V4 – Architecture Diploma Award

Memorandum of Association

We, as the leaders of the Association of Czech Architects, the Association of Hungarian Architects, the Association of Polish Architects, and the Association of Slovakian Architects, and as the members of the V4 Architectural Association are hereby founding

V4 – Architecture Diploma Award.

An award for students graduating as architects from our respective countries. This award is granted to university students graduating from either a 10-semester long undivided Msc/MA course, or a joint Bachelor's and Master's program of 3 and 2 years (Bsc/Ba + Msc MA).

1.§ By expanding the collaboration of the V4 Architectural Association, we aim to bring awareness to projects realized in the architecture schools of V4 countries, and make visible and reward recent graduates for their excellence in their diploma work.

2.§ The V4 - Architectural Diploma Award is independently organized and carried out by the V4 Architectural Association. The award process, the evaluation criteria, and the organization are independent from existing diploma award processes, committees and selections.

3.§ The V4 - Architecture Diploma Award is granted based on submissions made through the _www.v4-diplomaaward.com_ website.

4.§ Each year, the presiding member state of V4 Architecture Association is responsible for organizing the award. The member states agree that they collaborate on the preparations and the organizations. They also share equal financial responsibility for the award financial coverage based on the common agreed regulations. They agree upon the terms under the leadership of the currently presiding country each year. In case of common agreement of the V4 member states may exchange between themselves the right and responsibility of organization and leadership of the award.

5.§ The detailed terms of participation are outlined by the members of the V4 Architectural Association in the V4 Architecture Diploma Award Regulations. They make this document public by the date of the announcement of award at latest, each year.

6.§ The application and the submission of materials happens exclusively through a digital platform. A project is eligible for entry, if it is an individually conducted, successfully defended Msc/MA diploma work completed according to the national or the institutional guidelines. The submitted material, including a summarizing part, must meet the detailed specifications and regulations outlined in the application announcement.

7.§ Individuals are eligible to apply, if they successfully graduate as architects from a divided or an undivided Master's program in the consecutive diploma semester following the announcement or already started diploma semester within the timeframe regulated in the announcement. Only the finished and successfully defended diploma works can be submitted. Every diploma work can be submitted only for one award occasion.

8.§ The submissions to the V4 - Architectural Diploma Award are reviewed by a 5-member International Jury plus the alternates for each member. The Jury is composed of the leaders of each country's National Jury and the President from a different country.

9.§ The architectural societies of the four countries of Visegrad each designate its own National Jury. The members of the National Juries are appointed by the country's architectural association. The members may be practicing architects, urban planners, expert writers, or educators.

10.§ The president of the International Jury is an individual, who is specifically asked to fill the position for the upcoming year. He or she may be a renowned architect, urban planner, expert writer, or educator from a different country than the V4 four members.

11.§ The president of the International Jury, in agreement with the other members of the jury, may define or update the evaluating criteria for the given year award.

12.§ The review of eligible submissions is a multi-round process:

> 1st round – National pre-qualification: Each National Jury makes a selection of the entries submitted from their own country, which will continue into the second round of reviews. The maximum quantity of the projects selected by each country is specifically defined in the Regulations, and this quota may not be exceeded.

> 2nd round – International contest: The projects selected during the national pre-qualifications are then reviewed by the International Jury. They make a selection of up to 10 projects that continue onto the third and final round of reviews.

> 3rd round - Finalists: The 10 projects selected during the second round of reviews (the international contest) will be presented to the International Jury by the authors at the location and date specified for the award ceremony. The presentations should be done in English.

Member states can decide each year to modify the number of stages and to adjust the number of the selected entries.

13.§ The International Jury is responsible for selecting the award-winning diploma work from the 10 finalists, the author of which is then granted the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award for the given year.

14.§ The International Jury then selects 3 further projects from the list of finalists, which then receive the V4 Architectural Award Honorable Mention.

15.§ The ceremonial announcement of the results of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award happens at the location of the finals, after the International Jury evaluates the presentations of the participants.

16.§ The winner of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award receive financial reward. Further material and/or financial reward may be allocated depending to each year regulation and budget.

17. The amount of the Award remains permanent and can be divided if winning diploma was made by more than one author.

18.§ The V4 Architectural Association reports the results of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award by sharing the winning projects on its own (social media) platforms, and may sends a summary press material to the UIA Secretariat.

Budapest, 25th of March 2022

Oleg Haman

president

Society of Czech Architects

András Krizsán

president

Association of Hungarian Architects

Grzegorz Stiasny

1st vice-president

Association of Polish Architects

Igor Teplan

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Slovak Architects Society

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APPENDIX

for the Memorandum of Association of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award

1) The detailed regulations and requirements for the application and the organization of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award is defined by the members of the V4 Architectural Association in a separate Award Regulation document. This document is reviewed and published each year before the date of the call for nomination.

2) This Appendix is only valid until the Regulations of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award are accepted and finalized, and it contains only the specific details and guidelines for the application announcement. This Appendix expires with the finalization of the V4 – Architectural Diploma Award Regulations.

3) The presiding member state of the V4 Architectural Association must announce the application by the 15th of September in the given year.

4) The choice of language for the materials submitted (first language or English) is up to each applicant, but each application must be supported by a summary text in English, which is no longer than 2500 words. It is recommended to use English, especially for the international phases. The announcer can open a possibility for the finalists for an updated submission, where only linguistically changes are allowed in order to translate the submitted boards to English.

5) The application material must be selected from a successfully defended architectural diploma project from a university which meets the specifications stated in the Memorandum of Association. The digitally submitted material must be edited to fit portfolio made up of A3 sheets (420 x 297 mm) and it must be 8 pages long at most. It must be submitted as a single PDF document that is no larger than 10 MB.

6) The application is public, thus the material must contain the name of the applicant, the institution, the department, as well as the name of the supervisor(s), the title and the exact location of the project, and other information as deemed necessary by the applicant.

7) The time schedule of each year award including but not limited to the deadline for the submission of the application material must be announced each given year in the call for

application. The website upload function for submissions is only active in the time period leading up to the submission deadline.

8) In the national prequalification the maximum quota in case of three rounds is 15 diploma work per country. The quota can be adjusted each year based on the previous years experience and according to the phasing of the actual award process.

9) The financial responsibility for the award financial coverage for each year is 2000 EUR from each V4 member country (all together 8000 EUR), which can be adjusted with common agreement if needed.

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