



# ARCH E

The European Platform for Architectural Design Competitions

# The ARCH-E Research Package Introduction and Summary

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# ARCH-E: The European Platform for Architectural Design Competitions

## 1.1 General Introduction to the ARCH-E Project

The ARCH-E project is committed to promoting high-quality architectural solutions for the built environment by increasing the use of architectural design competitions (ADCs) in Europe and overcoming cross-border market barriers for architectural services. ADCs' structures are determined by national frameworks, habits, and traditions, but a lack of information exchange among countries easily leads to very low transnational participation. This excludes many architects from participating in the (cross-border) market and thus hinders competition. Small/micro-enterprises (with an above-average proportion of female and/or young architects) are particularly affected, causing a detrimental effect on their professional career. Promoting ADCs aims to contribute to better implementing the Davos Declaration for Baukultur and of the New European Bauhaus in European planning and building projects. This relates to a positive impact on sustainability challenges and the quality of the built environment.

### **ARCH-E Objectives**

Within its main scope, the ARCH-E project has the following specific objectives:

- Enhance cross-border collaboration among different architecture professionals through the use of the ARCH-E Platform and network, services, and digital solutions.
- Raise awareness and enable learning processes amongst stakeholders, policy makers, and ADC procurers, leading to new ways of thinking about architectural challenges and promoting long-term innovation strategies.
- Creating a transnational competition culture through the circulation and exchange of ideas.

### **ARCH-E Outputs**

The final outputs of the ARCH-E Project consist of:

- Research Outputs: the European Map of Architectural Design Competitions, the multilingual ARCH-E Glossary, and the Architects' Needs Report
- The ARCH-E online platform
- A network of >500 architects from >20 countries
- A White Paper with recommendations for policy-makers based on the project results

## ARCH-E Partners

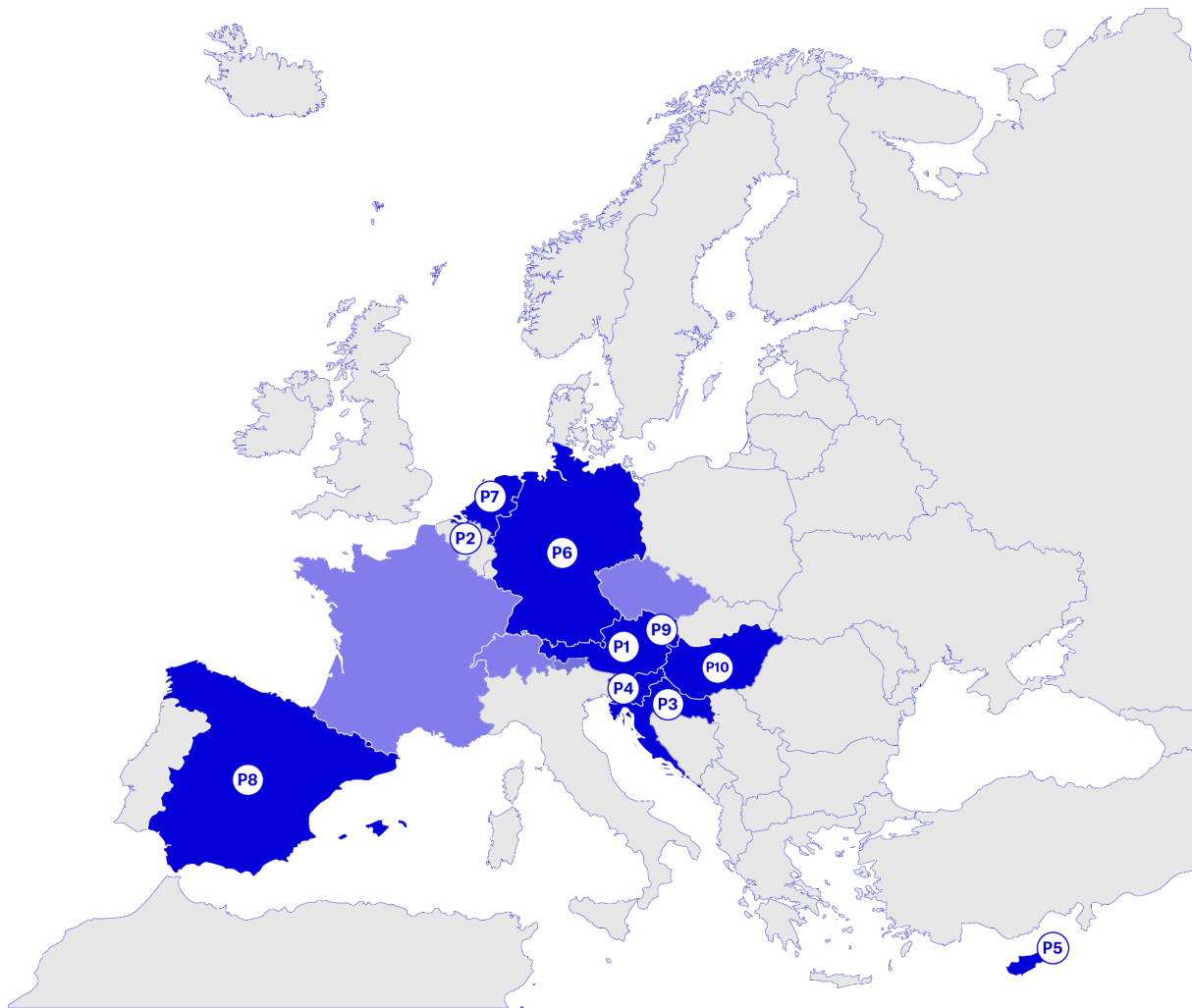


Figure 1: Map of ARCH-E Project Partners and Cooperation Partners.

The ARCH-E project is a collaboration between ten European partner organisations: the Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants (P1/BKZT/AT), the Architects' Council of Europe (P2/ACE/BE), the Croatian Chamber of Architects (P3/CCA/HR), Chamber for Architecture and Space of Slovenia (P4/ZAPS/SI), Association of Architects of Cyprus (P5/CAA/CY), Federal Chamber of German Architects (P6/BAK/DE), Eindhoven University of Technology (P7/TU/e/NL), Polytechnic University of Valencia (P8/UPV/ES), Sepa Engineering GmbH (P9/SEPA/AT), the Chamber of Hungarian Architects (P10/MEK/HU).

Additionally, The Czech Chamber of Architects, the French National Chamber of Architects, the Chamber of Architects of the Province of Bozen, the Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects, and the International Union of Architects are involved in the ARCH-E Project as Cooperation Partners.

## 1.2 The ARCH-E Research Plan

### **Scope, Scientific Approach, and Set-Up of the Research Phase**

Architectural design competitions (ADCs) are powerful instruments to improve the quality of the built environment and foster innovation through design visions. During the process of competition, not only architectural projects but also new forms of knowledge are produced and exchanged among various stakeholders, spatial competencies, and cultures. However, within the context of the European Union, a limitation persists in the way national frameworks and traditions are strongly rooted in the competition culture of each country. A consistent and long-term strategy for the collection and sharing of data among EU member states has never been developed. This lack of knowledge adds to language barriers and poor information exchange, resulting in a very low rate of transnational participation in architectural design competitions.

By developing and implementing the present Research Plan, the ARCH-E project addresses the problems related to knowledge and information exchange, which exclude many architects from accessing the European market and, thus, hinder competition. More specifically, small and micro enterprises, with an above-average proportion of women and/or young architects, face greater difficulties in establishing cross-border connections and competing at the European level.

In addition to better accessibility, producing and sharing knowledge on architectural design competitions at the transnational level can contribute to better implementing European policies and objectives (i.e. Green Deal, New European Bauhaus, Davos Declaration, equal treatment and gender equality).

### **Objectives of the ARCH-E Research**

Through the advancement of three interrelated study areas (Study 1, 2, and 3), the ARCH-E research aims at fulfilling the following objectives:

- **Study 1:** elaborating a comprehensive study of ADC systems and culture in all partner countries, as well as at the European level
- **Study 2:** identifying, translating, and comparing the most important concepts and terminology of ADCs and their country-specific interpretations.
- **Study 3:** collecting and evaluating data about EU-based architects, their vision and demands regarding ADCs.
- **Cross-over objective:** favoring the integration of EU policies and goals (i.e. Green Deal, New European Bauhaus, Davos Declaration, equal treatment and gender equality) in ADCs and disseminating their knowledge among the architecture professionals.
- **Cross-over objective:** providing an assessment of existing best practices in ADCs to consider their possible integration and implementation in other national procedures.

### **Research Outputs and Impact**

Through the dissemination of knowledge, ARCH-E aims at facilitating cross-border learning processes among stakeholders to enhance understanding of policies and practices beyond national frameworks. In this way, it contributes to eradicating prejudices and biases surrounding competition cultures while broadening the scope of opportunities for architecture professionals to secure project commissions beyond national boundaries.

More specifically, each study area will contribute to the following outputs of the ARCH-E Research:

- **Study 1:** the ARCH-E Map, a comparative description of national ADC systems.
- **Study 2:** the multilingual ARCH-E Glossary with technical terms.
- **Study 3:** the Architects' Needs Report.

## 1.5 Partners' Tasks and Responsibilities

The involvement of ARCH-E Partners in the Research Plan extends to different action levels. In particular, the Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants, Eindhoven University of Technology, and the Polytechnic University of Valencia are the lead partners in advancing research initiatives, respectively, within Study 2, Study 1, and Study 3. They are responsible for the design of specific methods and their implementation within each study area of competence.

All other Project Partners support the advancement of the research areas through their active feedback, their input in terms of content, the direct provision of data, and referral to third parties involved in the implementation phase of the online survey and interviews. All Project Partners are also responsible for regularly reviewing and evaluating research phases and tools, ensuring quality throughout the process.

Particularly, Project Partners and Cooperation Partners contribute to the development of the ADC Glossary (Study 2) by advising on selecting relevant keywords, technical terms, and definitions, as well as providing translations into the national languages and detailed explanations. Regarding Study 1 and Study 3, all Project Partners and Cooperation Partners have been involved in a preliminary data collection phase (Study 0) that constitutes a fundamental basis for the development of Study 1 and Study 3.

## 1.6 Workplan and Deadlines

The advancement of ARCH-E research tasks can be synthesised in the following main phases:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Phase Plan:** definition of the research tasks and pre-test of tools, concluded with the deliverable D2.1 of the present Research Plan.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Phase Implementation:** advancement of the data collection, involving distinct actions depending on the specific study area.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Phase Results:** analysis, discussion, and dissemination of findings beyond the ARCH-E Network.

### **Long-term Implementation**

In connection with the scope of the Communication and Dissemination Work Package, the ARCH-E Project is committed to organising a series of national roadshows and one **European conference** to discuss the main project results with an audience of experts and stakeholders. These initiatives aim for the long-term integration of results and products at European and national levels. In addition, all Project Partners are committed to presenting and promoting ARCH-E results through publishing articles and organising international conferences and fairs, reaching 1000s of participants all over Europe. The primary language of dissemination is expected to be English, along with the language of each partner country.

RESEARCH TASK	Lead Partner	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dic.
ARCH-E Research Package Plan	P1/BKZT/AT	D2.1											
Study 1: Advancement of data collection (interviews+research)	P7/TUe/NL	data collection phase			MS9								
Study 2: Advancement of ADC Glossary	P1/BKZT/AT	definition of terms and interpretations											
Study 3: Advancement of data collection tool	P8/UPV/ES	update & pre-test											
Study 3: Implementation Online Survey	P8/UPV/ES				online survey								
Study 1 Results: ARCH-E Map of ADCs (D2.2)	P7/TUe/NL					analysis of results	D2.2			D2.2			
Study 3 Results: Architect's Needs Report (D2.3)	P8/UPV/ES									analysis of results	D2.3	Mar.2025	
Study 2 Results: ADC Glossary and digitalization	P1/BKZT/AT	test of beta version			digitalization and online access			D3.2					
Dissemination of Results: publication of articles and promotion at fairs and conferences	All partners								public dissemination of results				

Table 1: Working plan of ARCH-E Research Tasks (January-December 2024).

# Study 0: A Preliminary Collection of Data

## 2.1 Introduction/ First Outcome of Study 0

In the months that preceded the elaboration of the Research Plan (D2.1), the Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants, Eindhoven University of Technology, and the Polytechnic University of Valencia have developed an online data collection form to gather data and sources from Project Partners and Cooperation Partners. The form organises the information collected into three main categories, comprising more than a hundred questions.

The categories in the data collection form include:

- General statistical and numerical data on the partner countries' features (i.e. inhabitants, demographic pyramid, GDP, etc.).
- National characteristics of architecture professionals and practices, including information on education and training requirements, chambers and representative associations, and market features.
- National ADC systems, considering their general features, legal frameworks, stakeholders and best practices.

Project and Cooperation Partners have provided extensive documentation and data on their national systems. In view of Project Meeting II in October 2023, co-organised in Berlin by the Federal Chamber of German Architects (BAK), Eindhoven University of Technology and the Polytechnic University of Valencia have analysed the data gathered through Study 0. Their efforts created comprehensive comparative tables, exemplified by figures 2, 3, 4, and 5, aimed at discerning the prevailing distinctions and shared characteristics among ARCH-E partner countries.

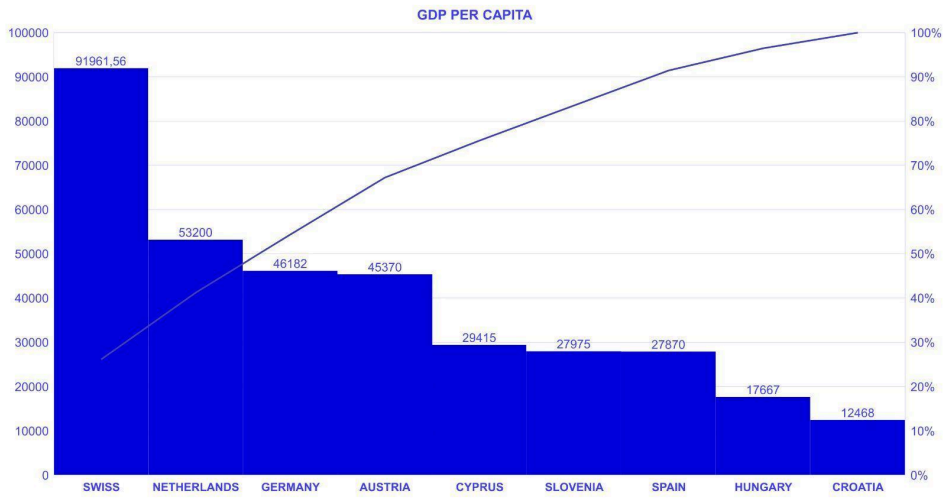
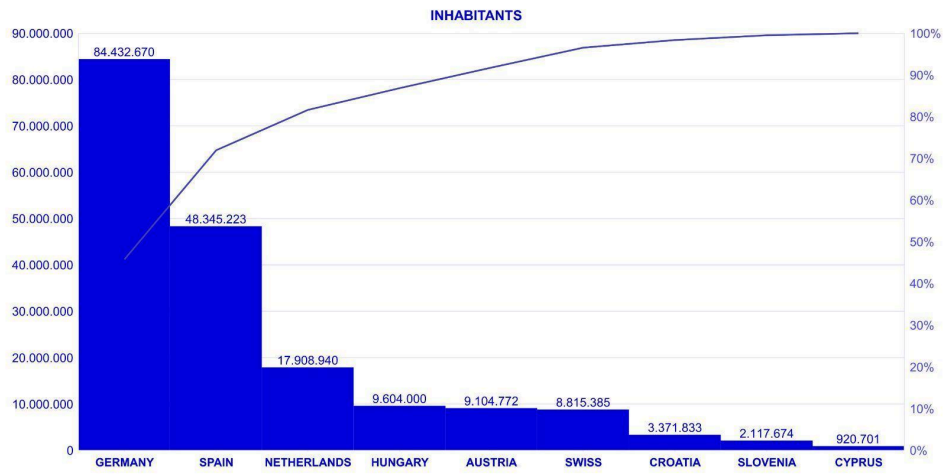


Figure 2: Comparisons among ARCH-E partner countries based on number of inhabitants and GDP per capita.



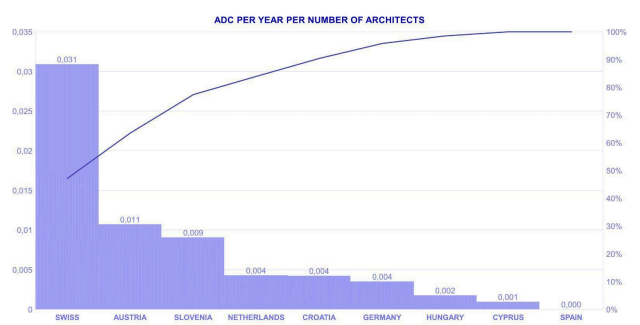
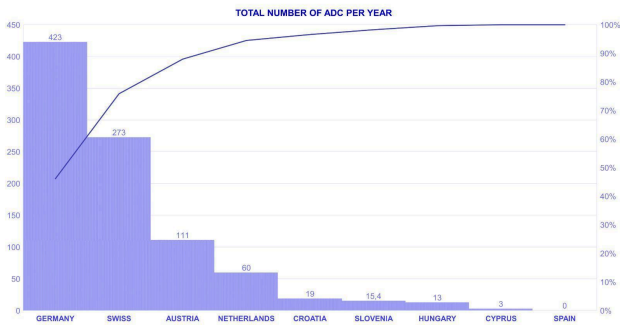
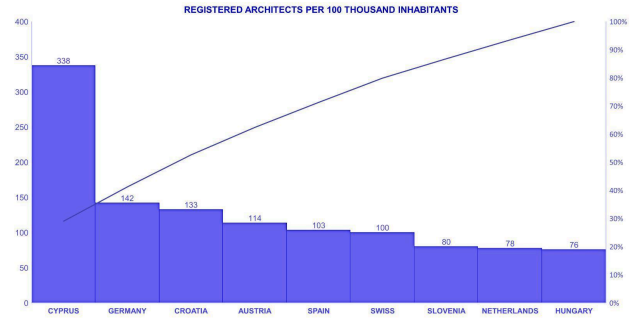
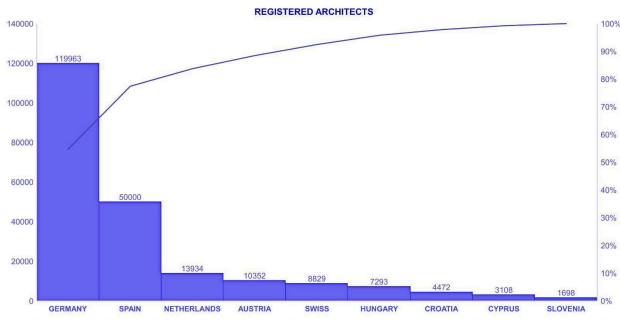


Figure 3: Additional comparisons among ARCH-E partner countries based on the number of architects and ADCs.

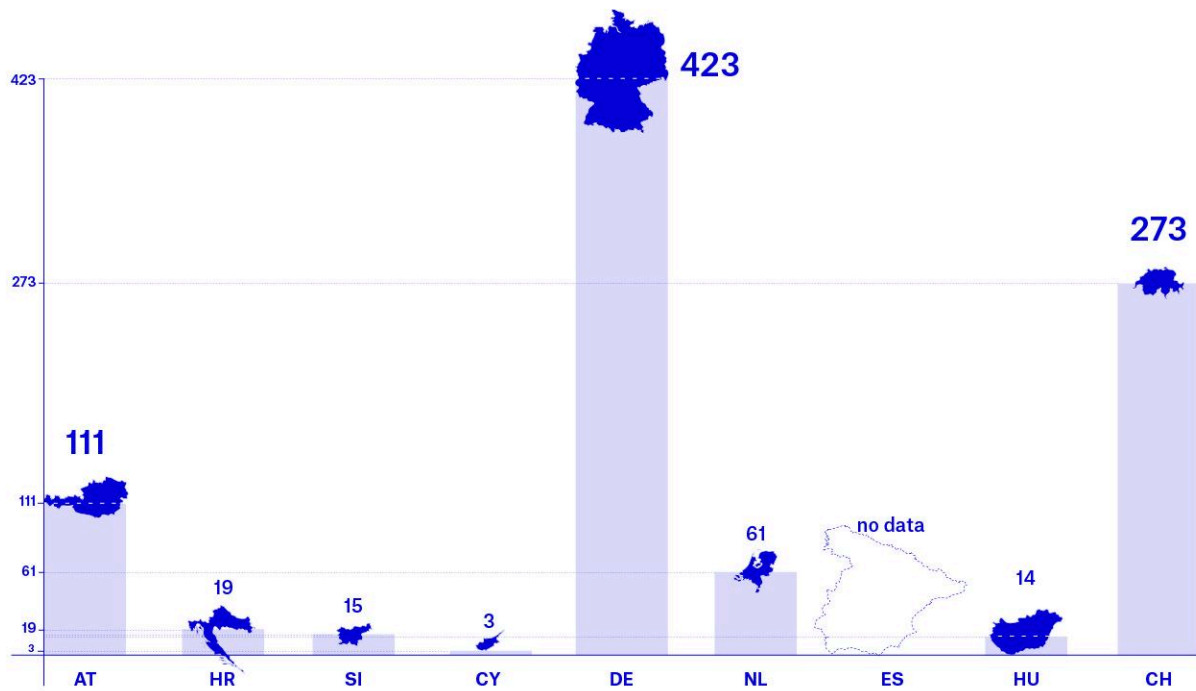


Figure 4: Total average number of ADCs organised each year in each of ARCH-E partner countries.

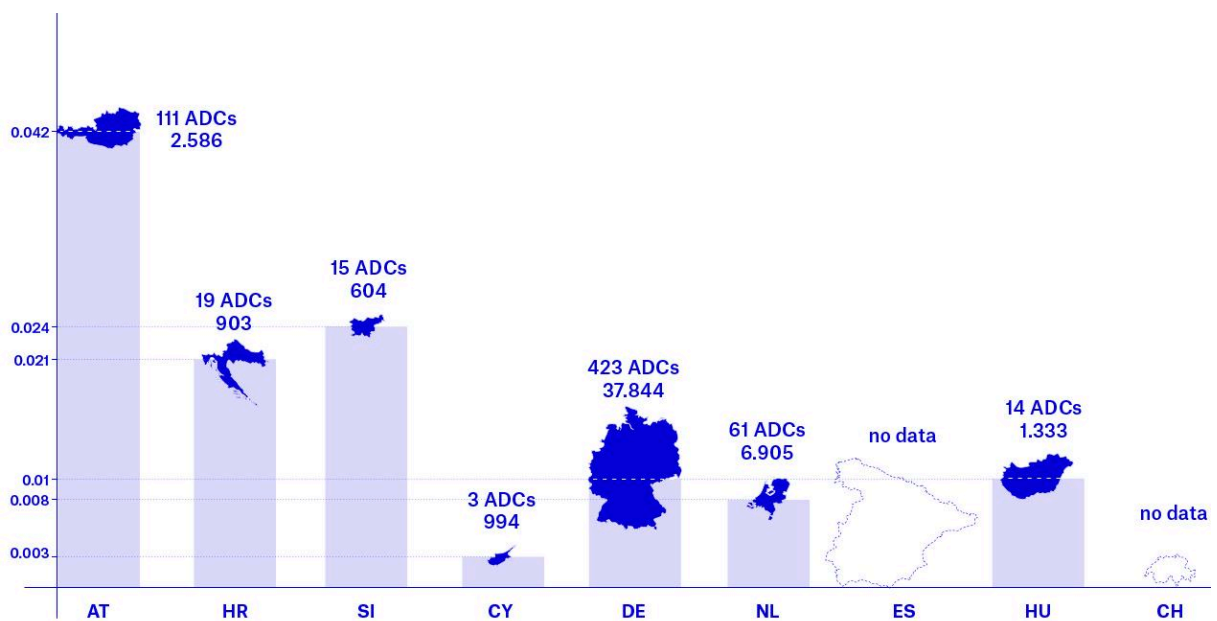


Figure 5: Average number of ADCs organised each year in relation to the number of registered architectural offices. The data on the number of architectural offices is retrieved from the ACE Sector Study.

# Study 1: The European Map of ADCs

## 3.1 Introduction: The Objectives of Study 1

Study 1 is committed to developing and sharing comprehensive knowledge on Architectural Design Competitions across Europe. The research will zoom in on the various competition systems existing in partner countries of the ARCH-E project, as well as at the broader European Union level. This investigation will encompass legal frameworks, quality standards, and diverse approaches to organising and executing architectural competitions. Examining differences and commonalities among countries, Study 1 will gain insights into various competition systems' different formats, processes, and outcomes.

Moreover, Study 1 will analyse how EU policies (such as the Green Deal, the New European Bauhaus, and the Davos Declaration) and initiatives promoting gender equality and equal treatment intersect with national ADC procedures. This effort is seen in identifying areas for improvement and highlighting successful initiatives within the existing legislative frameworks.

In summary, the key objectives of Study 1 include:

- Research on Architectural Design Competition (ADC) systems and cultures in the ARCH-E partner countries.
- Focus on EU policies (i.e., the Green Deal and sustainable procurement, the New European Bauhaus, the Davos Declaration, equal treatment, and gender equality).
- Best practices examples in the implementation of ADCs.

## 3.2 Methodology

Study 1 draws on a mixed-method approach to provide the research with a varied range of qualitative and quantitative data. This choice is based on the awareness that the actual implementation of Architectural Design Competitions entails objective norms and subjective interpretations that contribute to transforming ADC's system and culture over time.

The main methods of investigation are:

- **Desk research:** the review and analysis of relevant literature, policy documents, national statistics reports, and online databases provides factual data to integrate the investigation on country situations and critical insights to support the interpretation of findings
- **Interviews:** a total of 40 interviews with leading experts in the field of ADCs (architects, Chamber representatives, policy advisors, competition consultants, clients etc.) from the ARCH-E partner countries constitute the primary method of research of Study 1. Interviews offer insights into the practical implementation of national systems and expert visions for improving a cross-border competition market. Unlike quantitative and factual data, interviews open the possibility to include qualitative aspects related to perceptions and practices, which are often overlooked in official documentation.
- **Peer evaluations:** regular feedback exchanges among Project Partners and Cooperation Partners of ARCH-E are integrated into the research process to ensure the quality and reliability of results in every phase of the research activity.

### 3.3 The Data Collection Form

The data collected through desk research and interviews is structured using a matrix-based data collection form and analysed across five key themes: regulations, accessibility, quality, transparency, and benefits for stakeholders. Additionally, the theme of best practices is included to capture diverse perspectives on what constitutes an excellent competition. Identifying parameters to compare national ADC systems was a significant methodological challenge, addressed through collaborative efforts among all ARCH-E partners during Project Meeting I in Ljubljana, co-organised by the Chamber for Architecture and Space of Slovenia (ZAPS).

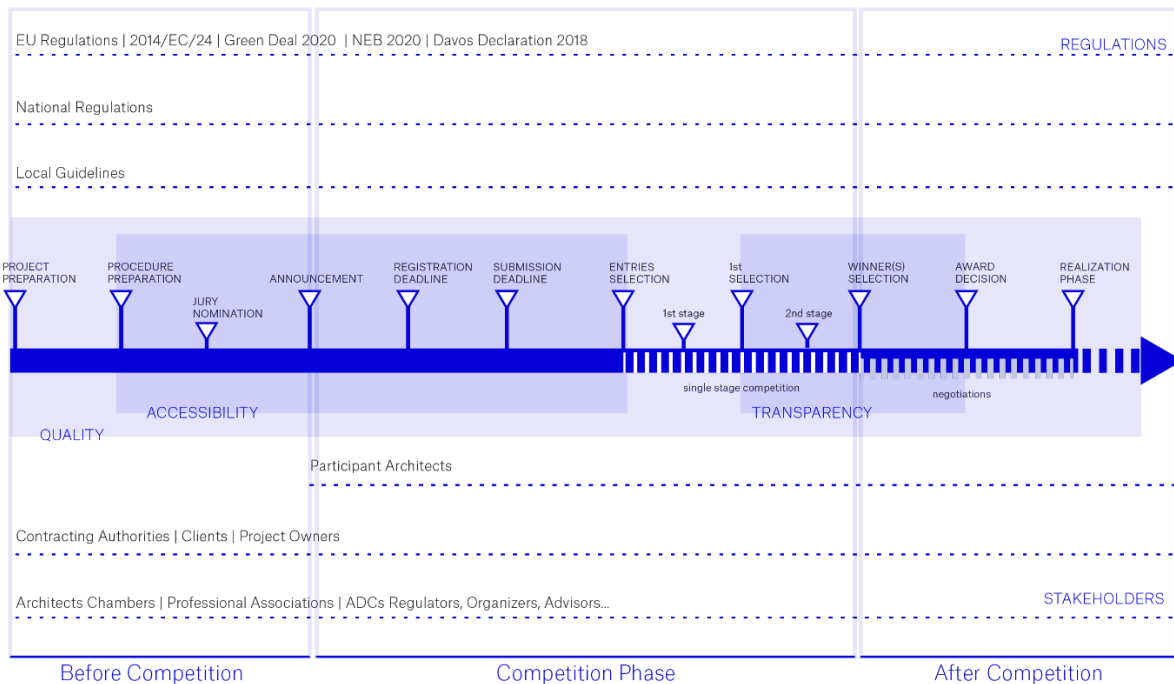


Figure 6: Schematic process diagram of ADCs, including context, key actors, and timeline. The schematic process diagram, developed in Milestone #6, visually captures the relationships between ADC organisations, regulations, and main actors. The diagram can also help to analyse how particular themes listed in the data collection form come into effect in the practice of ADCs and how they overlap in different competition phases.

These themes are fundamental analytical frameworks for comparing data across different topics and evaluating their impact throughout various competition phases. Moreover, they categorise questions during expert interviews, ensuring a comprehensive examination of regulations, accessibility, quality, transparency, and benefits for stakeholders in each national context.

KEY THEMES and sub-themes	TYPE OF INFORMATION	COMPETITION PHASE
-	Background Information (general country features national trends of ADCs over the years from Study 0)  Contemporary debate on ADCs	-
<b>Regulations</b>  + sustainability  + New European Bauhaus	Key principles defining national ADCs  National legislative frameworks and voluntary guidelines for ADCs	Before the competition

+ Green Deal	Sustainability in Public Procurement (Green Deal, NEB)	
<b>Accessibility</b> + requirements + eligibility criteria + equal treatment + inclusivity in ADCs	Requirements for eligibility in ADC participations	
	Opportunities and limitations for different groups of professionals (special focus on young, small, women-led offices)	
	Architects' experiences in cross-border competition within the EU	-
	Experts and architects opinion on the improvement of cross-border accessibility in ADCs	-
<b>Quality</b> + Baukultur + submission material + architects workload + decision-making	Criteria that should be considered in ADCs preparation and procedure to contribute improving the quality of the built environment	Before the competition and competition phase
	Contemporary debate on architectural quality in relation to the concept of Baukultur and the Davos Declaration	
	Level of elaboration of submissions (documents and drawings) as elements that facilitate the assessment of architectural quality	Competition phase
	Risks and uncertainty related to assessment and decision-making based on quality	
<b>Transparency</b> + Jury members + judgment process	Experts and architects vision on threats (real or perceived) related to transparency in EU context	
	Jury composition and Clients' involvement in the judgment process	
	Experts and architects vision on possible improvements to transparency for EU competitions	
<b>Benefits for Stakeholders</b> + fairness + critique + architects' needs	Architects' vision on fairness related to the amount of professional work and its reward	Competition phase and after the competition
	Benefits and risks from the different stakeholders' perspective in a EU market of architectural competition	After the competition
<b>Best Practices</b>	Collection of best practices in ADC procedures in national and international context based on experts and architects experience	-

Table 2: Data collection form for desk research and interviews.

### 3.4 Expected Outputs

The final output of Study 1 consists of the European Map of Architectural Design Competitions, designed to provide valuable insights and resources for architects and stakeholders involved in organising, implementing, and participating in ADCs across Europe.

The Map comprises:

- Eight country profiles detailing the competition systems in the ARCH-E partner countries.
- A report at the EU level offering a comprehensive overview of the current situation, trends, and areas of improvement.
- The analysis of five best practice examples.

This Map is a crucial tool for a deeper understanding of competition systems, national policies, standards, and cultural nuances across Europe. It aims to facilitate learning and improvement by highlighting successful practices and identifying areas for enhancement within national frameworks. The Map fills a crucial gap in information by addressing the lack of comprehensive knowledge of ADCs and their legislative framework at both national and EU levels. The European Map of ADCs is a valuable resource for professionals in the architectural field, including architects, Chambers, administrative bodies, and independent professional associations. It supports the collective effort towards fostering a more robust European market for architectural services.

# Study 2: ARCH-E Glossary

## 4.1 Introduction: Development of Study 2

The idea for Study 2 - The ARCH-E Glossary arose during an earlier project between the Austrian Federal Chamber and the Bavarian Chamber of Architects ("Grenzüberschreitendes Kompetenznetzwerk Architekturwettbewerbe", Interreg project, see [https://www.arching.at/aktuelles/interreg\\_projekt.html](https://www.arching.at/aktuelles/interreg_projekt.html) for project results), when it became clear that even in the same language (German) certain terms are used very differently. A semantic network should be generated which offers more than a simple translation of relevant terms. Based on the Austrian Glossary, which is published on the Austrian website for ADCs <https://www.architekturwettbewerb.at/glossary> (available in German and in English), around 100 terms were proposed to all partners to create the first version of the glossary during summer 2023. This list contains **the major terms to define the ADC procedures** and will develop within the project based on the input of all partners.

In order to demonstrate the options and possibilities of the glossary, one term ("Suitability/Qualification criteria") was selected for a detailed comparison between the Austrian and German situations. Following the thought of one participant, "We don't know what we don't know", the approach of surrounding the keyword with related terms, so-called sub-keywords, shows that specific, nationally used terms can emerge in the processing and discussion and offer a new perspective, possibly even a **best-practice example**. In the example chosen, this could be "Suitability Rental" (free translation of "Eignungsleihe"), a specifically German approach which does not exist as such in Austria and which opens new aspects regarding the ADC process and thus the access to ADCs. Other best practice examples might be detected by discussing further differences in the culturally specific interpretations of keywords and terms and by learning about differences in the implementation of the EU directive into the national law. These examples will be double-checked in an overlay of Study 2 - Glossary and Study 1 - ADC Map, as well as Study 3 - Architects' needs.

### Example: Suitability criteria/ Qualification criteria Semantic Network:

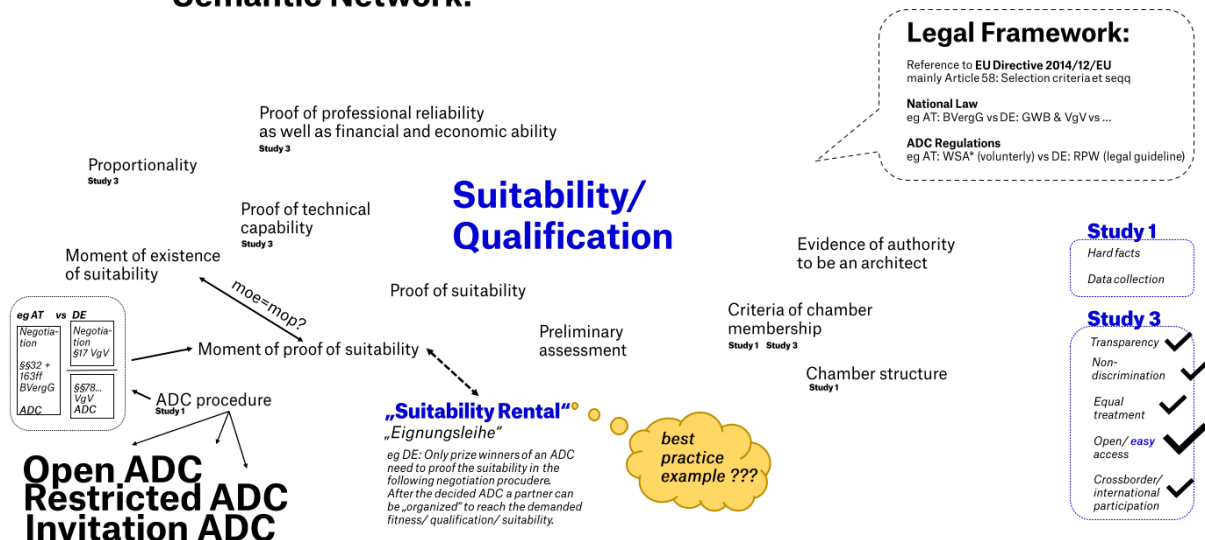


Figure 7: Best practice example based on the term "Suitability", presented and discussed during Project Meeting I in Ljubljana, SLO, May 2023

## 4.2 Methodology: Handling the List of 100 Keywords

With the help of a structured, matrix-based Google XLS, the most important features of the pre-selected main keywords were described for the first time by almost all partners in summer 2023. It quickly became apparent that the proposed keywords were not sufficient or not equally suitable for all partners to adequately describe their ADC system.

Two major challenges were identified when comparing the large volume of data:

- the translation itself
- and the comparability of different approaches in the explanation and definition of the individual terms

**First Feedback/ Initial Question:**

**Is it a matter of translation  
or is it a different approach, a different attitude,  
a different standard, ....?**

Confidentiality vs. Anonymity  
Customer vs. Client  
Applicants vs. Participants  
Tender vs. Competition

**...we need to talk!**

*Figure 8: First feedback, presented during Steering Group Meeting #04, Sept.2023*

In addition to the challenge of translation errors that can lead to misunderstandings, four different approaches to defining a term were identified:

1. the theoretical definition of a term
2. the description of the process on which the term is based
3. the implementation of professional values in the definition of the term
4. the implementation of legal basis in the definition of the term

All these different approaches are useful as they help to increase the understanding of how differently ADC can be thought of and how different ADC practice is in different countries.

In the next steps, all national glossaries will be compared editorially by analysing the data concerning synonyms, overlaps and different approaches. Under certain circumstances, the generic terms/ major keywords will be reassigned.

It is the ambitious and motivated goal of the glossary to provide a comparison, as complete and comparable as possible, of the terms in all four categories:

1. **general definitions of the individual technical terms** (*category 1*)
2. **specific aspects of practical implementation and conditions** (*category 2*)
3. **professional values** (*category 3*)
4. **legal frameworks** (*category 4*)



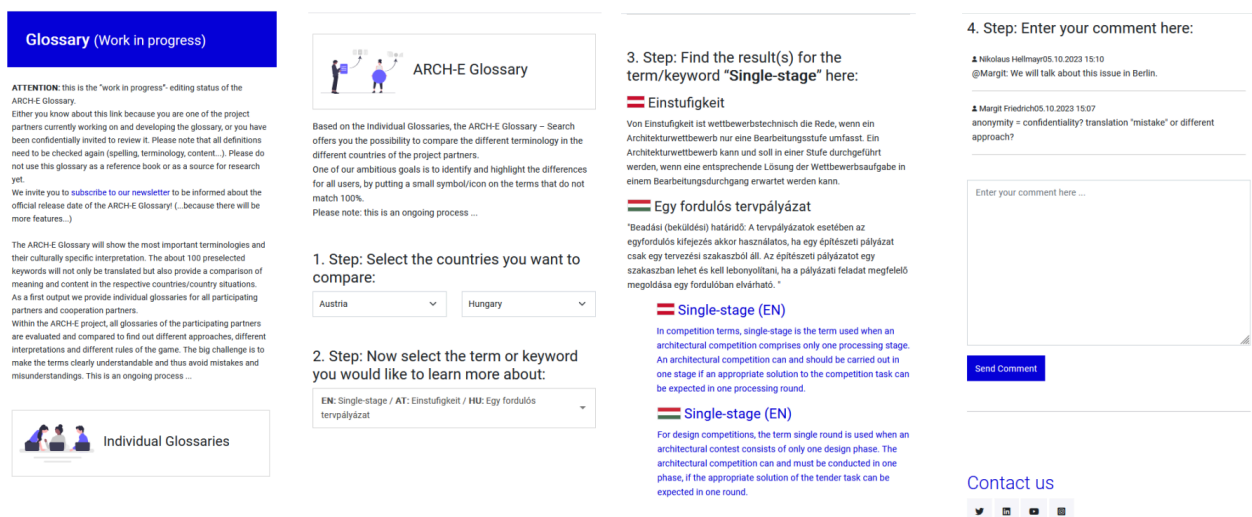
## 4.3 Online Tool and its Potential for the Research

Parallel to the Google XLS, work on implementing the online glossary and developing the tool began at a very early stage of the project. The programming is based on the glossary provided on the Austrian ADC platform. However, as it is not a classic translation tool, various functionalities must be taken into account, especially when comparing two different countries.

The beta version of the ARCH e-glossary went online in November 2023. All functions can be tested here: <https://arch-e.eu/glossary>

One of the main objectives of the ARCH-E project is to provide detailed and easily understandable information on ADC. Therefore, the individual/national glossaries must be presented in an easily comparable way. The IT - partner involved, P9/SEPA/AT, worked closely with the Austrian Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants to develop a user-friendly online tool that enables a direct comparison of the keywords in four steps:

All information is provided in the original national language as well as in English (the selected project language). The tool is based on the XLS table mentioned above and links the keywords via the English term. The decisive factor is that it is not a simple translation but a terminological definition that relates to the respective country. In other words, a definition of the term in the national language, which has subsequently been translated into English and can therefore be easily compared with other definitions.



The screenshot displays the ARCH-E Glossary tool interface, organized into four main steps:

- Step 1: Select the countries you want to compare:** Two dropdown menus are shown, one for 'Austria' and one for 'Hungary'.
- Step 2: Now select the term or keyword you would like to learn more about:** A dropdown menu shows 'EN: Single-stage / AT: Einstufigkeit / HU: Egy fordulós tervpályázat'.
- Step 3: Find the result(s) for the term/keyword "Single-stage" here:** This section displays search results for 'Einstufigkeit' (Hungary) and 'Egy fordulós tervpályázat' (Hungary), including brief descriptions in both national and English languages.
- Step 4: Enter your comment here:** A text input field with a 'Send Comment' button. Below it, there are two user comments with timestamps and usernames.

Additional elements include a 'Glossary (Work in progress)' header, an 'Individual Glossaries' link, and a 'Contact us' section with social media icons at the bottom right.

Figure 9: Screenshot of the [www.arch-e.eu](https://www.arch-e.eu) platform, showing the ARCH-E Glossary Tool Functions, Nov. 2023

In the long term, it should be possible to add further countries to the existing glossaries. As part of the ARCH-E project, the focus is on the partners involved, whose input is intensively supervised editorially. This means that around 100 key terms from 8 different countries will be compared with each other. Following the formula  $n*(n-1)/2$ , this involves 2,800 comparisons that need to be analysed, classified, evaluated and commented on. (including the ARCH-E cooperation partners, this would be 6,600 comparisons.) In order to cope with this amount of data, the **swarm intelligence of all those working in the field of ADCs** must be utilised. This is why the so-called comment function was developed.

The ARCH-E Glossary Tool with its integrated commentary function is intended to support and stimulate the discourse on differences and similarities in the ADC process in the long term and as such has to be regarded as an ongoing process.

Hereby, we invite all readers to test, check, comment in the Beta Version of the ARCH-E Glossary: <https://arch-e.eu/glossary>

# Study 3: Architects' Needs

## 5.1 The Need of Study 3

The ARCH-E project aims to grasp European architects' dynamics in diverse contexts, focusing on their involvement in International Architecture Competitions (ADCs) abroad. It seeks to aid architects in ADCs and enrich inhabited environments. Study 3 aims to identify interested architects, address knowledge gaps, assess international connections, and explore ARCH-E's support for participation in ADCs outside their home country.

The ARCH-E online survey gathers architects' insights on international architectural design competitions, including challenges, desired support, and benefits. It aims to profile architects interested or uninterested in ADCs, identify international networks, preferred countries for participation, and expected economic gains.

Study 3 uses an online survey to quantify data on architects' ADC participation, collaborating with the Architects' Council of Europe to broaden the investigation's scope.

## 5.2 Elements and Issues of an Online Survey

### **Priority Elements and Issues of the ARCH-E Survey**

The online survey, conducted anonymously, will seek to understand architects' experiences participating in international ADCs or the factors influencing their decision not to participate. To ensure a thorough exploration of this issue, several key questions need to be clarified beforehand:

- Identifying the subjects of this study entails determining whether they are individuals possessing specific professional qualifications, professional firms with legally defined structures, or a combination of both.
- Defining "ADCs" and outlining their distinctive characteristics in each country is central to facilitating a meaningful comparison of data collected through the anonymous survey.
- The connection between ADCs and subsequent procurement processes, both in the public and private sectors.

Discussions, including a debate in Berlin, emphasised the need to address whether respondents are answering for themselves or their office. The survey aims to understand individual architects and teams, including young teams or those with diverse professional profiles.

Based on UIA guidelines, ADCs involve project comparison and competent juries and serve as a preliminary step in procurement. Notably, discussions revealed variations in public procurement processes categorised as architectural competitions, some without mandatory design proposals and anonymity.

Concise questions were proposed to ensure alignment with other ARCH-E studies. Insights from the ACE Sector Study will supplement economic considerations regarding ADCs and project quality assessment.

Finally, the survey explores whether ADCs contribute to higher-quality architecture and sustainable solutions, aligning with NEB's and Baukultur's objectives. It is essential to determine whether Architectural Design Competitions (ADCs) effectively contribute to producing higher-quality architecture and urban spaces consistent with the objectives of NEB and Baukultur, thereby influencing the promotion of environmentally and socially sustainable solutions. Questions addressing these issues are incorporated in the ARCH-E online survey.

Question set 01: Personal data (5)

Question set 02: Personal and family situation (5)

Question set 03: Professional career as architect (9)

Question set 04: International networks related to architects (9)

Question set 05: Interest in participating in ADCs outside your home country (16)

Question set 06: About your participation in ADCs outside your home country (17)

Question set 07: About your experience of your knowledge and skills gaps when participating in ADC outside your home country (6)

Question set 08: About your experience and attitudes regarding your participation in ADC outside your home country (8)

Question set 09: About your experience regarding the involvement of private clients organizing an ADC (4)

Question set 10: According to your experience, best practices in ADC outside your home country (7)

Question set 11: Architects' request to Chambers and Associations of Architects to promote participation in ADCs by... (7)

Question set 12: Recommendations for policymakers regarding ADC (3)

Question set 13: ARCH-E project support to architects in their further professional development (4)



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Figure 10: Initial set of questions as exposed in Berlin, October 2023.

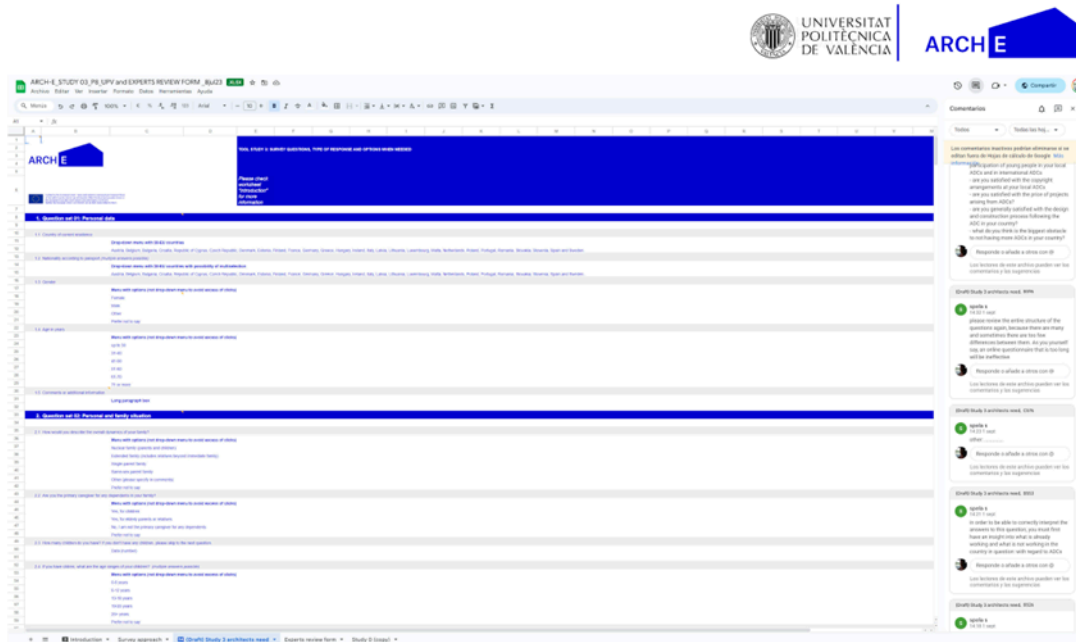


Figure 11: Screenshot of the initial questions assessed by partners and commented on online and in person.

## Connection to the 2024 ACE Sector Study Survey

During project working meetings, it was noted that the ARCH-E survey to be held in 2024 will coincide with the biannual survey conducted by the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE), a partner in the ARCH-E project, which examines the status of the architectural profession in Europe every two years.

During the group discussions, a decision was reached to collaborate with ACE, incorporating key questions from ARCH-E into their survey to enhance both the ACE and ARCH-E project surveys. The ACE 2022 survey was compared with the draft ARCH-E survey to facilitate this collaboration. It was identified that the ARCH-E objective focusing on knowledge and skills gaps when participating in a foreign country needs to be addressed in the ACE survey. Additionally, there was a need to gain insights into the specific countries that notably facilitated the participation of professionals from other countries or were more appealing for such endeavours. As a result, a proposal was put forward to modify specific questions in the ACE survey, which was discussed with the individuals responsible for overseeing the survey.

## 5.3 Methodology of Work

The research process connected to the online survey comprises three distinct phases, each with its working methodology:

- **Question Definition Phase:** In this phase, the list of questions has been meticulously crafted based on the objectives outlined in the project application memory for the online survey. The formulation has also considered the collective knowledge of the project partners regarding this type of competition, their expertise in working with online surveys, and the extensive bibliography encompassing guides, regulations, and norms developed by Architects' Associations and Colleges. The process involved a thorough review of available information, multiple proposals for a set of questions discussed in face-to-face and online meetings, and creating a draft. This draft underwent evaluation and commentary by each project partner and collaborating team.
- **Feedback Phase:** During this phase, the obtained data will be analysed using Excel spreadsheets, and graphs will be generated to facilitate the effective communication of results. The initial outcomes will be scrutinised and deliberated upon in various group meetings. Special attention will be given to editing the graphs to ensure clarity and alignment with the project's visual identity.
- **Conclusions and Recommendations Phase:** The statistical results obtained in the feedback phase will be compared with the outcomes of the interviews conducted in Study 1 and the glossary of terms in Study 2. Additionally, a comparative analysis will be made with the results of the ACE Sector Study survey to decipher the value and significance of the data and graphs. The findings of this phase will undergo a comprehensive review, discussion, and evaluation by all project partners.

## 5.4 Sections and Questions of Study 3

This comprehensive exploration and discourse have resulted in a set of questions. These questions are also available online at a link for further review and consultation as a draft on demand.

The survey will be disseminated in Autumn 2024 through ARCH-E's social networks and those of its partners and collaborators. The more architects participate, the more accurate the picture of European architects' interests and issues when competing outside their usual country of work will be. We hope you will be encouraged to participate and share your unique experience. Stay tuned!

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TOOL STUDY 3: SURVEY QUESTIONS, TYPE OF RESPONSES  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe\\_RP87bSG11N2t](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_RP87bSG11N2t)

Please check worksheet "Introduction" for more information

1. Question set 01: Personal data	
1.1 Country of current residence	<p><b>Drop-down menu with 28-EU countries</b></p> <p>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary</p>
1.2 Nationality according to passport (multiple answers possible)	<p><b>Drop-down menu with 28-EU countries with possibility of multiselection</b></p> <p>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary</p>
1.3 Sex registered at birth	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>Female Male Other Prefer not to say</p>
1.4 Age in years	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>up to 30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-70 71 or more</p>
2. Question set 02: Professional career as architect	
2.1 Field of your expertise as architect	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>Planning, landscape architecture, urban design, architecture, interior architecture, structural design, academia, researcher, curator etc.</p>
2.2 Are you CURRENTLY working as an architect?	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>Yes, as a conventional architect Yes, but in new fields related to architecture (curatorial practices, participatory architecture, 3D modelling...) No, in neither case</p>
2.3 Kind of current or last position as architect (multiple answers possible)	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>Owner/ co-owner of a company/firm/office etc. Employed with permanent contract Employed with a temporary contract Employed with a temporary contract Other</p>
2.4 Reasons why you are NOT CURRENTLY working as an architect (multiple answers possible)	<p><b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b></p> <p>Maternity/parental leave Sabbatical Unemployment</p>

Figure 12: Excel file's first rows displaying some of the questions, according to their type and options for the responses

	Working in a different job
	Retirement
	Other
<b>2.5 Years of working experience as an autonomous professional</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	None
	up to 5
	6-10
	11-20
	21 or more
<b>2.6 Years of working experience as an employee in companies/offices related to Question 3.1 field/fields</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	None
	up to 5
	6-10
	11-20
	21 or more
<b>2.7 In average, how many hours do/did you work each week?</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	up to 10
	11-20
	21-30
	31-40
	41-50
	51-60
	61 or more
<b>2.8 Personal average annual gross income in EUR in the last 3 years ( please take into account income of any jobs you may have at the same time)</b>	
	up to 10.000
	10.001-20.000
	20.001-30.000
	30.001-40.000
	40.001-50.000
	50.001-60.000
	60.001-70.000
	70.001 or more
<b>3. Question set 03: Related to your interest on international NETWORKS of architects</b>	
<b>3.1 Have you ever studied abroad, in a country other than your own?</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	Yes, many times
	Yes, some times
	Yes, only once
	No, never
<b>3.2 Are you a member of any international architectural organizations or associations?</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	Yes
	No
	Not now, but I have been in the past
<b>3.3 Have you participated in architectural conferences or events outside of your home country during the past five years?</b>	
	<b>Menu with options (not drop-down menu to avoid excess of clicks)</b>
	Yes
	No

Figure 13: Excel file's rows showing some more of the questions, according to their type and options for the responses



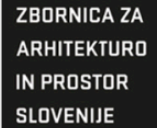
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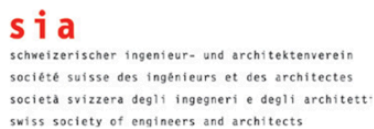
## Project Partners:



Architects' Council of Europe  
Conseil des Architectes d'Europe



## Cooperation Partners:



# The European Platform for Architectural Design Competitions.



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