

Call for expressions of interest

1. Contracting authority

European Commission

Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

B-1049 Brussels

Email: REGIO-NEB-Experts@ec.europa.eu

2. Context

The objective of this call for expressions of interest is to set up a list of external experts to evaluate applications participating in the 2025 edition of the New European Bauhaus Prizes competition.¹ The NEB Prizes is open to projects and concepts implemented in the EU, in the Western Balkans², or in Ukraine.

This call aims to select experts able to assess the applications from the angle of **six fields**, based on the three values and three working principles of the New European Bauhaus (NEB).³

a) NEB values:

1. **Sustainability** (understood as environmental sustainability, including climate issues, circularity, biodiversity, etc.);
2. **Aesthetics and quality of experience** (design, arts, culture, architecture, etc.);
3. **Inclusiveness** (equal opportunities, accessibility, affordability).

b) NEB working principles:

1. **Participatory process** (involvement of communities affected by the project in the design, decision-making and implementation phase, empowerment of local communities, etc.);
2. **Multi-level engagement** (effective exchange both horizontally – with peers – and vertically – with others operating in different scales; to connect stakeholders from different levels who share similar purposes);
3. **Transdisciplinary approach** (engagement of practitioners and knowledge from different fields).

Additionally, the call aims to select experts able to assess grassroots initiatives submitted by **small municipalities**, in the early stages of project development, with a focus on the built environment.

¹ For more information about the New European Bauhaus prizes: <https://prizes.new-european-bauhaus.eu/>.

² Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

³ More information about the NEB: https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en and in the Communication: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/qanda_21_4627/QANDA_21_4627_EN.pdf.

The call also seeks experts with the expertise to evaluate projects providing sustainable, inclusive, and affordable **housing solutions**.

The call is open to persons with educational and/or professional background in at least one NEB value, but at the contracting stage priority will be given to those who have relevant education and/or experience in at least two of the NEB values indicated above, or relevant education and/or experience in at least one of the NEB values and one of the NEB working principles mentioned above.

Experts will assess eligible applications submitted for the NEB Prizes.

The New European Bauhaus Prizes 2025 will be awarded in **two strands**:

1. **Strand A** (New European Bauhaus Champions): for existing and completed projects with clear and positive results.
2. **Strand B** (New European Bauhaus Rising Stars): ideas and concepts from young talents (aged 30 years old or less).

In each strand, the Prizes will be awarded in **four categories**:

1. Reconnecting with nature;
2. Regaining a sense of belonging;
3. Prioritising the places and people that need it the most;
4. Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life-cycle thinking.

Following the objectives of the European Parliament Pilot Project Proposal titled "Stimulating Local and Regional New European Bauhaus Grassroots Projects", the NEB Prizes 2025 will award grassroots initiatives submitted by **small municipalities**, with a focus on the built environment, demonstrating a strong commitment to take an ambitious co-creation and participatory approaches. In addition, the NEB Prizes 2025 will contribute to the EU's efforts to address the housing crisis by awarding special prizes to completed projects providing sustainable, inclusive, and affordable **housing solutions** in line with NEB values and principles. The specificities of these two special prizes, including information on additional relevant selection, eligibility and award criteria, will be described in the 'Guide to Applicants' of the NEB Prizes 2025.

The 'Guide to Applicants' containing the rules of the NEB Prizes 2025 contest will be published in the [NEB Prizes 2025 platform](#) and communicated to the experts and jury members before the assessment starts.

Additionally, among those who express interest in the call, **the European Commission will select members of the jury to assess the finalists' applications** and recommend the winners, runners-up and back-ups of the whole contest to the Commission's Evaluation Committee. **The role of a jury member may not be linked with the role of the expert assessing individual applications.**

3. Application procedure

Expressions of interest should be submitted via EU Survey under the link <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/NEBPrizes2025experts>. The expression of interest must include all documents mentioned in the first section of point 4. All annexes are also available under the above-mentioned link.

Only the fully filled in and submitted (not draft) application form is valid. Except for documents listed under point 4(d), (c), (d), (h), all other documents shall be submitted in English.

Inclusion on the list entails no obligation on the part of the contracting authority concerning the conclusion of contracts.

4. Information and documents to be provided

Interested parties should provide their full contact details. The following files or documents should be submitted:

- a) **Application Form** together with all supporting documents mentioned below. Please note that applicants who have prior uploaded the documents in the EUSurvey, shall upload them again. The Form is available at the link: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/NEBPrizes2025experts>
- b) **Curriculum vitae** – Europass⁴ or other form (to be uploaded in the application form, in PDF format, in English).
- c) **Document(s) providing evidence of the ability to draft and communicate in English at least at C1 level** (to be uploaded in the application form, in PDF format; if several documents, they can be numerated as 1a, 1b, 1c, etc.). The documents could either be a formal certificate, e.g. a CAE or IELTS certificate, or (a) reference(s) to accessible documents having been drafted in English by the interested party.
- d) **Document(s) providing evidence of the relevant education and/or professional experience**, in one or preferably more than one of the six fields as described in point 2 of this call (to be attached to the application form, in PDF format; if several documents, they can be numerated as 2a, 2b, 2c, etc.). The supporting evidence to be provided for the evaluation of the selection criteria is indicated at point 12.
- e) **Declaration of absence of conflict of interest and of confidentiality** on exclusion criteria and selection criteria, signed and dated. The template is annexed to this call and can be downloaded from the Application Form. The signed version should be uploaded in the Application Form in PDF format. See also point 10 on exclusion criteria.
- f) **The Legal Entity Form** duly completed, stamped and signed, to be uploaded in the Application Form, with the corresponding supporting documents copied recto-verso when required (notably for identity cards). The template is annexed to this call and can be

⁴ <https://europa.eu/europass/en>

downloaded from the Application Form or from:
[Legal Entities File \(LEF\) \(europa.eu\)](#)

- g) **The Financial Identification Form** duly completed, stamped and signed, to be uploaded in the Application Form, with the corresponding supporting documents when applicable. The template is annexed to this call and can be downloaded from the Application Form or from: [Bank Account File \(BAF\) \(europa.eu\)](#)

The Commission reserves the right to request additional or updated documents and to review its assessment of the Application file on the basis of the original documents submitted.

5. General description of the procedure

This call is open to natural persons. The contracting authority will establish a pool of experts who meet the criteria set out at point 11 and who have the qualifications and/or experience as described in point 12 of this call.

Where a particular task relating to the objectives of this call is to be performed by an external expert, the contracting authority will assign experts to the task on the basis of the skills, experience and knowledge necessary, in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment and absence of conflict of interests.

Whilst maintaining the principle of choosing the most qualified expert for a specific task requested and whilst referring to point 2 above, the contracting authority will also take into account, where possible, an appropriate rotation of experts as well as a gender balance, bearing in mind the geographical origin and professional profile of the applicants.

6. Protection of personal data

If processing your expression of interest involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as your name, address and CV), such data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EC) 2018/1725⁵. Unless indicated otherwise, your reply to this notice and any personal data requested are required for the purposes indicated above in point 4 and will be processed solely for those purposes by the contracting authority indicated in point 1, which is also acting as data controller. Details concerning the processing of your personal data are available on the privacy statement at:

[Data protection in public procurement procedures | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

Your personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) by the Accounting Officer of the Commission, should you be in any of the situations mentioned in Articles 136 and 141 of the Financial Regulation:

[Financial regulation applicable to the general budget of the Union - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#).

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

For further information on EDES:

[Early Detection and Exclusion System \(EDES\) | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

7. Use of the list resulting from this notice

The pool resulting from this notice will be used exclusively for tasks to be carried out as described in point 8 of this call.

The maximum amount for total payments per expert throughout the duration of the call for the execution of the tasks within the fields covered by this call, shall be below the threshold laid down in point (b) of Article 4 of Directive 2014/24/EU.⁶

8. General tasks to be performed by experts and timing

Interested parties shall express interest in carrying out tasks related to one or both options indicated below:

Option 1: The task is the evaluation of applications submitted to the New European Bauhaus Prizes 2025, to be performed between 17 March and 17 April 2025.

Option 2: The task is to act as one 'jury member' out of nine. The role of the jury is to review the documentation related to the finalist applications, consider additional criteria specified in the contract and propose a ranking of the winning applications. The work of the jury is planned to take place between 11 June and 27 June 2025.

9. Place of delivery

The tasks shall not be carried out at the European Commission's premises; communication with the European Commission is done using electronic communication tools. They also may need to be performed on other sites that will be mentioned in the contract's specifications.

10. Expiry date of the list resulting from this call for expressions of interest

The list resulting from this notice is valid from dispatch of this notice until 10 July 2025.

11. Exclusion criteria

The applicants shall provide a declaration of absence of conflict of interests and of confidentiality stating that they are not in one of the situations referred to in Articles 136 and 141 of the Financial regulation.⁷ In case of doubt, they may be requested to provide supporting evidence of non-exclusion.

Special rules apply for certain entities (e.g. entities subject to EU restricted measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning

⁶ At the time of the call this threshold is set at EUR 140 000,00.

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

of the EU (TFEU)⁸ and entities covered by Commission Guidelines No 2013/C 205/05⁹). Such entities are not eligible to participate in any capacity. In case of individual assignment, experts will be requested to confirm the absence of conflict of interest (Annex 3 to the contract).

12. Selection criteria relating to technical and professional capacity

1. *Criterion 1:* Relevant education and/or professional experience in relevant field(s) as described in point 2 of this call. Conditions to fulfil the criterion:
 - *Threshold:* University education minimum at the master's degree level and at least three years of professional experience.
 - *Supporting evidence:* copies of diplomas and contracts, any other documents confirming the length and the level of education and professional experience; Annex 3 to the application file (list of projects, studies and publications) shall provide clear indication of the subject/thematic work and of the start/end dates.
2. *Criterion 2:* Ability to draft and communicate in English. Conditions to fulfil the criterion:
 - *Threshold:* C1 level in English.¹⁰
 - *Supporting evidence:* copy of certificates, or (a) reference(s) to accessible studies, reports or publications having been drafted by the interested party.

13. Conditions of remuneration and reimbursement of experts

Option 1: Experts shall be remunerated at a fixed price of EUR 450 per day. Each day, the expert shall assess six applications. Travel and subsistence expenses are not applicable under this contract.

Option 2: Jury members shall be remunerated at a fixed price of EUR 450 per day. Each expert shall review the applications attributed in the NEB Prizes 2025 platform within 15 days, including the weekends, following the contract. Travel and subsistence expenses are not applicable under this contract.

⁸ Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map.

⁹ Commission guidelines No 2013/C 205/05 on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards (OJEU C 205 of 19.07.2013, pp. 9-11).

¹⁰ Language levels of the Common European Framework of Reference: <https://europa.eu/europass/en/common-european-framework-reference-language-skills>

14. Cancellation of the call for expression of interest

The Commission may decide at any time and for any reason to cancel and close the call or decide not to select experts in any or all of the strands and categories mentioned under point 2, without any obligation to compensate interested parties.

15. Ex-post transparency

A list of experts who have concluded a contract of more than EUR 15 000, shall be published on the website of the contracting authority no later than 30 June of the year following contract award (current address: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/whats-new/newsroom_en). The information on the list will contain the name of the expert, the locality (region of origin), amount and subject of the contract. The information shall be removed two years after the year of contract award.

ANNEXES:

1. Contract template
2. Declaration of absence of conflict of interests and confidentiality
3. [Legal Entity Form](#)
4. [Financial Identification Form](#)