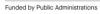
All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. If you are taking of internship between your bachelor´s and your master´s diploma, you can apply.

22 Is the competition open to recent graduates (from Spring 2025), or is it limited to current students only? [25]

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission.

23 Although I finished my undergraduate studies in architecture in June 2025, I will graduate only in December 2025. Can I still participate?[28]

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. Since deadline for submissions is on 17th November, you will still be eligible.

24 What is the maximum team permitted? [36] [128]

Teams may have 1 to 5 students.

25 I recently completed my Bachelor's degree in Architecture at the School of Architecture, [REDACTED—school], in July 2025. By the time of the project submission deadline, I will have commenced my Master's studies in Design Management.

> **The project I intend to submit was initiated during my undergraduate studies and is the outcome of a six-month regional and resilient architecture research in the Alxa region of [REDACTED—region/country]. My research has been particularly focused on the vulnerability of desert ecosystems and the cultural resilience of nomadic communities, exploring architectural strategies that can act as catalysts for both ecological and social sustainability. My collaboration and connection with the local community are still ongoing.**
>
> **Given this background, I would like to kindly ask for clarification: would I still be eligible to participate as the main entrant (team leader) in the competition? [39]**
>
> Yes. As long as you are enrolled in a degree programme at the time of submission (7 November 2025), you are eligible. The competition welcomes participants continuing to postgraduate degrees, and your prior work is also valid if it reflects your ongoing academic trajectory.

26 Can I still register even though I graduated on the 25th of July, in my country I'm still considered as a student up until the next school year registration starts (Which it does on the 13th of September). I will try to submit my work before that date. [45]

> Yes. **If, according to your institution or national system, you are still** officially a student at the time of registration and submission**, you are eligible.**
> **We will adopt a** flexible and inclusive interpretation of student status**, as long as you can demonstrate it if requested.**

27 I have a question regarding the eligibility criteria for the competition. You mention that any full-time registered student can participate. In the case of someone who is submitting their diploma thesis in October and will be considered a graduate thereafter, would registering for the competition before that time still make them eligible to participate? [46]

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. We recommend you submit your proposal before finishing your diploma.

28 Hi, can recent graduates submit for the competition? [48] [70] [71]

Depending on the English language you are speaking, UK English or US English, the meaning of graduate varies. Graduates, who have finished their studies, cannot participate. Only enrolled students can submit. But if Graduate means you have finished your Bachelor´s degree and are enrolled in a graduate master´s student program the answer is yes.

29 I am a postgraduate architecture student. Can I also participate? [56]

Yes. As an architecture student doing your masters, you can participate.

30 While the competition is broadly described as "international," the registration page appears to limit eligibility to students based in Region I. Can you clarify this point? [58] [59] [63] [64] [69] [93] [96] [119]

It is an international Competition open to everybody. What is referred to Region I in the UIA Competition page, is the Region responsible for launching the Competition, it does not refer to student´s eligibility.

31 Is the competition only for teams, or can it be participated in by a single student as well? [66] [78]

Individual students can participate on their own.

32 Are Msc. Students in architecture allowed to participate? As author? Or do you have to be enrolled in bachelor's program? [68] [82]

Architecture students on a Bachelor program can apply as authors as much as students doing their master program.

33 If I submit a project developed entirely while I am still a student, but by the time of the UIA 2026 Congress I will have already graduated, am I still eligible to participate in the student competition? [75]

You must be a student at the time of the proposal submission, not during the Congress.

34 Are post-graduate and doctoral students accepted? [77] [79] [84] [106] [110] [116] [128]

Students in their bachelor's program (undergraduate) and their masters' program (postgraduate) can participate. Doctoral students are not accepted.

35 *I am currently enrolled as a part-time architecture student. I am writing to ask whether it would be possible to participate in the competition despite not being registered as a full-time student.*

> *Due to my personal and financial circumstances, I am not privileged to pursue my studies through full-time education and must work alongside my academic career. Nevertheless, I am highly motivated and passionate about architecture.*
>
> *I understand the full-time student requirement, but I kindly ask whether it would be possible to open the competition to everyone who is a correspondence student (as not everyone has the opportunity to pursue architectural studies due to the rigid and demanding schedule of a full-time architecture programme) … [87]*

Yes. **Although the brief mentions "full-time students," we recognise that** academic and personal circumstances vary worldwide. **Part-time students** actively enrolled **in a recognized programme in architecture or a related field are** fully welcome to participate.

36 *Which years (how old) are permitted/allowed to sign up for this competition. Is the competition online or we have to be present in person in Spain. [89]*

There is no age limit and you don´t have to be in person in Spain, but you must be a full-time registered student in architecture, landscape architecture, urban design or urban planning at the time of submitting your proposal.

37 *We are two architecture students interested in participating in the Catalysts of Resilience competition. We have completed all our coursework and are currently in the degree completion process, which will conclude in December 2025.*

> *Could you please confirm whether, in our situation, we are still considered full-time enrolled students for the purposes of the competition? If so, what type of official documentation (such as an enrolment certificate or a letter from our university) would be required to verify our eligibility? [123]*

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. Since proposal submissions are due on 7th November and you finish school in December, you can apply. We will adopt a flexible and inclusive interpretation of student status, as long as you can demonstrate it if requested. You may be asked to provide proof of enrolment, such as:
•   an enrolment certificate,
•   a signed letter from your institution,
•   or a student ID with valid dates.
You only need to submit this if requested by the Secretariat or Jury.

38 *I would like to confirm whether students pursuing their degree through an online format are considered eligible to participate in the competition.*
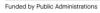
> *Another question is whether all students (participants) be registered to the same university? [127]*

If you are fully registered as a student in an online accredited institution, you are eligible to apply to the student competition.
And students do not have to be part of the same institution to join a group together.

39 *I am currently an architecture student. I am reaching out to inquire about my eligibility for the competition. I registered for the competition on the website, but by the time I submit my proposal — which will likely be close to the deadline — I will have graduated and no longer hold student status. Given this timing, I would greatly appreciate it if you could confirm whether I am eligible to participate under these circumstances. [134] [146]*

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission.

40 *I have just graduated in Architecture and Urban Planning in the last semester at [REDACTED-university name] and I would like to know if I am still eligible to submit my work. I believe that my undergraduate thesis project (TCC) aligns well with the competition theme, and I would be glad to adapt it according to the submission requirements if allowed.*

> *Could you please confirm whether recent graduates are permitted to participate in this edition of the competition? [148] [149]*

All participants must be enrolled as students at the time of proposal submission. If you are a student enrolled in a master's program at the time of the submission you are eligible. If you are not enrolled in any university at the time of the submission, your submission will be disqualified.

41 *If a full-time undergraduate student is going to do an internship in the upcoming semester, is he/she still considered a full-time student? Is there a problem with participating in the competition? [155]*

> *As long as the student remains "officially enrolled" in an academic institution and is considered a student, they are eligible to participate, even if temporarily engaged in an internship.*

COMPETITION RESSOURCES

42 How do I add a new team member? [52]

Further team members can be added after registration is closed. To include another team member please contact secretariat at: competitions@uia-architectes.org. The team leader / contact person cannot be changed. As you can check in the form, other team leaders can be added, the first one being the contact person.

43 Is it necessary to check another document regarding the competition apart from "_UIA_CatalystsResilience_final" and " _uia2026bcn_abstract". We didn't find the UIA COMPETITION GUIDE – GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN COMPETITIONS IN ARCHITECTURE AND RELATED FIELDS pdf. [80]

The competition documents are indeed the Catalysts for Resilience document, and the abstract called Conceptual framework. You can always google for the UIA COMPETITION GUIDE FOR DESIGN COMPETITIONS IN ARCHITECTURE AND RELATED FIELDS. You can find them attached here.

44 I see in the competition summary there is a link to the PDF version of "Becoming. Architectures for a planet in transition". However, I cannot access it. Is this an error or is there a restriction on access to the document?[21]

You can find the abstract *Becoming. Architectures for a planet in transition* in the Congress 'website International Student Competition - World Congress of Architects. Barcelona under CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK or in this LINK.

COMPETITION REQUIEREMENT AND DETAILS

45 Do we need to use our User ID Number in the A2 pdfs, or will we only use it for delivery?[26]

*Project documents must be submitted anonymously and not bear any indication of the authors. All entries should only indicate the **registration code** provided by the competition organisers, located on the top right side of each panel, as well as the identification of each panel.* (Brief, 2.8)

46 I am writing to inquire whether it is permissible to submit the same project to this competition as well as to other competitions or awards. [53]

As long as your submission follows the guidelines and is developed in the three temporal stages required by this competition, there is no problem**.** There are no restrictions in the brief against submitting the same project to other competitions, exhibitions, or awards — before or after this one.

47 Is there a limit on the number of academic advisors or mentors that can be acknowledged in the submission? [55]

Project documents must be submitted anonymously and not bear any indication of the authors. (Brief, 2.8). Academic advisors and mentors would be giving information about the authors to the jury.

48 Is there any payment required to register or participate in the competition? [57] [110] [128]

No fees are required for registering. (Brief, 2.6)

49 Evaluation of Temporal Dynamics – How does the jury assess the dynamic temporal aspect of projects compared to traditional static designs? [133]

Projects that explore change over time are welcome and will be positively considered.

50 Interaction with Social and Climate Changes – Are there specific criteria for evaluating how a project adapts to social or climate challenges? [133]

Addressing social and climate challenges is encouraged and will be valued.

51 How can we balance the visionary with the practical? Does the jury value imagination more than technical feasibility? [136]

All specific requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and the UIA2026BCN website.

52 To what extent can we challenge traditional housing models and propose radical alternatives (collective, mobile, hybrid)? [137]

Participants are free and encouraged to propose innovative visions to challenge traditional views on housing and architecture at large.

53 What does a "resilient" proposal mean for the jury? [138]

Resilience is the ability to adapt and recover from adversity, stress, or challenges. It involves developing skills to endure hardships.

54 What do you expect from a project in a high-risk site to contribute to the international conversation on architecture and resilience? [139]

There is no predefined expectation. All proposals are welcome as long as they clearly articulate their approach to resilience, regardless of the site's level of risk. The jury will value originality, clarity, and relevance to the competition themes.

55 To what extent should our designs incorporate long-term resilience strategies versus short-term emergency responses? [141]

Both timeframes are essential. The brief explicitly asks participants to design for both short-term and long-term scenarios. Projects should address immediate needs while also proposing long-term adaptive strategies that unfold over time. A balanced approach is encouraged.

56 What is the role of education in resilient architecture? Can we design spaces that teach people how to respond during a disaster? [142]

The competition welcomes projects that explore educational or awareness-raising strategies related to resilience. If your design includes components that teach or prepare people for disaster response, it's a valid and relevant approach, but not a requirement.

57 In the evaluation, is greater value placed on protecting existing built heritage or on ensuring resilient systems for human survival? [143]

Both are important. Choose what best supports your project's goals.

58 Should resilience be understood as a return to normality, or as an opportunity to transform the city into something better? [144]

The competition encourages transformation and new possibilities.

59 For the purpose of this competition, should the site we work on be one that is already under threat due to existing conditions, or is it acceptable to select a site and develop our design based on conditions and reasons we identify ourselves? [145]

Not necessarily. You can define the risks or challenges your project responds to.

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DELIVERABLES

General clarification
Submissions for the competition consists of three (3) digital A2 horizontal panels. Each panel must be submitted as a separate PDF file, compressed together in a ZIP folder, with a maximum total size of 30MB.

60 Which are the deliverables to submit? [43] [68]

Submissions for the competition consists of three (3) digital A2 horizontal panels. Each panel must be submitted as a separate PDF file, compressed together in a ZIP folder, with a maximum total size of 30MB, in accordance with the criteria stated in Chapter 8. **Project deliverables of the Competition Brief section.**

61 Are there any restrictions on the software or programs we may use to prepare our drawings and panels? [03] [90]

There are no software restrictions or programs to be used, if the presentation meets all the requirements of delivery.

62 Should the three required panels be submitted as separate PDF files, or combined into a single PDF document? [03]

Three separate PDFs, compresses in a ZIP file.

63 Is there a maximum file size or resolution limit for the submission panels?[03]

The compressed three files must be 30MB total.

64 For the three A2 panels, is there flexibility in layout, or must they strictly follow: Site characterization, Short-term transformation, Long-term evolution?

Yes. They must follow the guidelines of the brief.

65 Do all texts (250 words per panel) need to be strictly descriptive, or can they be written in a more narrative/storytelling style? [03]

Texts can be of any nature the students desire, as long as it helps to understand the content of each panel.

66 Regarding the explanatory text (250 words): does this requirement apply to each A2 panel (total 3 sections, around 750 words), or is it limited to a single 250-word description for the entire submission?[20]

Each panel must include a 250-word text in it. A total of 750 words among the three panels.

67 Besides the three panels, are we allowed to submit additional explanatory diagrams, videos, or model photos?

Diagrams and model photos can be included inside the 3 panels, as long as they are part of the large rich drawing to present. No separate additional material will be considered.

68 What does a "single (rich) drawing" mean? [50]

A rich drawing means ONE composition of diverse and information-filled graphic materials that explains the proposal. The drawings may employ representational techniques such as axonometric views, sectional perspectives, or hybrid visualization methods using architectural graphic representational materials (plans, sections diagrams, hand or digital drawings, site and model pictures, renderings, etc), but all needs to be

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combined in one comprehensive image. The brief asks for an enticing visual and rich composite "single" image. That is, one single drawing with richness and complexity in it.

69 The competition brief specifies that a single drawing on A2 size must be submitted. We would like to confirm whether this single drawing can be a composition or collage of multiple drawings—such as a plan, section, and elevation—or if it must consist solely of one continuous axonometric view. [08] [33] [49] [156]

The way students present their graphic material is up to them, as long as it follows the competition guidelines, that is three digital A2 horizontal panels with ONE single rich drawing per panel with a 250-word text each.
The richness of the drawing can be achieved through the composition of its parts, be it in collage form or a more elaborated composite image.

70 We would appreciate clarity on whether we are allowed to combine different views for our design as a collage. [07]

A collage is a valid method for combining all the graphic materials of your proposal, as long as the information is well organised and explained.

71 Can we include links or QRs to the presentation? [55]

No links or QRs embedded in the presentation will be considered. Only the graphic materials inside the panel.

72 Should the three panels together be conceived as forming one single continuous drawing (when stacked vertically), or are they expected to be independent drawings that simply relate to one another over time? [12]

The brief asks for a sequence of 3 complex drawings (Brief, 2.7.). It does not say they need to form one drawing. Nonetheless, participants should consider that the three A2 sheets will pile-up vertically, in a column of three drawings, depicting the passage of time. This means that the three panels, when hung up, will have one reading together. The panels need to read separately, but when piled up together a time-based reading needs to be there.

73 Are we supposed to submit hand drawings or digital submissions are also accepted? [19] [86] [90]

The final submission is in digital format: three (3) digital A2 horizontal panels. If you scan your hand drawings, they will be as valid as digital drawings, as long as you can present them in the required format. Hybrid supports (hand drawn and processed digitally) are welcomed too.

74 The project deliverables talk about "A single, rich drawing..." does that mean you can only place one detailed drawing per panel? Or can you have multiples drawings (eg: axonometric, section, detail, plan), nicely laid out like a presentation board on one panel? [31] [129] [158]

Each board will have one "rich" drawing in it. You can have multiple drawings combined in your rich image, but the curatorial team does not want independent drawings nicely laid out in the panel, but one single drawing merging all your graphic material.

75 Are we allowed to divide each A2 panel into three parts, each representing a different site (for example, coast, highlands, and jungle), provided they follow the same strategic framework? [55] [158]

Each panel must consist of a single, rich drawing representing the identified site and its context. (Brief. 1.8). If dividing the panel into three you still have one single drawing, you may do so.

76 Is there a recommended graphic language or style for the panels (architectural drawings, diagrams, collages, etc.), or do we have full freedom in visual representation? [55]

There are no guidelines for style or graphic language.

77 Can we include national-scale maps or territorial diagrams to support the relationship between the selected sites? [55]

You can have any type of documentation that helps explain your proposal.

78 Can we present the 250-word descriptive texts in two languages (English and Spanish) within the same panel, or should we stick to English only? [55]

The official language of the competition is English. Entries must be submitted in the official language. (Brief, 2.5)

79 What is the official paper size required for the competition (e.g., A0, A1, etc.)? How many sheets or panels are permitted in the final submission? Is the submission only digital (e.g., PDF), or is there a need to send a printed version as well? [90]

Submissions for the competition consists of three (3) digital A2 horizontal panels. Each panel must be submitted as a separate PDF file, compressed together in a ZIP folder, with a maximum total size of 30MB. (Brief, 2.8.a). No printed version is accepted.

80 Can we use the scale we want in our design? [118] [126]

Yes.

81 Regarding the graphic requirements: the brief specifies that each panel should consist of a "single, rich drawing." Should this be understood as one unified view (for instance, an axonometric or perspective), or can it be a composite drawing that integrates main views with complementary diagrams, annotations, or smaller architectural sketches, as long as the overall result maintains coherence as a single document? [121]

It must be one coherent drawing, not a layout of separate drawings. It can include views, diagrams, and annotations, but they should be fully integrated into a single, rich composition. **Should each board have a unique drawing of the chosen location, or can there be several forms of representation on the same board? [125]**

82 Graphical Boards and Explanatory Text – Any recommendations on the graphical style of boards to illustrate temporal development? And guidance on the explanatory text (≤ 250 words) content focus? [133]
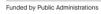
All specific requirements are outlined in the competition brief available for download on the UIA website and the UIA2026BCN website.

83 Does the 250-word limit also count the words used in the legend? [159]

Legend will not be included as part of the main text, but we encourage you to keep it short.

SITE SELECTION AND URBAN CONTEXT

84 Is the site required to be in a specific country/city (e.g. Spain/Barcelona), or can we choose any location globally? [05] [41] [111] [74]

The site can be anywhere in the world.

85 Is it acceptable to work with a fictional or speculative site, as long as it demonstrates resilience and transformation? [05]

No. The site could be a local place familiar for the participants or a distant one they wish to investigate. (brief 1.4) But real, nonetheless.

86 When you talk about a site, do you mean that we should point to a city or a community, or that we should pick a specific lot? [13][09]

It will depend on the nature and scope of your project. But it certainly must be a specific area, that the student selects, defines and analyses for its resilience potential.

87 I am not entirely sure whether the chosen site must always be shown at a large scale. [37]

It is not a competition requirement. The first panel is the one explaining the site and its election, and must show a single, rich drawing representing the identified site and its context. The other two panels are dedicated to the proposal. The scale will depend on what you need to portray.

88 Could this site be either an entire urbanization or something at a smaller scale? [37]

There are no constrains on the size of the site. It can be on an urban scale, regional scale or an architecture project.

89 Would it be acceptable, in addition to showing the site at a large scale, to include scenes at different scales within the same panel? [37]

Anything you want that helps you explain your project and is part of one rich drawing.

90 Is there any preference or advantage for selecting local sites (where the team members have direct experience) over remote or unfamiliar ones? [55]

There is no preference. This could be a local place familiar for the participants or a distant one they wish to investigate. (Brief, 1.4)

91 How should we indicate authorship if each team member is responsible for a different territory within the same joint project? Can each member be listed as the lead designer of their corresponding site, or should all authors appear equally credited for the entire project? [55]
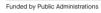
By your questions it would seem you are doing three different projects. If it is one, there is only one team leader. If you are doing three different projects, it may be advisable to submit three different entries.

92 Are there any specific requirements regarding the geographical location of the selected site? Should the proposal be limited to Europe, or can it be situated elsewhere in the world? [67]

The site can be located anywhere in the world.

93 Can we choose Gaza as the project site, as it is suffering from great destruction due to the war, in addition to famine and water pollution? [76]

You can choose any site you want but be sure it meets the competition guidelines. The site should be critically analysed for its vulnerability and risk of collapse, as much as for its potential to explore Catalysts of Resilience. (Brief, 1.4)

94 First, would it be acceptable to work on a site that has already undergone a major natural disaster and is still undergoing a process of reconstruction, where resilience can be explored not only in terms of long-term environmental adaptation but also through social cohesion and cultural continuity beyond immediate recovery? [121]

Yes. Sites with ongoing recovery processes are very relevant.

95 Can the sites chosen by participants be located anywhere in Europe, or only within Region 1 – Western Europe? [154]

The site can be anywhere in the world.

96 Can a project have multiple origins within the site (e.g. several interventions connected as one system), rather than a single starting point? [158]

Yes, as long as the proposal forms a clear and unified system that is clearly shown.

World Congress
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SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION

97 Hello, our names are [REDACTED-name]. We are writing to you because we are unsure whether our project fits the concept of the International Student Competition. The project involves creating replicable pavilions that serve as refuges against sound pollution in dense urban areas. The proposal leans more toward the artistic and conceptual than the technical because the objective is to reflect on how cities could be in the future with designed control over harmful noise. We are considering submitting it under the thematic research "Becoming Hyper-conscious." Please let us know if we should focus more on the technical aspects or the design of the space within the pavilion to make it more suitable for the competition. Also, please let us know if you think it fits the theme we considered. [151]

Yes, especially if it addresses resilience in a meaningful way.

98 To what extent are projects expected to be speculative or conceptual versus grounded in real-world data and feasibility? For example, is the jury more interested in visionary ideas that push boundaries and open new perspectives, or in practical proposals that could realistically be implemented in the near future? [157]

Both are welcome. Projects can be speculative or grounded, or both.

99 Are there intermediate deadlines before the final submission (like abstracts, drafts, or progress reviews)? [157]

No.

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          Y AGENDA URBANA   Generalitat
                               de Catalunya   Ajuntament de
                                                Barcelona

COMPETITION BRIEF

100 How should we define the short-term vs long-term transformations? (e.g., 5 years vs 50 years, or flexible depending on the project? [04]

Each drawing in your submission will depict a different temporal situation (current, short-term proposal, long-term proposal). What short term and long term are, will vary depending on the project. *Additional movement or temporality may be included, as well as a variety of scalar representations.*

101 Should the long-term evolution panel show a linear progression, or can it include different possible scenarios? [04]

It can include multiple possible scenarios. Projects are encouraged to explore time-based strategies and unfolding transformations, not just linear development. The long-term panel may depict open-ended futures, layers of temporality, or branching outcomes.

102 Is there a required time span we must address (decades, centuries), or is it up to us? [04]

It is up to you.

103 Can the site be real but small-scale (like a neighbourhood or rural setting), or does it need to be at a city/territorial scale? [05]

It is up to the students. They can choose the scale of their intervention, engaging with temporal stratification from the scale of furniture to the scale of geological land-form, and its temporal implications.

104 Should the site reflect current urgent issues (climate risk, migration, social shifts) or can it also anticipate future risks? [05]

(Brief 1.4.) The site should be critically analysed for its vulnerability and risk of collapse, as much as for its potential to explore Catalysts of Resilience. Students should characterize a pre-existing situation, in order to represent the dormant potential of each proposal.

105 What exactly does it mean Using Time as a Design Strategy? [44]

The second task of the competition consists of designing and representing two scenarios of transformation of the site —short-term and long-term— where architectural catalysts of resilience are explored.
This understanding of time should be applied to any architectural, urban, or territorial project.

106 As a team, can we submit a proposal that stems from a general overview of our country as a way to showcase 3 representative sites on a detailed level or would it be wiser to submit 3 separate entries that share design principles? "Characterization of the Site" panel focus on a single location only, or could it adopt a comparative approach that connects multiple contexts? [54] [55]

You may include multiple connected sites in a single entry, as long as they are clearly part of one coherent proposal and concept. The "Characterization of the Site" panel can adopt a comparative approach if it strengthens the project's narrative. If the sites represent separate ideas or strategies, it may be better to submit them as individual entries.

107 And could the problem we are going to solve be a problem that concerns the future, which does not yet exist today? [118]

Yes. You can respond to emerging or future risks.

108 Should references, sources, or precedents be cited formally? [157]

No formal style is required, but please credit any key sources if relevant.

OTHERS

109 What are the UNESCO standards generally applied to architectural design competitions, and what specific requirements are applicable to the UIA – Catalysts of Resilience competition?[20]

This single-stage student ideas competition is organised and conducted in accordance with UNESCO Standard Regulations for International Competitions in Architecture and Town planning and the UIA best practice recommendations. (Brief, Introduction).
In the following link you will find the *UIA competition guide for design competitions in architecture and related fields*.

110 May a student submit a school project that happens to align with the competition's key criteria, even if it was originally completed for academic coursework? [25] [98] [100]

The competition guidelines do not forbid to submit a project which was already presented in school.

111 I would like to know whether a certificate of participation will be issued to all candidates who have fulfilled the competition requirements, or only to selected participants. [34] [42] [60] [88] [150]

Certificates will be available for all eligible participants upon request.

112 Will there be any special mention or consideration for projects working at a national or territorial scale, particularly those addressing regional diversity within one country? [55]

No. All projects will be considered equal.

113 Will shortlisted or non-winning proposals be exhibited or published? [55]

Winners, honourable mentions and finalist proposals will be part of an exhibition during the Congress. In addition, winning entries will be displayed online on the UIABCNWC26 Congress web site, as well as the UIA website and all related social media platforms. (Brief, 2.16)

114 On the day of the conference (the exhibition), must the entire team be present in person? Can only one representative attend? Or can the presentation be held virtually? [104]

In the case not all team members of an awarded team can come to the awards ceremony, one of them can attend as representative.

115 I want to ask you that if someone win this competition then his/her mentor also get certificate/prizes of recognition or not? [115]

Only team members are awarded.

116 Could you please kindly inform me about the correct email address or procedure to send my inquiries? [124]

In case of technical issues, applicants can contact the UIA Secretariat via competitions@uia-architectes.org. Technical support does not impact anonymity.

117 *I would like to confirm whether duplicate submissions and awards are allowed. Specifically, is it possible to submit the same project to multiple competitions or awards, and are there any restrictions on receiving awards from different organizations for the same project? [131]*

Yes, multiple submissions and recognitions are allowed.

118 *Additionally, if possible, I would like to request a brief confirmation letter stating my participation in the competition, which would be helpful for academic and professional purposes. [133]*

Yes, you can request one after submitting your project.

UNINTELIGIBLE

119 *(E a parte dos autores? Não entendi por que no outro campo já pede autores.) What about authors? I don´t understand why the other filed already asks for autors. [18]*

120 *Can students from [REDACTED—country/region]? Will the application be asked?*

121 *Please I have a lot of questions about the UIA competition 2026 brief. [91]*

122 *I have submitted my participation. I just wanted to check if the folder containing the drawings is received please? [102]*

123 *Hello, Can I have the information sheet of the subject to work? Thank you very much and good understanding [113]*