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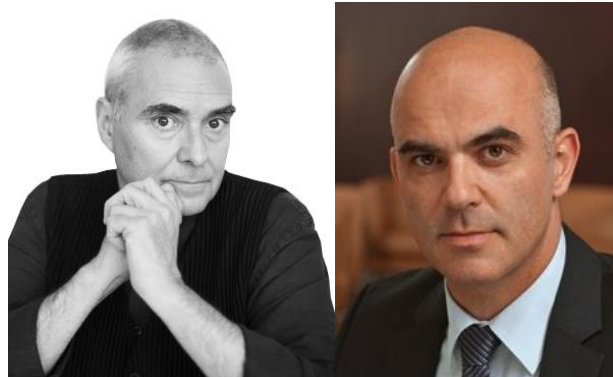
Press release

ACE-UIA International Conference Design Competitions

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Friday 25 October 2019, 9:00 – 18:00

The Architects' Council of Europe and the International Union of Architects are organising an **International Conference on Design Competitions** that will bring together architects, urban planners, the public sector and international organisations.

The purpose? To reflect on the importance of quality in the built environment and how architecture competitions can act as a tool for the promotion of higher-calibre outcomes.



Dominique Perrault, Founding architect of DPA

Alain Berset, Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA, Switzerland

The conference will combine thematic panel discussions and high-profile keynote speakers who will share their experienced perspectives:

While there is a broad consensus on the fact that a high-quality built environment impacts positively on people's everyday lives, it can prove difficult for public authorities, project developers and built environment professionals to assess and guarantee the quality of the buildings and urban spaces they commission and design.



Through architectural competitions, society benefits from solutions imbued with cultural values that contribute to a sustainable future. In this context, the ACE and the UIA invited high-level speakers to an international conference to reflect on the importance of *quality* in the built environment and the opportunities stemming from competitions.

“We are happy to have guests from many parts of the world; speakers of all ages, including a mix of decision makers, advisers and architects. The main goal is to place the design competition as an important tool for selecting the best solution for the task, as the definition of the procedure illustrates: a quality based and project-oriented selection. Good practice for both architects and clients.” **Georg Pendl, President of ACE**

"International design competitions - and especially those held under auspices of UNESCO and the UIA - have yielded some of the most renowned, progressive buildings of the 20th century . . . the Sydney Opera House, the Centre Pompidou and the French National Library to name just a few. We need to renew the impetus that created those buildings, and reaffirm the basic principles that made them possible: a climate of openness to international exchange, cooperation and fair competition; a willingness to take risks and to try new approaches; a commitment to excellence in design for important public buildings; a set of rules, guidelines and prospects that attract the world's best design talents, both as jurors and competitors; and the drive to achieve heights of expression and creativity that transcend fashion and vogue. This conference is poised to make large strides in these directions, and we hope to see the outcomes embraced by government bodies and private clients across the globe. We are grateful to the Architects' Council of Europe, UNESCO and the European Union for joining us." **Thomas Vonier, President of UIA.**

This conference is co-funded by the **programme Creative Europe of the EU Commission and has received the patronage of UNESCO.**



ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE

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More information

www.ace-cae.eu

www.uia-architectes.org

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