

BAUHAUS4EU PHOTO CONTEST

Theme: “Inclusive Grounds: Stories of Belonging and Resilience”

In today’s rapidly transforming world, spaces are no longer just physical containers - they are living ecosystems of interaction, care, and transformation. The photo contest under the theme “Inclusive Grounds: Stories of Belonging and Resilience” invites students from the ten BAUHAUS4EU Universities and from diverse fields -arts and humanities, social sciences, economics, management, architecture, engineering, design, and information and communication technologies- to turn their cameras toward the spaces, moments, and relationships on their campuses that embody inclusion, care, and collective transformation.

The photo contest “Inclusive Grounds: Stories of Belonging and Resilience” turns its gaze to the university campus as a living environment, a place where people from diverse cultural, social, and disciplinary backgrounds come together not only to learn, but to live, interact, and co-create. Campuses are not just physical spaces; they are dynamic landscapes where architecture, nature, and community intersect to shape daily experiences of inclusion, care, and belonging.

Students are encouraged to explore how the spaces of their universities -classrooms, libraries, labs, dormitories, cafeterias, gardens, hallways, courtyards- become grounds for resilience, sustainability, inclusivity, and beauty. How do these everyday environments support well-being, foster collaboration, welcome difference, and create moments of shared purpose; from student initiatives and intercultural encounters to accessible design and sustainable practices, the campus becomes a stage where the values of BAUHAUS4EU come alive, not just as ideals, but as lived realities visible in the textures, relationships, and rhythms of academic life.

The photo contest asks participants to look beyond surface aesthetics and capture the often invisible forces that bind people together like: a bench designed for conversation, a ramp that signals welcome, a moment of quiet support between strangers, or even a youth group

reclaiming space for expression and voice. Finally, it calls on students to become visual storytellers of their own environments. It asks them to document how their campuses, as local sites within the BAUHAUS4EU Alliance, reflect the shared mission of resilience, sustainability, inclusivity, and beauty.

CONNECTION TO THE BAUHAUS4EU VALUES

Resilience

Resilience is not just about endurance; it's about adaptation, recovery, and renewal. The photo contest aims to explore how university spaces help students and academic communities bounce back and thrive: How campuses support mental health, social connection, intercultural dialogue, and youth empowerment in the face of challenges like migration, climate change, economic hardship, or social isolation? What makes a university not only withstand adversity but transform it into a source of collective strength and growth?

Sustainability

Sustainability is understood in a broad sense, encompassing not just environmental, but also social dimensions. How do inclusive environments promote long-term well-being, intergenerational connection, and equitable resource sharing? It is highlighted that a sustainable space is one where all voices matter, and no one is left behind.

Inclusivity

Inclusivity is about creating environments where differences are not just tolerated but embraced. This means architectural and urban designs that ensure

accessibility, but also social designs that foster participation, representation, and care.

Beauty

Beauty, in the BAUHAUS4EU vision, is not superficial decoration but a deeper aesthetic of meaning, connection, and purpose. Inclusive Grounds challenges participants to see beauty in shared experiences, in gestures of solidarity, in the quiet poetry of everyday life. It asks:

Where can we find beauty in human-centered transformation, in spaces that welcome, heal, and empower?

A CROSS-DISCIPLINARY INVITATION

The photo contest is open to students from all ten BAUHAUS4EU partner universities across a wide range of disciplines:

- **For architecture and design**, it's a reflection on form, function, and social meaning.
- **For the humanities**, it's an exploration of narrative, memory, and identity.
- **For social sciences**, it's a lens on participation, power, and transformation.
- **For economics and management**, it's a study of governance, access, and equitable development.
- **For engineering and ICT**, it's an opportunity to reimagine how STEM, tools, and infrastructures can become more human-centered and inclusive.

What unites them all is the invitation to look closer, to discover how the built environment holds, expresses, and shapes our collective dreams of belonging, resilience, sustainability, and beauty.

REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES

1. THEME

The contest theme is “*Inclusive Grounds: Stories of Belonging and Resilience*” exploring how human presence shapes and transforms the built, natural and social environment.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- The photo contest is open to students from the BAUHAUS4EU Universities.

- Participants can submit individual entries.

3. PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: PROCESS AND TIMELINE OF SELECTION

The photography contest is conducted in three distinct phases, each established to ensure fairness, inclusivity, and the achievement of high-quality results.

Phase I is open to all students of the participating universities who wish to compete.

Submissions shall be made directly in response to the official open call. For purposes of coordination, each university has appointed one representative responsible for collecting and managing submissions on behalf of their institution. The open call will remain active from 20 October until 14 November, thereby allowing students sufficient time to prepare and submit their entries.

Phase II will consist of the internal selection process at the university level. Each university shall review all entries received and, based on the criteria of creativity, originality, and adherence to the theme of the contest, select three photographs to

represent the institution. These selected works shall be transmitted to the central jury between 15 and 21 November. This procedure will ensure equal representation, resulting in a total of thirty finalist photographs — three from each participating university. All the submitted photographs in this phase will be a total of 30 Photographs, which will be published on the social media accounts of the BAUHAUS4EU.

Phase III will be carried out by the designated jury members. The jury shall evaluate the thirty finalist photographs over a period of two weeks. During this period, members will conduct an independent review, followed by a collective deliberation in an online meeting facilitated by the communication officers. The jury will finalize its decisions no later than 5 December. The official announcement of the three winning photographs shall take place on 8 December, thereby marking the conclusion of the contest.

For the promotion of the photography contest, the first official announcement will be published on the social media channels of BAUHAUS4EU and subsequently reshared by the participating universities through their respective platforms. The announcement will also include the official contact email for inquiries and submissions. In addition, the communication officers of each university will be responsible for sending an informative email to all students, ensuring that the call reaches the widest possible audience and that every student is informed about the contest and how to participate.

Phase I – Open Call

20 October – 14 November

- Students from participating universities submit their photographs through the official open call.

- Each university designates one representative responsible for collecting and managing submissions.

Phase II – University Selection

15 – 21 November

- Each university reviews the submissions received.

- Three photographs are selected per university, based on creativity, originality, and relevance to the contest theme.

- Selected photographs are submitted to the central jury.

Phase III – Jury Evaluation and Final Results

22 November – 5 December

- Jury members evaluate the thirty finalist photographs (three per university).
- Independent review followed by an online deliberation meeting facilitated by the communication officers.

8 December

- Official announcement of the three winning photographs.

4. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Be enrolled as a student for the academic year 2025–2026 in one of the following partner universities: **Université Lumière Lyon 2 (ULL2), Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (BUW), University of Economics in Katowice (UEKat), University of Bergamo (UniBg), Polytechnic University of Castelo Branco (IPCB), University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy (UACEG), Polytechnic University of Tirana (POLIS), University of Macedonia (UoM), Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) or Université de Picardie Jules Verne (UPJV).**
- Students are required to submit their work using the official university email address. Submissions sent from personal or non-university email accounts will not be accepted and will result in disqualification.
- Each participant can submit one (1) entry photo.
- Photos must be original, unpublished works created by the participant.
- Photos should be submitted in high-resolution digital format (minimum 300 dpi, JPEG).

- Each photo file must include the title, name of the author, category, date taken, and a brief description (max 100 words to be submitted on a separate file, according to the template required).

5. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Maximum file size per image: **5 MB**.
- Color or black-and-white images accepted.
- Minor digital editing is allowed (color correction, cropping, etc.), but no heavy manipulation or compositing.

6. SUBMISSION PROCESS

20 Oct – 14 Nov: Open Call for student submissions (Each university will have an assigned representative responsible for collecting and managing the submissions.)

15 – 21 Nov: Universities select 3 photographs each (total 30 finalists)

22 Nov – 5 Dec: Jury evaluation and online deliberation

8 Dec: Announcement of the 3 winners

- Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

7. JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance to the theme.
- Creativity and originality.

- Technical quality (composition, lighting, focus).
- Emotional and narrative (storytelling) impact - how the photo tells a story that connects with others.

8. RIGHTS AND USAGE

- Participants retain copyright of their works.
- By submitting, participants give to BAUHAUS4EU Alliance the right to use the photos for promotional and exhibition purposes with full attribution to the participant.
- Photos will not be used for commercial purposes without additional consent.

9. DISQUALIFICATION

- Any entry found to violate copyright laws or containing inappropriate content will be disqualified.
- Entries not adhering to technical or thematic requirements may be rejected.

10. CONTACT AND SUPPORT

For any questions, clarifications, or technical support related to the photography contest, participants are encouraged to reach out via the official contact email provided in the announcement. This channel will serve as the primary point of communication for inquiries regarding eligibility, submission procedures, technical difficulties with file formats, or any other contest-related matters.

11. JURY MEMBERS

POLIS: Dr. Sonia Jojić, Head of Department of Art & Design, POLIS University,

BTH: Malin Altenby Larsen, Senior Lecturer and Planning Architect at the Department of Spatial Planning,

UPJV: Fred Boucher, Director of Diaphane, Centre for Contemporary Art of National Interest,

UACEG: Assist. Arch. Alexander Chernev, Faculty of Architecture, Department of Public Buildings,

BUW: Julia Albrecht, Artistic Associate at the Professorship Photography,

UEKAT: Ilona Ptak, Assistant, Department of Communication Design and Analysis,

IPCB: Neel Vipinchandra Naik, Specialist in audiovisuals and media production,

ULL2: Jad Bou Assi, Specialist in audiovisual and media production,

UoM: Eleni Sideri, Assistant Professor,

Unibg: Adriano D'Aloia, Associate Professor of Cinema, Photography, Radio, Television, and Digital Media, Department of Letters, Philosophy, Communication.

PRIZES

1st Prize

- Participation in the Forum in Katowice + backpack with goodies + special campaign promoting the photo and the author;
- Publication across BAUHAUS4EU partner institutions' social media;
- Official BAUHAUS4EU Certificate of Achievement.

2nd Prize

- Participation in the Forum in Katowice + backpack with goodies;

- Publication on B4EU website and social media;
- Official BAUHAUS4EU Certificate of Achievement.

3rd Prize

- Backpack with goodies;
- Publication on B4EU website and social media;
- Official BAUHAUS4EU Certificate of Achievement.

International Honorable Mentions

- One honorable mention per participating country;
- Personalized digital certificate;
- Featured publication on B4EU website and social media.

Finalist Participation Kit

- Digital Certificate of Selection only for the 1st and final phase
- Online publication on the B4EU website

ETHICAL AND LEGAL GUIDELINES

To ensure the ethical integrity and legal compliance of the exhibition, all participants must adhere to the following conditions:

- **Permission & Access:** Photographs taken on private property, in institutional settings (such as schools, universities, hospitals, etc.), or involving recognizable individuals must be taken with prior permission from the relevant authorities or persons. Participants are responsible for securing these permissions.

- Data Protection & Privacy: If images feature identifiable individuals, participants must ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) or other applicable data protection laws. Subjects should be aware that their image is being used and provide informed consent where necessary.

- Copyright & Ownership: All submitted photographs must be original works owned by the photographer. By submitting, participants confirm

they hold the copyright or have secured the necessary rights to submit and exhibit the image. Any third-party elements (e.g., artworks, designs) included in the photographs must also be cleared for use.

Failure to comply with these standards may result in disqualification from the exhibition. These measures help uphold the integrity of the project and respect the rights of all involved.

OFFICIAL EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

All students are required to submit their official photographs using their university-issued email addresses. Submissions sent from personal email accounts (e.g. Gmail, Yahoo, Outlook) will not be accepted or acknowledged. Students must ensure that all submissions are made via the designated institutional email addresses listed below for each partner university:

BUW: bauhaus4eu@uni-weimar.de

UEKat: bauhaus4eu@uekat.pl

ULL2: bauhaus4eu@univ-lyon2.fr

UniBg: bauhaus4eu@unibg.it

IPCB: b4euphotocontest@ipcb.pt

UACEG: bauhaus4eu@uacg.bg

POLIS: bauhaus4eu@polis.al

UoM: bauhaus4eu@uom.edu.gr

BTH: bauhaus4eu@bth.se



UPJV: bauhaus4eu@u-picardie.fr