

2026 PhD Video Awards – Terms and Conditions

1. WHO WE ARE AND HOW TO ENTER

- 1.1 The 2026 PhD Video Awards (the "**Competition**") is organised by Buildings & Cities Ltd ("**B&C**", "**we**", "**us**") in association with the Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz-Association ("**ARL**").
- 1.2 The Competition is free to enter. Any costs involved in producing your video are your own responsibility.
- 1.3 The entry platform opens on **01 October 2026** and closes on **13 October at noon** GMT ("**Entry Period**"). Late submissions will be disqualified.
- 1.4 We accept no responsibility for entries that are lost, delayed, corrupted or not received for any reason, including technical failures. Proof of submission shall not constitute proof of receipt by B&C.

2. WHO CAN ENTER

- 2.1 You may enter if, at the date of entry, you are:
 - 2.1.1 at least 18 years of age;
 - 2.1.2 currently enrolled in a PhD programme related to the built environment, or within one year after the award of your PhD -i.e. your PhD was awarded in 2025;
 - 2.1.3 entering on the basis of your own PhD research; and
 - 2.1.4 an individual acting in your personal capacity.
- 2.2 Employees, contractors and agents of B&C and ARL, members of the judging panel, and their immediate family members are not eligible.

3. WHAT TO SUBMIT

- 3.1 Each entry must include:
 - 3.1.1 one video (one entry per person only);
 - 3.1.2 a written statement about your video (maximum 100 words);
 - 3.1.3 evidence of PhD enrolment or award date (e.g. student ID or supervisor's letter);
 - 3.1.4 a short biography of approximately 100 words;
 - 3.1.5 a headshot photograph; and
 - 3.1.6 your full contact details, including postal address, email address and institutional affiliation.
 - 3.1.7 Your agreement to these terms and conditions; and to the rules of the Video Award
- 3.2 Your video must meet the technical specifications set out in the 2026 Video Awards Rules.

- 3.3 Incomplete entries will not be considered. We may ask for further information to verify your eligibility.
- 3.4 Entries submitted on behalf of another person, entries submitted by agents or third parties, bulk entries, and entries originating from competition or entry notification services are not permitted and will be disqualified. The use of any automated software, script or device to submit or otherwise facilitate an entry is strictly prohibited.

4. NO AI-GENERATED CONTENT

- 4.1 The use of AI tools or systems to generate any part of your video or entry is strictly prohibited.
- 4.2 By submitting an entry, you warrant that your video contains no AI-generated content. We reserve the right to disqualify any entry we reasonably believe contains AI-generated content, at any stage of the Competition including after a prize has been announced.

5. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 By submitting your entry, you grant B&C and ARL a perpetual, irrevocable, transferable, royalty-free licence to upload, host, show, reproduce, publish, distribute and otherwise use your Materials (defined below) on our websites, at conferences and events, in newsletters and publications, and on social media. This licence is **exclusive for the first three months from the date of submission and non-exclusive thereafter**. "Materials" means all content included in or accompanying your entry, including your video, text, images, audio and music.
- 5.2 We will credit you as the creator of your Materials wherever reasonably practicable.
- 5.3 You agree to allow us to use your name and/or likeness for publicity purposes in connection with the Competition, including on our website and associated channels.
- 5.4 By submitting your entry, you confirm that:
 - 5.4.1 you own all rights in your Materials, or have **obtained in writing all necessary licences and releases** covering both your own use and our use as described in clause 5.1;
 - 5.4.2 for any content used under a Creative Commons or other open licence, you have complied with its terms;
 - 5.4.3 where any individual appears in your video (in person, by likeness or by voice), you have obtained their **written consent** for the public uses described in clause 5.1;
 - 5.4.4 you have credited all third-party content in your Materials and included at the end of your video a list of all sources, licences/releases and names of individuals appearing in the video;
 - 5.4.5 your Materials are your own original work;
 - 5.4.6 your Materials do not infringe any law or the rights (including intellectual property, privacy or moral rights) of any third party;

- 5.4.7 your Materials are not defamatory, obscene, blasphemous or otherwise objectionable;
 - 5.4.8 you have full legal capacity to enter into and be legally bound by these Terms and Conditions; and
 - 5.4.9 you are authorised to submit the entry and grant the rights described in clause 5.1 on behalf of any individuals featured in the video who are not the entrant, in addition to having obtained their written consent as required by clause 5.4.3.
- 5.5 You agree to indemnify B&C and ARL for all costs, legal fees, damages and expenses arising from any breach of your warranties above or any third-party claim relating to your Materials. You also agree to cooperate reasonably in the defence of any such claim, including by providing evidence of licences and consents.

6. PRIZES

- 6.1 Winners are selected as set out in the 2026 PhD Video Awards Rules. The prizes are:
- First Prize: €800
 - Second Prize: €600
 - People's Vote Prize: €400
- 6.2 We reserve the right not to award a prize, or to award fewer prizes than advertised, if in our reasonable opinion there are insufficient entries of a sufficient standard to justify the award of that prize.
- 6.3 The judges' decisions are final.
- 6.4 All entrants will be notified of the results by 10 November 2026.
- 6.5 Prizes are paid in Euros to the winning entrant(s) by bank transfer. We are not responsible for currency conversion costs, bank charges or any tax liabilities. Winners are solely responsible for any tax obligations in their country of residence.
- 6.6 If we cannot contact a winner within 14 days of first attempting to do so, or if a winner fails to provide the information needed to receive their prize within a reasonable time, we reserve the right to withdraw the prize and award it to an alternative entrant.
- 6.7 We will publicise the names, institutional affiliations and winning entries of prize winners.
- 6.8 Before receiving their prize, winners are required to provide a valid form of identification satisfactory to B&C proving their identity and eligibility.
- 6.9 To comply with the UK Code of Non-broadcast Advertising and Sales Promotion (CAP Code), B&C will either publish or make available upon request information confirming that valid prize awards have taken place. Upon written request received within one month of the closing date of the Competition, B&C will provide the surname and country of residence (or institutional affiliation) of each prize winner to the person making the request. If a winner objects to their details being published, B&C will nonetheless retain the right to provide those details and the winning entry to the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) if required to do so.

7. YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 7.1 Any personal information provided to B&C during the entry process (including but not limited to your name, e-mail address, telephone number and date of birth) must be correct. B&C accept no responsibility for any incorrect personal information provided to them.
- 7.2 B&C will hold your personal information in accordance with these terms and conditions and its privacy policy.
- 7.3 B&C will only retain your personal information for as long as is necessary for the purposes for which it was collected in connection with the Competition, or as otherwise required by applicable law. B&C shall implement and maintain appropriate technical and organisational security measures in compliance with the UK GDPR and any other applicable data protection law.

8. GENERAL

- 8.1 Our decisions on all matters relating to the Competition are final. We reserve the right (acting reasonably) to:
 - 8.1.1 disqualify any entrant whose conduct is contrary to the spirit of the Competition;
 - 8.1.2 amend these Terms and Conditions on reasonable notice; and
 - 8.1.3 cancel the Competition if circumstances beyond our control require it.
- 8.2 To the fullest extent permitted by law, we exclude all liability relating to the Competition and any prize. Nothing in these Terms and Conditions limits our liability for death or personal injury caused by our negligence, fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation, or any liability that cannot be excluded by law.
- 8.3 Our total liability to any entrant shall not exceed the value of the prize awarded to that entrant (if any).
- 8.4 These Terms and Conditions are the entire agreement between you and B&C relating to the Competition.
- 8.5 If any provision of these Terms and Conditions is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will continue to apply.
- 8.6 No third party has any rights under these Terms and Conditions (Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999).
- 8.7 These Terms and Conditions are governed by the law of England and Wales, and any disputes will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

Contact

For all queries about the Competition, please contact B&C at:

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