

Minutes of the Meeting 1st Round

On 10th of October a meeting was held in Mayor's office for brief discussion between Municipality officials and jury members about process of evaluation, what are expectations of Gjakova and information about the city were given to compliment the overview.

On 11th of October before jury started to work, all members had a site visit in the whole project area so everybody is informed about city scape, urban pattern, connections, riverbank, in overall how the city functions and how it is organized.

Members of the jury:

- Bernd Vlay (Vienna)
- Max Rieder (Vienna)
- Lulzim Kabashi (Zagreb)
- Mimoza Kusari Lila (Mayor of Gjakova)
- Elida Bejtullahu (Municipality)
- Kadrush Grezda (Gjakova)
- Luan Nushi (Gjakova)
- Ardita Byci Jakupi (Gjakova)

European Kosovo Secretariat:

- Ilir Gjinolli (President)
- Rron Tresi (Secretary)
- Hana Nixha (Assistant)

After the jury is constituted, Max Rieder was elected as the head of jury and Lulzim Kabashi as vice head of jury. Since the number of voters is 7, Mrs. Mimoza Kusari Lila and Mrs. Elida Bejtullahu, who represent the Municipality of Gjakova will share a vote.

All projects were presented to jury members by Rron Tresi and short overview was given followed by discussions.

Jury evaluation started with the proposal of Max Rieder that each jury member to put a sticker in project that thinks that it has potential and the discussion about it will contribute in evaluation. Each member had 6 stickers and one member can put only one sticker for a project.

Aim: 15-20% of all submissions will be selected to proceed with the second jury meeting in Bratislava and Vienna.

Discussion

Max: How do you want to manage the quality of the water? What is the solution?

Mimoza: It is planned for the next year to intervene, concerning the cleanness of the water. All houses use the river to dispose the waste. There is an infrastructure project in work, which is expected to take maybe 2-3 years.

Max: Are there a lot of public properties along the river?

Mimoza: They are mostly private, so only the bed of the river is public.

Max: Are there any floods?

Mimoza: The River has flooded in the past sometime but it is not really a problem

Max: On the Bazaar area, do you avoid building programs there? Is there a reason?

Mimoza: No we are open to it, but we have no properties to dedicate to it, however we are not against it (there is no strategy of building because we don't have properties)

Max: We start a new discussion with this competition

Bernd: Now only an infrastructure and later maybe the city identifies with it, the place that unifies the city

Max: Change the infrastructure to an urban structure (wide big open space)

Difference in altitude is a challenge, how you go down; it is important to qualify the connections along the river in order to bring the city life in communication with the urban area.

Rhythm of intervention: Find ideas on short and long term

Where are the exact private and public areas?

Can you imagine new pedestrian paths to be opened or is it not possible?

Lulzim: Maybe we should think of some interventions into the proposals? To predict maybe; to provoke something.

Max: The advantage of the project is to kind of bring new ideas into discussion.

The kind of process the project is proposing is what it is important and not necessarily a proposal of the final solution.

XK676

Urban Pockets

Questions were raised regarding the programs and the main activities sitting along the river. It was pointed out that bigger activities are related to the modern part of the city. The criteria came into question and it was stated that the project is more of a park than an urban project since one cannot see

the means to insert anything in the pocket. It was suggested that the elements should be highlighted and that the project seemed poor on some parts

XG202

Riviral

The Jury points out that the presentation and drawings differ from the verbal description. Questions about the programs were raised as well as the means of how the bridges were connected to the left and right embankment. It was pointed out, as an example, the lack of direct connection the Museum.

OM818

Flowing Boulevard

A new access to the river is opened, however it is stated that it looks more of a surface project. The relation of different buildings / houses is questioned. The project offers a new element to walk along river, not close to it, which is pointed out that it maybe offers a View. The most important impact is to open the river from both sides. The Jury found interesting the connection of the parking to an access.

OP064

SEAMbiosis

The Jury considers there is continuity in this proposal and on every segment there is an intervention. The faces of the buildings are marked therefore the project touches the hidden layers. The existing and the new is brought together along with a lot of analysis. There are new connections, new bridges and it is stated that that might change a lot the atmosphere of the landscape; something maybe not needed that much. The look for new programs is pointed out also and the possible need for a public place to host activities, something that could be added later. The Jury considers it a good strategy that there are no structures, and the proposal is viewed as a Melting Pot.

MH223

Memories of the Future Past

There is a series of towers that offer new viewpoints. The question whether the activities/ symbols have any reference to the locals is raised. A firework of many small ideas is identified as the principal of the project along with some temporary small structures / furniture. A proposal that could bring a possible new silhouette to the city.

LV045

JKB

How can the quality be controlled and how is the plot of the land found is questioned by the Jury. Similar scale structures are combined with the existing into continuity, however it is regarded as an element you can find anywhere. The framework of the proposal is considered very old fashioned and the project seems to densify the city structure. It results into a new scenography.

WI522

Living Links

The proposal creates victory bridges but nothing more. The designed Path is the only movement and it is considered there are no programs.

OL882

Hortus in Fabula

The project has lack of information presented and if you see breakdown of graphics there is a discontinuation of narration.

Green area is presented as intervention tool.

DZ517

Two Characters for One City

The idea proposed divides the two parts, the hard and the soft and it is questioned whether any functions were brought to the 'hard' area. There is an unclear correlation of the drawings with the reference on the side. The dilemma presented was if it makes sense to separate two embankments into different characters.

JH497

Clockwork Krena

The proposal initiates a communication. It has a very mechanic principle. The participation and where they design the process is not clear.

MX789

The Kosovan Dream

Evaluated as one of the most interesting panels, with an interesting starting point but then there is no continuation. A cultural heritage building is removed while there are too many public spaces presented. Interesting fact that the new structures were not located near the river. The very basic architecture language was valued.

PA343

Along the Riverbanks

A lot of slopes are created, however there is no reference to slope analysis. The connection to the river is done by creating access points in the same level as the river.

Communication is mapped and there is an identification of public spaces while some programs are given to areas near the river.

GI623

Rekrenation

There is intervention on the bridge that connects both sides and creates the main link between two sides of the riverbank. There is a plateau created in the northern part and some functions were added to the area to complement existing activities.

BG190

Krena River's Vineyard

The proposal is not matched to the site; it seems more of a silent valley! It needs a long time to create; nevertheless it's a new identity. Whether the project has potential and its possibility of catalyzing the new private business, like a permanent fair, was discussed. It was suggested that the proposal could be reorganized into smaller 'pockets of wine'. It has a very strong economic anchor while addressing a very realistic activity.

QE831

The Fields of Jak

The idea of the project is to reorganize the center and cover it with a new place
The issue is they want to create a strong coming together of both parts but the proposed means to connect them are discussed whether they are appropriate or not. The proposal is just a big park

XH572

Caravanserais

The proposal frees the streets from the traffic and the bridge becomes the "Bazaar". It is unclear to the jury why the main arterial is not drawn and excluded. A big flux of people would be needed to develop this area. The importance of the path created is not convincing for the jury.

TO034

Celebrating the natural barrier

Fragmented activities spread along the river. It is proposing to install new small structures for different functions. Greenery is following the riverbank however some connections are not clearly described.

XV528

Komplementary

The project suggests a space frame; a system program but it doesn't work without the construction. The idea is to link through one same module which proves not flexible and doesn't actually improve the spaces. It is seen as a paradox the fact that you need a structure to be open.

TP670

Gjakova Re Packed

The inner spaces are highlighted but it is questionable what then on the back.
The drawings take a lot of illusions away.

UI461

Re-loop Krena

It is questioned what really helps one in this project to better understand the city.

JW993

Pur Pure

It is more or less, the mapping of the existing. Not clear whether the band is more of a mental or a physical one, nonetheless it could be understood as a symbol

JJ771

Krena: Gjakova's Backbone

More structures that are modular. Proposal is to create structures above existing buildings to transform. Even the bridges have functions. Some interventions are foreseen for river stabilization.

TU770

Stripe the common

The proposal offers a treatment between a painting and analyzing the city, in an abstract way. It was suggested that the project should be able to spatialize the four stages, not just in theory. The white autonomous stripe is understood as a thinking line.

VOTING

JW993 Pur Pure – 0 Votes (Eliminated)

The main idea of cleaning the river is considered as a positive; however the city takes care of the water quality already. Considering the theme it is not reflected as one of the most interesting proposals and not really convenient.

TP670 Gjakova Re Packed – 1 Vote (Eliminated)

The creation of the Amphitheater and the protection of the monument is found as positive. There are big open spaces that could be filled and the new bridges present no problem. It is seen as a cultural hub. It was argued that the focus should be on the ideas that heighten the best things and in this case the three areas did not seem logical. A lot of small interventions nonetheless those are a seat and a bench which is not what is needed. A very ambitious proposal but the design itself is a bit disappointing and it lacks the ambition of the analysis.

GI623 Rekrenation – 1 Vote (Eliminated)

Fragmentation of the space. It is questioned whether the segmentation really addresses the potential of the area. There is a confusion of the dimension and a large area is only defined by a fabric

WI552 Living Links – 1 Vote (Selected)

A very well analyzed project with expensive costs though. The connection towards the Bazaar is well integrated. The composition and visual appearance are very well done. There is a big public movement and instead of the river there is a traffic flow. It was seen as a bit problematic the reorganizing of the whole bridges and the number of bridges. The proposal makes the river look poor and one does not have the contact to the water. However the project tries to bring some bigger changes to the area or include more areas in the river bank as well as point to the problematic areas.

LV045 JKB – 1 Vote (Eliminated)

There is an idea about re-intensification; low and easy structures. It is considered as a good energy to bring and encourage people who invest

Nevertheless some structures are unrealistic and it is not an overall strategy for the whole area
Some points are not considered very convincing while others push some use to the area

BG190 Krena River's Vineyard – 2 Votes (Eliminated)

The proposal offers an idea but it is considered unrealistic unless only some small parts offer the wine. There is a lack of the scale, but on the other side it is linked to a lot of other different uses. It is more of a symbolic idea, so if it is downscaled could be used for vineyards. It is also something that could remain in the memory; it is an idea that could emerge however the jury is skeptical whether it is strong enough to be kept for discussion

QE831 The Fields of Jak – 2 Votes (Eliminated)

On one hand the connection with the Bazaar the new space was found positive ,on the other hand it is considered there is a split of the river and there is no connection. There is a high concentration of activity on one point to build a square but not too active on the other square. It is considered not appropriate to cover the river. The proposal offers too many parks and doesn't really serve the potential of the public

MX789 The Kosovan Dream – 2 Votes (Eliminated)

They linked the city to the river and added some other aspects to it. Not just a river band is offered but some ideas are given also. Well analyzed but then the focus is only on the big buildings. However, the added structures, although partly considered as problematic, could be interesting to discuss. Not only the waterfront of the river is treated rather other areas are also treated and developed and it is valued as a good idea in the sense of trying to define the whole.

OP064 SEAMbiosis – 7 Votes (Selected)

A proposal very aware of the potentials of the city with a lot of fantasies. Not a sinking dimension and it is doable. Enough is shown to send the message

XH572 Caravanserais– 5 Votes (Selected)

The opportunity of the project is to re-read the existing structures. It is a narrative project with a sequence of spaces instead of just one big line hence a good contribution to the discussion.
Skillful drawings.

TU770 Stripe the common – 4 Votes (Selected)

A very theoretical and influencing project; in a wider framework. Questions were raised what could be addressed with this proposal.

MH223 Memories of the Future Past – 4 Votes (Selected)

A proposal with quite simple (childlike) elements with the existing elements reinterpreted. It offers different performances and a good way to read the potential in the area

JH497 Clockwork Krena – 3 Votes (Eliminated)

The proposal provides a multipurpose wall and redesigns the existing building. It suggests just a platform for attaching things. There is some happiness in the drawing but it's contradictory; not designed for the participation it intends. It points out the predictable hence there is no innovation.

After voting and discussion, unanimously is decided that projects:

MH223 - Memories of the future past

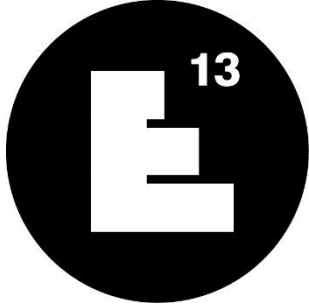
OP064 – SEAMbiosis

TU770 - Stripe the common

XH572 – Caravanserais

WI522 - Living links

Will be evaluated in the 2nd Jury in Vienna in November 2015 and according to results winners will be announced.



EUROPAN 13

Austria, Kosovo

Minutes of the second jury session: Kosovo Site

Vienna, 08. & 09.11.2015

Kosovo / Gjakova

Sunday & Monday, November 8th / 9th 2015, Depot, Wien
2:00pm – 9:00pm and 09:00am – 13:00pm
Present: Voting members of the jury

JURY EUROPAN 13 ÖSTERREICH/KOSOVO

URBAN/ARCHITECTURAL ORDER

Tina Saaby (DK), City Architect at Municipality, Copenhagen
Peter Ulm (AT), Chief Executive Officer of 6B47 Real Estate Investors AG, Wien

URBAN/ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Irène Djao-Rakitine (FR), Landscape Architect and Director at DJAO-RAKITINE, London,
Research Assistant at the ETH Zürich, Visiting Critic to the London Mayor's Project Review Panel
Tina Gregoric (SI), Architect and Partner at Dekleva Gregorič Arhitekti, Ljubljana
Professor and Head of the Department for Building Theory by Design, Institute of Architecture and Design
TU Wien
Saskia Hebert (DE), Architect and Partner at subsolar* architektur und stadtforschung, Berlin Winner E9
Spremberg, University of the Arts, Berlin
Max Rieder (AT), Architect, Urbanist and Lecturer, Director at maxRIEDER, Wien

PERSONALITY

Christian Kühn (AT), Architect and Critic, Wien, Dean of Studies of Architecture and Professor at the
Institute of Architecture and Design TU Wien, Board of the Austrian Architectural Foundation, Member of
OECD-Working Group Evaluating Quality in Educational Facilities

SUBSTITUTES

Thomas Proksch (AT), Landscape Architect and Lecturer, Partner at LAND IN SICHT - Büro für
Landschaftsplanung, Wien
Florian Sammer (AT), Architect, Vienna, Winner E7 Krems, Department for Housing and Design, Institute
of Architecture and Design TU Wien

REPRESENTATIVE EUROPAN KOSOVO

Lulzim Kabashi (HR), Architect and Partner at IVANIŠIN. KABASHI. ARHITEKTI, Zagreb
Substitute: n.n.

Present: EUROPAN (non-voting):

Bernd Vlay, Architect, General Secretary European Austria
Pia Spiesberger, Architect, Member of European Austria
Rron Tresi, Architect, General Secretary of European Kosovo
Hana Nixha, Architect / Interior designer, Member of European Kosovo

In the morning jury members were made familiar with pre-selected projects from all sites by different organizations of Europan (Austria and Kosovo) and the representatives of the cities and clients.

As a general remark, Europan Austria presented procedures of the jury. As a general rule, there is one winning project and one runner-up on each site, but there is possibility to nominate no winner but to nominate 3 runner-up. The winning projects should be chosen not for easy and fast implementation but as contributions to architectural and urbanist innovation which inspires and initiates a challenging and fruitful process of implementation. They should also enable the cities and clients to understand the potential of the sites and to imagine new and unconventional ways to deal with them. Moreover a Special Mention can be awarded to a project considered of being especially innovative yet without addressing sufficiently the brief and demands of the site. The authors of such proposals do not receive a financial reward, but will be published.

Winner: 12.000€ Runner up: 6.000€

Distribution of Winner and Runners up

In 1 Kosovar site the prizes (in total 1 winner and 1 runners up; if the level of the entries is exceptionally high and if it makes sense to award 2 winners on one site. Also, the jury is not obliged to award all prizes if the jury considers that the level of the projects does not correspond to the demands of the Europan competition.

Preliminary remarks

The jury agrees that there shall be a certain generosity in evaluating the projects, paying tribute to the specific framework of Europan.

At the same time the jury has to consider that Europan is a competition for young architects who are fully educated, judging the competition projects as a work of architects and not of students. The aim of Europan should be to give a clear sign to the city about the potential and the quality of the projects with the aim to figure out innovative projects which also can be implemented.

For this reason the jury will write recommendations which describe the qualities of the winning projects, including advises for the cities and clients about future implementation-steps.

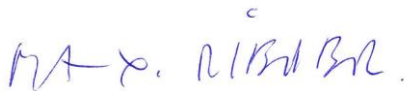
The jury decides unanimously to nominate:

Max Rieder as president of the jury.

Saskia Hebert as vice president of the jury.

The jury consists of 8 votes for all 6 sites.

The jury decides to first discuss the projects, then to make a further preselection and leave the final decision for the second jury day.



Max Rieder, president of the jury

GJAKOVA

MH223 - Memories of the future past

OP064 - SEAMbiosis

TU770 - Stripe the common

XH572 - Caravanserais

WI522 - Living links

First evaluation session:

Discussion of all 5 projects

MH223 – Memories of the future past

The proposal is rated as mostly touristic that involves public space furniture and productive furniture. The question is that does this project tell a story of its own. It is presented with a sequence of interventions where the vacant land is used for gardens. The question is, is it more as a toolbox or does it present an overall concept?

What is missing is the different scale of interventions and consistent reading of the river. It is a very interesting morphology, but it is lacking the real understanding of the context of the city. The typology is not clearly readable. Jury members question if authors specify the ownership of the site and interventions in particular and if private sector will be involved.

There is no intervention on the river itself, no proposal how to reshape it, and it needs to be redesigned totally.

This entry is eliminated unanimously.

OP064 – SEAMbiosis

Jury members evaluate that it is very interesting how the space which is very isolated is opened with the intervention. The project is very well elaborated and it works with the current landscape. Authors created 2-3 crossing systems. What is interesting is that they didn't introduce a lot of bridges but they created the connection to bring more people to the area. The proposal to create biking paths strengthens the idea and create diversity of activities. The proposal overlooks the ecology of the city.

There is a remark about how none of the proposals didn't suggest to resize the river. In the other hand, this project introduces a large publicness, they start what is there and work with it to create additional qualities. The project didn't invent anything but the simplicity of smaller interventions creates a diverse proposal. Jury questions car traffic, if it is included in the proposal. City of Gjakova has an intensive relation with the site because it has a large amount of bridges.

This entry is kept for final evaluation

TU770 – Stripe the common

This is the only project where the river doesn't present any problem. Their invention is a simple line, the first step is to only think in linear system. Next step would be to create a discussion about what would happen when these fictional lines cross each other. In perspective, 10 years after the development, the city would try to find new potentials. Textual description is well evaluated because it is very conceptual but graphically it is hard to be interpreted. As much as the proposal is radical the courage is lost in graphic interpretation. The concept of line itself is beautiful. If their argument would be stronger than it could be discussed further. Jury agrees that the proposal didn't accomplish all that it could have, but the approach is interesting and these kind of approaches if one is not too careful they can be very banal.

This entry is kept for final evaluation because theoretically is challenging

XH572 – Caravanserais

The proposal has landscape continuity. Authors try to create two arteries along the river. More dedicated to a bicycle path, bridges are the social centers of the project and they are bringing back the importance of them. But there are no interventions. Proposal for urban furniture is lacking. The proposal is concentrated in the definition of current uses of existing roads and according to authors it is something that city will appreciate for business clusters. Jury remarks are that interventions are very light. What is interesting is that they are bringing the bazaar near the river. Even with light interventions authors achieved to read well the city and how it functions. By adding particular values to certain areas they created an interesting approach.

This entry is kept for final evaluation

WI522 – Living links

According to jury members this proposal presents different kind of bridges. It creates some kind of ideology of flow. One of the positive parts of the proposal is that authors are creating an enlargement of the river but in the other hand not very creative in design.

This entry is eliminated unanimously.

Evaluation

Only 3 projects are left for evaluation:

OP064 - SEAMbiosis

TU770 - Stripe the common

XH572 – Caravanserais

There is a discussion about if there should be 2 first prize winners but according to majority and the quality of works in terms of strategy and proposed solutions voting takes place:

OP064 – SEAMBiosis and XH572 – Caravanserais are nominated as first prize winners and voting was as following:

6 votes for SEAMBiosis

2 votes for Caravanserais

Both teams show that they analyzed really well Gjakova, even with minor mistakes they proved important points. Part of the jury thinks that **Caravanserais** is more site specific and **SEAMBiosis** is generic but what is more evaluated and gained more votes is that **SEAMBiosis** is more as a landscape project where **Caravanserais** is more policy project.

According to Municipality requests the site needs intervention and the expected result is to have design involved in the creation of this connection between two parts of the city as it is one of the main tasks of the competition.

XH572 - Caravanserais unanimously is voted as **Runner Up** project

TU770 – Stripe the common is voted as **Special Mention** project

Jury Recommendations:

1st Prize Project – OPO64 SEAMBiosis:

The proposal needs to be developed in both aesthetic and technical level so it is more elaborated for understanding. One of the most important recommendations is to involve experienced Landscape Architects in the project and to consult experts for further development of the project. Workshops and site visits are needed to increase the level of the project and to understand all obstacles of the site. It is important to consider runner up project in terms of research and how they analyzed the site. It should be considered the opportunity to develop the project not only along the river but to integrate the site and open it towards neighborhoods. Water treatment strategy has to be included in the project because water pollution is one of the biggest challenges of site quality.

Runer Up Project – XH572 Caravanserais

The proposal needs as well some involvement of experienced landscape architects on how to treat the area and to incorporate river as natural resource. Design has to consider less bridges. Since Gjakova is a very diverse city and site has a lot of different functions, these should be used as potential in creating new approaches and physical interventions should be part of it. There is a need that through design to accomplish what is missing in creation of the connectivity of the city, not only by bridges but with other elements as well.

Final Results

Winner

SEAMBiosis

Erblin BUCALIU (KO) – architect; Rrita PULA (KO), Dea LUMA (KO) – architects

Runner Up

Caravanserais

Enrich CARLES (ES) – architect

Adriana CAMPMANY (ES), Anna DE CASTRO (ES) – architects; Caroline FOULON (ES) – interior architect; Laura BELENGUE (ES), Rafel CAPO (ES), Minerva RAMIREZ (ES) – students in architecture

Special Mentions

Stripe the common

Mirabela JURCZENKO (PL) – architect; Paul CETNARSKI (RU), Wojciech MAZAN (MX), Rafal SLIWA (PL) – architects