

# International Architecture Award “Golden Pencil of the Mediterranean”

***First edition: “Mediterranean Places of Worship”***

## Article 1

### DEFINITION, THEME AND PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The International Award entitled “Golden Pencil of the Mediterranean”, is dedicated to professionals who - through their work, their ideas and their passions - influence the transformations of the territory in the countries that insist in the Mediterranean basin, true cradle of the world architectural language, promoting a fruitful cultural and ethnic dialogue.

The initiative, which was born within the events of Agrigento Italian Capital of Culture 2025, is promoted by: Order of Architects PPC of Agrigento in collaboration with the National Council of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservationists of Italy and with the Foundation Architects in the Mediterranean-Agrigento and is sponsored by: Archdiocese of Agrigento, Municipality of Agrigento, Regional Council of Architects of Sicily, Ente Parco Valle dei Templi, Fondazione Agrigento 2025, University Center of Agrigento, “Chiesa Oggi” Magazine and UMAR (Mediterranean Union of Architects).

The aim of the award is to foster cultural debate in the Mediterranean basin, proposing architecture as a universal language of debate among people, capable of overcoming political and sometimes religious differences that often prevent a fruitful debate between the civilizations of the earth.

In this sense, the choice of the theme referred to in the following article 2 is perfectly in line with the objectives of the award, which may be repeated every two years, involving, from time to time, different Organizer and promoters, in relation to the theme covered.

## Article 2

### AWARD TITLE

The first edition of the International Award referred to in Article 1 will be held on the theme “***Mediterranean Places of Worship***”.

## Article 3

### PROPOSING ENTITIES

The proposing Institution is the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservationists of Agrigento, in collaboration with the Foundation of Architects in the Mediterranean-Agrigento and the National Council of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservationist.

## Article 4

### PATRONAGE

The award is under the Patronage of: Archdiocese of Agrigento, Municipality of Agrigento, Regional Council of the Orders of Architects PPC of Sicily, Valle dei Templi Park Authority, Agrigento 2025 Foundation, Agrigento University Center, “Chiesa Oggi” Magazine and UMAR (Mediterranean Union of Architects).

## Article 5

### AWARD SUBJECT

The purpose of the Prize is for the tenderers to acquire “posters”, in the format specified in the following article 11, which illustrate projects for places of worship such as Churches, Mosques and Synagogues, already built in the territory of one of the countries referred to in the following article 6.

## Article 6

### CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

The Award is open to all architects (members of the professional orders or associations of their own country) who work in the countries within the Mediterranean Basin [Albania, Algeria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Gibraltar, Greece, Italy, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Montenegro, Palestine (Gaza Strip), Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, Türkiye, Syria, Slovenia].

Participation is free and can be individual or in a group: in the second case, the group must nominate one of its members as Group Leader, with delegation of representation to the auctioneers. A group of multiple competitors will collectively have the same rights as a single competitor.

Participation can only take place by submitting a single project, under penalty of exclusion from the Award.

The possibility for a single subject to participate in multiple groups, or to participate both individually and as a member of a group, is excluded. The participation of a single subject in reference to more than one project entails the exclusion from the Award of all the projects involved.

Upon registration, competitors assume all responsibility, without exception, regarding the project presented, in relation to any violations of copyright by third parties, undertaking to hold the tendering body harmless from the costs of legal defense, expenses and damages to which it may be sentenced, following actions brought against it by the same subjects.

The material received will not be returned. It may be used for the exhibition, for any subsequent publications and for any other institutional use.

The data collected will be processed, including with IT tools, pursuant to Legislative Decree 30 June 2003, n. 196 and subsequent amendments and Regulation (EC) 27 April 2016, n. 2016/679/EU, exclusively within the scope of the procedure to which this announcement refers. By participating in the prize, the competitors therefore authorize, free of charge, the callers and the entities sponsoring the initiative to process their personal data for the purposes of carrying out the procedures pertaining to this announcement (for example and not limited to: exhibitions, publications in magazines and on websites, etc.).

Registration implies full acceptance of this announcement.

## Article 7

### REASONS FOR EXCLUSION

**The following are grounds for exclusion from participation in the Award:**

- documentation received after 12.00 a.m. on 21 July 2025;
- presentation of the documents in a manner different from the model attached to the notice;
- failure to comply with the rules contained in this notice.

## Article 8

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Persons involved in the drafting and implementation of the announcement, members of the jury and their relatives and in-laws up to and including the third degree are excluded from participation in the Award. Furthermore, members of the boards of directors of the issuing bodies and of the bodies sponsoring the announcement cannot participate as competitors.

## Article 9

### DISCLOSURE OF THE NOTICE

The Call will be published, by May 20, 2025, in Italian and English, on the official website <https://premi.concorsiawn.it/matita-oro-mediterraneo-2025> and will also be disseminated through:

- the website of the National Council of Architects, Planners, Landscapers and Conservationists: [www.archiworld.it](http://www.archiworld.it);
- the websites of the National organisms of Architects adhering to U.M.A.R.;

Furthermore, the call may be disseminated through the websites and mailing lists of the Associations of Architects of the Mediterranean Basin Countries referred to in the previous article 6.

## Article 10

### QUERIES

Queries and requests for clarification can be formulated using exclusively the website: <https://premi.concorsiawn.it/matita-oro-mediterraneo-2025/quesiti> starting from the date of publication of the announcement (by 20 May 2025) and until 12:00 a.m. on 10 June 2025.

The Organizing Secretariat of the award will collect the questions received and publish the answers in the appropriate section by 10 June 2025. The answers to the questions constitute an integral and substantial part of this Announcement.

## Article 11

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Registration for the Award and the transmission of the works will take place using exclusively the assistance of telematic systems, following the information that will be available on the official website of the award.

In particular, registration will take place at the same time as uploading the documentation on the platform <https://premi.concorsiawn.it/matita-oro-mediterraneo-2025/iscrizione> by filling out the online form. The electronic system, to confirm the correct completion of the procedure, will make available a note of receipt of the data and documents transmitted. This note will constitute confirmation of successful registration. It is advisable to upload in good time, with adequate advance notice of the indicated date, because the system will automatically block, even if the upload is in progress, at the established time on the day of the deadline. It will not be possible to complete the upload after the time indicated in the announcement. Any disruptions and/or malfunctions of the internet network or other technical problems regarding the uploading of the materials will not be attributable to the subjects issuing the prize or to the manager of the electronic activity. The submission of the documentation must be completed by 12:00 (noon) CET on 21 July 2025.

## Article 12

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

**A single panel must be sent, in UNI A1 format (594 x 841 millimeters) (23x33 inches), in vertical direction, contained in a single PDF file with a maximum size of 80 MB, with a resolution of 300 dpi (in order to allow for any subsequent publications).**

**This panel must contain:**

- a brief description of the project (max 500 characters), also indicating the client's personal details;
- design documents;
- one or more photographic images of the project realized;
- additional photographs and/or drawings illustrating the project.

**N.B.**

- The representation techniques are free, a good resolution of images and photographs is required;
- By participating in the prize, the competitor guarantees that the images and graphics sent refer to works of his/her own exclusive conception and design and ensures the consent of the client or owner to the presentation and use of the images of the work itself, for the performance of the prize referred to in this announcement, assuming all responsibility in this regard;

## Article 13

### COMPOSITION OF THE JURY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Jury will examine the proposals submitted and define the final ranking.

**The Jury will be appointed and published on the competition website by the deadline for submitting the papers referred to in the previous article 12 (21 July 2025) and will be composed of:**

1. Renowned Architect designated by the Order of Architects PPC of the Province of Agrigento, with the role of President;
2. Renowned Architect designated by the CNAPPC;
3. Renowned Architect designated by the Foundation Architects in the Mediterranean-Agrigento.

The three Institutions who indicate the titular members will also nominate their respective alternate.

In the event of unavailability of an effective member, the President of the Commission shall provide for immediate replacement with one of the alternate.

The Jury will express its evaluations based on the following criteria, which it may integrate by providing adequate motivation:

- Architectural quality of the project idea;
- Relationship with the territory and/or the urban context;
- Sustainability in relation to climate changes that increasingly weigh on the planet;
- Relationship with the socio-cultural context.

The Jury, at the end of the work, will draw up a general ranking of the best projects of works carried out in the Mediterranean basin.

The Jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal.

In the event of a tie, the vote of the President of the Jury will be decisive.

The Jury, whose meetings will be valid with the presence of the majority of members, will carry out the work for the evaluation of the works via telematic connection, defining the final ranking by 31 July 2025.

## Article 14 AWARDS

The prizes will be awarded to the three best projects implemented in the Mediterranean basin:

- a) **the first-place** winner will be awarded the “**Matita d’Oro del Mediterraneo 2025**” prize;
- b) **the second and third place** winners will receive a commemorative plaque with the reproduction of the logo and graphics of the award;
- c) the jury may also award **up to five mentions** to the authors of the projects that ranked behind the first three. The authors of the mentioned projects will be given commemorative parchments.

The winners of the prize referred to in the previous letters a), b), if present at the award ceremony, will be recognized a lump sum reimbursement of €3,000 (three thousand euros) each. This reimbursement is all-inclusive and remains unchanged even if the winning entity is composed of a group.

The aforementioned ceremony will take place on October 10, 2025, on the occasion of the National Conference of the Orders of Architects, Planners, Landscapers, Conservationists of Italy, which will be held in the city of temples, within the events of "Agrigento Italian capital of culture 2025".

## Article 15 EXHIBITION OF WORKS AND PUBLICATIONS

The material collected may be used by the initiators and the subjects sponsoring the initiative as a starting point for any international and/or local conferences and exhibitions and will, in particular, also be published in a special issue of the magazine “Aa” of the OAPPC of Agrigento. The projects may also be published, by the subjects sponsoring the initiative, on their official websites and/or in their magazines.

**Article 16**  
**AWARD CALENDAR**

<b>I</b>	Publication date:	<b>May 20, 2025</b>
<b>II</b>	Deadline for submission of questions by competitor:	<b>June 10, 2025</b>
<b>III</b>	Publication of answers to questions:	<b>June 20, 2025</b>
<b>IV</b>	Closing of registrations and submission of works, by 12:00 (noon) CET on:	<b>July 21, 2025</b>
<b>V</b>	Conclusion of the Jury's work	<b>July 31, 2025</b>
<b>VI</b>	Publication of results and communication to winners	<b>August 05, 2025</b>
<b>VII</b>	Award ceremony for winners and exhibition of project works	<b>October 10, 2025</b>

**Article 17**  
**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AND OPERATIONAL SECRETARIAT:**

The Organizing Committee is made up of representatives of the promoter and the subjects sponsoring the award, while the operational secretariat, established at the Order of Architects P.P.C. of the Province of Agrigento, will be coordinated by the Responsible Officer for the Procedure and contact person of the same callers, Arch. Raimondo Zambuto, who can be contacted at the address [segreteria.premiomediterraneo@gmail.com](mailto:segreteria.premiomediterraneo@gmail.com)

**F/to: The Responsible Officer for the Procedure**  
Arch. Raimondo Zambuto