

Project

RUE DE LA LOI, INTERNATIONAL MASTERPLAN COMPETITION

Architects

NFA (NICOLAS FIRKET ARCHITECTS)

Address

n°15 - n°130, Rue de la Loi, 1000 Bruxelles

Programme

Gathering the European Commission offices along the Rue de la Loi. Fostering a sense of public space as well as a symbol of citizenship.

About

The lack of a definitive master plan for the European Commission has produced a disparate organization, a transient entity within the city. Physical presence is manifest only through real estate purchases and temporary rentals. The European Commission desires to condense the majority of its program onto one unified site, promoting a greater degree of interaction, efficiency, and integrity. Utilizing the Rue de la Loi axis, a definitive axis for the Commission is established.

Complicated ownership patterns and a limited budget render planning of a complete campus for the European commission futile. It is difficult to predict when adjacent lots will become available for future expansions.

Instead of allowing the expansion to develop in an ad-hoc manner where growth occurs through a series of individual icons whose strength only diminishes in time, we propose to produce a symbol for Europe through a systematic urbanism. Utilizing a rigid module of 25x25x25 meters, we have devised a strategy that combines the tower, which liberates the groundplane, with a horizontal system which is effective in promoting collaboration. Through merging the two systems a new synergy, one that could not exist in either individually, is produced.

Unlike a typical master plan which promotes growth through ground-up densification and does not serve the objective of a public entity, we propose a system that allows growth of a void over time.

Typology

Civic and community

Status

Concept proposal

Conception

2008

Delivery

2009

Client

Région de Bruxelles Capitale

Total budget

PPAS

Per square meters

PPAS

Area

880.000

Co-author

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OTHER PROJECTS :

Private house Villa Arra
- 2006 2010
- Queue-du-Bois

Private house
- 2006 2009
- La Hulpe

NEO Project - Redevelopment of the
Heysel Plateau
- 2010
- Bruxelles

Special techniques	Werner Sobek
Landscape	Agence TER
Others	ARUP London
Others	DEGW



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