

Onsite Mugak/ 2026 – Temporary Architecture Competition – Donostia-San Sebastián

JURY DELIBERATION MINUTES

Date: 7 October 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Venue: HABIC – Basque Living, Villa Quaró, Paseo de Francia 11, Donostia-San Sebastián.

1. Jury members

The jury for the Onsite Mugak/ Temporary Architecture Competition in Donostia-San Sebastián, held as part of the 6th Mugak/ International Architecture Biennial of the Basque Country 2027, convened with the following members:

- María Arana, Curator of Mugak/, Jury Chair.
- Xabier Pérez de Arenaza, HABIC, secretariat
- Iñigo García, Councillor for Maintenance and Urban Services, Donostia-San Sebastián City Council.
- Pablo García, representing the Department of Housing and Urban Agenda of the Basque Government.
- Jacques Robert, representing the Bordeaux School of Architecture.
- Eurne Aperribay, representing COAVN Gipuzkoa (Official Association of Basque-Navarre Architects).
- Nerea Asensio, representing COAT Gipuzkoa (Official Association of Technical Architects).
- Iryna Miroshnikova, FORMA Architects (Ukraine).
- Catalina Francu, Zeppelin Architecture Magazine (Romania).

2. Opening

The meeting began with individual introductions by each jury member.

The competition rules were then reviewed, with particular emphasis on the freedom afforded to participants regarding the format, architectural configuration and programme of the proposed installations.

The Jury Chair, María Arana, briefly presented the objectives and theme of the sixth edition of the Mugak/ International Architecture Biennial of the Basque Country, entitled “Good, Beautiful, Affordable”, placing the Onsite/ competition within the broader framework of the Biennial.

3. Deliberation process

Following the introduction, the jury reviewed the results of the preliminary individual assessment, previously carried out online by each jury member.

The resulting ranking was presented, focusing on the 10 proposals that had received the highest number of selections and score.

An initial collective discussion followed, during which the jury examined the leading submissions, considering their architectural qualities, relationship with the site, interpretation of the Biennial's theme and potential to generate new experiences and reflections within public space.

The jury acknowledged the overall high quality of the submissions and the remarkable diversity of architectural and conceptual approaches.

A substantial debate emerged regarding the character that the winning intervention should adopt, as the proposals represented radically different approaches. While some focused on playful experiences, public enjoyment and the creation of new gathering spaces, others presented a strong political and critical dimension, seeking to encourage public reflection on contemporary issues.

This diversity prompted a broader discussion about the role of temporary architecture in architecture Biennials and specifically in such a distinctive location as the Balcón del Bicentenario, as well as its potential to go beyond the creation of an architectural object and become a vehicle for public debate.

Following this initial discussion, the jury proceeded to a vote, resulting in the selection of three finalist proposals:

246 – BADIA ENEA

202 – LATXA

203 – TARTE

A second round of deliberation then focused on comparing the three finalists in order to determine the winning proposal and establish the final ranking.

4. Assessment of the finalist proposals

First Prize – BADIA ENEA (246)

The jury selected BADIA ENEA as the winning proposal, particularly recognising its radical approach, provocative character and potential to encourage critical reflection on housing and the use of public space.

The jury considered that the proposal transcends the formal dimension of temporary architecture, becoming an intervention with a strong social and political message capable of stimulating discussion among citizens on issues fundamental to the future of our cities.

Its approach addresses, through irony and critical reflection, questions such as access to housing, real estate speculation, residential development models, the privatisation of public space and the role of architecture in shaping the contemporary city.

The jury concluded that this ability to generate public debate and encourage collective reflection represents one of the proposal's most significant strengths, fully aligned with Mugak's ambition to bring architecture closer to society and question the ways in which we build and inhabit our environment.

Overall, BADIA ENEA was considered to go beyond the strictly architectural dimension, offering a powerful communication tool capable of encouraging reflection on some of today's most pressing urban and social challenges. The jury invites the organization and the authors to work on a strategic communication campaign related to this intervention.

Second Prize – LATXA (202)

The jury highly valued the proposal's material experimentation, particularly its exploration of wool as a bio-based construction material, recovering an underused local resource and investigating new possibilities for its application in architecture.

Its spatial and sensory qualities were also recognised, together with its approach to sustainability and resource efficiency.

However, the jury considered that the proposal established a less specific relationship with the chosen site, as its concept could potentially be implemented with similar relevance in other urban locations.

Third Prize – TARTE (203)

The jury highlighted the proposal's ability to combine a popular, accessible character with a monumental architectural presence, creating new spaces for gathering and activity within the Balcón del Bicentenario.

Its architectural language and references to post-modernist architecture were particularly interesting, alongside its reinterpretation of elements associated with the urban and popular memory of Donostia-San Sebastián.

Overall, the jury recognised the architectural interest of an intervention capable of engaging with the monumental character of La Concha Bay while offering an approachable architecture oriented towards public use and enjoyment.

5. Jury decision

Following a comparative assessment of the three finalist proposals and an extensive discussion of their different architectural and conceptual approaches, the jury decided to award the following prizes:

PRIZE	PROPOSAL NO.	TITLE
FIRST PRIZE	246	BADIA ENEA
SECOND PRIZE	202	LATXA
THIRD PRIZE	203	TARTE

6. Closing

Following the completion of the deliberations and the announcement of the jury's decision, the meeting was brought to a close.

HABIC, acting as Technical Secretariat of the competition, is responsible for documenting the outcome of the deliberations and coordinating the corresponding communications in accordance with the procedures established by the organisers.