



European 18 Norway

Jury report:

Nome, Roa, Trondheim



European 18

European Norge



Published 17th of November 2025

E18 Norway Jury Report Nome



Dokumentet er signert av: BSH, MW

Content

3 European 18 in Norway

4 The composition of the jury

4 Substitutes

5 The jury procedure

5 Technical committee

5 The 1st jury round

6 Midpoint meeting between jury and site representatives

6 The 2nd jury round

7 Matrix of all submitted entries

9 Summary of the task

11 General remarks

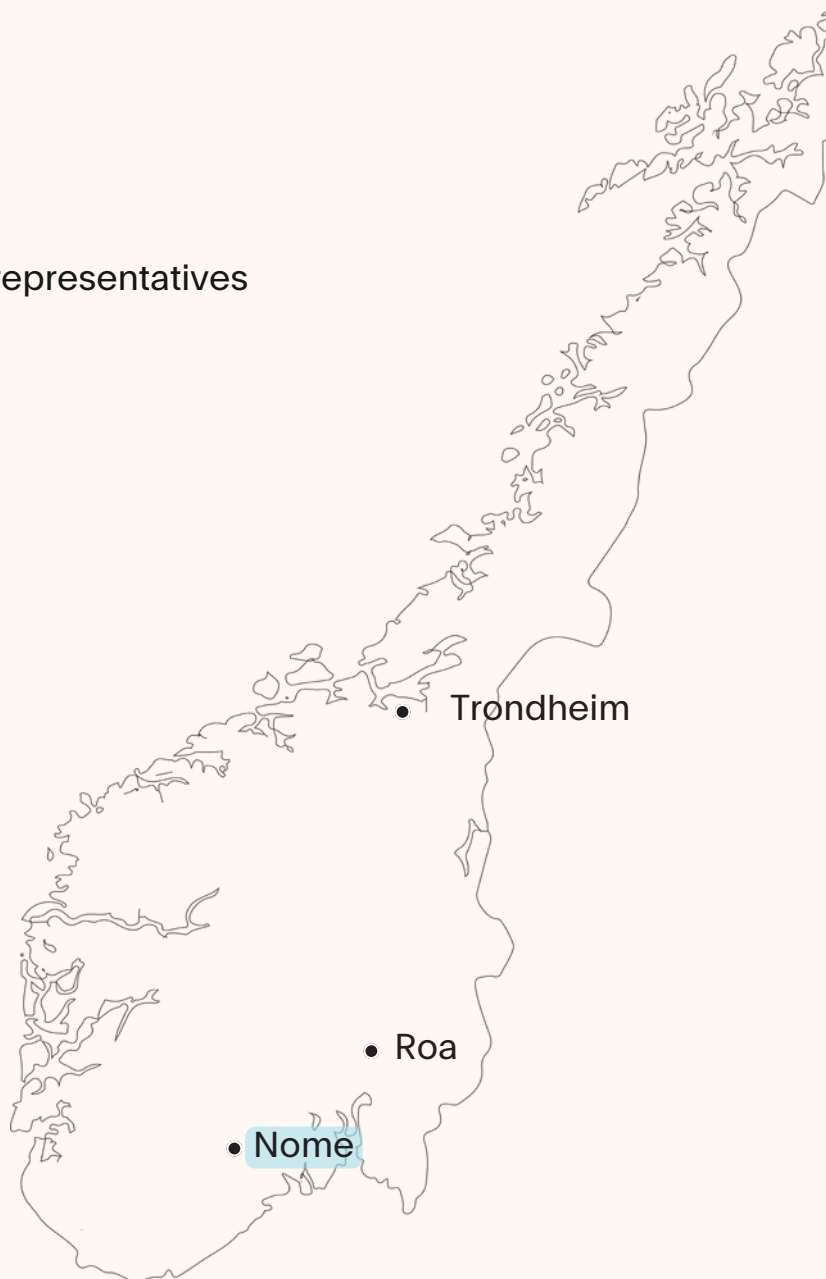
12 Winner

12 RC585 - The Mineral Network

14 Special mentions

14 ST588 - A 100 years playbook

15 WN314 - "green mineral park"



European 18 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 18 being the 18th edition.

In European 18, 47 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Re-sourcing.

For European 18 there were 3 sites in Norway:

- The Fen Complex, represented by Nome municipality.
- Trondheim, represented by MiST (Museene i Sør-Trøndelag)
- Roa, represented by Roa municipality.

European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Utopic.

For questions and inquiries, contact:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

General Secretary of European Norway

bjornar@european.no

(0047) 94877930

The composition of the jury

Magnus Wåge

President of the jury. Architect and partner at Mestres Wåge.

Jens Richer

Architect and partner at Estudio Herreros.

Siri Lundestad

Architect at DRMA.

Mansoor Hussain

Politician and urbanist.

Kotchakorn Voraakhom

Landscape architect, CEO and Founder of Landprocess and Porous City Network.

Rainer Stange

Landscape architect, partner at Bokemo and professor in landscape at AHO, Oslo.

Therese Øijord

Architect. City architect in Askim.

Substitutes:**Oda Solberg**

Architect at Natural state and leader of the national association of architects in Oslo.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" according to the Rules for European 18.

As stated by the rules for European 18, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

Technical Committee

The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 11.09.2025 in Nome.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom and Therese Øijord

From the technical committee: Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

From the site: Kirsti Arvesen Nesheim and Frid Elisabeth Berge

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between site representatives: Kirsti Arvesen Nesheim and Frid Elisabeth Berge and jury members: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord at the European Forum for cities and juries in Lisbon on the 19th of October 2025.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 19th of October 2025, also in Lisbon.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord.

From the secretariat: Bjørnar Haveland.

From the site: Kirsti Arvesen Nesheim and Frid Elisabeth Berge

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	RC585	The Mineral Network	Winner: 12 000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	ST588	A 100 years playbook	Special Mention
03	Shortlisted	WN314	"green mineral park"	Special Mention
04	Shortlisted	PD570	Deep recharge	This project made it to the shortlist. The jury recognized the strong regional plan proposed, which features a compelling emphasis on landscape and a well-defined phased implementation. This effectively illustrates the transformation of the cultural landscape over time. However, the project's storytelling lacks continuity and process. There is an overly strong focus on the final product, imagining the site after 100 years of mining activities. Furthermore, the jury found the architecture underdeveloped and problematic, as it appears closed off rather than fostering a sense of community.
05		NV953	Reversible	The project didn't qualify for the shortlist. The jury commends the realistic plan that effectively addresses both the company's needs and the demand for flexibility and adaptation. The innovation square at the site's center is a positive addition. The redesign of the mountainscape demonstrates how one could save the lake when positioning their project at Bærevann. However, the jury was not convinced by the proposed man-made landscapes. This huge intervention was considered alienated from the existing landscape. Ultimately, the project suffers from a lack of passion and insufficient communication of ideas.
06		DH094	RU:RE Ru=rupture Re=return	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the sensible, sympathetic interventions, which are beautifully mapped and illustrated. The project effectively demonstrates a strong long-term perspective and how mining consequences will affect both Ulefoss and Lunde. However, the overall strategy and ideas are unclear and lack the systematic approach needed. The jury is missing the scenario of full mining activity, with what has too much focus on the aftermath. Furthermore, the jury is doubtful about the linear distribution of the park, as it will demand more space.
07		FE762	A Framework of Care and Responsibility	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury commends the submission as a strong and poetic project that preserves landscapes and forests while retaining traces of the past within the area. Its ideas are beautifully illustrated through three overlapping phases. However, the project suffered from a lack of clarity in its strategic execution. The jury found the diagram linking all project aspects unsuccessful and required a much clearer connection between the urban strategy and the interventions. A more explicit visualization of the timeframe would have significantly improved the proposal's structure and overall readability.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
08		NM467	Minescape	The project did not make the shortlist. The jury commends the focus on water protection, using tailings from the mines to protect the watersheds. However, the project failed to meet all the deliverables. A significant weakness is the lack of exploration into the industrial park, resulting in a simplistic outcome. Furthermore, the proposed landscape transformation appears highly artificial in the context, suggesting a lack of understanding of Nordic landscapes. The submission seems incoherent, as the planned expansion is illustrated differently in the plan and illustrations.
09		WC266	A field guide to the adaptive mine	The project did not make the shortlist, despite several strong points. The jury gives credit for the strong methodology, noting its potential for adaptability across all four proposed sites. The plan successfully establishes a clear set of rules for landscape use, such as maintaining buffers around water bodies and preserving mountain peaks. However, the submission falls short in communicating the project's different phases of development. The masterplan, while detailed and quite fixed, does not effectively illustrate how the project evolves over time, which the jury would have liked to see.
10		MP162	Far, far away they saw something bright and sparkling	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the submission as a strong comment on a critical issue, proposing an alternative industry for Nome rather than a mine. However, the project failed to meet the deliverables. Its most significant weakness is that the reasoning and argumentation for not planning the mine are not substantial enough. Similarly, the justification for adding more trees is weak. If the aim was to enhance existing qualities, the team should have conducted more thorough mapping to discover that their proposed interventions are already well-established in Nome.
11		PW691	A Hybrid Commons	The project did not make the shortlist. The jury commends the scale of the work, noting it as a huge project that successfully emphasizes small interventions. The graphic representation and illustrations are beautiful, though the overall communication needs improvement to enhance readability and easier understanding. The proposal to actively utilize the railway, including a new track, was viewed as a positive but underdeveloped concept. The jury found the main issue to be the decision to establish a new center between the two existing villages, which would stifle growth and development in both established communities.
12		TW720	The circular mine Defying extractivism	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury commends the focus on a material approach and no-waste strategy, detailing how every fragment can be repurposed into something else. The accompanying resource map is a strong aspect, clearly visualizing the available assets. However, the jury doubts the proposal to arrange the mine into a single line, as this would consume too much landscape area given the scale of the proposed buildings and programs. Furthermore, while the idea of a knowledge-gathering educational center on the site is very



This is a speculative task asking you to be a futurologist. Create a vision for the “Green Mineral park.” Use your skills as architects, landscapers, and planners to explore how one might imagine the planning of a circular industrial park with a large footprint.

(1) How can concepts for the Green Mineral Park ensure that industrial development is spatially, ecologically, and socially responsive?

(2) How can material reuse, reduced environmental impact, and industrial synergies transform mining byproducts into new opportunities for local development?

(3) How can you visualize spaces and strategies to help the public, decision-makers, and stakeholders imagine the park's potential and spark discussions?

Summary of the task

This competition invites proposals for the future of the Fen Complex, Europe's largest rare earth element (REE) discovery—a resource vital for technologies like supermagnets, computers, and rockets. This discovery pressures Nome municipality to allow mining, but no decision has been made yet. If approved, the mine will permanently alter the landscape, requiring extensive infrastructure, including landfills that could rival the size of nearby mountains.

Nome is exploring the concept of a Green Mineral Park—an industrial ecosystem where companies collaborate to minimize waste and maximize circularity. Typically only 1% of the rock extracted contains REEs, the remaining 99% holds untapped potential. Instead of focusing solely on technical and economic factors, this competition highlights the broader spatial and societal implications. How can such a transformation integrate with its surroundings and remain adaptable for future technologies? How can it benefit local communities?

Ulefoss and Lunde, the towns closest to the mine, stand at a crossroads. This industrial intervention could either deepen stagnation or become a catalyst for growth, infrastructure, and identity. How can development support—not isolate—these communities? What role can architecture, landscape design, and urban planning play in making the Green Mineral Park a driver of sustainable transformation? Beyond mitigating environmental damage, this competition seeks ways to turn industrial change into a generative force that brings new opportunities for living, working, and coexisting with extraction landscapes.

European 18 invites architects, landscape designers, and planners to rethink industrial extraction—where infrastructure, ecologies, and communities coexist. Instead of a fixed master plan, proposals should offer a framework for discussion, helping local stakeholders understand the potential of this transformation. How can large-scale industries revitalize rather than deplete the small towns of Lunde and Ulefoss? How can this development set a precedent for sustainable mineral extraction elsewhere?

General remarks

Across the competition entries, the jury observed a remarkable breadth of approaches to the question of how mining can coexist with ecological, social, and spatial systems. The submissions reveal an evolving understanding of extraction as more than an industrial process, and many teams approached it as a cultural, territorial, and environmental condition. This shift signals a new architectural consciousness, where mining is not only a question of infrastructure but also of stewardship, adaptation, and long-term landscape care.

A common strength among the strongest entries lies in their ability to frame mining within a larger regional narrative. Rather than focusing solely on the site of extraction, several projects interpreted the task as an opportunity to redefine relationships between settlements, transport infrastructure, and the natural environment. This territorial approach was complemented by an increasing awareness of temporal depth: the best proposals considered both the operational lifespan of the mine and the uncertain futures beyond it. Time was treated as an architectural material, something to be shaped, structured, and narrated.

The jury also notes a clear tendency toward integration between ecological and industrial systems. The re-use of tailings, surplus masses, and byproducts was frequently explored as a means to restore or even enhance the environment. This reflects a growing understanding of design as a process of circular transformation rather than linear consumption. Such strategies exemplify a move away from remediation as an afterthought and toward regenerative design as an embedded principle.

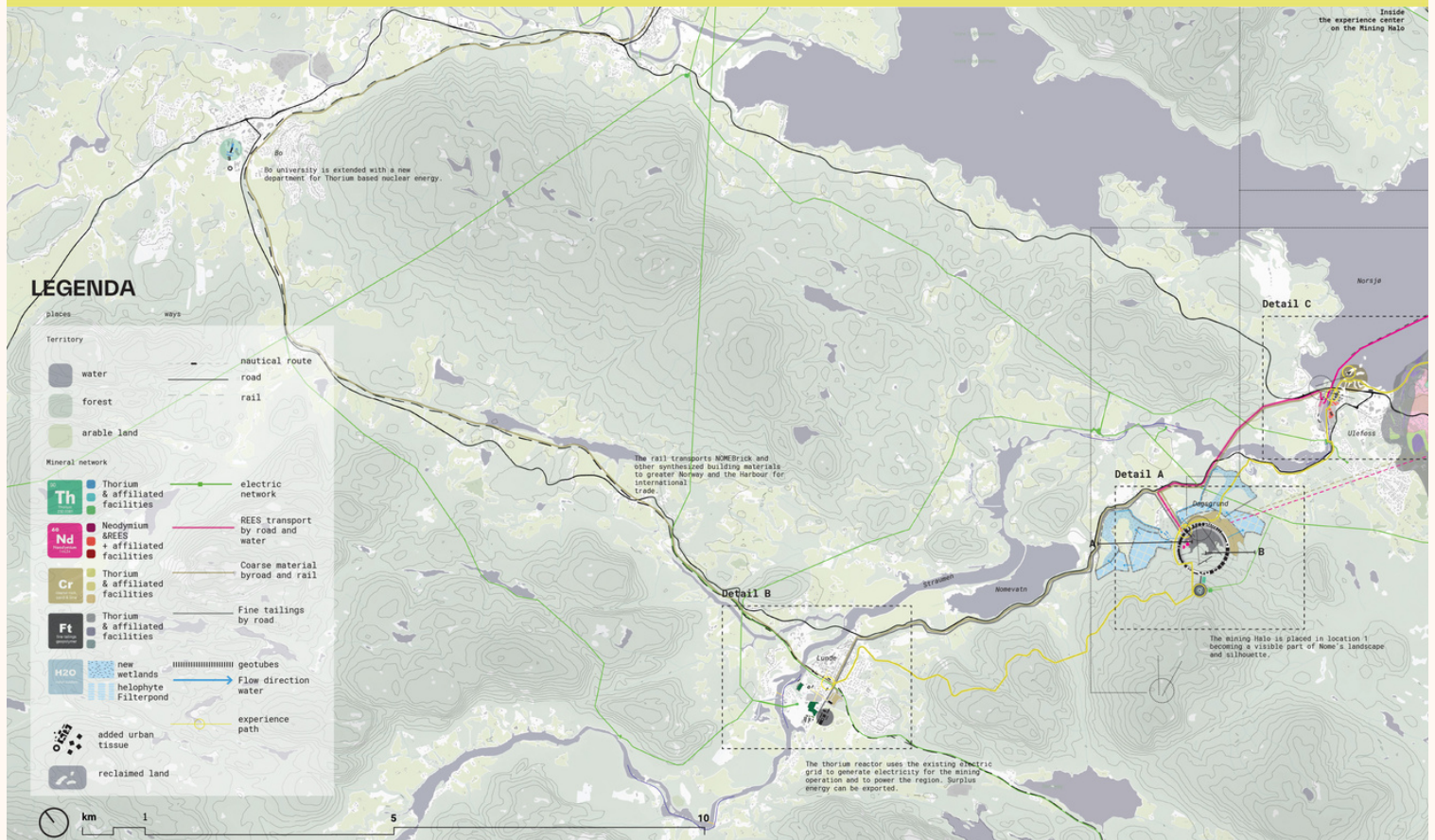
At the same time, the jury observed a divide between analytical and propositional work. Some teams demonstrated outstanding analytical skills, producing precise mappings and environmental readings, yet stopped short of translating these insights into spatial or architectural form. Others ventured bold architectural statements but struggled to ground their visions in feasible or context-sensitive strategies. The most successful projects managed to balance these two modes: combining conceptual clarity with operable, site-specific thinking.

Finally, the jury was impressed by the visual and narrative quality of the presentations. Many entries demonstrated a high level of graphic and conceptual literacy, using drawings as both analytical and speculative tools. The overall standard of representation was exceptionally high, revealing a generation of designers who think across scales and disciplines.

The competition as a whole reflects a significant moment in architectural thinking—one in which extraction is reimagined as an open, collaborative, and visible process, capable of shaping new forms of coexistence between human activity and the landscape.

Nome is a preparedness project that goes straight into world politics. Europe must make itself independent of the other continents and superpowers when it comes to rare earth minerals. It will be especially important not to be dependent on China, which supports Russia in its war against Ukraine, and indirectly us.

The competition and resulting entries are playing a crucial role in equipping the municipality with guidelines and rules, even knowledge of what a potential mining operation can be and become. Nome already has a long history of industry and mining, with Ulefoss Jernverk being one of Europe's oldest operating companies. The REE mine and industrial park can continue, and build on this proud history; however is also a project of a whole different scale and magnitude. The proposals offer Nome a valuable spectrum of possible futures, ranging from bold non-intervention to regenerative integration, thus serving as an essential, proactive tool for informed decision-making regardless of the ultimate outcome.



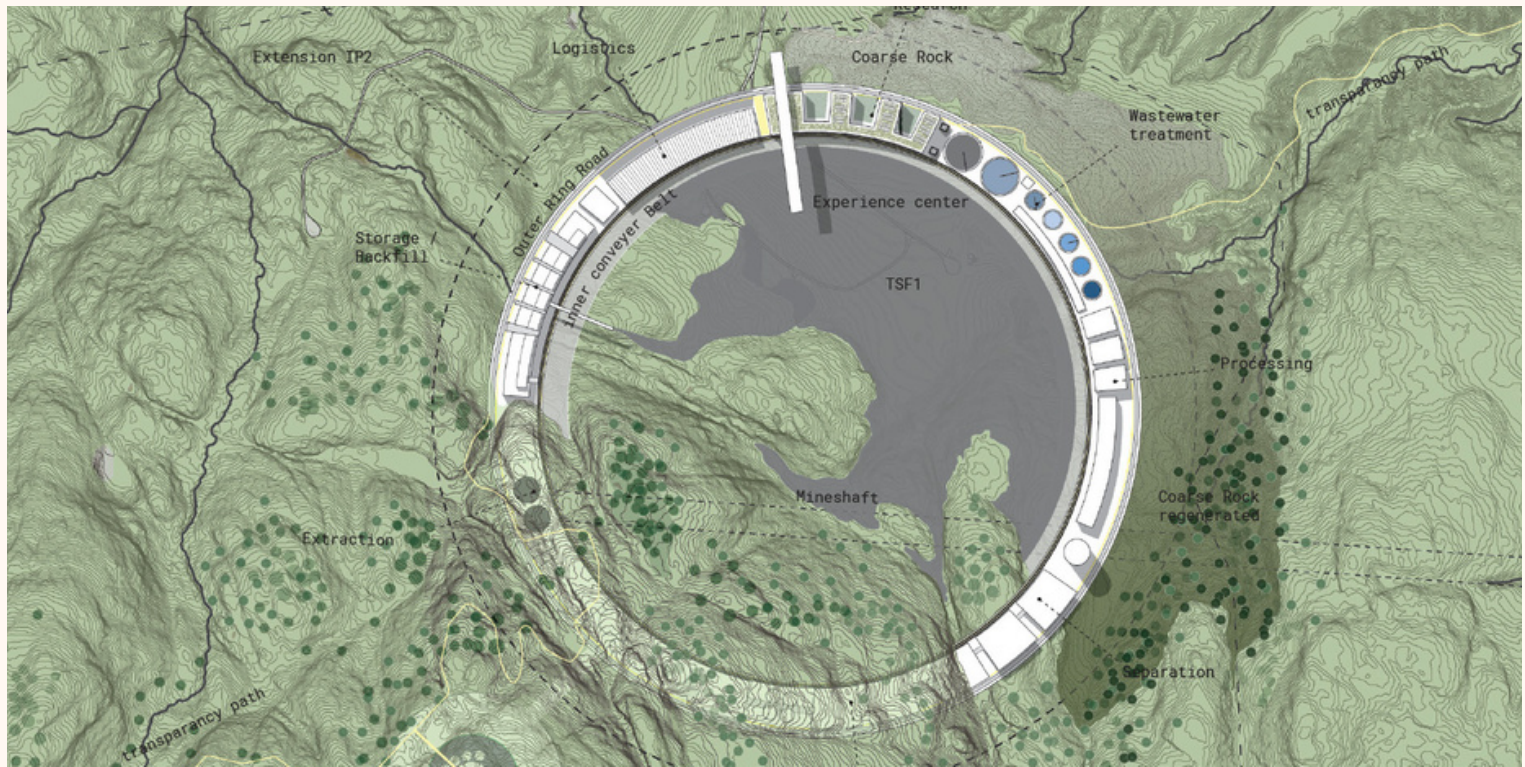
Winner

RC585 - The Mineral Network

The jury finds this to be a comprehensive and ambitious proposal that engages seriously with the future of mining in the Nome region. The project demonstrates a clear and confident territorial strategy, positioning the mining industry not as a hidden or environmentally stigmatized activity, but as an integral and even celebrated part of the regional identity. By proposing a monumental architectural structure that showcases the local resources above ground, the team redefines the cultural role of extraction and frames it as a civic and educational experience. This is a courageous and forward-looking gesture, signaling a new paradigm in how industrial landscapes may be understood and designed.

The plan is visually clear and didactic, presenting the Norsj-Frierfjorden axis across the entire width of the presentation. The mapping of extraction, transport, and logistics is both precise and visionary, envisioning a future network of new rail and port connections that integrate local resources into wider national and international systems. The jury particularly appreciates how the proposal strengthens existing towns such as Ulefoss and Lunde through urban and infrastructural measures, thereby linking industrial development to social and spatial renewal.

A central strength of the project lies in its treatment of industrial byproducts. The proposal integrates the tailings and surplus masses directly into the architectural and ecological fabric of the site. Containing the tailings within a visible structure—allowing its volume to change with production—offers a powerful visual and spatial expression of industrial temporality. Furthermore, the reuse of excess materials to restore wetlands and improve local ecologies demonstrates a holistic and responsible approach to landscape transformation. The project thereby redefines extraction as an ongoing environmental process rather than a purely economic operation.



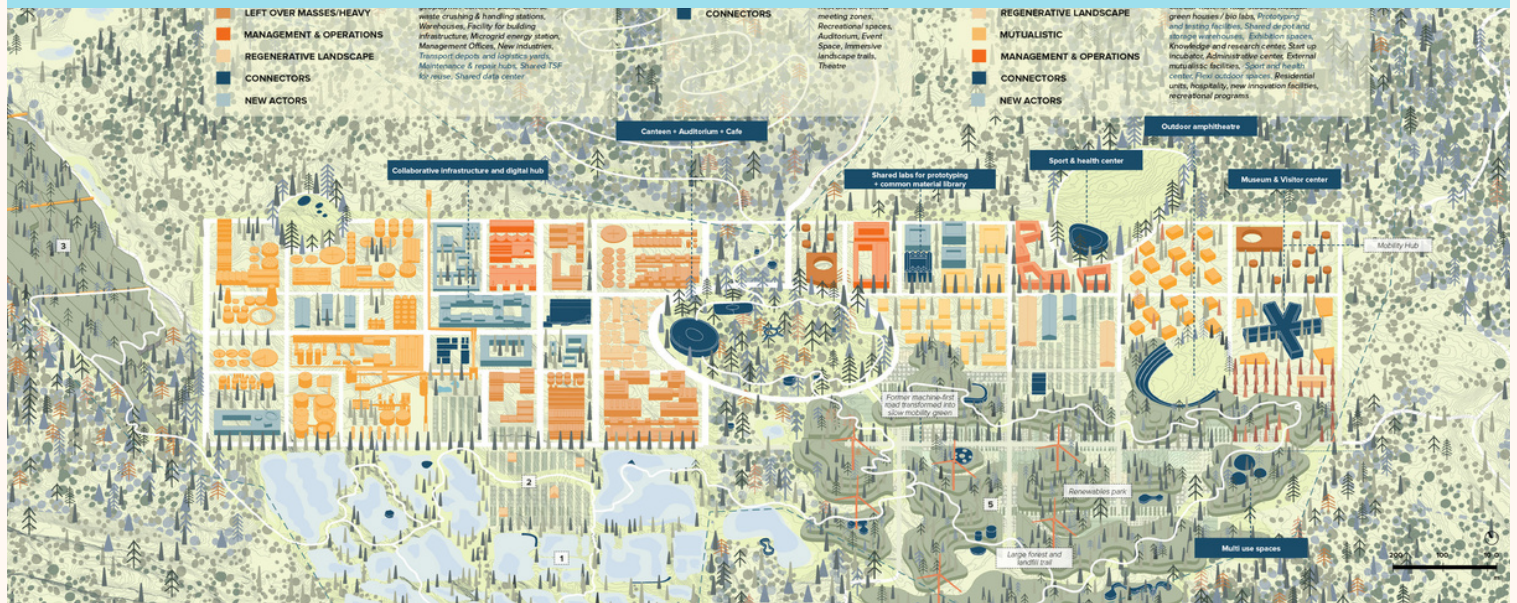
The jury commends the strong narrative and exceptional graphic presentation. The visual material communicates a complex and multifaceted issue with great clarity and conviction. The architecture adapts elegantly to the topography, while the visual language and storytelling bring coherence and depth to the proposal. The presentation effectively bridges technical precision and artistic imagination.

Nevertheless, the jury also identifies several points of concern. The infrastructural ambitions, such as the proposed new railway and port facilities, raise significant questions regarding feasibility and environmental impact. The jury doubts whether the existing, protected locks of the UNESCO-listed canal system can withstand modern industrial transport, and is skeptical about the proposal to sacrifice the bay and local community in Flakvarpbukta, especially when alternative industrial sites already exist nearby, such as Herøya, Skien Harbor Terminal, and Rafnes.

Despite these reservations, the jury considers the project to be the most complete and conceptually coherent submissions. It demonstrates a rare capacity to connect architecture, infrastructure, and ecology within a single, long-term vision. The proposal inspires confidence by taking the entire region seriously, spatially, environmentally, and politically, and offers a strong foundation for further work. It stands as an exemplary contribution to the ongoing dialogue on how architecture can redefine the relationship between resource extraction, landscape, and society.

Authors: Giacomo Gallo (IT), architect, Robert Thomas Younger (DE), urban planner, Tadej Gregorič (SI), student in urban planning, Bregje Lidewij Walkate (NL), architect, Maarten Johannes Filius (NL), architect, Remco Alexander van der Togt (NL), landscape architect, Karlijn Simone Besse (NL), architect.

Contact: giacomo@newenvironments.eu



Special Mention

ST588 - A 100 years playbook

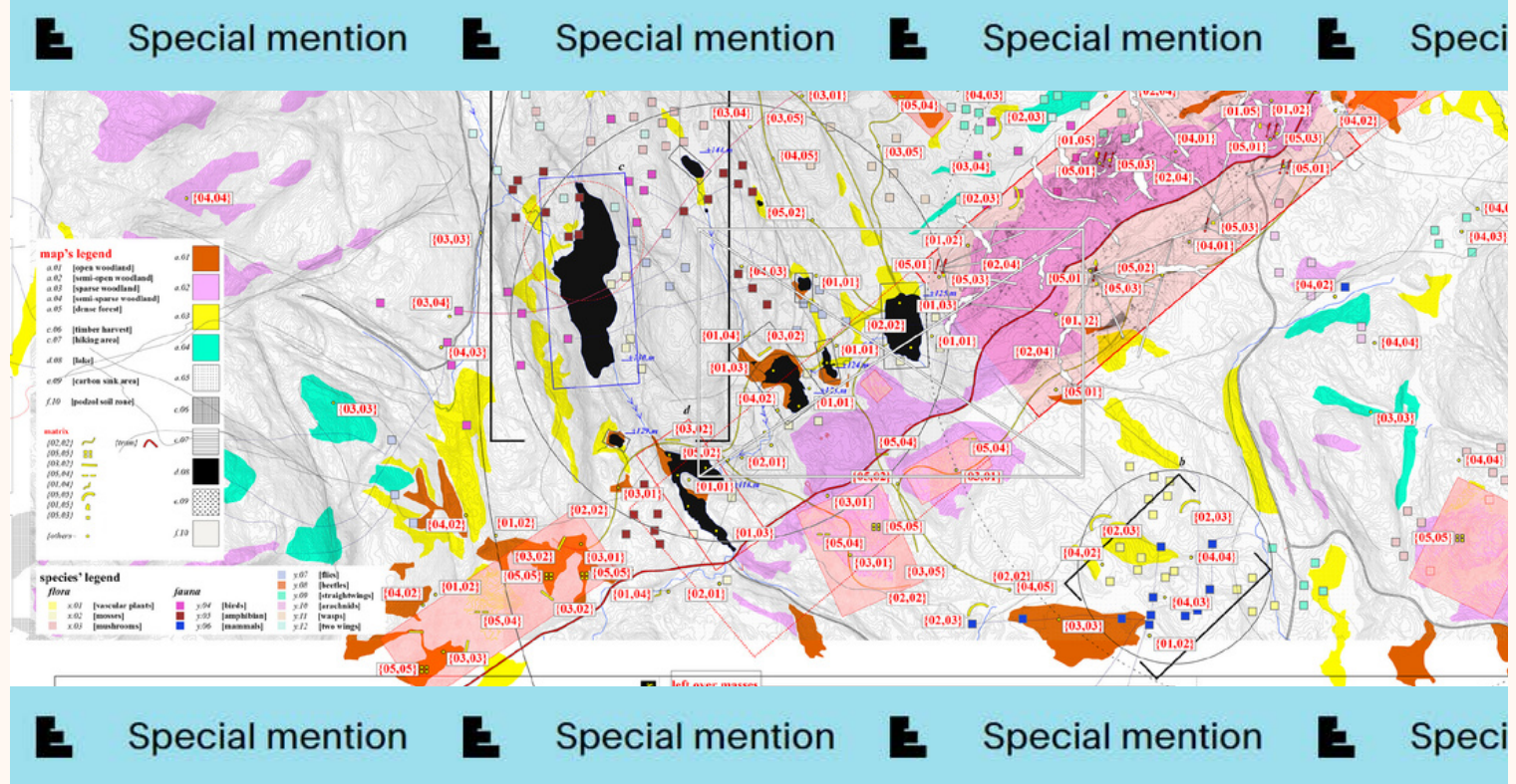
The proposal deals beautifully with the challenge that lies ahead: how to plan for uncertain situations in a way that secures a green mineral park over a 100 year time frame. The proposal A 100 years playbook is a handbook and a planning tool that responds to the complexity of planning for a completely unknown future. From laying the groundwork for an ecological foundation for the mineral park in the first 10 years, to principles for imagining post-extraction transformations in a completely unknown future in 100+ years. A 100 years playbook provides a framework and clear guidelines challenging the actors to collaborate, plan, and think about synergies with others, whilst promising a system of step-by-step landscape generation.

As the proposal is more of a strategy for a project, illustrations are diagrammatic, which is both a strength and a weakness. The strategy becomes clear and visual; at the same time, there are no landscape studies or site analysis, and no concrete site proposal. The illustrations do not completely fit the diagrams and text. The understanding of the components and complexity going into a mine has been addressed in an important way and is commendable.

A 100 year playbook is a thorough tactic and a strategy of operations. It moves the general approach from a purely extraction perspective to a process where thoughtfulness about ecological, social, and spatial aspects becomes ingrained in every process, every actor, and every step forward for a green mineral park.

Authors: Alberto Roncelli (DK), architect, Nicole Vettore (IT), architect.

Contact: albertoroncelli1@gmail.com



Special Mention

WN314 - “green mineral park”

The proposal demonstrates a meticulous and extensive mapping of existing conditions, revealing a strong capacity for spatial observation and analytical precision. The representation of the site's ecological and material layers is both comprehensive and visually refined. However, despite the sophistication of this cartographic work, the project fails to move beyond analysis. The mapping remains an end in itself rather than a foundation for spatial or strategic development. As a result, the proposal does not respond to the client's brief, nor does it engage with the central issue of mining that defines the task.

Instead, the proposal delivers a powerful statement—a compelling argument for not moving ahead with the mining plans. This stand is both brave and bold, grounded in a standpoint of ethical responsibility and environmental stewardship. In doing so, it effectively makes visible and gives a voice to the many diverse inhabitants who would be sequentially and differently affected by a mine in Nome.

On the other hand, the absence of an operative or design response exposes a fundamental gap between investigation and proposition. While the mapping uncovers valuable insights, these are never translated into an architectural or territorial strategy capable of addressing the realities and responsibilities of extraction. The project instead takes refuge in its analytical stance, positioning itself as a critical commentary rather than a design solution. This can be interpreted as an intentional act of resistance, but in doing so, the team neglects the essential demand of the assignment: to propose.

From an architectural perspective, the work therefore risks intellectual isolation. Its conceptual statement is undermined by a lack of engagement with spatial transformation or material consequence. What could have been a powerful synthesis of critique and design instead remains incomplete—strong in observation but ultimately unable to answer the question it set out to confront.

Authors: Mehmet Derin Incekas (TR), architect, Pelin Gezer (TR), architect.

Contact: derin.incekas01@gmail.com

Dokumentet er signert av: BSH, MW

Ta gjerne kontakt:
post@european.no

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland
Generalsekretær

Tlf: 94877930
bjornar@european.no



European Norge
www.european.no

Støttet av:



KULTURDEPARTEMENTET

**Bak European Norge står ledende norske
fagmiljøer innen arkitektur, landskapsarkitektur
og byplanlegging:**



Design
og arkitektur
Norge



Norske arkitekters
landsforbund



Bergen Arkitektthøgskole
Bergen School of Architecture



Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design



Norges miljø- og
biovitenskapelige
universitet



Kunnskap for en bedre verden

Dette dokumentet er signert av:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

21.01.1991

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:39

Signert med BankID

Magnus Wåge

02.08.1973

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:30

Signert med BankID

Du kan bruke denne linken for å verifisere signaturen på dokumentet og sjekke at dokumentet ikke er endret etter at det ble signert: <https://brd.no/signing/validate>





Published 17th of November 2025

E18 Norway Jury Report Roa



Dokumentet er signert av: BSH, MW

Content

3 European 18 in Norway

4 The composition of the jury

4 Substitutes

5 The jury procedure

5 Technical committee

5 The 1st jury round

6 Midpoint meeting between jury and site representatives

6 The 2nd jury round

7 Matrix of all submitted entries

10 Summary of the task

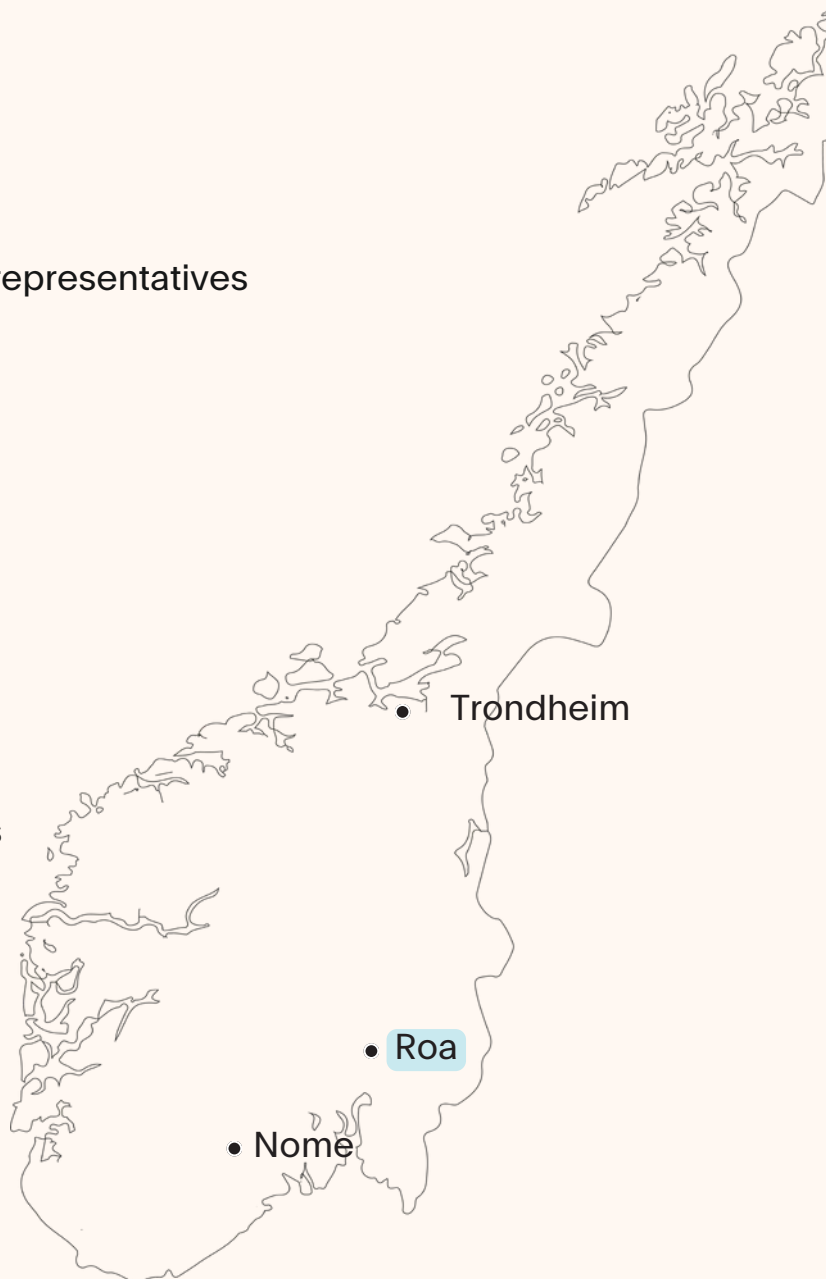
12 General remarks

13 Winner

13 UK452 - Roa's Rag Rug

15 Runner-Up

15 KY808 - Living Roa - Collective identities



European 18 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 18 being the 18th edition.

In European 18, 47 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Re-sourcing.

For European 18 there were 3 sites in Norway:

- The Fen Complex, represented by Nome municipality.
- Trondheim, represented by MiST (Museene i Sør-Trøndelag)
- Roa, represented by Roa municipality.

European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Utopic.

For questions and inquiries, contact:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

General Secretary of European Norway

bjornar@european.no

(0047) 94877930

The composition of the jury

Magnus Wåge

President of the jury. Architect and partner at Mestres Wåge.

Jens Richer

Architect and partner at Estudio Herreros.

Siri Lundestad

Architect at DRMA.

Mansoor Hussain

Politician and urbanist.

Kotchakorn Voraakhom

Landscape architect, CEO and Founder of Landprocess and Porous City Network.

Rainer Stange

Landscape architect, partner at Bokemo and professor in landscape at AHO, Oslo.

Therese Øijord

Architect. City architect in Askim.

Substitutes:**Oda Solberg**

Architect at Natural state and leader of the national association of architects in Oslo.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" according to the Rules for European 18.

As stated by the rules for European 18, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

Technical Committee

The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 09.09.2025 in Lunner.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord

From the technical committee: Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

From the site: Torstein Brandrud and Eivinn Fjellhammer

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between site representatives: Torstein Brandrud and Eivinn Fjellhammer and jury members: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain and Kotchakorn Voraakhom at the European Forum for cities and juries in Lisbon on the 18th of October 2025.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 19th of October 2025, also in Lisbon.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord.

From the secretariat: Bjørnar Haveland.

From the site: Torstein Brandrud and Eivinn Fjellhammer

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	UK452	Roa's Rag Rug	Winner: 12 000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	KY808	Living Roa	Runner-Up: 6 000 EUR prize
03	Shortlisted	MZ624	From Fragment to Framework	This project qualified for the shortlist. The jury commends the strategic approach responding to the need for housing densification by proposing flexible flats and transforming existing buildings, noting that the project successfully tests its own strategy. The project introduces a new urban scale in Roa with a permeable positioning to the road. However, the jury was not convinced by the architecture itself and found that the design failed to effectively manage the relationship between private and public spaces. While the emphasis on Hadelandsveien is strong, the jury found the plaza's positioning awkward, situated at a road crossing, and in a lower spot on the plot.
04	Shortlisted	EI734	Full House	This project qualified for the shortlist. The jury commends the experimental concepts, specifically its challenge to existing typologies, different combinations of activities, and the proposed financial model. The project suggests a new type of interior public space, which the jury believed could be a strong addition to the Nordic village climate in Roa. However, these ideas were found to be underdeveloped and undercommunicated. The jury thought the project to be highly diagrammatic, demonstrating a lack of hierarchy within the plan, which furthermore makes the area seem isolated from the rest of Roa.
05	Shortlisted	ZZ580	Invisible City: Roa 2.0	This project qualified for the shortlist. The jury praised the project for addressing the critical demand for elderly housing by proposing a dense residential plan. The project seems to create identity primarily through its architectural massing, reminiscent of a type of suburban village, rather than through the design of its public space. However, the jury noted a critical lack of public infrastructure, activities, services, and public space to accompany the amount of housing. While the team thoughtfully considered a multiplicity of possible residents, the proposed subsidized financial model appears unworkable due to its unusual nature in the Norwegian market.
06		GQ180	Common Grounds	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury commends the intention to transform the existing building mass and thereby minimize new construction. The jury found the environmental argument to be strong, but the project failed to architecturally solve the challenge, requiring a serious approach to maintenance and cleverly assigning them with necessary new uses. The project presents a compelling vision for inside and outside relations. However, the jury thought the open areas around the buildings to be unresolved and oversized for the population of Roa, which could also benefit from some smaller, more intimate spaces.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
07		FA109	Roa 3-5-1	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury commends the process-oriented approach and workable strategies, easy for both the public and private developers to understand. The proposal effectively establishes good pedestrian access and moves parking to a location northwest of the main site. However, the jury does not consider the submission a complete urban or architectural proposal, but rather a strategy for development. The jury also doubts the strategy's specificity regarding the core challenges Roa is facing.
08		IS082	Urban Canopy	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury commends the effort put into detailing the apartments and the encouragement of trust within communal living. The illustrations are beautiful, with the three-dimensional section particularly effective in communicating the apartment concept. However, the jury found that the proposal fails to deliver a convincing urban design. The combination of unresolved public spaces and the placement of new buildings does not create the necessary urban tension needed. Additionally, the jury is doubtful about the north-east orientation of the flats, considering it non-ideal.
09		VF807	Next age Resourcing urban life	The project did not qualify for the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the "acupuncture approach," activating specific spots, with the aim of strengthening a diagonal connection through the plot to the other side of the street and the river. Hadelandsveien is given more identity and care by the positioning of green elements and building mass. However, the placement of housing was found to be insensitive, and the overall spaces around the buildings appear underdeveloped. While the project proposes a necessary phased implementation, the jury questions whether each phase is robust enough to succeed on its own.
10		AY751	A communal framework	The project did not make the shortlist. The jury praises the project's approach, particularly the clever variety and adaptable, modular design of its housing and apartment typologies. The core principles are strong and well-received. Despite this, the submission struggled in execution. The jury found the architectural style unconvincing and the public spaces around the buildings to be undefined and lacking hierarchy. Additionally, the ideas would be strengthened by improving the consistency and clarity of communication between the plan and perspective drawings.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
11		SJ423	The crust and the core	The project did not make the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the creation of a public space situated within the building mass, recognizing its potential. However, the jury found the proposal to fail on issues of scale and clarity. The buildings appear far too large for the plot, resulting in ineffective pedestrian routes. The attempt to apply a traditional "courtyard" structure was considered unsuccessful for the site's scale. The jury thought the project lacked a key to successfully tie all its elements together. Clearer communication between the plans and perspectives could have greatly enhanced its readability.
12		HM751	Somewhere in between	The project did not make the shortlist. The jury commends the "palimpsest" approach of reusing existing structures for the new development. The efforts to keep some existing traces of Roa's identity and build new structures atop existing foundations were found to be a particularly successful idea. However, the jury found the design a bit too rigid, missing solid connections throughout the site, and lacking convincing public spaces. The placement of roads on both sides of the plot was also noted as problematic, potentially isolating the site and failing to solve traffic issues.
13		UQ799	Sense of belonging	The contribution was disqualified due to breach of anonymity requirements.



Repurpose the former school grounds into a vibrant village centre: integrating housing, services and public spaces.

How can the site become an identity marker for youth in the village?

The task is about generating a vision for how the site can be transformed with housing, social and physical activities for young and elderly people as well as a few key services.

The second objective of the competition is to explore how developing Frøystad can be the starting point to help structure a denser, more attractive, and inclusive center in Roa beyond the project site, in a way that can free up brownfields for development to ease the pressure on virgin lands.

Summary of the task

Roa, nestled north of Oslo, faces a paradox. While its sister villages thrive as Oslo suburbs, the northernmost settlement of Lunner Municipality Roa, stagnates, seemingly "just a little too far away" from the metropolitan boom. Fragmented and dispersed planning and a dearth of public spaces further erode its appeal. Ironically, its strategic location sitting just outside of a newly established road toll is making Roa increasingly attractive to larger industries and big-box retailers.

Norway's unique geography, climate, and rugged terrain have led to the development of numerous communities with a car-based suburban structure. Additionally, Norway's economy has traditionally been based on resource extraction and agriculture, which has led to the development of smaller, dispersed communities like Roa. These settlements often lack the infrastructure and amenities of a traditional city center, such as public transportation, walkability, and mixed-use zoning. Often, these communities are characterized by an aging population, as the younger generations move to the cities in search of work. Thanks to better healthcare, nutrition, and living conditions, life expectancy is high, and people are living longer than before. Coupled with a rapidly declining birth rate and decrease in fertility, this results in fewer young people and, essentially, fewer hands at work. Norway is no exception to this. Neither is Roa.

The aging population, commonly known as "eldrebølgen," will increase the demand for healthcare and support services, putting significant strain on the health system and its resources, personnel, and infrastructure. The very fabric of Roa – its dispersed single-family housing model – will aggravate these pressures. The fact that Roa needs 300 senior-adapted housing units underscores the urgency of addressing this demographic shift.

The need for housing, coupled with the need for modern medical facilities, a new library, and much-needed public spaces, presents a chance to reinvent the village centre. The former Frøystad school grounds and a soon-to-be-vacant industrial site offer a whole new chance to rethink the centre of Roa. It is essential for these housing units to be built as inclusive communities that prioritize social connections among residents and public spaces that give youth an elderly chances to meet and hang out all year. The vision is bold: to transform these sites into mixed-use neighborhoods, converging at the main street, breathing life into a new village heart.

General remarks

From a national urban planning perspective, Roa is highly interesting. In many ways, it represents the majority of small Norwegian towns that for decades have struggled to prevent sprawl, resulting in a historical center that is all but eroded of meeting places and public space. Several past attempts at planning a revitalized center have failed because the proposals did not successfully understand the local scale or infuse the village with a renewed sense of identity. Now, however, demographic changes create a new imperative for reurbanizing the center: Lunner municipality requires up to 300 new dwellings for the elderly. Without a dense, walkable village structure where an older population can easily access stores and receive health services efficiently, the municipality will be unable to provide the statutory services required. Lunner is wisely approaching this issue as an opportunity to renew the village's identity and make it attractive to people of all ages.

Roa is a small village situated in Hadeland, one of Norway's most fertile agricultural regions, located where the Viggå river flows northward through Viggådalen. Grown along the Gjøvik railway, Roa's name means "corner," reflecting its unique north-facing position in Eastern Norway. The village is characterized by open landscapes and generous space between houses, with Hadelandveien running through it. The strengthening of Roalinna as the village's main street and transport hub is logical and promising, marking the beginning of crucial urban development.

One of the key challenges in planning Roa's future development is finding the appropriate scale and degree of urbanization. The right balance between necessary growth and realism is essential to ensure that the expansion feels both achievable and contextually grounded. The question is how much new area can be added while still supporting a credible and sustainable transformation. At the same time, the plan must create conditions for active public life, shared spaces, and everyday interaction. Housing and social sustainability are central to the task, demanding a convincing housing structure that accommodates diverse groups and lifestyles. Increasing housing density in central areas is necessary to support local functions and ensure walkable distances between key destinations. This introduction of a new level of density also requires careful design of the transition between private and public realms to ensure both a vibrant urban character and high-quality living environments. These thresholds are key to creating a sense of community and comfort in a denser village setting.

Crucial as a strategy for the development of smaller municipalities is the establishment of robust infrastructure. Water, sewage, and a continuous network of sidewalks designed on the site's and pedestrians' terms are prerequisites for dense living and good towns. The jury strongly believes that the municipality must take charge of developing the street plan and strong public spaces first to effectively manage densification and invite investors to create a framework where all infrastructure is included. Then, the buildings can develop gradually, as needed, as the housing market evolves. Development in smaller municipalities with limited budgets must be attractive enough for investors to engage, requiring the proposal to explore how to stimulate investment and reverse the trend affecting many rural areas.

The jury's discussions consistently focused on the broader vision for Roa, particularly how to connect the existing areas and foster a strong sense of belonging. We explored how spatial organization, housing typologies, and public spaces could support everyday social interaction and strengthen local ties. The selected proposals stood out for their ability to inspire, excite, and generate optimism about Roa's future development. They present clear, flexible strategies that can be developed in phases. Our primary strategic advice to the municipality is to utilize zoning regulations and development requirements to ensure that all necessary public spaces and street plans are fully in place before construction begins or buildings are approved for use. Densifying around existing key meeting places—the school, cultural institutions, and sports facilities—remains the soundest strategy for Roa's future growth.

Winner Winner Winner Winner Winner



Winner Winner Winner Winner Winner

Winner

UK452 - Roa's Rag Rug

"This project can create dreams." The storytelling in Roa's rag rug is compelling and evocative.

The winning proposal presents a convincing narrative through Roa's places, function, and experiences. The red axis acts as a strong backbone through the village, connecting Roa Station via Roalinna, across Hadelandsveien, and up past the old school buildings to a new square near the sports fields. This spatial sequence continues northward toward the swimming hall, bus station, and future residential development. The project skillfully combines existing identity with strong placemaking strategies and highlights movement, connectivity, and shared life as central themes. It reveals and enhances the qualities of Frøystad, making them accessible to all, and proposes a rich and playful concept for all generations and seasons.

The proposal demonstrates a thoughtful balance between history and future development, with engaging ideas around the relationship between private and public spaces, meeting points, and visual connections. It encourages outdoor activity, walkability, and social interaction—promoting health and counteracting loneliness. The project shows a strong commitment to reusing and reinforcing existing local functions, which adds depth and continuity to the proposal. It places clear emphasis on sports, culture, and the care centre as central anchors in the urban structure, creating meaningful meeting places for the community. These elements contribute to a socially inclusive and place-specific strategy that supports everyday life and long-term development in Roa. Existing local functions such as Lupro, car services, and small-scale commercial programs are reinforced, and the process includes active participation from local residents. The use of local red natural stone in public spaces introduces pride and identity into the built environment, and the continuation of Roalinna up to the school generates a variety of spatial experiences. The proposed building typology contributes to a dynamic and coherent st

Dokumentet er signert av: BSH, MW



The project's housing strategy presents a promising framework that can be further refined to strengthen its urban impact. The scale feels well-considered and appropriate for Roa, but there is an opportunity to increase density to support a more vibrant and sustainable urban plan. Including ground floor plans in the presentation would enhance the understanding of how public and private zones interact. This could help clarify transitions and support active street-level engagement. The emphasis on sports as a central element is strong and well-considered, offering a solid foundation for community engagement. However, it may be worth reassessing the relocation of the football field to ensure the benefits justify the potential costs. The proposal outlines an ambitious vision for public investment, including a new health centre, library, adult education facilities, and a public bath. To fully realize this vision, further work is needed on long-term financing strategies and the activation of ground-floor spaces with public functions. The plan is good on walkability, but the current village sprawl and car-dependence—especially in steep terrain—pose challenges. Sidewalks along Roalinna and Hadelandsveien are essential, and the new street must balance social life, commerce, parking, goods delivery, and snow storage. Further development of the plan could be a master plan or a street plan, where there is a good balance between sidewalks, street, parking, and goods delivery, so that Roa can flourish again as a pleasant station town in Hadeland.

In summary, the proposal offers a flexible and robust strategy with a clear vision for Roa's identity and scale. It presents a strong urban concept with rich storytelling and placemaking, and has the potential to transform Roa into a vibrant and people-centered station town. With further development—particularly in housing, traffic solutions, and street design—the project could successfully support a compact, walkable village structure that encourages community life and sustainable growth.

Authors: Joanna Attvall (SE), architect urbanist, Isabella Landtreter (SE), architect, Mikael Pettersson (SE), architect, Josephine Philipsen (SE), landscape architect, David Ottosson (SE), architect urbanist.

Contact: joanna.attvall@gmail.com



Runner-Up

KY808 - Living Roa - Collective identities

This proposal presents a clear extension of Roalinna up to Frøystad, integrating key public institutions such as a library, skatepark, and other sports attractions. The east-west axis along the Vigga river and the park structure, including the riverside promenade along Hadelandsveien, is well illustrated in the site plan. The public street is marked in red, emphasizing its role in the urban structure. However, the plan would benefit from a more detailed discussion on the relationship between sidewalks, carriageways, parking, and goods delivery to ensure the space functions well throughout the day and across seasons.

The concept is nature-based, accessible, and strategically rooted in existing identity. It marks an important first step in connecting Roa's municipal functions and demonstrates a strong analysis of the village. The proposal strengthens existing qualities along the river and connects key elements of the urban fabric. The housing is well scaled and appropriately dense, with convincing neighborhood qualities and a strong relationship to context. It supports diverse living arrangements and includes places for social interaction. The subdivision of plots and scalability of the plan are thoughtfully considered, and the illustrated fragments convey the project's spatial qualities.



Despite its strengths, the main square feels oversized and under-programmed, and the lack of a clear and readable enclosing edge diminishes its spatial character. The round building appears too modest and disconnected from its surroundings, and the orientation of outdoor restaurants is unclear. The architectural identity is generic and lacks the centrality needed to create a strong village core. Public spaces feel dispersed and do not fully achieve the desired human scale, making the overall urban design appear somewhat diluted.

In summary, this is a thorough and realistic proposal with strong housing solutions and a holistic understanding of Roa. It addresses many aspects of village life. However, the project would benefit from a clearer urban design, stronger spatial concentration, and a more distinctive identity.

Authors: Samuele Agrimi (IT), architect, Fabio Bari (IT), architect.

Contact: fabiohari277@gmail.com

Ta gjerne kontakt:
post@europan.no

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland
Generalsekretær

Tlf: 94877930
bjornar@europan.no



Europan Norge
www.europan.no

Støttet av:



KULTURDEPARTEMENTET

**Bak Europan Norge står ledende norske
fagmiljøer innen arkitektur, landskapsarkitektur
og byplanlegging:**



Design
og arkitektur
Norge



Norske arkitekters
landsforbund



Bergen Arkitektthøgskole
Bergen School of Architecture



Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design



Norges miljø- og
biovitenskapelige
universitet



Kunnskap for en bedre verden

Dette dokumentet er signert av:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

21.01.1991

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:40

Signert med BankID

Magnus Wåge

02.08.1973

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:27

Signert med BankID

Du kan bruke denne linken for å verifisere signaturen på dokumentet og sjekke at dokumentet ikke er endret etter at det ble signert: <https://brd.no/signing/validate>





Published 17th of November 2025

E18 Norway Jury Report Trondheim



Dokumentet er signert av: BSH, MW

Content

3 European 18 in Norway

4 The composition of the jury

4 Substitutes

5 The jury procedure

5 Technical committee

5 The 1st jury round

6 Midpoint meeting between jury and site representatives

6 The 2nd jury round

7 Matrix of all submitted entries

10 Summary of the task

12 General remarks

13 Winner

13 TF785 - Leüthenhaven Reclaimed

15 Runner-Up

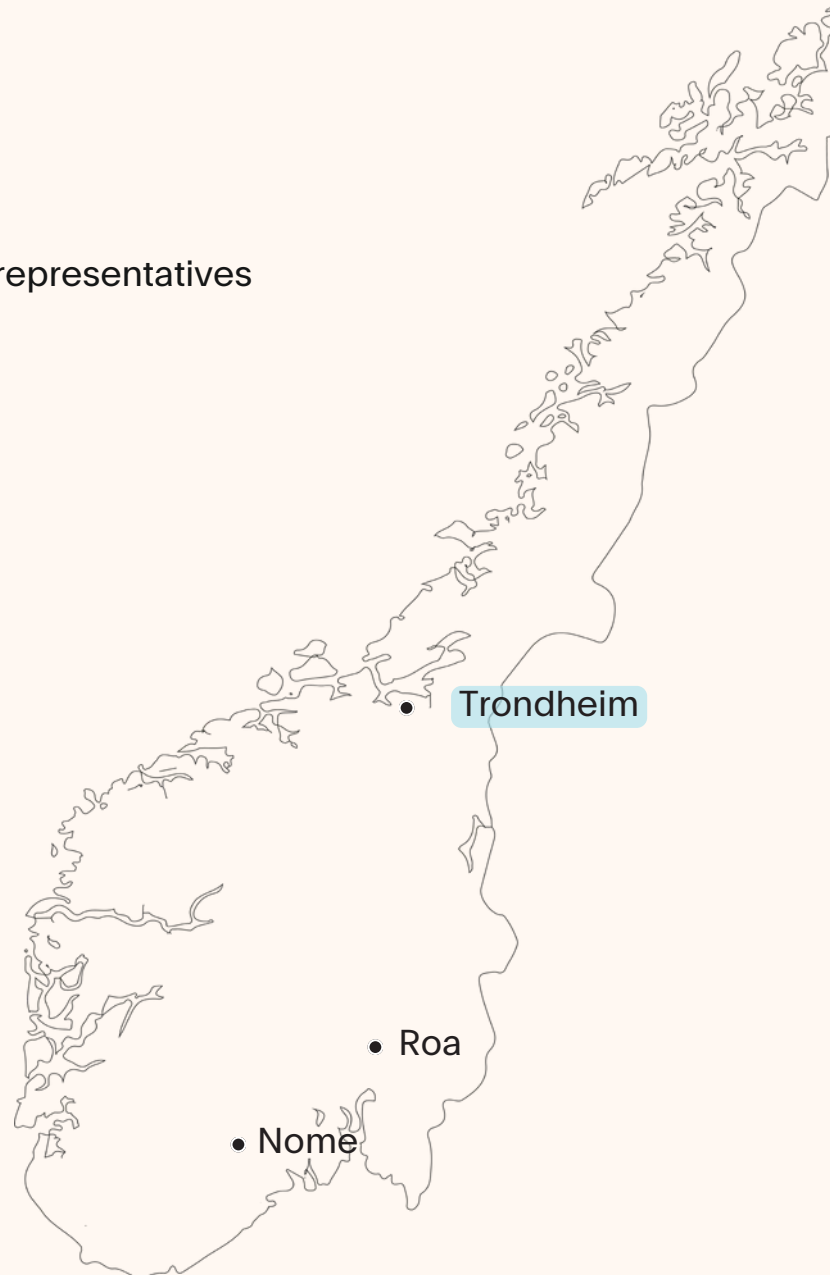
15 JM600 - Fyrtårn

17 Special mentions

17 ZA835 - Re:Frame

18 AC292 - Samspill

19 DM853 - Veve



European 18 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 18 being the 18th edition.

In European 18, 47 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Re-sourcing.

For European 18 there were 3 sites in Norway:

- The Fen Complex, represented by Nome municipality.
- Trondheim, represented by MiST (Museene i Sør-Trøndelag)
- Roa, represented by Roa municipality.

European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Utopic.

For questions and inquiries, contact:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

General Secretary of European Norway

bjornar@european.no

(0047) 94877930

The composition of the jury

Magnus Wåge

President of the jury. Architect and partner at Mestres Wåge.

Jens Richer

Architect and partner at Estudio Herreros.

Siri Lundestad

Architect at DRMA.

Mansoor Hussain

Politician and urbanist.

Kotchakorn Voraakhom

Landscape architect, CEO and Founder of Landprocess and Porous City Network.

Rainer Stange

Landscape architect, partner at Bokemo and professor in landscape at AHO, Oslo.

Therese Øijord

Architect. City architect in Askim.

Substitutes:**Oda Solberg**

Architect at Natural state and leader of the national association of architects in Oslo.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" according to the Rules for European 18.

As stated by the rules for European 18, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

Technical Committee

The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 10.09.2025 in Trondheim.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord

From the technical committee: Bjørnar Haveland and Ingeborg Katie Åtland

From the site: Karen Espelund, Baroline Log Robøle, Kari Støre Gullichsen and Ingrid Lunnan.

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between site representatives: Baroline Log Robøle and Kari Støre Gullichsen and jury members: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain and Kotchakorn Voraakhom at the European Forum for cities and juries in Lisbon on the 18th of October 2025.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 19th of October 2025, also in Lisbon.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Magnus Wåge, Jens Richer, Siri Lundestad, Mansoor Hussain, Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Rainer Stange and Therese Øijord.

From the secretariat: Bjørnar Haveland.

From the site: Baroline Log Robøle and Kari Støre Gullichsen

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	TF785	Leüthenhaven Reclaimed	Winner: 12 000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	JM600	Fyrtårn	Runner-Up: 6 000 EUR prize
03	Shortlisted	ZA835	Re:Frame	Special Mention
04	Shortlisted	AC292	Samspill	Special Mention
05	Shortlisted	DM853	Veve	Special Mention
06	Shortlisted	PV836	Museum beyond walls	This project made it to the shortlist. The jury praises the proposal for its contextualization, negotiating the surrounding buildings' scale and colors. The jury considered the public space between the theater and museum a notable strength, as an inviting, dynamic plaza that could allow for diverse activities. Furthermore, the street between the museum buildings was considered effective in drawing people in and engaging those who don't currently use museums. However, its readability could be heavily improved. The jury found the amount of different elements to make the design, and especially the museum's internal organization, quite confusing.
07	Shortlisted	NE858	The one museum	This project made it to the shortlist. The jury commends the concept of a visible museum tower, noting how its exposure from various points in the city offers orientation and identity to the plot. This design creates an effective building footprint, freeing up area for public spaces. The reuse of the parking structure, the jury found to be attractive. The jury was sceptical of how well the sunken first-floor concept would work. However, the main critique was the tower's anomalous form, being too disconnected from its context. Furthermore, the jury considered the interior spaces, especially on the higher floors, too narrow and limiting for its use. The angled facades were considered a challenge to use effectively in a museum setting.
08	Shortlisted	UD572	Behind the scenes	This project made it to the shortlist. The jury recognizes how the project has elegantly dealt with the surrounding context, using well-proportioned heights and sizes. Urbanistically, it works well, creating a generous public plaza between the museum and theater, a nice courtyard, and a good interplay between internal and external areas. The proposal is clear in its statement with easy spatial understanding. However, the jury found it problematic that a new building is suggested where the theater has a planned expansion. The jury also questioned the singular, popping-up boxes and how they would affect internal logistics and effectiveness.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
09		WU102	Veven og rammen	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury praised the outdoor plaza featuring the circular skylight, which allows passersby to look down and engage with the exhibition space below. The design was also considered considerate of the surrounding area's scale and characteristics. However, the main critique focused on the two building volumes' differing architectural languages: they were deemed too dissimilar to form one coherent museum, yet too similar to create effective contrast. Additionally, the interior organization felt like a labyrinth, with few breathing spaces between exhibition spaces, and challenging internal communication.
10		GF145	Artforum	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury credited the proposal for boldly re-imagining the museum's role, contextualised to the Trondheim site. They felt the internal public space, coupled with underground passages, could facilitate a range of different interactions with art. However, the large exhibition space and its underground position presented significant challenges to the operational efficiency and internal logistics of a museum building. The overall large footprint was criticized for potentially hindering the easy flow of interaction. Ultimately, the jury felt the proposal was not developed enough to demonstrate an architecturally functional and efficient solution.
11		MZ024	Under construction	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury acknowledged the rational and flexible plan organization, which features perimeter hallways of glass surrounding the exhibition spaces, offering views overlooking the city. The jury found the ground floor appearing light and inviting, and the sunken garden was considered a particularly successful public space. However, the jury questioned the feasibility of the building's expressed structure, specifically doubting whether the long spans could realistically be built using those wood dimensions. Furthermore, the jury considered the building's positioning on the plot and the resulting setback to be unresolved.
12		RZ456	Mater	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury praised the sensitivity with which the museum meets its surroundings, along with the many references to the local building culture. However, the jury found the building to communicate domesticity more than a public museum, compromising its "urban" character for a "rural" one. While the interior courtyard is a nice addition, the jury found the public spaces immediately surrounding the museum challenging and unresolved, identifying the connection to the city as a weak link. Although the site previously featured a horticulture with similar raised plant beds, the jury was not convinced by the planters as they limit the space's flexibility.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
13		QW110	Below / Between / Beyond	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury commends the well-proportioned museum buildings and their attractive use of the existing underground parking. Specifically, the underground crossing through the site was viewed as a strong gesture, and the wide stair—aligned with the theater's entrance—was noted as an inviting addition. The primary concern, however, was the resulting streetscape. The jury worried that the proliferation of facades and in-between spaces created by the individual buildings would ultimately lead to the formation of dead zones at the plaza level, as well as a museum that is operationally difficult to run.
14		CL835	Mist a living museum	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury recognized the ambition to create an extroverted museum that could invite and excite all kinds of people, particularly children and youth. The courtyard was praised for effectively engulfing the museum, providing diverse public scenes and roofed outdoor areas for passersby. However, the jury was concerned about the plaza being too small, raising issues regarding sun and shadow problems because the massive surrounding facades would block sunlight in. They further questioned the feasibility of maintaining the greenery situated under the buildings and in perpetually shaded areas, as well as the operational effectiveness of the organization.
15		AM889	MAD for trondheim	This project did not make the shortlist. The jury commended the compact and clear building volume, noting its rich and playful spatial diversity. The jury felt the museum building successfully struck a good balance between energy and control, and between open and closed elements. However, the facade was questioned for having too strong an iconographic expression, making it an anomaly in Midtbyen and in the city of Trondheim. Furthermore, the jury was concerned about the unclear relationship between the museum and its neighboring buildings, particularly the theater, as well as the proximity to the Repslagerveita, which was considered quite problematic.
16		OX132	A Museum	The contribution was disqualified due to breach of anonymity requirements.



This competition draws attention to the evolving societal role of the art museum, and their responsibilities in a world of rapid change. Equip the museum to take on its expanded societal role, encouraging synergies with neighbouring institutions, as it merges their two existing museums of arts and crafts

(1) How does an extrovert museum with adjacent public spaces engage with its surrounding city, its neighbours, inhabitants, and passers-by?

(2) How can the existing structure of over and underground parking be considered and potentially adapted, retained, or reused within a new building design?

(3) How can we find ways to include additional partners, programs, and functions, to reflect the museum's extroverted role, on a site that is generous enough to accommodate more than just the museum itself?

Summary of the task

This competition is about making a proposal for a new extroverted building to house Trondheim's two public art museums and with it, a new public space that can help revitalize an isolated part of the downtown, and develop a new cultural square in Midtbyen.

Trondheim art museum and Nordenfjeldske Kunstindustrimuseum National Museum of Decorative Arts and Design are at a crossroad. They both reside in small introverted buildings that are not up to the task of preserving their collections safely, nor do they have space to do outreach, borrow art from elsewhere, do events or in other ways engage sufficiently with the public at a time where the participatory role of the museum is becoming ever more important.

Since 2006, the public authorities and the museums have investigated a myriad of different solutions, ranging from renovations, additions, and a new building(s) in different locations around the city. The existing two sites are both cramped, and located in the historic district connected to Nidarosdomen, Norway's national sanctuary, which adds many restrictions on expansion due to heritage law.

Instead, several reports point to the benefits of relocating both of these museums together in a new building downtown. The existing buildings are perhaps better suited to accommodate other programs with less complex needs. The benefits of relocation are many: spaces built to accommodate the needs of modern museums, an architecture that can be more transparent and allow for hosting more events, temporary exhibitions, workshops and public programs that are inviting for new and younger audiences, all in a more efficient organization structure.

Furthermore, the new museum building can create synergies with other artistic, cultural and commercial activities in the city and provide a much needed infrastructure for Trondheim's fragmented art scene.

The selected site is a parking structure next to the Trøndelag theater, across from a busy artery road that divides the downtown. The new museum building can provide this part of town a much needed public space, in synergy with neighboring institutions. This could create a pull factor to help revitalize a slightly undeveloped part of downtown and give Trondheim a museum that is the city worthy.

General remarks

The Trondheim site attracted the largest number of participants of all the sites in this edition of European, with a total of 60 entries. This high level of interest can be attributed to the site's classical architectural task, combined with an urban ambition that makes it both conceptually and practically engaging. The jury thinks that the opportunity to reuse the existing parking garage, the site's proximity to other cultural institutions such as the regional theatre, and its clearly defined programme within the consolidated urban fabric of Midtbyen all contributed to its strong appeal among participants.

A central aspect of the competition was to explore the site's capacity to host a new city museum - balancing built volume and open public space, and considering its relationship with the theatre. Leutenhaven represents one of the last areas open for development in the consolidated city center and is therefore of great value to Trondheim's inner urban structure. Within this context, the museum's ambition extends beyond that of a traditional institution: it seeks to offer a new kind of public space for the city.

During the European Forum in Lisbon, it was questioned whether such a typical architectural assignment could truly be considered a European project. The answer, however, is affirmative - precisely because of the explorative character of the programme and the urban ambitions embedded in the brief. This is not merely a museum, but an exploration of new forms of publicness. The task offers an opportunity to rethink the museum typology, challenging preconceived ideas of what a contemporary museum can be when meeting the specific conditions of Trondheim, including the potential reuse of existing structures.

The jury observed a wide variety of approaches among the 60 submissions - both formally and programmatically, as well as in architectural expression and structural concept. The entries offered diverse interpretations of how the museum could act as a public space and a threshold between exhibition activity and urban life. They also varied in how they positioned the museum on the site and how they sought to integrate it into its context. Looking at the project overall, it's clear that generating altogether new typologies and approaches for a museum of the future is no easy task when you also have to consider the programmatic requirements of a museum of the "present". The expectations of museum architecture are very complex: Publicness, complex programs and operations, security, urban aspirations, all coupled with an urge for unique architecture. Managing these expectations while also challenging the traditional identity of the museum to make it accessible to new user groups is a challenging task, both for the architects and the client.

The jury found that the most successful proposals were those that demonstrated a sensitive integration with the existing urban environment - carefully considering the building's positioning, the reuse of the parking garage, the choice of materials, and the relationship between new and existing volumes. These projects succeed in creating meaningful connections with the surrounding streetscape and urban spaces, reinforcing the museum's potential role as an active and engaging civic landmark in Trondheim's city centre. The jury thinks the competition successfully demonstrates that Leutenhaven is well-suited for this type of program, and the unique opportunities that lie in rethinking the museum's publicness.

The winning project manages to boldly deal with a range of themes and turn them into a holistic proposal that is both radical and human at the same time: demonstrating that one can indeed redefine what it means to be an iconic institution by using reuse, climate footprints, and low-threshold accessibility for new user groups as the project's driving force.



Winner

TF785 - Leüthenhaven Reclaimed

The winning proposal stands out for its strong engagement with the existing structure and the city. The project's central idea - a multipurpose public living room at the heart of the museum - establishes a generous and engaging indoor public space while reusing the existing parking structure. This strategy not only grounds the project in the realities of the site but also conveys a powerful message about urban transformation and sustainability: turning a parking garage into a museum redefines priorities, placing culture before cars in the city centre.

The main image of the underground space is particularly compelling and suggests an inviting atmosphere that encourages gathering and exploration. The proposal puts value on the parking garage and aims to reuse its space and constructive elements. The ambition to work with what already exists remains one of the project's most distinctive and relevant qualities. This concept is not only an environmental approach, but it also gives the building its distinct character. The reuse of elements from the parking garage becomes part of the expression of the building, releasing its spatial and expressive potential. The jury notes that realizing such a space would most likely require an extensive reconstruction and reshuffling of structural elements to achieve the requirements of a contemporary art museum, but believes that this can be done while maintaining the character of the proposal.



At the plaza level, the museum expresses itself as a village-like ensemble that relates closely to the existing “veiter” (alleys) of Trondheim’s Midtby. The orientation of the smaller volumes toward the surrounding housing and the creation of intimate streets between them establish a meaningful dialogue with the neighbourhood fabric. The concept invites curiosity and exploration, offering a rich variety of engaging spaces for all groups, including children and youth. The inclusion of pocket parks and varied outdoor areas demonstrates sensitivity to the existing urban context and encourages public interaction at multiple scales. The entrance sequence is somewhat monumental; however, this impression is softened by the composition of the building volumes and the possibility for visitors to move around and look down into the central space. This spatial layering makes the museum more open and approachable, transforming monumentality into a sense of civic generosity.

The jury appreciates the project’s urban strategy but notes that the spaces between the buildings could be developed to be more active and programmatically rich. At present, the street level at some points appears relatively passive, which may limit the museum’s extroversion and everyday liveliness. Further activation/programming of the street level could help strengthen the public interface and enhance the overall urban experience.

The main exhibition areas are located on the basement level, surrounding the central multipurpose room. In addition, smaller satellite exhibition spaces positioned on the plaza level offer direct exposure to the city, strengthening the museum’s dialogue with the public realm. At certain points, the exhibition volumes emerge from the ground, creating a dynamic variation of heights, light conditions, and visual connections to urban life above. The exhibition design strikes a balance between spatial specificity and adaptability, allowing the museum to house a wide range of programs and experiences over time.

Leuthenhaven Reclaimed is a bold yet understated project that demonstrates that one can rethink the museum’s relationship with the public, creating not just a flexible and human concept for a new type of museum, but also a good public space and the start of what can be a rich cultural exchange with the theater that can revitalize Midtbyen.

Authors: Haakon Walderhaug (NO), architect, Oskar Wilfred Johnsen Aronsen (NO), architect, Jeppe Bervell Johnsen (NO), student in architecture, Mille Mee Herstad (NO), architect.

Contact: haakon@toto.no



Runner-Up

JM600 - Fyrtårn

This proposal stands out as a “lighthouse” — a project that is highly visible and immediately recognizable. It establishes a strong and confident architectural character, demonstrating a clear design will and a belief in creating identity through form and presence. The project convincingly looks and feels like a museum.

The provocative and bold expression positions it as a potential landmark, while its realistic organizational layout gives it credibility. The design creates impressive indoor spaces that appear functional and engaging. The decision to retain some parking in the underground levels might also make the project more acceptable to local politicians and residents, easing its integration into the city's existing infrastructure.

The building challenges the existing height structure of Midtbyen by making part of the building at the height of the main body of Nidarosdomen. This bold move provides visibility from afar- A “lighthouse” effect at the same time as it invites visitors to the museum to enjoy the view. In the jury, there are doubts about challenging the building heights of Midtbyen, also the already built museum Rockheim has a similar approach.

The proposal allows the northern part of the site to breathe, and the resulting open space maintains existing pedestrian shortcuts through the area — a generous gesture to the city's fabric. However, the orientation of the main volume raises concerns. The way shadows will fall on the public space is problematic. If the building were rotated 90 degrees - placing the higher volume toward the south and the lower part toward the smaller neighboring buildings - it would fit the site more harmoniously and improve sunlight conditions.



While the project creates a generous public space, the urban composition feels unresolved. The indoor circulation is oriented toward the street rather than the plaza, which reduces the connection between interior and exterior public life.

Public extrovert functions of the museum are correctly placed on the ground floor, but there are concerns about their level of engagement with the surrounding city life. The museum appears somewhat formal and monumental, which may limit its accessibility and appeal to non-traditional museum users. A stronger emphasis on creating a low-threshold, inclusive atmosphere would strengthen the project.

Authors: Heljä Nieminen (FI), architect, Havu Järvelä (FI), architect.

Contact: helja@keltainentoimisto.fi



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci

Special Mention

ZA835 - Re:Frame

Re:Frame has an extroverted character, and the buildings are engaging with the cityscape. Re:Frame is referencing the traditional alleyways of Trondheim (veiter), which are transformed into a new and exciting form. The project is successful in creating a new, balanced public space and new thoroughfares connecting the museum to the city.

The fragmentation of the volumes creates a defined public space towards the north street, and its small-scale wooden buildings. The fragmentation of the volumes also poses challenges, and some potential weaknesses will be the amount of buildings with many entrances, without a clear main entrance.

The system of the museum is explained well, and the graphics are concise. The illustrations would have benefited from including the Re:Frame's proposal in relation to the existing situation, and including people and some public programming in the illustrations.

Re:Frame could benefit from a further detailing of the "veite" spaces and a less generic visual appearance. But overall, the buildings are engaging in a dynamic way, inviting people to participate in a new museum, with a good relation to the city's streetscape and public space, and a visual character connected to Trondheim.

Authors: Hedvig Skjerdingsstad (NO), architect

Contact: hs@mimastudio.com



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci

Special Mention

AC292 - Samspill

The Samspill project presents a compact and well-considered concept for the museum in Trondheim. It proposes a concentrated building volume, with the museum program wrapped around a central public atrium. This atrium serves as the aesthetic, logistical, and functional spine of the building, connecting spaces and functions. The porous podium ensures accessibility from multiple directions, allowing the ground floor to integrate naturally with the surrounding public space.

The proposal remains faithful to the original idea and concept, showing thorough refinement throughout the design process. It is both generic and specific—an adaptable framework that accommodates a wide range of possibilities for the museum's future development. The project demonstrates strong spatial variation and richness. The placement on the site could have been more sensitive, and the landscape and outdoor areas appear underdeveloped.

The presentation does not fully support the strength of the proposal. Samspill would benefit from a clearer and more communicative visual narrative. The lack of an overall 3D-illustration showing the building in its context limits the understanding of the project. Overall, the project proposes a clear and compelling vision of an inviting museum that has the potential to function really well.

Authors: Gaetano Giordano (IT), architect, Dimitrios Andrinopoulos (GR), architect

Contact: gaetanogiordano90@gmail.com



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci



Special mention



Special mention



Special mention



Speci

Special Mention

DM853 - Veve

Veve is creating something new without copying history. The placement and fragmentation of volumes create an engaging new public museum and a new public space which has not yet been seen in Trondheim.

Whilst the fragmented volumes are successful in creating interest and excitement towards the city and public space, it is not flexible in terms of organization, and will create a challenge to the museum's internal organization. There is no clear centrality, and wayfinding may be difficult.

Veve is professional in its approach and representation. The proposal could work in many places and with programs other than a museum. The proposal could benefit from a visual appearance that is more connected to the place and city of Trondheim, as it does have a generic streak.

Veve is successful in terms of public space: it is one of the few projects that tries to create a real urban plan with the green axis; it contains short-cuts through the plot, and the shape and expression of the museum creates a variety of dynamics from different angles, which creates a richness in building volumes and experience for visitors and passers-by alike.

Authors: CHENGXIN LI (CN), architect, Zhaoying Zhu (CN), architect urbanist, Jian GUAN (CN), architect urbanist.

Contact: zhuliguan75@gmail.com

Ta gjerne kontakt:
post@european.no

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland
Generalsekretær

Tlf: 94877930
bjornar@european.no



European Norge
www.european.no

Støttet av:



KULTURDEPARTEMENTET

**Bak European Norge står ledende norske
fagmiljøer innen arkitektur, landskapsarkitektur
og byplanlegging:**



Design
og arkitektur
Norge



Norske arkitekters
landsforbund



Bergen Arkitektthøgskole
Bergen School of Architecture



Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design



Norges miljø- og
biovitenskapelige
universitet



Kunnskap for en bedre verden

Dette dokumentet er signert av:

Bjørnar Skaar Haveland

21.01.1991

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:38

Signert med BankID

Magnus Wåge

02.08.1973

Signert: 13.11.2025 14:25

Signert med BankID

Du kan bruke denne linken for å verifisere signaturen på dokumentet og sjekke at dokumentet ikke er endret etter at det ble signert: <https://brd.no/signing/validate>

