

NEXT STEP in COMPETITION CULTURE IN EUROPE

Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom

EU Competition Culture Dictionary

Quick scan interpretations and applications
Presented at Chęciny, Poland, 24-09-2018

At the international Conference Competition Culture in Amsterdam, Netherlands (2017) one of intentions was to make a glossary, to increase accessibility to international procedures.

The reason for compiling a glossary was that there is a lot of confusion on the terms that are used in international discussions. In Europe, most of the countries have to deal with the same EU law on procurement, including rules & regulations on competitions (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Norway, Kosovo and - in the near future - the United Kingdom are no EU member states). Of course this EU law is available in every EU language. Yet the interpretation of specific or 'international' terms is not the same in every country - and so are customs, rules and regulations.

A concept of this dictionary was discussed in Palazzo Widmann, during the Venice Biennale, (25 May 2018). The glossary was presented at the international Conference Competition Culture in Chęciny, in Chęciny, Poland (24 September 2018).

The dictionary contains 80 EU portals (page 42-45).

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industries
fund NL**

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Selection committee
Signing off the brief
Team representative
Technical (review) panel
Thinning
Two-stage contest / competition
Young architect

Anonymity

A key principle in selecting solutions from the submissions in a design contest involves anonymous submissions. This is required by EU law (art. 82).

Clear instructions should be given to contestants on how anonymity will be maintained and how the authors of shortlisted or prizewinning schemes will subsequently be identified.

National interpretations / applications

CZ	A vast majority of design competitions is open and anonymous.
GR	Most competitions are one stage competitions and they are anonymous. in case of two-stage competitions winners of the first stage are usually announced.
LT	The anonymity is obligatory and kept until the final stage – the opening of the envelopes (after the jury's decision)
NL	In two-stage competitions with selection on vision, competitors remain anonymous during the first stage. The second stage isn't anonymous. Procedures with preselection based on portfolio, the preselection (often understood as a first round) is not anonymous, the design contest (often understood as a second phase) among the selected teams is anonymous. Info on the identity of the competitors will not be disclosed to anyone until the jury has made a decision. A person not involved in the procedure guards the anonymity (not necessarily a notary).
PL	A vast majority of design contests is open and anonymous. <i>Anonimowość or Zachowanie anonimowości (exactly: Obeying anonymity)</i>
SP	One phase competitions are anonymous. Two-phase competitions are anonymous in the first phase, and some also in the second. Some two-phase competitions establish some kind of anonymity in the process, where only the jury knows the identity of the competitor. In tenders, where the selection process includes an experience leg and/or an economic offer, usually the identity of the competitors is known. In competitions where a shortlist of participants is made through experience or portfolio, the identity of participants is known to the jury and the secretariat. The design competition that follows will usually be anonymous if one phase, and variable in the eventual second phase.

Assessment

The process of judging all valid submissions for a selection procedure.

This is acquired by [EU law art. 82](#):

1. The jury shall be autonomous in its decisions or opinions.
2. The jury shall examine the plans and projects submitted by the candidates anonymously and solely on the basis of the criteria indicated in the contest notice.
3. The jury shall record its ranking of projects in a report, signed by its members, made according to the merits of each project, together with its remarks and any points that may need clarification.
4. Anonymity shall be observed until the jury has reached its opinion or decision.
5. Candidates may be invited, if need be, to answer questions that the jury has recorded in the minutes to clarify any aspect of the projects.
6. Complete minutes shall be drawn up of the dialogue between jury members and candidates.
7. Although publishing the names of the jury members is not required by EU law, it is considered good practice to do so (transparency is a basic principle).

National interpretations / applications

LT	There's no practice to invite the participants for a dialogue with the jury, for sake of anonymity. Also, we usually have experts that explain all the entries to the jury members without ranking them.
NL	A dialogue with specialists (NOT jury members) in the middle of the second round is sometimes part of complex assignments (it is called a consultations round): everyone can consult in individual meeting, every team had the same amount of time and the same ach the same conversation partners). The client decides whether or not general questions and answers that are relevant for all teams, will be published in a information notice.
PL	Generally the above rules are followed. In most cases reports not on all projects are written but only on the shortlisted ones. The invitation of candidates to answer the questions takes parts only in the case of the two-stage competition – than jury lists the problems which are to be solved in the second stage of the competition.
SP	Addition: 8. Rankings should avoid being established as an average of numerical values given to separate aspects of a project. (This is a national interpretation? Not in EU law)

Closed procedure

A procedure in which participants are directly invited by the contracting authority ('invited procedure'). This is only possible below the EU thresholds.

National interpretations / applications

AL	A considerable amount of projects of public infrastructure are appointed as closed tenders or direct commissions.
GR	This is a common practice among private clients and it usually addresses well-established architectural firms. The whole process is monitored by the client who also decides who to hire.
LT	Private clients use this procedure to diminish the risk of not getting sufficient quality submissions by choosing closed (or mixed) competitions with all (or part) of the participants invited. The invited architects are chosen by the clients themselves and mainly are well-established offices. In Public Procurement Competitions it is not possible.
NL	Not used in NL. See 'invited procedure'.
PL	Polish law prevents public institutions from organizing closed competitions, but there are some rare attempts to act against it – e.g. by financing the architect by the private party in public private partnership, or when the investments in public programs is given to commercial companies – which quite often are state owned, or local authorities owned. <i>Konkurs zamknięty (exactly: Closed competition) – no general term for closed procedures for closed tender procedure there is a term "przetarg ograniczony" (exactly: limited tender)</i>
SP	Addition: A camouflaged version of this procedure is legally used: The contracting authority establishes a series of very restrictive conditions in order to participate in a multiple-phase 'open competition'. These conditions can be so restrictive, or so intentionally written, that participants are almost taking part in what is a de facto closed procedure...

Community participation

Indispensable nowadays, provided that the principles of a transparent, proportional and fair competition are guaranteed.

National interpretations / applications

AL	This process has been part of a wide debate in architectural competitions without successfully implementing community participation even in the early stages of competition brief writing.
AT	In recent years Vienna has introduced a few times such a competitive dialogues, for example, for the reconfiguration of the urban area called Schwedenplatz. Here the procedure was combined with citizen participation, followed by a two-stage realization competition. Citizens were also involved between the two stages. This led to a high acceptance of the winning design.
CZ	Wider public participation in the formulation of design briefs still happens very rarely; similarly, there is usually no participative element present in final selection procedure. The whole process is generally fully controlled by professionals.
GR	This is a very rare phenomenon in Greece. In regard to public spaces or buildings it is usually the Municipality that decides upon the course of action or the institution involved. In most cases there is an exhibition afterwards displaying all submissions which is open to the public, usually only for a short period of time. In fact, there is a special clause in competition contracts where participating architects are asked whether they would like their projects exhibited in case of not winning.
NL	Participation during the competition itself. Citizens and all others can comment on submissions that are on display. Community participation is not necessarily a democratic process / tool. The comments are handed over to the jury for the assessment, and are published in the jury report. We prefer not to use digital platforms or voting, but promote all persons interested, to visit the exhibition themselves to comment.
PL	In many cases public consultation is organized before the competition starts. There are the cases of the attempts to include the local communities into the final decisions. <i>Partycypacja społeczna (a term used by specialists, not popular among general public) or Konsultacje społeczne (exactly: social consultations – a term used by local authorities and architects in the contacts with broader public)</i>
SP	Processes for participation not clearly established. Participation structures tend to vary widely. Addition: Guidelines regarding the types and modes of participation according to the different phases of a competition should be established. Participation procedures seems to be skewed to a late stage in a competition.

Competition

Confusing term in international discussions.

In general this concerns all selection procedures in which parties compete. The most important distinction between the two main principles is:

- selection of the *most suitable parties* (procurement architects services or works with design), and
- selection of the *best plan* (design contest, developer/development contest).

National interpretations / applications

AL	The amount of open competitions in Albania is very small compared to the restricted competitions through the public procurement agency. Several cases of direct commissions for several architectural projects are always present and unfortunately in projects of high importance.
AT	In Austria around 20% of the architectural competitions are open procedures . Open competitions with a low threshold of technical requirements, office dimension and/or previous reference projects are an important tool for design quality and diversity, since not only the established or well-networked offices can take part. In Austria the trend goes towards restricted competitions . The hurdles to participate in such competitions are often very high. In recent years, Austria has begun to offer competitive dialogues , particularly in the context of urban development competition, to conduct a dialogue with selected candidates in order to develop a planning solution and to involve different stakeholders (developers, city and planning administration, planners, consultants, citizens) in the process from the early beginning.
DE	Germany has a long and rich tradition in public architectural competitions dating back a couple hundred years. It is positive that there are so many different types of competitions that offer a wide range of possibilities from which any single investor or public entity can choose any individually fitting type, or create their own out of the experiences of the past.
IE	The word competition is perhaps, in the first instance, confusing and needs clarification or a context when used. There has been a real increase in limited, private competitions in Ireland, forms of competitions that are not clearly or transparently regulated. These appear to be more common (there is no data available apart from anecdotal discussion) than 'traditional' open architectural competitions, so practitioners may be feeling excluded from competition 'culture' in Ireland. There is evidence that some architects make work over and above what might be required in order to secure a project and, in the absence of level-playing field criteria, this is being passively supported by the commissioners.
IT	On the one hand the numbers tell us we have a large amount of new contests every year, with many different characteristics. But only few of them end up with concrete realizations. Just a few contests are organized in order to guarantee a clear selection at the first stage (avoiding waste of time and resources). Thus, just a small amount of new buildings results from an equal and transparent process of competition, with an upcoming generations of designers that will not find the right space and occasions to come to light as a consequence.
KO	The competition culture in Kosovo is poor and unregulated. On the other hand, several 'international competitions' were organized over the years, which attempted to duplicate competition models from other countries, thus attracting international, well-known, and prestigious architecture studios. In general there were positive changes: the jury members were known and, in most cases, they were competent professionals; an exhibition of the proposals was part of the process; there were less requirements regarding eligibility and a

	<p>bigger prize budget, all leading to a lot of entries and better quality of the proposals. However, despite these efforts, out of all international competitions, not one has been finalized with a built project.</p>
LT	<p>In the context of a recovering private construction market and an activated (with a fair share of EU money) public sector, architectural competition has not reached sufficient legitimacy, status, and trust, and still struggles to become a ubiquitous practice in the design process.</p> <p>In 2014 AAL approved the Competition Rules, defining the procedures, obligations, and rights of all the parties of a competition. The Rules are considered as an internal document of AAL and do not have any legislative power over other parties (e.g., clients). The Rules correspond in spirit to the Competition recommendations by UIA (International Union of Architects) and ACE (Architects Council of Europe). The Architecture Law (came into force since July 2017) made an architectural competition compulsory for certain buildings/territories which are included into the list approved by the Council of local municipalities. The rules of how those competitions should be executed, are being prepared by the Chamber of Architects, basing on the Competition Rules by AAL.</p> <p>In all cases, Architecture Competition is being understood as a procedure with an aim to select the best project/design/plan, and not designers/architects.</p>
LV	<p>In the context of a recovering private construction market and an activated (with a fair share of EU money) public sector, architectural competition have not reached sufficient legitimacy, status, and trust, and still struggle to become a ubiquitous practice in the design process. In the context of a recovering private construction market and an activated (with a fair share of EU money) public sector, architectural competition have not reached sufficient legitimacy, status, and trust, and still struggle to become a ubiquitous practice in the design process.</p> <p>In 2014 AAL approved the Competition Rules, defining the procedures, obligations, and rights of all the parties of a competition. The Rules are considered as an internal document of AAL and do not have any legislative power over other parties (e.g., clients). The Rules correspond in spirit to the Competition recommendations by UIA (International Union of Architects) and ACE (Architects Council of Europe). The architectural competition brief should correspond to the Competition Rules, approved by the Architects Chamber of Lithuania with consent of the Ministry of Environment.</p>
NL	<p>Terms are often applied to different practices; the word tender is often used for competitions (in which developers are involved); competitions are often a collective term for procurement procedures for architect services or works, for design contests or integrated procedures. Many people are not aware that a design contest can be a procurement procedure too.</p> <p>For selection of the most suitable parties Architectuur Lokaal developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KOMPAS light <i>architectendiensten</i>: procurement of architectural services using the restricted procedure and - KOMPAS light <i>Design Build</i>: procurement of design & realisation using the restricted procedure. <p>For selection of the best plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KOMPAS light <i>prijsvragen</i>: design contests using either the open or restricted procedure and - KOMPAS light <i>ontwikkelcompetities</i>: development (not: developer) competitions using either the open or restricted procedure. <p>In practice, there are a lot of variations possible within these procedures (customization).</p>
NO	<p>The architectural competition has been seen as the way to guarantee both a democratic process and high quality in the proposed and built architecture. The results of these competitions are often subjects of heated public debates. The architecture competition has been seen as a way of making the process public, and also to get the best results in projects</p>

	of importance and with high ambitions. It is a way of opening up the professional field for new offices as well.
PL	<p>The number of architectural contests is also unprecedented. In the years 2005-2016 more than 900 architectural contests have been organized in Poland. This is more than during the whole period of communism (1945-1989, numbering slightly more than 700). The EU-membership has accelerated that process, and also meant increasing openness of Polish contests for foreign parties as part of the opening of the market.</p> <p><i>For that what in easified foreigners English – including our project the word “competition” is in use but Walter Meneth noticed that the proper word is “contest” in Polish there is a word “Konkurs”. There is no general Polish word for “competition” in proper English which covers contests, tenders and other competitive procedures. In some situations the term “konkurs ofert” (exactly “contest of the offers”) is used for the tenders</i></p>
SP	<p>Spain has been from the 80s a competition-rich country, and these had quite a lot or weight in the architectural landscape. In the last decade less design competitions were organized, with a bureaucratic and administrative push for tenders.</p> <p>The better organization for design competitions in Spain is perhaps hosted by COAM, (Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Madrid — the architect’s professional association of Madrid)</p> <p>Addition: - selection of the cheaper or more experienced parties (procurement arch. services or work with design).</p>
UK	There are many positive signs including the move towards more open competition procedures, and the expansion in the use of smaller and more numerous lots that herald a step change.

Competition documentation

All documents related to a competition, based on and including the competition brief.

National interpretations / applications

AL	All competition documentation for the first stage is freely available on the related website. Additional documents for the second stage are sent to the selected participants. What is important to be present also online and freely accessible are the jury evaluations for each of the participants of each competition.
GR	Documentation for first stage is usually freely available in the competition official website. There are cases where one needs to subscribe to an account in order to receive all the documents.
LT	Competition brief + appendixes; feasibility study (not obligatory, prepared before the Brief)
NL	The Steunpunt Architectuuroopdrachten & Ontwerpwedstrijden (helpdesk Architectural Commissions and Design contests) offers a database covering all notices for public contracts and contests in the field of architecture and links directly to all procedures. The use of the digital system is free of charge to all users. Usually all competition documentation for the first stage is freely and digitally available for everyone. Additional documents for the second stage are sent to the selected participants.
PL	In most cases available freely via internet. In some case some documents – especially detailed maps of the project sites are delivered directly to the participants of the contest. <i>Materiały dla uczestników konkursu (exactly : materials for the participants of the contests) or Warunki konkursu (exactly terms of the contest) – this term can be understood narrower as strict regulation or wider as all materials given to the participants or Regulamin konkursu (exactly: regulations of the contest). Following the Public Procurement Law the term “Regulamin konkursu” must be in use, but regarding to many of the architects it is not proper and the proper one is “Warunki konkursu”.</i>
SP	Addition: The preparation of competition documentation is a very important step in the competition itself. It should be simple and to the point. Also, this preparatory stage would perhaps need to be better linked with “community participation”.

Competition organizer

Contracting authority.

National practice / application

AL	Most of all competitions are organized by governmental institutions. Very few initiatives by private companies, universities or non-governmental institutions which are focused mostly in low scale and open ideas competitions.
BG	Competitions are more than often organized by state and municipal bodies, who never take the trouble of proper publicity, of writing catchy, contemporary competition briefs, and who love to announce them only on their municipal sites (which nobody reads). In 2006 Bulgaria acquired officially the status of full member of the EU, and subsequently coordinated its legislation according to EU rules and regulations. A new version of the Public Procurement Act was enforced in 2016 with a number of improvements one of which is the obligatory requirement for all municipalities to build electronic systems for acceptance of competition entries by June 2017.
CZ	Decisive is the role of new dynamic actors in the organization of design competitions, specialized architecture firms, such as CCEA or Petr Parlář Society, that act as promoters, mediators, consultants, and organizers of quality design competitions for potential investors on a turnkey basis. Also decisive is the role of new dynamic actors in the organization of design competitions, specialized architecture firms, such as CCEA or Petr Parlář Society, that act as promoters, mediators, consultants, and organizers of quality design competitions for potential investors on a turnkey basis.
FI	The Finnish Association of Architects (SAFA) has been organizing architecture competitions and creating the rules, which are laid down in a handbook on competitions, since 125 years ago. The Finnish competition system definitely teaches our relatively small architecture profession the art of succeeding in important international competitions.
GR	However, the 'New Framework for Holding Architectural Competitions and Competitions for Studies with Awards' that was promoted by the Ministry of Environment and Energy in 2011 changed the climate. However, the 'New Framework for Holding Architectural Competitions and Competitions for Studies with Awards' that was promoted by the Ministry of Environment and Energy in 2011 changed the climate. Its key points were that it broadened the criteria that prompted the organizing of competitions regardless of their budget; it categorized the competitions in two types: architectural ideas and preliminary designs; and finally, it introduced the election of the majority of jury members from a centrally managed catalogue prepared biannually. Architectural, urban, and landscape competitions were never a high priority, as infrastructural projects prevailed in public spending. The fragmentary competition landscape was made even worse by the often conflicting agendas of key professional associations, which agree on promoting architectural quality through public competitions but do not always coordinate their actions towards such goals. The 2011-framework offered, until recently, a standard competition procedure, which despite its shortcomings, was proven enough to generate more architectural competitions. Recently passed legislation for public procurements (Law 4412/2016) might lead to amendments to the previous framework and its improvement, or it might signal a yet another period in the Greek competition culture.
IE	The majority of competitions in Ireland are managed for private and public sector clients by the RIAI (Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland).

IT	The only chance for a real change in this situation can come from a new law which can better regulate all the phases of the competitions process, and by doing so, raising the quality of the proposals and, consequently, the level of the built environment.
KO	In the majority of cases, design contests are administered as any other tendering procedure, through the Public Procurement system. They are organized by public institutions and can be categorized as 'national competitions'. In these competitions the client is the organizer. In Kosovo there is no organization or individual responsible for the quality of the competitions. The Association of the Architects of Kosovo (established in 1956) was never active in drafting a regulatory framework for competitions, nor as a regulating body, organizer, or advisor of competitions.
LT	In Lithuanian Law, the Organizer is the contracting authority (Municipality, private investor, etc.). To define the role of the person who is responsible for the brief and the process (E.g., AAL), we use term "Competition executive"
NL	Can be anyone. Recently it is noticeable that, now a renaissance of competition culture seems to be going on, citizens collectives and other promoters use competitions as a means to find new solutions for, or to gain attention for, actual questions.
PL	Most of the contests are organized by public institutions. In most cases the organizers of contests are local authorities, in many cases the local institutions which are to be owners and/or users of designed objects, such as museums, universities, schools, cultural centres, forest directions etc. The Association of Polish Architects which during the Communism time was the organizer of the vast majority of competitions, now organizes only few of them but in quite many cases the organizer cooperates with the Association of Polish Architects which provides a knowledge and more or less preparatory works as well as a competition judges. The work on architectural contest in the Association of Polish Architects is the field of work of 25 local branches of the Society. There are also the commercial firms which offer support by the organization of the architectural contests. The contests organized by the commercial parties are quite rarely. Some of them cooperate with Association of Polish Architects, other organize the competitions on their own. There are also contests organized by the local activists. <i>Organizator (in contest of the contest the single word "Organizator" is generally in use the full meaning of the above term "Organizator konkursu" is very rarely in use. Because of the situation that the client is very often the organizer quite often the term "Zamawiający" (exactly : "Purchaser") is in use</i>
SP	OCAM, which belongs to COAM (Madrid architect's association) organizes competitions, but it is NOT the contracting authority. Addition: Some competition organizers are NOT the contracting authority for the final architectural product.

Competition publication

The competition will be announced at the EU portal [TED](#) (Tenders Electronic Daily) if above EU thresholds and at a national portal, if below thresholds. Some countries lack a national portal; commercial platforms are used instead. List of portals is attached (see page 42 - 45).

National interpretations / applications

AL	Two are the most important portals where competitions are announced: www.competitions.planifikimi.gov.al for the ones organized by AKPT (National Territorial Planning Agency) and www.app.gov.al the public procurement agency.
GR	There is no official portal. Competitions are usually announced from official architects' institutions like SADAS via their newsletter.
IE	As the RIAI is also the registration body in Ireland (and therefore a mix of the RIBA and ARB in the UK), they market competitions to their registered architects via their website and newsletters. When an architectural competition is announced this news would typically also be carried on websites and social media pages of the Architectural Association of Ireland and the Irish Architecture Foundation. Competitions supported and managed by RIAI would, anecdotally, be considered as competitions in which there is the best chance of a project being realized, and competitions in which the architect will be treated fairly and well – simply because the professional body is endorsing them.
NL	Dutch procedures (above EU and above self-implied national thresholds) are published on TenderNed and are automatically forwarded to TED. In 2012 (now under evaluation) the municipality of Rotterdam has developed the 'Protocol Ontwerpersselecties' which contains guidelines for the selection of designers, depending on the value. Rotterdam publishes smaller commissions (below EU thresholds) on the website of the Steunpunt (Helpdesk) (see under Competition documentation)
PL	The announcements of the contests are published on the organizers websites, competition over the Public Procurement Law threshold are published also on the website of the Office for Public Procurement. Also commercial, ngo's and facebook portals are in use. <i>Ogłoszenie konkursu (exactly: announcement of the contest)</i>
SP	Addition: Regarding publication, and communication of competitions, an evaluation or certification of the different competition organizers that is easily accessible might help navigate these.
UK	Architectural competitions that are held below thresholds: The Architects Journal, Building Design along with other magazines and online providers provide competitions notifications services and dedicated outlets. Website providers include: e-Architects, Archdaily, Bustler, Death by architecture, Divisare, TheArchitectureRoom. Agencies include the RIBA Competitions Service, Collander and Malcolm Reading Associates. Generally it is immaterial to these services whether the competitions are in the private or public sector. Notably however few private competitions are announced this way. Above thresholds the major competitions portals for UK Architectural competitions are provided by; Project Compass; Contracts Finder; eSourcing NI; Public Contracts Scotland; Sell2Wales; London Tenders Portal; South East Business Portal; Tenders Direct; In Tender; Bravo Solutions; Delta e-sourcing; MyTenders and Supplying the South West. Clients and architects would need to rely upon Contracts Finder and the other national portals. Yet, relative to OJEU and e-certis, this is a deficient immature system that is poorly resourced, has little transparency, and is in need of significant reform.

Competition report / Jury report

The jury shall record its ranking of projects in a report, signed by its members, made according to the merits of each project, together with its remarks and any points that may need clarification (EU art 82.3 and see assessment).

National interpretations / applications

AL	In open international competitions the jury is made public but the jury/competition report is not all fully accessible and available. For several competitions an extract of the jury report is published as part of a special issue focused on these particular competitions.
IE	The RIAI performs poorly with regard to making the results of competitions publicly available, and so, while the running of the competitions can be well known and publicized, there are not always opportunities to view winning or other entries online or in exhibitions. To find results one often has to look at websites of individual architects. Given the range and quality of architectural work in Ireland, it is remarkable that Ireland has such a poor critical and intellectual infrastructure to discuss, debate, and question what happens here. There is no real architecture critic in Ireland, and the country also has a limited independent infrastructure for architecture.
KO	The project evaluation process is not transparent, as the jury members are not made public, and they do not deliver a report. It is unfortunate that this is a requirement stipulated by the Kosovar Law on Public procurement (article 80), seeking confidentiality of the jury deliberations and opinions of the members of the jury. This goes <i>against</i> the EU principles for transparency, and more distinctly, it is not in line with the EU directive 2004/17/EC (article 66).
LV	It is obligatory; however, the jury is usually reluctant to do the job. Then, a Coordinator of the competition makes the report and gives it to the Jury members to sign.
NL	Commonly, the jury reports are published digitally. When Architectuur Lokaal is involved: the full report, as well as a submissions from both first and second stage are published online (evt. without financial info) after the competition has ended. This is stipulated in the brief; also stipulated is that the jury has to reach unanimous decisions. We do not use scores; choices must be well explained in clear language. After the first round, the jury can give (general and individual) recommendations for those , selected for the second round. These are not public; the selected parties receive personel info on the jury motivation and recommendations. Since social media are developing, in the brief participants are asked for a summary, that can be published when the result of the selection in the first round is announced. So, participants keep their control over the information that is published and the client keeps control over the info that is published by all parties.
PL	General reports and reports on awarded and mentioned projects are prepared in the vast majority of cases. The reports on all the submitted projects are the rarely cases. Formally the reports are signed only by the chairmen of the juries. <i>Protokół z obrad sądu konkursowego (exactly: minutes from the jury meetings -concerns general work of the jury), opinia sądu konkursowego (exactly: opinion of the jury – concerns the entry and is prepared separately for the each of the opinioned entries), uzasadnienie przyznania nagrody (exactly: justification for the award) uzasadnienie przyznania wyróżnienia (exactly: justification for the mention).</i>

Confidentiality

A confidentiality agreement, for everyone involved, is agreed upon in the brief.

National interpretations / applications

GR	All entries are signed with a ten digit code that usually consists of 8 numbers and 2 letters. Names are disclosed only after the jury has reached a decision. Architects have the right to deny revealing their name in case they haven't won.
LT	Every jury member and expert signs confidentiality agreement.
PL	Confidentiality is a general rule by the architectural contests. <i>Poufność</i>

Contest notice

Publication as required by EU and/or national law on TED and/or TenderNed (see competition publication).

National interpretations / applications

LT	If a competition is private, then a special website is being created, or the website of the Executive body is used (e.g. website of Architects Association of Lithuania). In case of Public Procurement competition, there's a website https://pirkimai.eviesiejpirkimai.lt
NL	Dutch procedures (above EU and above self-implied national thresholds) are published on TenderNed.
PL	Polish procedures (above EU thresholds) are published on TED <i>Ogłoszenie konkursu (exactly: announcement of the contest)</i>

* Known portals in EU are included in the back of this dictionary

Design contest / design competition

This is a procedure which enables the contracting authority to acquire, mainly in the fields of town and country planning, architecture and engineering of data processing, a plan or design selected by a jury after being put out to competition with or without the award of prizes (EU art. 2).

National interpretations / applications

LT	We use “Project competition” or “Idea competition” (if there’s no intent to sign a contract with the winner)
NL	In Dutch: ‘prijsvraag’ or ‘ontwerpprijsvraag’ (lit. design competition)
PL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Konkurs architektoniczny (exactly: architectural contest) or• Konkurs architektoniczno-urbanistyczny (exactly: architectural-town planning contest) or• Konkurs na koncepcję architektoniczno-urbanistyczną (exactly: contest for architectural-town planning concept) In nearly all cases there are money awards.

Designated contact

'Contact person': the only person that can be contacted by competitors on behalf of the competition organizer.

National interpretations / applications

AL	This is also applied in competitions in Albania.
LT	Coordinator
NL	One and the same designated contact is preferred to prevent confusion and to ensure all questions are answered the same.
PL	<i>In vast majority of cases. Sekretarz konkursu (exactly: competition secretary)</i>

Developer

Anyone or any organization that develops a building project (incl. risk and finances).

National interpretations / applications

AL	This process is usually regulated by an agreement between the “developer” and the institution that organizes the competition.
NL	This can be an investor or constructor, but also an architect, or any private party that takes on the financial risk for a spatial development.
PL	Developer is in Poland understand as the commercial body. In case of public organizations, or private persons the term inwestor (investor) is in use. <i>Deweloper</i>

Developer contest / development contest

Selection procedure for best plan & bid, aimed at realization. The plot or building will be allocated to the winner.

National interpretations / applications

AT	Design-developers competition, an instrument of quality insurance for subsidized social housing, which is mainly being applied in Vienna. Developers and architects bid together with a design proposal for a given site. The winner is awarded the site at a subsidized price, and is committed to further develop the design and build the project in question, according to the proposal.
LT	No developer contest in LT.
NL	No developer contest in NL. The emphasis lies on acquiring a plan, not a company.
PL	Rare cases. In most cases the developers are chosen in tenders or in negotiations. Sometimes the project is judged as the additional element, secondary to the financial offer. <i>Konkurs deweloperski</i>
SP	Although not as used, this type of competition has been traditional in Spain, and it has coexisted with professional services competitions. It has been contested by architect's associations, becoming slightly less frequent.

Eligibility

Who can and cannot enter, e.g. by means of qualification.

National interpretations / applications

AL	Competitions were addressed mainly at architectural practices from Europe, giving an important focus only to foreign architects. During recent years an important requirement involving foreign + local teams of different disciplines was applied in order to give attention to the participation of locals, even though international participation is a “must” in order to raise “credibility” to the competition and project itself.
AT	Open competitions mostly allow young and small offices to take part without too many restrictions, and offer a chance to effectively build, as the chance of realization in Austria is quite high.
GR	They used to require participants to submit an insurance and tax clearance certificate. Due to the crisis, they have withdrawn that demand. Students can participate in large competitions only as members of the group.
IT	The biggest and most important contests are not freely accessible to all the architects. Especially the ones with large investments ask for economic guarantees (sales volume) that, de facto, exclude the access to younger practices. Thirdly, when the competitions are open to all, they do not provide for refunds to the finalists, because of the limited amount of resources available.
KO	The evaluation formula is drafted in such a way that the design criteria are never more decisive than the design fee or eligibility criteria. Additionally, these competitions are highly demanding regarding the eligibility criteria, making it very difficult for new practices and young architects to enter.
LT	The requirements are defined in the competition brief. There’s a tendency to soften them.
NL	Defined in the brief. Procurement architects services: requirements like turnover, architects register etc. (this leads often to discussions on proportionality and accessibility). Design competition: requirements none or very limited (architects register, team or no team, students allowed or not, etc). Expertise/composition of the teams (can be others than designers: specialist in care, energy) is obliged or recommended. In case of selection on portfolio: projects.
PL	There big differences in openness of the access to the contests. In some cases it is restricted to the experienced offices with very popular use of absurd solution of reducing the circle of participants to the parties who have delivered the building permit design for the similar kind of investment within last 3 years. In some contests, including the big ones every adult person has had a possibility to participate. The requirement of having the licensed architects, structural engineers and other specialists needed regarding the polish law in the team was postponed to the moment of negotiations of the commission with the winner. In vast majority of cases having the licensed architect in team is required – this requirement does not have to be obeyed by participants from European Economic Area countries which do not license the profession of architect. <i>wymagania jakie muszą spełniać uczestnicy (exactly: requirements that participants must meet)</i>
SP	Perhaps the dominant type of competition now. Supported by entrenched firms which dominate the professional associations. A practice that values experience above all else. It can lead to a excessively narrow and directed selection process.

Expressions of interest (EOI)

Any competitor response to a competition call.

National interpretations / applications

LT	Maybe the registration to a competition could be understood as EOI, but we don't use this term
UK	An EOI may refer to any private procurement or, in public works, to any competition above or below thresholds whatever the procedure. Design Contests however because they fall under the Public Contract regulations Part 2 Chapter 3. An expression of interest (EOI) is not the same as a Prequalification questionnaire (PQQ), although submission of a PQQ is an expression of interest.

Honorary mention

A special mention in the jury report. No prize, fee or commission is involved.

National interpretations / applications

GR	There are usually three in every competition. In most cases there is also a small but fixed financial reward as well.
LT	Usually they are awarded with money prizes, which are deliberately smaller, as usual prizes.
NL	Honorary mentions do occur, but are no issue.
PL	Honorary mentions do occur as an addition to regular prizes and mentions. Take place when jury wants to mention more projects without lowering the budget of other mentioned projects. <i>Wyróżnienie honorowe</i>

Ideas contest

The objective of which is to procure conceptual proposals or solutions, which are only generally described and defined and does not usually involve any intention to actually build the winner's project.

National interpretations / applications

AL	There are several ideas contests or open ideas competitions organized in Albania, often by non-government linked institutions or private investors.
CZ	The significant growth in the proportion of design competitions to ideas competition is a proof of a maturing system of regular commissioning of public procurement using this tool. Prevailing are public tenders with the price as main criterion.
GR	Ideas competitions require less preparation, providing less in-depth information on the project's complexities, and while the combination of architects' availability and lower submission requirements and costs (e.g., no architectural model required) increased participation, it does not necessarily increase the quality of proposals. Some even claim that it had generated more unrealizable proposals.
LT	Yes. But never had happened in Public Procurement frame
NL	The first stage in a design contest, based on a limited vision, is like an ideas contest. A number of ideas is selected for the second stage for further development. In these procedures there is no financial compensation for the first stage, for the second stage there is (an equal) compensation for all participants.
PL	The ideas concept most often means search for the ideas without the commission for the winner. Sometimes ideas contests are preparations for the next contests, but in many cases they mean search for the ideas for the cities which are then developed by the city planning offices. <i>Konkurs ideowy</i>

Invited procedure

Similar to an open design contest in all respects except that contracting authorities can approach a shortlist of invitees directly by private invitation.

National interpretations / applications

AT	One reason for the clients to choose an invited or restricted competition is the fear of anonymity or getting architects with not enough experience and competences
CZ	Invited competitions are only fractional and reserved to private investors (in the public sector they are practically unlawful). Combined (open and invited) competitions are legal but literally non-existent, as a result of heavy critique from architects on the unequal competition conditions.
DE	I think all of them were always full of praise of the <i>kooperative Werkstattverfahren</i> , a special kind of invited competition where a client would invite several offices, mostly about four to eight, and they would then make a first presentation of their ideas, discuss it with the client, politicians, and sometimes also external jury members or specialists, and only after that would their final proposal be worked out. Everyone seems really happy with this as the in between presentation makes it possible to discuss radical ideas that would normally be removed from the competition. Also, it makes it possible to get feedback on questions much better than in the standard, anonymous competitions.
LT	Yes. But never had happened in Public Procurement frame
NL	Both announcements and most results of invited procedures are not published so we cannot provide an overview of numbers and don't have any insight into invited procedures. Invited procedures lack transparency and can be used by private clients. Public clients can also use the invited procedure if the value of the assignment is below a certain (differs from client to client) threshold.
PL	Invited procedures take place mostly in case of the private clients. Sometimes they take place by public clients when the commission fee is lower than the public procurement law threshold for the open procedures. <i>Konkurs zamknięty (exactly: closed contest)</i>
UK	Because this is not advertised publicly and lacks transparency invited design contests may only be used by private clients.

Jury

At a contest, a jury will assess the submissions.

The jury shall be composed exclusively of natural persons who are independent of participants in the contest. Where a particular professional qualification is required from participants in a contest, at least a third of the members of the jury shall have that qualification or an equivalent qualification. EU art 81 & assessment above

National interpretations / applications

CZ	The goal is to create and maintain a secure, fair, just, and transparent design competition environment. All independent jurors recommended or delegated by the Chamber of Architects are trained and certified for this work. Any architect can take this training. Other dependent or independent jurors are not obliged to have any special training.
GR	The jury catalogue included architects on two key requirements: ten year license and at least one winning prize (first, second, or third) in Greek competitions, an award in international competitions or holding a permanent academic position in a Greek or foreign university. Through the new national competition standards, the Ministry claimed it would increase the transparency and the quality of the competitions by eliminating the fragmentary process existing in the past where multiple actors involved, had low interest in quality or took advantage of the procedures for their own interests.
KO	Public servants of the respective institutions are appointed members of the jury. This has an adverse effect on the competition results: selected designs more often reflect the lack of professional capability of the jury members, while the project brief, in many cases, is unprofessional, poorly defined, and lacking important information.
LT	Yes. Additionally, in the competitions executed by Architects Association of Lithuania, at least 51% of the jury members should be independent from the client and delegated by AAL
LV	In 2014 AAL approved the Competition Rules, defining the procedures, obligations, and rights of all the parties of a competition. The Rules are considered as an internal document of AAL and do not have any legislative power over other parties (e.g., clients). The Rules correspond in spirit to the Competition recommendations by UIA (International Union of Architects) and ACE (Architects Council of Europe). The decision of a jury not to give the first prize (which usually means there is no obligation to a client to enter negotiation with the authors of the best project).
NL	Anyone can be a jury member provided that (certainly in EU procedures) at least 1/3 rd has the same qualifications as participants. The names and qualifications of jury members are published in the brief. Often clients want to be part of the autonomous and independent jury; in these situations the client can take the role of a technical chairman, but has no vote.
PL	In public procurement it is according to that law. In most cases in addition more than the half of the jury is composed of architects – this is also the factor which makes most of the architects to take part in competition, many architects regard as standard that more than the half of the jury are the persons who are not regular employees of the client. <i>Sąd konkursowy (exactly: competition court)</i>
SP	A recent study was done at COAM (Madrid architect's association) on the issue on how to select professional juries for competitions. Some architects believed a more 'plural' design outlook or philosophy from jurors would be necessary and this idea was carried out in a quotas document. It is not clear how this can be carried out in a flexible, durable and realistic way.

Licensed architect

Not all EU countries protect *the profession* of architect by law. In these countries, those who want to participate in procedures where a licensed architect is required, have to seek cooperation with a licensed architect.

Some countries only protect *the title* (of an architect, urban planner, landscape architect, interior architect) by law.

National interpretations / applications

AL	Albania is in the process of organizing the Order of the Architect so this procedure will soon be more clear.
AT	Protection of title
DE	Protection of title and protection of profession
FI	No protection
GR	Protection of title
IE	No protection
IT	Protection of title and protection of profession
LT	Protection of profession (obligatory membership at Architects Chamber), no protection of title (it is understood that everyone having education of an architect can call himself/herself an architect)
NL	Protection of title, no protection of profession (although our minister president recently said in a speech in Berlin, that we do). Often at least one titleholders (individually or part of a team) is allowed to participate in architectural design competitions.
PL	Protection of profession. <i>Architekt posiadający uprawnienia (exactly: architect which has authorization)</i>
SP	Protection of title and protection of profession
UK	Protection of title

Open procedure

Anyone can enter this procedure without preselection.

An open contest can be organized in one or two stages (see two stage contest).

National interpretations / applications

AL	Very few open procedure competitions are organized.
AT	In Austria around 20% of the architectural competitions are open procedures.
CZ	A vast majority of competitions are open.
IE	Some comments indicate a desire for more public work to be awarded via open competition.
LT	Majority of competitions executed by AAL are open. All the Public Procurement competitions are open. Private competitions, organized by a promoter himself, usually are not open.
NO	Open competitions have received a high number of proposals, many from the neighbouring countries in Scandinavia, but also from Europe in general. In many of the high-profile competitions in recent years the winners have been from outside Norway - especially Danish architects, but also Spanish architects have won several competitions. In addition to this general globalization there have been the effects of the European market that, to some extent, also led to European offices taking part in pre-qualified processes to participate in competitions. We have the feeling that some attempts to restrict the openness of competitions in recent years are an effect of this situation. Examples of this include: requirements for Norwegian or Scandinavian language, competition documents and websites only in Norwegian, higher requirements for qualification and experience prior to the competition, etc..
PL	There are big differences in openness of access to competitions. In some cases it is restricted to experienced offices, reducing the circle of participants to the parties who have delivered the building permit design for a similar kind of investment within last three years. The commercial investors quite often issue closed competitions without any special rules. They just ask few offices to prepare concept designs for them for free. In some competitions, including the big ones (Sinfonia Varsovia Music Centre Warsaw, with a concert hall with a capacity of 1800 people, Museum of History of Poland in Warsaw), every adult citizen had the possibility to participate. The requirement of having the licensed architects, structural engineers, and other specialists on the team that are required according to Polish law was postponed until the moment the commission was negotiated with the winner. <i>Konkurs otwarty (exactly: open contest)</i>

Parallel commissioning

Parallel commissioning is where multiple teams are invited to submit appraisals and feasibilities evaluating propositions, often with pre-defined themes for a fixed fee. There is no further commission for the selected teams beyond the parallel commission. Parallel commissioning can therefore be particularly useful to public authorities to inform the preparation of a consensual brief and before starting the required procurement processes that apply above the EU thresholds. Parallel commissions may be placed through a design contest or prior to inviting a design contest.

National interpretations / applications

LT	No experience. Maybe feasibility study is something similar
PL	Probably no cases in Poland.

Prequalification

Part of a single-stage contest (often used in France).

Only contestants who meet certain technical, financial etc. criteria will be allowed to submit a vision, plan or design. This prequalification can be compared with procurement of architectural services and can also be used for thinning.

National interpretations / applications

LT	Never used.
NL	Seldom used.
PL	<p>Prequalification is used in the case of the most competitions, but in most of the cases it is not connected with limiting the number of participants. It means generally checking who fits the rules of participation. Prequalification as in France with choosing the limited number of participants is sometime used in the situations when the commission is not financed by public institution. Sometimes prequalification of the certain number of participants takes place by public clients when the commission fee is lower than the public procurement law threshold. It sometimes take place also by criptopublic clients e.g. the bank which is investor in public housing program (the bank is joint-stock company and the state is its only stakeholder), or public investments with project financed by the foundations.</p> <p><i>Dopuszczenie do udziału (exactly: admission to participate)</i></p>
SP	<p>More and more common, along with tenders.</p> <p>Professional associations of architects have recently submitted a document to Congress in order to have their views included in the new Public Commissioning Law, in which they state that this should be the standard public commissioning practice, and only resort to open competitions 'where possible'. The process has been very opaque.</p>

Prize

Only at contests: either prizemoney (ideas contest), an assignment (project contest) or gaining the right to (re)develop a building or area (development competition).

National interpretations / applications

AT	The winner is awarded the site at a subsidized price, and is committed to further develop the design and build the project in question, according to the proposal. the commissioning of the competition winner is only guaranteed up to the permission planning phase and some principle details.
GR	Winning in the past meant that the team would be responsible for carrying out the designs of the next stage and for supervising the construction. Now, institutions can organize a competition and then assign the implementation of the designs and the construction supervision to another firm. This is not common, but can happen under the new law.
LT	AAL's Competition Rules require to have a budget for prizes. In Public Procurement competitions is not always the case.
NL	The prize can be: - a commission (preliminary design and/or further, or negotiation on a commission), - an amount of money, - an amount of money, to be spent on realisation of the winning plan or further development of the winning plan. In a development competition one can win the right to develop a project (first right to buy the plot).
PL	In most cases the prize is money and invitation to negotiate a commission. Sometimes only money. Sometimes more awarded teams are invited to paralell negotiations. Sometimes there are cases when organizers do not guarantee payment of the awards and reserve the right to cancel the competition. <i>Nagroda</i>

Project brief

An analysis and description of the project parameters. Following the foregathering of data, a description of what is known of a project's context, parameters, performance and programme. Options may be appraised, the contracting authority and stakeholder's vision and ethos articulated, and priorities clearly determined. The knowns and unknowns should be described appropriately in sufficient and proportionate detail for the type, size and scale of the project. The project brief is a part of the competition documentation.

National interpretations / applications

LT	It is a part of the Competition Brief and it is called Technical Task
NL	Project briefs: based on the manuals Kompas (see: Competitions)
PL	There are nearly always the project briefs. Their quality is different in different cases. <i>Wytyczne projektowe (exactly: project guidelines) or Program</i>

Project contest

The object of which is to procure a solution to a clearly defined task, intended to realise and determine the qualified professionals who can achieve the completion of the solution. The winner is granted an assignment.

National interpretations / applications

LT	Yes
LV	The implemented project differs from the winning entry.
PL	Most of the contests are directed toward an assignment. In many cases it takes place. <i>Konkurs architektoniczny or Konkurs architektoniczno-urbanistyczny</i>

Regulated competition

A competition below EU thresholds, where national regulations are to be applied.

National interpretations / applications

AL	Recently many competitions have been announced, but very few have been realized. This is partially due to the competition briefs that were often not clear and specific, and partially due to the economic conditions of the contracts, which were not sufficient and below EU thresholds for foreign practices and more intended for coalitions of interdisciplinary practices.
LT	We don't use this term.
PL	Contests for the assignments with honorary over the threshold organized by governmental bodies (lower than the EU one) are regulated by Public Procurement Law. When the honorary is under that the threshold or/and the client is not public most often the competitions are organized according to Cyclic Code which regulations are less complicated than the ones of Public Procurement Law. <i>No special term</i>
UK	Generally a public competition that is open to international participants but may also be a competition in the UK below EU thresholds where 'the light regime' in the Public Contract Regulations may be applied.

Result

The result can be prize money, a fee, compensation for the costs (excl. VAT) or a (follow-up) assignment. This is defined in the brief.

National interpretations / applications

AL	From twelve open architectural competitions which were organized between 2013–2016, providing almost half a million euros in the total amount of prize money, only one has been fully and successfully implemented.
DE	There is much criticism about competitions, because they tend to not be (fairly) paying the architects, and sometimes even stealing their ideas to realize them with another architect. This is true especially for open competitions
GR	The clear separation between ideas competitions and preliminary design, introduced by the 2011-framework, increased the numbers of competitions, but at the same time, it did not lead to more project assignments for winning teams. One-stage ideas competitions where the client is not obligated to proceed to implementation have led to three scenarios: a) client picks ideas not only from first prize and excludes winners from the implementation stage, b) the client assigns the implementation studies to other professionals, ignoring quality and cultural property issues, c) in the best case, the winners are hired as the client's consultants, with a significantly lower fee.
KO	When analysing the competition culture in the country, the prize money, or the contract value for architectural services, one cannot overlook the fact that the value of good design is still mostly absent in our society. There are many reasons why most developments since after the war are unappealing, but an important one is the low valuation of the work of an architect and urbanist, even by the public client.
LT	Usually the prize money. Compensation is only required at 2 stage competition (for the 2 nd stage participants; the compensation money is equal amount). A fee (nor "ground" and "ceiling") for design service is never defined in the Brief.
PL	Confusing term. In many competitions (including European) the term 'results' is refers to all the entries send for the competition and the awards and mentions selection from them. An explanation following the definition on top of this page in Poland: in nearly all cases the result is prize money, and in many cases it is an assignment. The fee or a lump sum for the compensation of the costs is the rarely case. In the two stage competitions it is often practised that the participants of the second stage who are not prized get the mentions connected with the sum of money. <i>Literally translation of result of the competition': "Wyniki konkursu"; Nagrody (exactly :prizes).</i>

Selection committee

A committee of the contracting authority that can reduce the number of contestants in a procurement (incl. a single staged procedure) based on predefined criteria.

National interpretations / applications

LT	No experience
NL	Occurs in the preselection on portfolio - which cannot be executed anonymously. No members of the selection committee can be part of the jury. The submissions of the parties invited, is made anonymously by a jury.
PL	No case. Either the jury does it or (more often) the secretary of the competition. The selection from the applications is generally rare in Poland.

Signing off the brief

The jury's evaluation, confirmation and affirmation of their agreement to the brief and conditions, having checked the appropriateness of texts, the declaration of intent, performance requirements, evaluation criteria (and their importance), programmed timescales, stages, numbers to be shortlisted and honoured along with all supplementary information intended to be provided. Any proposals for change and jury decisions for completeness and in readiness for publication should be reported back to the contracting authority before the brief is signed off and the contest launched.

National interpretations / applications

AL	There were cases that the brief was written by the organizing authorities and other few good examples where it was written by the jury of the competition. In the second case a clear brief provided good proposals.
PL	The consultations of the brief with the jury generally takes place without formal signing. It bases most often on sending the brief, collecting the remarks and the discussion via emails.
SP	In spite of it being a logical procedure, this is rarely applicable in Spanish competitions. Jurors are usually not asked to opine on the brief.

Team representative

The person responsible for doing a submission. This is also the only person that can be contacted by the contracting authority.

National interpretations / applications

AL	Referred also as Team Leader.
NL	A team representative is very important. For the client one partner is needed, also for the follow-up.
PL	Nearly always there is a team representative. On the stage of the negotiations of the commission also other persons from the team take part. <i>Reprezentant zespołu</i>

Technical (review) panel

The jury can delegate a check on the demands to a technical (review) panel.

It may be appropriate for a separate technical panel of independent professionals to review proposals to appraise the responses and potential deliverability within the stated project parameters. The technical review panel may support the competition programmer. On the jury's request the technical review can be done in stages corresponding to the jury's depth of examination. A report of the panel's findings will be made available to the jury to help inform the decision making process.

National interpretations / applications

LT	In AAL's competitions, the Experts do this job. In Public Procurement competitions, the Technical panel only checks the physical material (number of posters, envelopes, model, etc.)
NL	In NL competitions, a technical (review) panel checks the submissions on the requirements for participation, the entry requirements etc. The decision of the client on (in)validity of submissions is based upon the report of this commission. The client decides after an advice of the jury on the report of the commission.
PL	Practised very rarely. More often but also not very often jury invites the consultants who give their expertise. As a rule in Poland one of the members of the jury is a "reporting judge" (<i>sędzia referent</i>) spends more days before the jury meeting on careful examining of the entries and presents them to the rest of the jury. <i>Komisja techniczna or Komisja sędziego referenta (exactly: committee of the reporting judge)</i>

Thinning

Any process of selection having as its intention the restricting of candidates or their shortlisting at any stage of a competition (either contest or any other form of procurement). Also see prequalification.

National interpretations / applications

LT	Not used
NL	Only used in procurement (of f.i architects services), not in design contests.
PL	Thinning most often take case in the two stage competitions as a selection from the projects submitted in the first stage the ones to be submitted in the second stage. Thinning as the preselection of participants is very rare case, and takes place by the competitions organized by the investments which do not have to follow the Public Procurement Law. <i>Selekcja</i>

Two-stage contest / competition

A contest can be organized in one or two stages.

One stage: anyone who meets the minimum criteria to participate, immediately submits a plan (mind proportionality). Normally: no fee.

Two stages: anyone who meets the minimum criteria to participate, can enter a vision in the first round (no prequalification). A jury selects a predetermined amount of visions for the second stage; the shortlisted contestants are then asked to develop their proposals further, for a fee (excl. VAT).

National interpretations / applications

AL	The latest methodology applied is of two stage competitions. In the first participants apply and are judged according to their team composition, vision for the particular project and portfolio of work experience. In the second stage the Project Idea is evaluated according to the specific technical requirements of the competition.
CZ	The dominant trend in more complex project briefs is to organize the competition in two stages, to eliminate the excessive waste of time and energy of involving large numbers of architects involved.
LT	Ist stage: participants submit a plan (presenting concept, idea, low level of detailing), no fee IInd stage: the shortlisted contestants are asked to develop their proposals further, for an equal fee. The prize money is allocated additionally, at the end of the procedure
NL	Nowadays almost all design contests are organized in two-stages (limited effort in the first stage, (payed) plan in the second stage – based upon principles of proportionality .
PL	Two stage competitions take place more often in the last years in order to eliminate the excessive waste of time and energy of involving large numbers of architects involved.. Generallyly there is no fee for participations but in most cases the participants of the second stage get either prize or mention connected with the money. Two-stage competitions often have a larger number of foreign participants. <i>Konkurs dwuetapowy</i>

Young architect

No clear definition, it has to be described; generally any architect below 35-40 years old.

Pay attention: discrimination on age discrimination is generally not allowed by law; specific groups can be exempt.

National interpretations / applications

AL	Even though the age limit of the young architect has not a clear definition, we often see new architectural offices in Albania participating in competitions enlarging the pool of local participants.
AT	Open competitions mostly allow young and small offices to take part without too many restrictions, and offer a chance to effectively build, as the chance of realization in Austria is quite high.
DE	There is a regular critique that there are not enough chances for young architects, since most competitions today set such high standards/criteria for the contributors that only a handful of offices can enter.
GR	During the crisis a lot of young architects participated in competitions and used that as a vehicle for getting attention and promoting their ideas. But as so happens, competitions are hardly ever realised in Greece, so, entering and winning a competition can only offer as much as temporary fame and a symbolic reward (and at times not even that)
IT	Too many ideas competitions with no budget and hundreds of winning proposals that are never realized, leads to the practice of established firms taking advantage of the younger architects (who are not paid for months).
LV	The situation is slightly changing, and since 2012 there have been several architectural competitions for public objects. Small-scale public projects are often seen as a kick-start for young practices. However, access to a competition is difficult, because of the high requirements for the participants and the lack of interest of the same young practices.
NL	Generally discrimination of age is not allowed. But many design contests, in which experience and turn-overs etc. are no required, design contests are an important instrument for young talent. It is also an important group in the search for new solutions. In NL, many young designers participate in design contests.
PL	There is a significant number of competitions which are accessible for young architects. It is quite often the case that architects in the age of about 30 win the competition for important public object (e.g. Szczecin Philharmonic Hall competition won by Estudio Barozzii Veiga – later awarded European Prize for Contemporary Architecture Mies van der Rohe Award). The competitions reserved only for the Young architects are the very rare cases. <i>The term used only in plural form “Młodzi architekci”</i>
UK	Young and emergent practices obtain little access to work through UK competitions, and are required to develop their expertise largely through the private sector before being capable of engaging. Access to work below thresholds reputedly is better, but there is no evidence to verify this.

Portals

Albania

<http://www.competitions.planifikimi.gov.al>

Austria

<http://www.architekturwettbewerb.at>

<http://www.auftrag.at>

<http://www.competitionline.com>

Belgium

<http://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/>

Bosnia

<http://www.sluzbenilist.ba>

<http://www.avaz.ba>

<http://www.akta.ba>

Bulgaria

<http://www.aop.bg>

<http://www.kab.bg>

Private and public competitions are usually announced on the official website of the Bulgarian Chamber of Architects and the websites of the regional chambers.

Croatia

<http://www.nn.hr>

Czech Republic

<https://www.cka.cz/cs/souteze/pripravovane>

Cyprus

<http://www.treasury.gov.cy>

Denmark

<https://arkitektforeningen.dk/konkurrencer>

Estonia

<http://www.rha.gov.ee/>

Finland

<http://www.safa.fi/kilpailut>

<http://www.ark.fi>

<http://archinfo.fi>

<http://www.ark.fi>

<http://www.credita.fi>

France

<http://www.sosmarchespublics.com/>

<http://www.les-marches-publics.com/>

<http://www.marchepublicfrance.com>

<http://www.marche-public.com/>

Germany

<http://www.competitionline.com>

<https://www.wettbewerbe-aktuell.de>

<http://www.baunetz.de>

Current competitions of the federal ministries are on <http://www.bund.de> and/or on the specific websites of the respective ministries involved, the city or commune.

Greece

<http://www.greekarchitects.gr>

<http://portal.tee.gr>

<http://www.sadas-pea.gr>

<http://www.et.gr/>

<https://slus.gr>

Hungary

<http://www.kozbeszerzes.hu>

International

<http://ted.europa.eu>

<http://www.thefulcrum.eu>

Ireland

<http://www.riai.ie>

Italy

<http://www.professionearchitetto.it>

<http://www.europaconcorsi.com>

<http://www.concorrimi.it>

<http://www.archiportale.com>

<http://www.architetti.com>

<http://www.edilportale.com>

<http://www.lavoripubblici.it/>

Kosovo

National competitions:

<https://krpp.rks-gov.net/>

International competitions:

<http://www.bustler.net>

<http://www.competitions.org>

Latvia

<https://www.iub.gov.lv> (providing access to all public procurement notices regarding contracts that exceed the limit of EUR 10 000)

<http://www.latarh.lv>

Local / regional:

Riga <https://www.riga.lv/lv>

Jurmala <https://www.jurmala.lv>

Liepaja <http://varti.liepaja.lv>

Ventspils <http://www.ventspils.lv>

Lithuania

<http://www.architektusajunga.lt>
<https://pirkimai.eviesiejiirkimai.lt>
<http://www.vpt.lt/>

Luxembourg

<http://www.marches.public.lu/index.html>

Montenegro

<http://www.nabavka.cg.yu/>

The Netherlands

<http://www.ontwerpwedstrijden.nl> Architectuur Lokaal
<http://www.tenderned.nl>
<https://aanbestedingskalender.nl>

Norway

<http://www.arkitektur.no>
<http://www.doffin.no>
<http://www.mercell.no>

Poland

<http://kielce.sarp.org.pl>
<http://szczecin.sarp.org.pl/konkursy>
<http://www.wroclaw.sarp.org.pl/pl/news/konkursy?page=1>
http://www.sarp.katowice.pl/konkursy/konkursy_realizacyjne_sarp_katowice
http://sarp.warszawa.pl/konkurs_stan/biezace
<http://www.sarp.krakow.pl/konkursy>
http://gdansk.sarp.org.pl/pokaz_kat.php?kat=2
<http://architektura.muratorplus.pl/konkursy>
<http://www.a-ronet.pl>

Portugal

<http://www.aecops.pt>
<http://compras.gov.pt/compra>

Romania

<http://www.e-licitatie.ro>

Slovakia

<http://www.uvo.gov.sk>

Slovenia

<http://www.uradni-list.si>
<http://www.e-narocanje.si>

Spain

<http://www.gobcan.es/boc>
<http://www.boe.es>

Sweden

<https://www.arkitekt.se/bransch/tavlingar/>

United Kingdom

<https://www.architectsjournal.co.uk>

<https://www.e-architect.co.uk>

<http://www.archdaily.com>

<http://bustler.net>

<http://www.deathbyarchitecture.com>

<https://divisare.com>

<https://www.architecture.com>

<https://www.colander.co.uk>

<https://malcolmreading.co.uk>

<http://projectcompass.co.uk>

Colophon

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