A.I.
Architects for innovative research

Call for research experts and young talents in Artificial Intelligence

27 February 2023

Based on complex computer programmes capable of simulating human intelligence traits, such as reasoning and learning, in the coming years, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is expected to become a game-changer in many economic sectors, including the construction and building sectors. In the field of architecture - a discipline at the crossroads of the arts, technology, economics and social issues, Artificial Intelligence holds as much promise as it does fear. For some, it will offer architects the means to explore new aesthetic frontiers, to work on architectural forms that were previously impossible to achieve, to push further simulations and combinations of scenarios.
For others, it entails/ bears/ heralds a risk that the profession may disappear or be downgraded by machines capable of producing plans autonomously.

To demonstrate and promote the new trends on architects' attitude, ACE is organising an open call for everybody engaged in order to select best proposals for research. Besides, the ACE will also publish a shortlist of the 20 best submissions that will offer an overlook on current AI architecture scene. The intention is to provide a deep look at current practice involving digital technology from various angles and open the discussion on the next developments, threads and opportunities. Outcomes from programme shall serve as a material for deeper study and tool for communication with legislators and other engaged stakeholders.

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1. Why to participate?

ACE is the European umbrella organisation representing interest round of half million architects with a strong network and communication impact.
By participating to the ACE study, you will see your work published and shared amongst the european community of architects. The 3 best projects will receive financial support for the next elaboration of project research. (See point 8)

2. Who is concerned?

The programme is open to all. Submission to research is for free. No professional qualification is required. Participation is open for individuals or for teams, institutions, or universities. `

3. How is the study organised?

How is the study organised? The call is organised in 2 phases:

Phase 1

Participants are invited to join the call and share:

- A brief description of the research objective

- An existing case-study project

Outcome of Phase 1

All submissions will be assessed by the ACE Selection Pannel that will review and select:

- 20 best case-study projects for publication

- 3 shortlisted projects

Phase 2

The 3 shortlisted projects selected in phase 1 will have the opportunity to deepen their research project in respect of a defined timeframe and allocated budget. There is an obligation for the 3 research teams to regularly coordinate and update ACE on the last developments.

Final outcome

A publication that will encompass:

- 20 best case-study projects

- 3 research projects on the impact of AI in Architecture

ACE reserves the right to conduct the call process and will inform the selected participants in due course.

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4. What is the difference between a case-study project and a research project?

Case-study project is an already existing project from applicant´s portfolio demonstrating engagement on (at-least) one of ACE objectives (listed below)
Research project is a brief proposal for a new research project focusing on ACE objectives (See the document attached) or an ongoing research project with a description for the next stages development.

5. What is the objective of research and case study?

ACE has defined areas of interest and objectives in the attached "context" document. It is up to applicants to bring own proposals regarding the subject of investigation.

Successful submissions shall follow one of the proposed objectives:
- AI in urban planning
- Creativity and practice AI and education of architecture
- AI and sustainable approach
- Regulation and ethics

6. What shall the submission include?

Submissions shall include:
- Personal information
- Details of experience presented by shortlisted portfolio
- One selected case study project
- Brief of the proposed objective to study. It is also possible to submit projects to study that are currently on-going / underway.

Submission shall consist of 10 A4 pdf pages, max 10m MB uploaded by email. It's possible to attach a direct link to a web video presentation, if available. All information submitted by participants must be in English.

Every submission must consist of case study project and research proposal. Submission of only case-study project will not be assessed or only research topic will not be assessed.

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7. How will be the submissions assessed?

ACE is seeking new undiscovered talents; so priority could be given to those projects that have not previously been published.

The applications will be evaluated with the support of a selection pannel.

The main criteria of the selection panel of shortlisted case-study projects are : -

- Originality of project
- Quality of execution
- Meeting ACE objectives.

ACE is keeping rights to select different number of shortlisted projects for publication.

The main criteria of jury for selection of 3 research projects to study are:

- Reasonability of the study in terms of discovering new frontiers
- Meeting ACE objectives
- Originality
- Applicability in practice

ACE is keeping rights to select smaller number of projects to research.

8. How is the participation in ACE A.I. study rewarded?

20 short listed best cases studies will be published in the study.

From this short list, the ACE selection panel will nominate 3 projects in oder to deepen their research with a funding from the Creative Europe programme.

ACE is operating with budget of 20 000 euros that will be divided among 3 selected researchers equally (outcome phase 2)

Timeline

Announcement of call: 27.01. 2023

Deadline for submissions: 28.02.2023

Announcement of shortlisted case study projects and research projects 30.3.2023

Deadline for concept alignement between ACE and researcher team by spring 2023

Deadline for finalisation of the researches commissioned by ACE – 15.09.2023

Publication of shortlisted projects and studies – Fall 2023

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