

Creating our futures

Lisboa, 11th-13th November 2026

ECTP-CEU

European Council of Spatial Planners
Conseil européen des urbanistes

Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil
Avenida do Brasil 101 - Lisboa, Portugal
Bus stop "LNEC", lines 717-731-750-783
Metro station "Alvalade" (700 m), line "Verde"

15th Young Planners Workshop 2026 **Call for Projects and Workshop Programme**

The Lens of Time in Spatial Planning

**Fully integrated within the
15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners
sharing its thematic framework**



The World Time Clock (Weltzeituhr) at Alexanderplatz, Berlin. Captured in a long exposure by Marek Ślusarczyk, the light trails of passing traffic symbolise the relentless pulse of urban time. Designed by Erich John and erected in 1969, the clock stands as a 'layer of time' from the GDR's socialist modernism, now deeply embedded in the Western rhythm of the 21st-century metropolis

Images Credits

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Two technicians: 1950, Cambridge Gas Company, now Eversource Energy

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Venue location map 2026: 2026, ECTP-CEU, base map by OpenStreetMap

Venue location map 1911: 2026, ECTP-CEU, base map by Silva Pinto

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15th Young Planners Workshop 2026

Call for Projects and Workshop Programme

1 About the ECTP and the Young Planners Workshop

The ECTP-CEU (European Council of Spatial Planners – Conseil européen des urbanistes), founded in 1985, brings together 40.000 spatial planners of 39 professional planning associations, institutes and agencies from 29 European countries. It is an umbrella association providing its members with a common framework for planning practice, planning education, continuing professional development and the definition of professional responsibilities. ECTP-CEU sets standards of education and conduct for the planning profession; identifies, celebrates and rewards examples of good planning all over Europe; and engages in dialogue with local, national and European governments.

In accordance with these objectives, the initiative of the Young Planners Workshop seeks to set out young planners' perspectives and experiences within the context of new European paradigms. It is dedicated to empowering young practitioners in the planning profession and placing their perspectives and experiences at the forefront of the discussion. This initiative strongly advocates for the creation of young professional networks and the exchange of practical knowledge between them, fostering collaboration and innovation among the next generation of spatial planning professionals.

1.1 This year's edition

The 15th Young Planners Workshop will take place in the framework of the 15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners in Lisbon, Portugal. This edition marks an important milestone, combining a major European planning event with the participation of young practitioners from across Europe. This year's format supports 10 individual young planners participants or teams with up to three members ensuring the broadest possible geographic representation. The Workshop will be fully integrated into the Biennale's programme, either within the main parallel sessions (based on thematic match) or as a dedicated YP session with presentations, panel discussion and Q&A.

Similar to 13th and 14th workshops, when participants presented ideas, strategies, plans, programmes and projects they already had worked out or were working on, once again the ECTP-CEU strongly encourages young practitioners to apply for the workshop. The experience they want to share should pos-



The Sassi neighbourhoods in Matera, Italy, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, being continuously inhabited since the Paleolithic and becoming an important settlement during the Neolithic. The first buildings outside the “Sassi” were constructed in the 16th century. Relocation of its inhabitants in the 1950s gave rise to the innovative neighbourhoods of the “City of the Plan”

sibly be part of one of their first work experience and must refer to their own projects or their own contributions to major projects. The evaluation commission will not accept works from senior planners that are only presented by younger colleagues or in which the young planners are or were only marginally involved.

The applicants whose contributions will be accepted must participate in at least two online meetings: a first one in August or September and a second one mid- or late October. During these meetings, the contributions will be discussed and the presentations co-ordinated. They may also be an opportunity to get to know each other better in advance. To permit the young planners’ in-person participation in Lisbon each admitted individual or team will receive a financial contribution of 400 euro. In addition, all team members will be invited to the official delegates’ dinner on Friday evening free of charge, and their posters will be printed at the expense of the ECTP-CEU.

The presentations will be made and discussed during the parallel sessions of the Biennale on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th November 2026. The activities of the Biennale start in the afternoon of Wednesday 11th November with site visits to which the young planners are invited. They are also invited to attend the Planning in Practice session in the afternoon of Saturday 14th November with ECTP-CEU’s General Assembly.



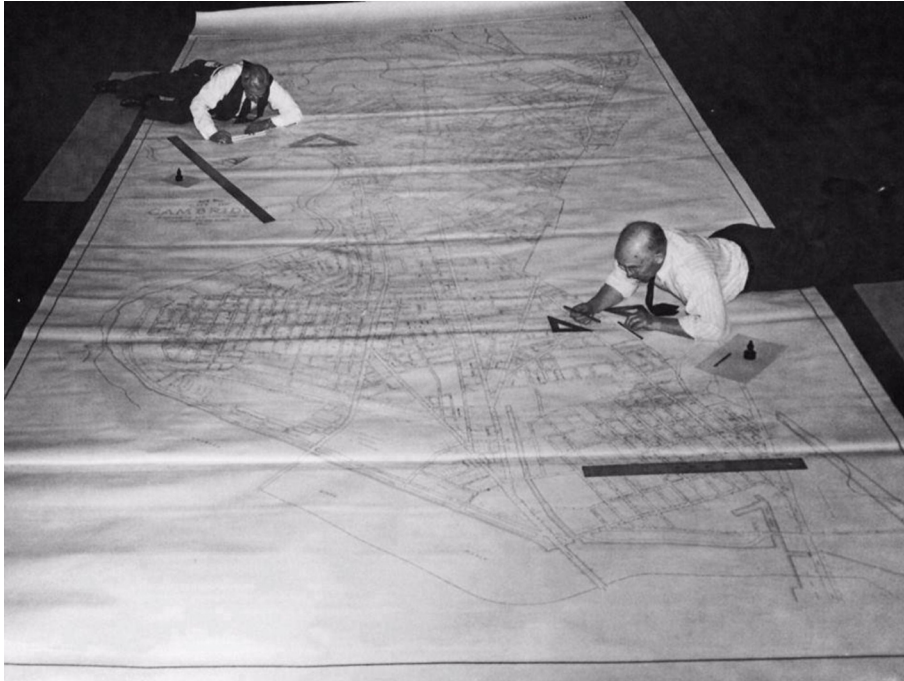
Eisenhüttenstadt is one of the most important planned cities of the era of 'actually existing socialism'. Founded in 1950, it was based on the short-lived (1950-1955) 'Sixteen Principles of Urban Design'. It grew rapidly: 24,000 inhabitants in 1960 and its peak in 1988 with over 53,000. The end of the GDR led to its decline with today once again only 24,000 inhabitants

2 Theme Description

This year's Biennale theme focuses on time ("The Lens of Time in Spatial Planning"), taken in its broadest sense, and the Workshop follows this narrative. Time is a fundamental yet often underestimated dimension in spatial planning. Planning inherently engages with time, ranging from long-term strategies and master plans to short-term interventions. It encompasses the preservation of historical layers as well as the anticipation of future needs. It addresses processes that range from slow ecological transformations to rapid urban change. Young planners are invited to reflect on how time manifests in their professional work. The Biennale has a main theme and is structured into four tracks. Please find here below the descriptions taken from the Biennale's call for projects.

2.1 The Lens of Time in Spatial Planning

Cities have always evolved alongside cultural, social, environmental and technological shifts. However, while the world transforms rapidly, the adaptive capacity of cities and their administration often lags behind. This Biennale examines whether cities and their administration can adapt in time to looming urgencies to remain the natural habitat of civilizations. In an era of constant acceleration and on the verge of a new revolution, how do urban planners — traditionally the visionaries — anti-



Time of Process. This famous photo shows two technicians at work. Ever-source writes, “1950—before our engineers had software to map our gas system. Alva A. Brackley and Ralph F. Perry drew by hand the location of gas lines on a 12-ft-by-25-ft map of Cambridge. Today, our team uses geographical information systems (GIS) to accurately map our infrastructure.”

cipate this transformation? This event views urbanism through a temporal lens, treating time not just as a technical variable, but as a political, social, and cultural dimension that shapes how we live and imagine the urban future.

Time of the Process (Administrative Agility)

Planning processes are often slow and complex—this panel explores European success stories that simplify and digitalise licensing to reduce administrative ‘downtime’ while maintaining transparency and quality.

- Simplification and Digitalisation: Strategies to make more efficient planning and management.
- Regulatory Innovation: Reforming planning approval and building permit processes without compromising rigour or transparency.
- Predictable Governance: Methods to make administrative procedures more transparent and participatory.
- Plan-making process: Speeding up structure/land-use plans and town planning schemes to more efficiently delivering industrial land or housing.

Time of Execution (Construction & Circularity)

Realisation in the Right Time: Cities face growing demands for renewal, resilience, and housing—this panel seeks best practices in industrialised construction solutions that reduce costs



Image assisted by AI – ECTP-CEU – 15th Young Planners Workshop at the 15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners – Lisbon 2026.

Analytical development of planning tools. This is what the office work of a spatial planning team could look like. The futuristic, layered 3D computer at the centre of the desk is a metaphor for the multi-faceted and interdisciplinary work of spatial planners, which should be reflected in innovative planning and administrative processes (AI-generated image with inconsistencies)

and timelines while enhancing environmental quality.

- Industrialised Construction: Off-site manufacturing, prefabrication, and BIM to reduce timelines.
- Circular Economy Timelines: Designing for disassembly and managing the lifecycle of urban materials.
- Urban Resilience: Fast-tracking infrastructure for flood mitigation and heatwave adaptation.
- Environmental balance: Urban footprint, nature-based solutions, green cities and planning with nature.

Time of People (Sovereignty & Rhythms)

As technology reshapes work and frees up human time, this panel looks at best practices on how urban design and public spaces can foster health, well-being, and social inclusion across all ages in the city.

- Chronourbanism: Urban design that accommodates flexible work-life rhythms and asynchronous societies.
- Intergenerational Design: Addressing the specific time-scales of children and the elderly in public spaces.
- Right to Slowness: Creating urban environments that promote mental health, leisure, and contemplation.
- Nature for Society: Positive impacts on urban climate and community wellbeing through measures of the instrumental value perspective of nature.

Time of New Frontiers (Digital & Social Paradigms)

As AI reshapes how cities, regions and communities are conceived, this panel explores best practice in data-driven spatial planning, from territorial analysis and mobility forecasting to risk modelling and public policy evaluation.

- Scenario Simulation: Using data to anticipate urban and territorial impacts and model future risks.
- Evidence-Based Planning: Case studies where AI assisted in policy evaluation and territorial analysis.
- Ethics of Efficiency: Ensuring human-centric and transparent decision-making in algorithmic urbanism.
- Gender-Based Lens: Applying a specific temporal perspective to spatial planning to foster inclusive territorial and community structures.

3 Scope of Contributions

We invite young planners to present off-the-shelf works they have already carried out or are currently working on in their professional practice. Contributions should reflect real-world planning experience. Project proposals may also be considered, but preference will be given to works arising from actual professional activity.

If a participant was involved in only part of the project, or had a minor role, this must be declared. During the workshop, attention should focus on the parts performed by the participants themselves. Contributions should strive to include both a descriptive and an analytical component, ideally supported by maps, plans, diagrams, or other visual materials that help illustrate the work and its outcomes. Relevant types of contributions include, among others:

- Spatial and urban development plans, strategies or policies with an explicit temporal dimension;
- Urban regeneration or transformation projects addressing inherited historical conditions;
- Phased or adaptive planning processes, including monitoring and review mechanisms;
- Temporary uses, interim planning and meanwhile activation of urban spaces;
- Climate adaptation or resilience plans with clear timelines and urgency.

4 Who can apply

Contributions are presented by young qualified professionals in spatial planning meeting the **35-10-year rule**, i.e., aged under



Group photo at the 12th YPW 2023 in Gdańsk: Daryna Pivchuk (Ukraine), Michelle Ball (Ireland), Celeste Moretto, Antonio Piredda, Silvia Porcu (Italy), Tsz Lok Ng (UK), Federico Camerin (Spain/Italy), leaving ECTP-CEU president Janet Askew (UK), Luciano Paná Tronca, incoming ECTP-CEU president Markus Hedorfer, Irene Bertolami (Italy), Sedat İçöz (Türkiye), Oliver Norman, Rob Wellburn (UK) and YPP chair Martin Baloka (Slovakia). Giulia Guerri (Italy) was exceptionally allowed to attend online

35 years or with no more than 10 years of post-qualification experience in planning.

Participants must be **young practitioners**. The majority of participants should be practitioners actively working in planning firms, municipalities or other planning agencies. PhD students and early-career researchers may apply if their contribution clearly derives from professional planning practice rather than academic research. University professors, PhD students whose contributions are purely academic, and other permanently employed academic staff are not eligible. This year, submissions are accepted from **individual** participants or **teams** of up to three members.

5 How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via e-mail to ECTP-CEU's Young Planners Working Group at yp@ectp-ceu.eu including the following personal information (in the case of teams the information must be provided for each team member):

- name and surname;
- e-mail address;
- current professional situation;



Group photo at the Bilbao town hall with some of the young planners of the 13th YPW 2024. Participants were Sergio García Pérez, Alicia Gracia Aguilar, Manuel Esteban Álvarez (Spain), Monika Krasoń (Poland), Tsz Lok Ng (UK), Mariya Badeva (Bulgaria), Amirkkamyar Fotoohi, Aida Asadzadeh, Rozhin Sarabi (Italy/Iran), Ana Šabanović, Nikola Mitrović (Serbia), Michelle Ball (Ireland), Elene Machaidze, Ana Gulisashvili, Giorgi Maisuradze (Georgia), Théo Shayer (France), Elifsu Şahin, Gözde Arzu Sarıcan (Türkiye)

- country of current residence;
- short biography up to 100 words.

Each submission must provide the following information:

- country where the presented work was carried out;
- summary up to 300 words without images;
- up to three illustrations as self-standing attachments;

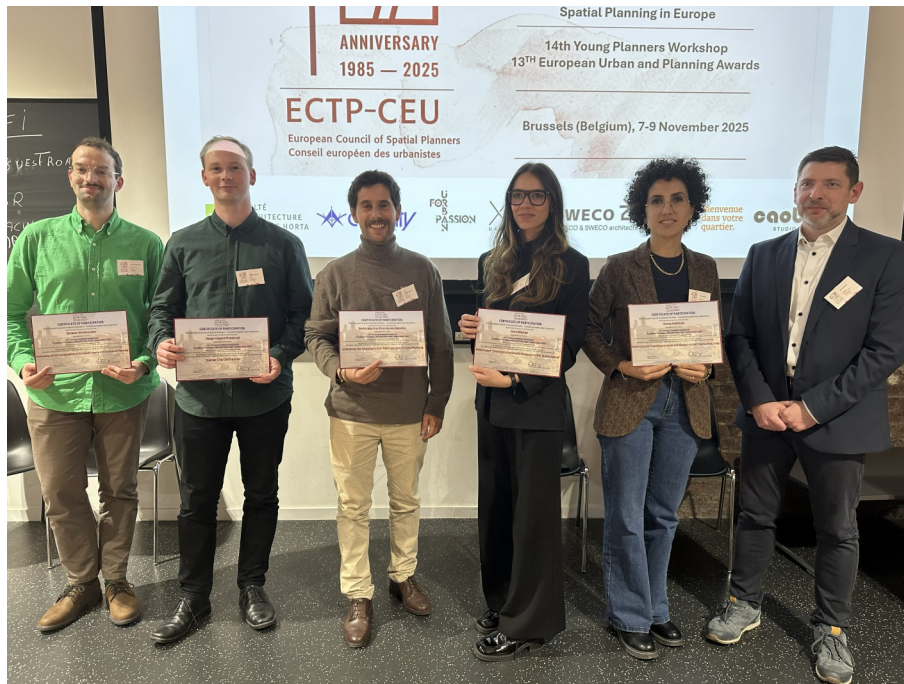
Summary Submission **Deadline: 29th June 2026**

The evaluation commission will select the applicants to be invited to present and discuss their projects at the 15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners in Lisbon.

Communication of **acceptance**: 7th July 2026.

Guidelines for summaries:

- project title as the top line;
- applicant's name and e-mail address or, in the case of teams, applicants' names and e-mail addresses as the second line;
- summary text of no more than 300 words;
- only in British English; please refer to the BBC News style guide at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsstyleguide>;
- Microsoft Word or LibreOffice Writer format; left and right margins 4.5 cm each; any common font at 12 points;



The participants of the 14th YPW 2025 in Brussels with their certificates of attendance: Simeon Shtebunaev (UK/Bulgaria), Helge Prestrud (Norway), Pedro Mendes (Portugal), Dora Maitan (Italy), Homa Habibian (Italy/Iran). On the right YPP chair Martin Baloga (Slovakia). The 2025 format was different from previous years. The conference programme of ECTP-CEU's 40th anniversary, along with the 13th European Urban and Regional Planning Awards, was particularly dense. Certificates are always handed out

- no footnotes;
- references not required; if necessary, please apply the 'APA style'; a free online guide can be found at https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/;
- figures added as self-standing attachments (TIFF with LZW compression, PNG with compression level 9 or JPEG with 80% or "high" quality) and short captions included at the bottom of the summary.

By submitting the application, participants grant ECTP-CEU all copyrights and full permission to publish their summaries.

6 Presentation at the Biennale in Lisbon

Accepted participants will present their work in person at the 15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners in Lisbon. Each presentation is expected to last approximately 10 minutes, followed by questions from the audience. All presentations and questions must be in English.

6.1 Slides

Please ensure that the number of pages ("slides") is within ac-

ceptable limits. People is often becoming inattentive if speakers quickly jump from one slide to the other. As the file format you can choose between Microsoft Power Point (animations permitted) or Adobe PDF (animations not possible). For Power Point, use version 2007 or above (*.pptx), 16:9 widescreen ratio. For PDF, set page size to 28.0 cm width and 15.75 cm height.

To avoid last-minute technical problems, please submit the Power Point presentation a few days in advance (not later than 9th November 2026 or provide a PDF version of your presentation in addition to the Power Point file.

The presentation cover page must mention: the participant's name or participants' names, the location ("Lisbon" or "Lisboa") and date of the event (11th-13th November 2026), the conference title ("15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners"), the expression "15th ECTP-CEU Young Planners Workshop" and the official ECTP-CEU logo, which will be made available to the participants as an SVG file.

Please also ensure that all fonts are displayed correctly on other computers. To avoid technical problems, please use standard fonts for Microsoft Windows 11 or embed the fonts used in the Power Point or PDF file.

6.2 Poster

In addition to the presentation, participants are also required to prepare a poster summarising the content of their presentations. Please ensure that the poster contain the same textual information and official logo as the presentation cover pages.

Dimensions: ISO-A1 (594 mm × 841 mm) portrait leaving a white border approximately 1 cm wide along all four edges, so that the actual working area does not exceed 575 mm × 820 mm. The graphical and text elements on the poster should still be readable from a viewing distance of 1 metre.

File format: TIFF with LZW or without compression, or PDF which may contain vector elements and text with embedded fonts.

Resolution: 300 dpi for raster elements.

The posters will be displayed at the conference venue. Please do not prepare posters before receiving the communication of acceptance.

6.3 E-Book Contribution

After the Biennale, the ECTP-CEU will produce an electronic publication (e-book) with the contributions presented in Lisbon

and a foreword and an introduction by the ECTP-CEU president and by the young planners project chairs. For this purpose, the participants must illustrate their works on two A3 landscape pages. These pages can be produced after the event.

Dimensions: ISO-A3 (420 mm × 297 mm) landscape.

Number: 2 pages.

Layout: Please leave a 2.5 cm white border around the page content to allow editors to place running heads, footers, ECTP-CEU logos, page numbers etc.

Text: Four columns, 8.5 cm width and 1 cm spacing. Main text font Calibri 12 pt, line spacing “exactly” 14.7 pt, hyphenation on. Please do not use footnotes.

Graphic parts: Schemes, plans, local views and other non-textual elements shall be placed to fill the width of one column or spreading them over two or three columns or over the whole content area width (370 mm). An additional image shall be provided for the cover page with the title and author name/s.

File format: To be agreed with the Young Planners Working Group.

6.4 Use of copyrighted materials

ECTP-CEU is vigilant about copyright and applies European Directive 2019/790 to all its publications, especially when using graphics, photos and diagrams. In the event of copyright violations, the participant will be liable to pay the fine and the affected image will be removed from the publication. We strongly recommend systematically documenting the origin of each non-textual element used in the slides, posters and booklets. Please ensure that the use of copyrighted materials is permitted also for publication on websites and social media. The text of the directive is available on EUR-Lex at

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/790/oj>

As a guide about how to correctly reference the materials you can follow how photos and graphics are documented in this Call for Projects. For elements produced by the author/s or co-author/s of the work presented it is sufficient to declare them as “own work”, but more detailed information can be provided if desired. For elements produced by others the permission to use and publish must be obtained and included to the materials or, if applicable, the text of the licence granting these rights must be included. In the case of a Creative Commons licence it is



The LNEC (Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil) is a Portuguese public scientific research and development institution. Founded in 1946, it is one of the largest civil engineering laboratories in the world. Today, it comprises 16 buildings situated on a single 22-hectare campus. The Arantes e Oliveira Building is the main building located at 101 Avenida do Brasil

sufficient to indicate the licence level (e.g., “CC-BY-SA”) paying attention to the “ND” baseline right which imposes that it is not allowed to alter the licenced work. The “NC” baseline right (non-commercial use) is acceptable.

7 Young Planners Evaluation Commission

Coordinator: **Lidiia Chyzhevsk**a, APP (Ukraine)
Administrator, ECTP-CEU

Richard Blyth, RTPI (UK)
Administrator, ECTP-CEU

Members: **Markus Hedorfer**, ASSURB (Italy)
President, ECTP-CEU

Janet Askew, RTPI (UK)
Vice-President, ECTP-CEU

João Belard Correia, APU (Portugal)
Delegate to the ECTP-CEU

8 Financial Support and Grants

Every selected team or individual participant will be supported by **400,- €**. This financial contribution is intended to cover, at least in part, the travel and accommodation costs. Submission



The Manuel Rocha Building, opened in 1972, is named after one of the leading Portuguese engineers of the 20th century, who served as the director of the LNEC from 1954 to 1974. It hosts the Documentation and Information Centre and the Congress Centre, where the 15th Biennale will take place. It is directly connected to the Arantes e Oliveira Building

of receipts is not required. In addition, the participants are invited to attend the official delegates' dinner which is likely to take place on Friday 13th November. The posters will be printed at the expense of the ECTP-CEU.

In-person presentation at the Brussels Conference is compulsory for at least one member of each team. Financial support will be disbursed after the conference and is granted by the **ECTP-CEU**.

9 Format Summary

9.1 Deadlines

Summaries: 29th June 2026.

Notification: 7th July 2026.

9.2 Participants' Recruitment

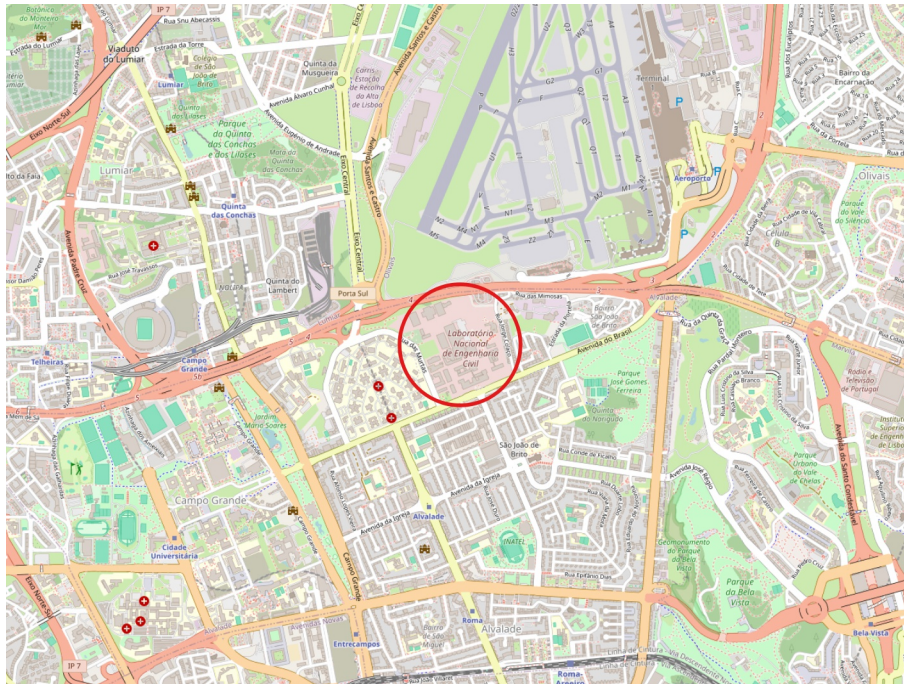
All applicants (selected and non selected) will be notified.

9.3 Online Meeting/s

Successful candidates will be required to attend two online meetings. The first of these meetings will be held in August/September, the second in October.

Theme: Available materials.

Form: Online presentation and discussion.



The venue of the 15th Young Planners Workshop, the Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, just south of Lisbon Airport; scale 1:50,000

Dates: 3rd August – 25th September 2026.
5th October – 23rd October 2026.

If necessary, the meetings will be split over two dates. During the mentioned time periods the participants should reserve sufficient time in their calendars for attending the meetings that will be scheduled as soon as possible.

9.4 In-person Conference

Theme: Final presentation.
Form: In-person presentation during ECTP-CEU's 15th Biennale of European Towns and Town Planners.
Date: 12th-13th November 2026.
Venue: LNEC
Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil,
Lisboa (Lisbon), Portugal
Avenida do Brasil 101
Metro station "Alvalade":
Metro line "Verde" (Green) from city centre
Bus stop "LNEC":
line 783 from airport
line 717 from metro station "Alameda"
line 750 from train station "Oriente"
line 731 from other directions
Bus stop "Bombeiros Alvalade":
line 744 from airport



The site of the venue as it appears on the so-called Silva Pinto Survey produced in 1904-1911; scale 1:50,000 (original scale 1:1,000)

Bus stop “Hospital Júlio de Matos”:
line 735 from train station “Santa Apolónia”

9.5 ECTP-CEU General Assembly

All selected young planners are invited to attend the public part of ECTP-CEU’s General Assembly (GA) in the afternoon of Saturday 14th November. The highlight of every GA is the Planning in Practice session, where case studies are presented from our member organisations and all attendees, including the young planners, are invited to actively participate in the discussions and breakout session.

Date: 14th November 2026, 13:00 WET

Venue: CIUL
Centro de Informação Urbana de Lisboa
Picoas Plaza Núcleo 6-E, 1st floor (1^o andar)
Rua Viriato 13E
Metro station “Picoas”, line “Amarela” (Yellow)
Metro station “Parque”, line “Azul” (Blue)

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Creating our futures

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Conseil européen des urbanistes**

ECTP-CEU
European Council of Spatial Planners - Conseil européen des urbanistes
c/o Hive5
Cours Saint-Michel 30B - B-1040 Brussel
Sint-Michielswarande 30B - B-1040 Bruxelles
T +32 (0) 470 350 432
E secretariat@ectp-ceu.eu
<https://www.ectp-ceu.eu>
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