
EUROPAN 17 : INHABITED MILIEU'S CHALLENGES

The European 17 competition is a flagship project of the Commission's New European Bauhaus initiative. The initiative aims at a positive and tangible, culture-oriented, people-centred and inclusive experience.

For the E17 session, the only site, the Jubilee Park in Brussels, will concentrate all issues and hopes about innovative models answering Living Cities issues.

THREE SYMBOLIC AMBITIONS

• The Belgium bicentennial anniversary in 2030 is inspiring the vision of the Jubilee Park as the new creative area embodying the presence of Europe in Brussels as well in its structural shape, as in the public uses of its build and unbuild spaces.

• The masterplan elaborated by the ASBL HORIZON 50/200 identifies as one out of 5 projects a landscape and architectural intervention to reinforce the links between the City, the Parc and the European institutions in the historic axes and in the parameter of the tunnel opening Trémie Kennedy. The idea would be to make EU institutions' and Commission's achievements more accessible and tangible to the public in this parameter.

• The European 17 competition is a flagship project of the Commission's New European Bauhaus initiative. The initiative aims at a positive and tangible, culture-oriented, people-centred and inclusive experience. The redevelopment of the Cinquantenaire Parc is integral part of the new urban vision of the European Quarter of the Brussels Capital Region and the City of Brussels which is a NEB reference project. The European Commission is contributing to the transformation of the quarter and working towards the delivery of NEB initiatives also as part of its own real estate strategy and its responsibility as an important actor in the European quarter in Brussels.

MONUMENTS AND NATURE FRAGILISED BY UNDERGROUND INFRASTRUCTURES

The Jubilee Park (Parc du Cinquantenaire) was created around 150 years ago, to celebrate Belgium's fiftieth anniversary. Initially conceived to represent the political and economic power of the Belgian State, its context has considerably changed since its creation, with the evolution of mobility paradigms and the gradual development of the European institutions on the edges of the park. In the last 50 years, the park has suffered several transformations, due to an incredibly dense underground infrastructure, including the creation of an automobile tunnel, overhanging a metro tunnel, which cuts the park in two at its central axis. The park is also suffering from the new constraints (heavy rainfall and drought) imposed by climate change.

Questions to the competitors

IMAGINE A SECOND LIFE

The uses of the park have diversified since its creation (sports, leisure, mobility, etc.), sometimes putting it at risk. The EU



Commission has set up a think tank to rethink about the whole EU Institutions area as an opened living city, and not anymore a monofunctional tertiary enclosure. Recent developments in terms of soft and micro-mobilities impose to think about the automobile mobility in the next 30 to 50 years: will the car traffic be the same? These are major changes already ongoing in the urban conditions of the park.

FROM SCHUMAN TO MERODE AND ACROSS

The reflection zone of the competition (red zone) wants to enhance the necessary urban relations of build and unbuild spaces. Therefore, the reflection zone associates the close neighborhoods of the park, as well in their structural as their social, economic and functional conditions. The intervention zone (yellow zone), emphasizes the structural relations between two important urban poles: the Schuman roundabout, on the Brussels municipality territory, identified as the center of the European Institutions area, and the Merode cross point, on the Etterbeek municipality territory, introducing a more multifunctional urban typology. This axis as to be seen as a cursor line generating diverse relations across. A covering or a catwalk above the tunnel has to be seen as a result of these relations, not as a goal in itself.

> How can the Jubilee Park become an inspiring place according to the vision of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles (Sustainable, Together, Beautiful) and criteria (participatory process, Multi-level engagement, Transdisciplinary approach) ?

> How can the Jubilee Park become a gathering space adapted to issues related to climate changes ? How can light or more offensive interventions favor these two goals?

> Is an intervention in the parameter of the tunnel opening ? Trémie Kennedy ? an opportunity to present achievements of the EU institutions' and the Commission in an accessible and tangible way to the public?

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