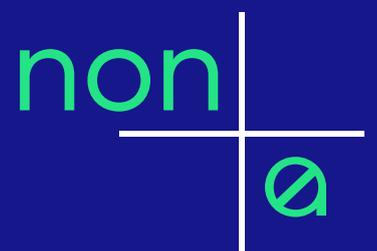


SOCIAL DISTANCING HOUSING BLOCK

EXTENDED VERSION 07 / 07 / 2020



NON ARCHITECTURE

We can consider “architecture” everything that has already been designed and/or built that would define a realm of conventional solutions, often repeated in a self-referential system. We imagined a counterpart, a “non architecture”. A world of unexplored designs and countless possibilities, that if found, could enlarge and change permanently the boundaries of architecture. A universe of chances and opportunities never challenged by architects before. A limitless field of investigation that includes *everything that is not architecture, yet.*

Non Architecture Competitions aims to find unconventional and unexplored design solutions in the field of architecture. The second phase of competitions is structured in 9+1 themes: a Research Ecosystem with the purpose of exploring each theme from different perspectives. All competitions have their focus on tackling the big issues of tomorrow, by seeking nontraditional approaches in the architect’s work.

Social Distancing Housing Block is one of the Non Architecture “*Pandemic Society*” competitions.

INTRODUCTION

This competition calls for alternative housing models to disrupt the real estate market in a scenario of prolonged social distancing. We ask for a creative approach to architectural design, departing from a given users, program and extension.

HOUSING MODELS FOR PANDEMIC is part of a Competition series, developed to imagine new dwelling models through a variety of creative architectural designs and feasible innovation. Considering the limits of the current housing market, what could be the domestic architecture of the future?



According to the United Nations, the world population is expected to grow by almost 25% in the coming thirty years. Such growth will most likely occur in urban areas, where the housing shortage is already becoming an urgent issue. Additionally, a large part of existing and future buildings will be destined for residential use, leaving a huge impact on the way people live, experience and affect cities. In this context housing models have been frozen into standardized solutions that leave little or no room for innovation. Such solutions are often perpetrated as a convention, missing a wide range of unexplored opportunities.

The COVID-19 outbreak showed how our way of living can quickly change, while dwellings suddenly became the main stage for this transformation. Imagining a society where social distancing is the new normality, how should housing models change? How can we introduce a valuable change in the established model, to disrupt the real estate market and benefit dwellers, the environment and the city?

Social Distancing Housing Block aims to answer these questions.

COMPETITION BRIEF



HOUSING IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

Housing has become the front-line defense against the Covid-19 outbreak. During quarantine, homes designed for a limited range of functions suddenly became the place where we spend almost all our time. We work from home, we cook and consume all our meals at home, we spend our leisure time at home, we exercise at home and school kids at home. Within our housing blocks, we share spaces and facilities, generating proximity between different users. This proximity could become positive when it comes to having a closed community with safe interactions, but it presents also a series of contamination risks.

It is still unclear how long the social distancing will be in place, or what kind of changes will occur once we reach a new normality. Will we change our lifestyle to prevent new pandemics? Will remote work become a standard model? Will we reduce our social interactions, or will we intensify relations only with those that are close to us? What kind of future is ahead?

PANDEMIC SOCIETY

Non Architecture and all the supporting organizations collaborated in identifying a range of 30 design issues related to the research theme of Pandemic Society. Within our longlist, we highlighted those that could be relevant to this competition.

In relation to **Healthcare**:

1. Emergency Hospitals,
2. Smart Diagnostic,
3. Hygiene & Preventing Contamination,
4. Transferring Patients,
5. Medical Supplies,
6. Smart Medical Devices,
7. Home Treatments,
8. Protecting Healthcare Workers

In relation to **Home Isolation**:

9. Household Organization,
10. Loneliness,
11. Homeless,
12. Personal Growth,
13. Co-habitation & Relationships,

14. Protected Social Interactions,
15. E-learning,
16. Child Care,
17. Work from Home,
18. Mental & Physical Health

In relation to **Economy**:

19. Small businesses,
20. Tourism & Food industry,
21. Entertainment,
22. Fashion Industry
23. Food Supplies

In relation to **Cities**:

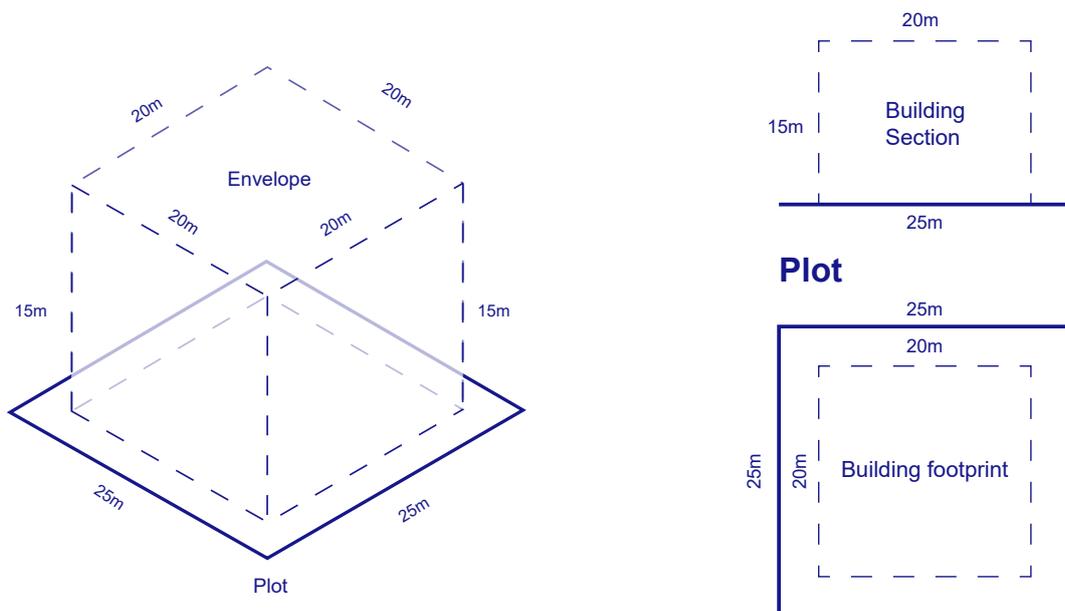
24. Public Space Sanitation,
25. Delivery & Logistics,
26. Alternative technologies,
27. Urban Mobility,
28. Nature & Environment,
29. Domestic & Wild Animals,
30. New Lifestyles

Projects should take into consideration one or more of these themes. They can also come up with new ones, as long as they are relevant to the topic of the competition. Feel free to pick from this list whatever issue might inspire them and develop it further following their creativity. We advise to focus on one or two topics in particular and make them the core of the design proposal.

If you want to receive more insights on these topics you can subscribe to our [newsletter](#) or visit our [online journal](#). You will get articles, essays and references from our editorial team.

PROGRAM AND SITE

For this competition program extension and site configuration are given. We propose an abstract plot of 25m x 25m (625sqm), to be located wherever you prefer. You can keep it undefined or you can choose a specific city and apply its cultural context and climate. Within this plot, the housing block footprint must not go beyond 20m x 20m and a maximum of 15m height. Do not build anything beyond the building envelope limits. Plot accessibility and orientation are free and can be adjusted according to the design. The surrounding context should be considered flat and empty, but not accessible. The design cannot exceed the 25m x 25m plot and can't extend underground.



The required program is structured as follows:

- The proposed block should accommodate a minimum of 40 permanent residents. Age, gender and family status of the residents is not specified. Designers can address specific social target groups if relevant for their proposal.

- The designed complex should cater to the residents' basic needs, like rest, personal hygiene, and food preparation. Designers are free to add any function they might consider relevant.

- Number of residents per single dwelling is up to the designer. Size and layout of the dwelling is also flexible, and so is the extension of private and shared spaces with all the residents in the block.

- There should be minimum 3sqm outdoor space per permanent resident. This surface can be increased according to the design. Outdoor space can be private, shared with all the residents or publicly accessible.

- There is no need to consider parking spaces in the proposal.

- A space for visitors and workers can be included, but it is not required. Similarly, technical and storage space can be taken into consideration only if the designers see fit.

- There should be one main access to the housing block. Additional or secondary accesses can also be included. Each dwelling and functional space should be accessible through circulation. No accessibility or safety regulation is taken into account for this competition.

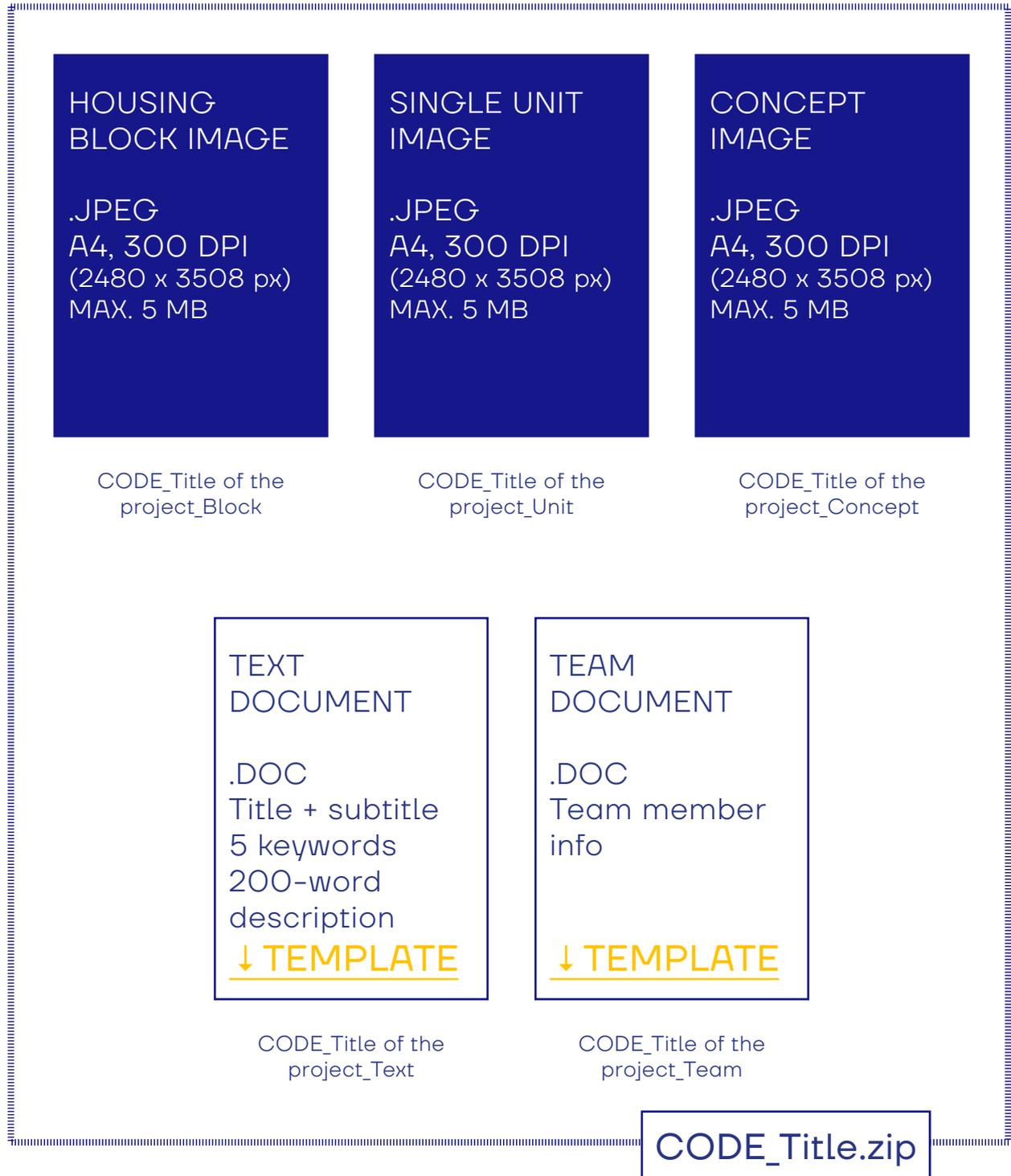
- Technical feasibility and construction materials are not relevant for this competition. Main focus is on the organization of spaces and the functional layout. Nevertheless, the building designed should present a realistic structural organization.



RULES



PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS



This competition is an opportunity to address critical issues of tomorrow by creating innovative and unconventional ideas today. Designers are asked to answer the questions posed by the brief with absolute creative freedom.

Non Architecture is also unconventional in its submission requirements. The participants are asked to submit **1 ZIP folder, named with the registration code and the title of the project (CODE_Title)**, containing:

01. A Housing Block Image (.JPEG) an image showing the configuration of the whole complex. The image should fully display the relation between all the units and shared spaces in the block, highlighting qualities and innovative features. It can be a floorplan, a section, an axonometric view or any other drawing that might suit the designers' vision. Scale and technique of representation are free.

File name: "CODE_Title of the project_Block".

02. A Single Unit Image (.JPEG) showing the layout and organization of one single apartment, highlighting qualities and innovative features. It can be a floorplan, a section, an axonometric view or any other drawing that might suit the designers' vision. Scale and technique of representation are free.

File name: "CODE_Title of the project_Unit".

03. A Concept Image (.JPEG) showing the main innovation and qualities behind the design. The image can highlight a specific functional aspect of the project and show the relation with the design brief. For this image we leave full freedom of choice regarding drawing typology or representation technique. It can be a diagram, a rendering, an abstract impression, a technical drawing or any other

format that might suit your storyline.

File name: "CODE_Title of the project_Concept".

O4. A text document in Word (.DOC), that clearly states
/ the title and subtitle of the project (maximum of 10 words)
/ 5 keywords, at least 1 from the given list (page 5-6), that
better explain your project,
/ a short project description (maximum of 200 words, must
be written in English).

File name: "CODE_Title of the project_Text"

USE THIS TEMPLATE

O5. A team document in Word (.DOC) with the team's info in
the following format:

/ Name + Surname of each team member (separated
clearly),

/ Nationality (multiple options can be added),

/ Institution/company (company or university attended, to
be included just in case you want it to be visible once your
project is published).

There is no need to create a team name.

One team should consist of 1-5 people.

File name: "CODE_Title of the project_Team"

USE THIS TEMPLATE

The **CODE** refers to the **5-digit number** you receive during
the registration process (same as the order number, in a
format of #12345), it is going to serve as your **registration
code for the competition.**

An example of naming the files correctly:

CODE: #56789

Title of the project: NonA Healing

O1. Housing Block Image: 56789_NonA Healing_Block

02. Single Unit Image: 56789_NonA Healing_Unit
03. Comcept Image: 56789_NonA Healing_Concept
04. Text Document: 56789_NonA Healing_Text
05. Team Dosument: 56789_NonA Healing_Team
ZIP folder: 56789_NonA Healing

Please, do not use the # in the file names.

THE EVALUATION OF THE PROJECTS IS ANONYMOUS, so do not include your name, your registration code, or any other reference to you in the images. After being evaluated by the jury, the projects will be reconnected to their authors through the submission code. Additional details on the team members and on the projects will be required during the submission procedure.

IMAGE REQUIREMENTS:

/ A4, portrait (vertical), 300 dpi (equals 2480 x 3508 px),
/ High Quality (for example, in Photoshop JPEG output quality: 8, or 80-85 in Gimp is recommended),
/ 5 MB maximum file size.

If the submitted images don't respect these criteria, may lead to the disqualification of the team.

FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS:

/ The Housing Block, Unit and Concept Images should display ONE SINGLE item each (ex. one drawing or one rendering). We recommend not to create a layout of several images.

/ There is no need to entirely fill the A4 size image or to add a frame.

/ The images do not demand for any kind of specific technique of representation, as long as they respect the given guidelines. They can be technical drawings, diagrams, collages, pictures, renders, models, paintings, hand drawings, etc. Be creative!

/ We highly recommend you to not add text to the images, please use the Text Document for further explanation. The projects should be explanatory enough through the graphic material.

/ It is compulsory to use the provided Word templates to create your Text Document and Team Document.

/ In case the Text Document and Team Document are submitted in any other format than a Word file (.DOC), its content might be excluded from publishing.

/ The language of the submission is ENGLISH, any text written in a different language will not be taken into account during the evaluation.

EVERY SUBMISSION THAT DOESN'T RESPECT THE PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS, MIGHT GET DISQUALIFIED FROM THE COMPETITION.

ELIGIBILITY

Non Architecture Competitions are open to all human beings, from every age and cultural background, working in groups or individually.

Teams can be formed by a maximum number of 5 people.

The registration fee is paid per team, regardless of how many members form it. Personal information of all the team members can be uploaded during the submission procedure of the final drawing.

PRIZES

Non Architecture Competitions will award two winners, one selected by each jury, and a total of 6 honourable mentions.

WINNER (2 PRIZES)

/ 1.000 euros worth in gift cards from one of the major online shops chosen by the winner

/ publication in the Non Architecture Competitions books and website

/ reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs

HONOURABLE MENTIONS (6 PRIZES)

/ publication in the Non Architecture Competitions books and website

/ reviews in digital magazines and several architecture blogs

NON ARCHITECTURE EDITORIAL PICK (MINIMUM 6 PRIZES)

/ publication in the Non Architecture Competitions books and website

FINALISTS (UP TO 36 PRIZES)

/ publication in the Non Architecture Journal

SPECIAL PRIZE

The organization might establish additional special prizes and awards during the competition development and in the evaluation phase.

Note: The appearance on the involved architectural platforms are subject to the agenda and availability of the external platforms.

CALENDAR AND PRICING

1 - 17 May	Special registration period (40€) (30€)
18 May - 14 June	Early registration period (55€).
15 June - 18 July	Regular registration period (70€).
19 July - 16 August	Late registration period (85€).
17-29 August	Last Minute registration (100€).
17 August	Submission opens on our website
29 Aug, 11:59 PM	Submission closes.
21-27 Sept	Winner announcement.

The timing always refers to Central European Time (CET).

JURY

The jury will be formed by the following members:

Fala Atelier

and

Aleksander G. Kongshaug
Architect & Researcher at GXN
Laurent Rosset
Architect at 3XN

REGISTRATION

Considering the current world situation due to the pandemic Covid-19, we are exceptionally launching our competitions with a Special registration price: **we are changing the registration price for the first two weeks from 40€ to a 30€ price.** This is our way to provide you with something fun to do while dealing with quarantine! It might not be much, but we hope it will help, in a Non Architectural way.

If you would like to register for both competitions of the Pandemic Society theme, **we can offer you a 50% discount on the registration fee of the second one.** In order to use

the discount, register using the promotion link at the bottom of the competition page. In this case, the competition team should include the exact same participants for both competitions.

Check out [Healing - Alternative Designs fro Quarantine Cities](#) competition to know more!

This offer is valid for the whole registration period.

The registration fee is per team, regardless of how many members are on the team.

If a team wants to submit more than one proposal to the competition they will have to register each proposal separately and pay an additional fee for each proposal they wish to submit.

For a project to be accepted the team must be properly registered to the competition. All registrations will be done through the [Non Architecture website \(nonarchitecture.eu\)](#), where you have to create an account, log in and choose your payment option.

All the payments will be organized through our Paypal profile, in order to provide the safest procedure to all the participants. Payments will be available for Paypal accounts and credit cards. In case you do not have a Paypal account, the credit card payment will be automatically made available.

After completing the payment, you will receive a first email from Paypal which confirms the transaction. Non Architecture will later accept your payment and provide you with a registration code. **THE REGISTRATION CODE WILL BE THE FIVE DIGITS CODE INDICATED AS “ORDER NUMBER”**,

which will be sent to you once your payment is accepted. Before confirmation email from Non Architecture arrives, your payment will be kept on hold and you will be able to cancel your purchase any time you want without any consequences.

After your Non Architecture confirmation is sent, you can't cancel your payment anymore and it is not possible to get a refund of the registration fee.

In case Paypal is not available in your country, contact us at info@nonarchitecture.eu

SUBMISSION



Submissions must be done through the Non Architecture website (nonarchitecture.eu), before the submission period ends, the deadline is indicated in the calendar.

The submission surface opens 2 weeks before the submission deadline. It is going to be placed on the Non Architecture website, on the corresponding competition page.

Submission process:

1. Create your ZIP file, containing 3 JPEG images and 2 DOC files.
2. Upload it to wetransfer.com and choose the option “Get transfer link”. Make sure that you save your link for future use.
3. Go to nonarchitecture.eu and fill the submission form, there you need to include the WeTransfer link you created.

By filling the form, your submission is finalized.

No submissions will be accepted by e-mail or any other medium.

The submission page will be automatically closed after the submission date and time are reached, not allowing any modifications.

We suggest to upload your project 24 hours in advance to make sure that everything works out correctly. This way you have time to solve any issues that might come up along the submission process.

EVALUATION

The core values of the competition are:

/ Feasibility - Realism of the proposal, in strict terms of technology, costs and management.

/ Communication - Clarity, appeal and experimentation in

the presentation of the proposal

/ Relevance - The degree to which the proposal is related or useful to the proposed theme

These values will lead the selection of the finalists' projects and they will be used by the jury as a guideline in their decision.

Remember that this a competition of ideas, an opportunity to experiment and explore the limits of architecture representation. The jury reserves the right to award any proposal that fails at any of the parameters mentioned in these rules, as long as it justifies the breach of the rule in favour of the value of the proposal.

The voting system to choose the winning projects is as follows:

1. Non Architecture competitions team, following the main values of the competition, will make an initial selection of 50 finalist projects in response to the above criteria. The amount of pre-selected projects can slightly vary according to the judgment of the pre-selection team.
2. The members of the jury will study the pre-selected projects privately and give an evaluation for each one of them. Votes will be compared and revised to reach a common agreement on the selection of winners and honourable mentions.

In order to guarantee the authenticity of the awarding process, the prize's selection cannot be appealed.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

All the material submitted to the competition will become part of Non Architecture Competitions' files. Non Architecture will have full rights to publish and promote this material, always making proper mention of their authors.

The material might also be used for the platform's merchandising and exhibition purposes. For any other purpose, the authors of the projects will keep full rights over their design and will be asked to grant permission. By submitting a proposal you are giving Non Architecture the right to use the received material in both printed and online publications. Non Architecture Competitions will also have the right to slightly modify any of the mentioned material in order to better adapt it to the different formats and layouts that different publications might have.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. Non Architecture Competitions reserves the right to make any changes to this document (dates, deadlines, requirements, etc.) as long as the changes benefit a majority of the competition participants. Any modifications will be announced on the Non Architecture Competitions Facebook page. It is each team's responsibility to check the Non Architecture Competitions Facebook page on a regular

basis to follow and incorporate all changes.

2. The purpose of this competition is an intellectual exercise and will not be built. In order to produce a relevant collective research, a minimum amount of 50 registrations has to be submitted. If the registrations are less than 50 by the day of the deadline, Non Architecture Competitions reserves the rights to not proceed with the awarding of the monetary prize but we will proceed with the winners' selections and the book's publication. In this eventuality, all the subscription fees will be reimbursed to the participants.

3. No one has hired Non Architecture Competitions in order to organize this contest. The only purpose of this initiative is to raise questions that could lead to the progress of architecture practice and engage a community of enthusiastic and creative designers in the creation of what could be a new way to represent architecture. The idea and program of this competition have been fully developed by Non Architecture Competitions to serve solely as an academic exercise.

4. Non Architecture Competitions is not held responsible for a breach of contract regarding the publications.

THE NON
ARCHITECTURE
TEAM AND ALL
THE COMPETITION
PARTNERS WISH
YOU THE BEST LUCK,
CONFIDENT THAT YOU
WILL APPROACH THE
CONTEST
WITH ALL YOUR
CREATIVITY AND
INNOVATIVE MIND.

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CURATOR

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architecture

RESEARCH
PARTNERS

KooZA/rch
A Visionary Platform for Architectural Research

A DOM
publishers

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Transdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability Transition

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Future
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Lab


Rhinceros
modeling tools for designers

**in
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European Urban
Knowledge Network



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**METABOLISM
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