



4th Quadrant of Victory Square  
International Architectural Competition  
Prague – Czech Republic

# Final report on public consultation of the shortlisted competition proposals

28 June 2022



## 1 The public and key stakeholder's participation in the competition's preparation, process and final phase

Local residents, students and teachers, business owners, employees of local businesses and institutions in the area, and other users of the area have a unique experience of Victory Square and its surroundings. They know well the values and challenges of the area, which may be different for each demographic group and each type of user.

The public had the opportunity to influence the competition results in two phases. In the spring of 2022, the public had the opportunity to be involved in the preparation of the competition documents. The outputs from public and key stakeholder participation at this stage were one of the basis for the formulation of the Competition Brief. A public consultation on the selected competition proposals was then held in May-June 2023 as part of the final phase of the competition.

In addition to the direct public participation, a so-called consultation group was created, to which members of the working and steering group for the preparation of the competition, i.e. mainly representatives of the local government at the level of the capital city of Prague and the Prague 6 municipal district, nominated representatives of the public, cultural and educational institutions or experts from various fields. The opportunity to participate in the consultation group was also used by the public, especially by the citizens of Prague 6 interested in the development of the area. The members of the consultation group were consulted on the framework of the Competition Brief, and in the last phase of the Competition, the members of the consultation group had the opportunity to participate in the consultation of the selected competition proposals, as did the general public.

## 2 Public participation forms in the consultation of shortlisted competition proposals

The public had the opportunity to see the Phase 2 designs on the competition website, at the outdoor exhibition and during the consultation afternoon. Comments on the designs could be submitted via an online form on the competition website.

### 2.1 Competition website

The website [www.4kvadrant.cz](http://www.4kvadrant.cz) is used to communicate the competition to the public. An online form for public comments has been placed on the website, it is also possible to download the exhibition panels in .pdf format, the same as those displayed at the outdoor exhibition.

### 2.2 Outdoor exhibition of competition proposals

From 29 May to 30 June 2023, the exhibition panels were placed in the 4th quadrant of Victory Square area. They showcased the five competition proposals that were shortlisted for Phase 2 of the competition, as well as possibilities for public engagement in the final phase of the competition (see **Figure 1**).



> **Figure 1** Outdoor exhibition of the competition proposals in the area of the 4th Quadrant of Victory Square, source: ONplan, 2023

## 2.3 Consultation day

On 11 June, the Festival of Embassies took place in the 4th Quadrant of Victory Square. During the festival, the public had the opportunity to ask the representatives of the competition client and the organiser about the plans for the completion of the 4th Quadrant.



> **Figure 2** Festival of Embassies, during which the plan for the 4th Quadrant completion was discussed with the public, source: ONplan, 2023

## 2.4 On-line form for public comments

From 29 May to 11 June 2023, the public had the opportunity to submit comments on the five competition proposals shortlisted for Phase 2 of the competition via an on-line form on the competition website [www.4kvadrant.cz](http://www.4kvadrant.cz). Exhibition panels, identical to those displayed at the outdoor exhibition, were available to download in .pdf format from the competition website.

The on-line form was based on the key themes that were expressed during the May–June 2022 public participation process, which the public believes should be addressed as part of the completion of the 4th Quadrant. In the form, respondents answered the following questions:

1. **Lack of civic amenities:** A major problem of the locality is the lack of civic amenities, be it shops, services or cultural facilities. To what extent is this problem addressed in this proposal?
2. **Public spaces:** The quality of the public spaces within the 4th Quadrant development and their usability is a key issue. The need to link new development to the university campus and publicly accessible and permeable courtyards was also emphasised. To what extent are these needs met in this proposal?
3. **Blue and green infrastructure:** The need for as much green space as possible within the 4th Quadrant was strongly expressed. The public is calling for the integration of high quality and well maintained green space and open green spaces into new development. Is this need being met in this proposal?
4. **Respect for the character of the surrounding buildings:** The public emphasized the requirement for a quality architectural design of buildings and respect for the character of the surrounding buildings. In your opinion, is this requirement sufficiently respected in the proposal?
5. **Transport and mobility:** The public demands good permeability of the area for pedestrians and cyclists and convenient transfers between the stops of public transport. Is this need sufficiently met in this proposal?
6. **Other comments on the proposal.**

Each respondent could comment on each of the five Phase 2 proposals by verbal evaluation; comments were allowed both in Czech and English. In total, more than 140 comments on all proposals were submitted by 97 respondents. Comments filled in anonymously or submitted on behalf of offices that were part of the Phase 2 competition teams were not taken into account. All received comments in their original form are attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.

**Form for your comments**

**When can you participate and how will your comments be handled?**  
The collection of comments on the competition proposals takes place from 29 May to 11 June 2023. During the consultation, the public has the opportunity to see the five final competition proposals and comment on them. The public consultation will result in a report for the international competition jury. The report will be one of the basis for the jury's decision-making.

**How to fill in the form?**  
It is not necessary to comment on all topics listed in the form. Suggestions that you will not be able to include under any of the topics listed can be written in the additional comments box.

Forms sent anonymously or submitted later will not be taken into account. In order to process the form, it is also necessary to give your consent to the processing of personal data and to confirm that you got acquainted with the competition proposals and the Competition Brief.

**What is the public commenting on?**  
As part of the preparation of the competition documents, public engagement and mapping of the area took place in May–June 2022. Its findings became part of the competition brief. Therefore, this form is based on the key themes that were raised during the public engagement and that the public believes should be addressed in the development of the 4th Quadrant. How do you think the final competition proposals work with the themes that emerged from the public engagement?

Name and surname

I agree that my name, surname and my comment will be published as factual comments on the competition proposals at [www.4kvadrant.cz](http://www.4kvadrant.cz). Personal data is provided solely for the purpose of processing of comments. They will be handled in accordance with Act No. 101/2000 Coll. On the protection of personal data and the document Privacy Policy of ONplan lab, s.r.o.

I declare that I got acquainted with the competition proposals on the website [www.4kvadrant.cz](http://www.4kvadrant.cz) or at the public exhibition of competition proposals.

I declare that I got acquainted with the Competition Brief, which is available at [www.4kvadrant.cz](http://www.4kvadrant.cz).

I submit a comment for the organization (company, association, etc.).

Name of the organization

**Respondent information**

Sex  
man

Age  
11 - 20

**Figure 3** Cutout of the on-line public comment form, source: ONplan, 2023

## How the comments were handled

The results of the public participation in the last phase of the competition are presented in this publication. Summary of the consultation on the proposals from Phase 2 of the competition as well as individual comments were available to the jury during the 3rd competition workshop, so the comments became one of the inputs for the jury's discussion. The public comments will also be used by the competition client to further develop the winning proposal into a completion project.

**Your comments**

**Lack of civic amenities**

**Public spaces**  
The quality of the public spaces within the 4th Quadrant development and their usability is a key issue. The need to link new development to the university campus and publicly accessible and permeable courtyards was also emphasised. To what extent are these needs met in this proposal?

**Blue and green infrastructure**  
The need for as much green space as possible within the 4th quadrant was strongly expressed. The public is calling for the integration of high quality and well maintained green space and open green spaces into new development. Is this need being met in this proposal?

**Respect for the character of the surrounding buildings**

**Transport and mobility**  
The public demands good permeability of the area for pedestrians and cyclists and convenient transfers between the stops of public transport. Is this need sufficiently met in this proposal?

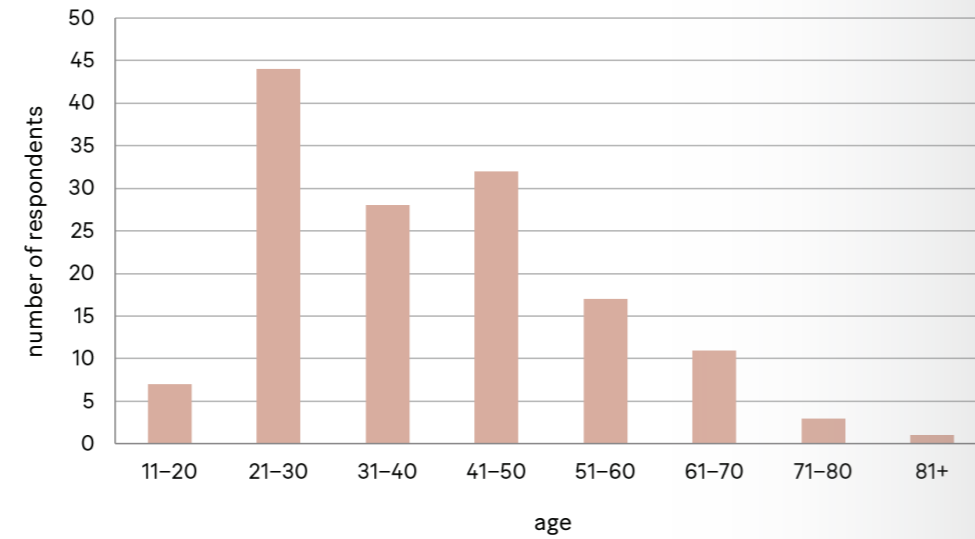
### 3 Summary of outputs from public participation in the consultation of shortlisted competition proposals

#### 3.1 On-line form for public comments

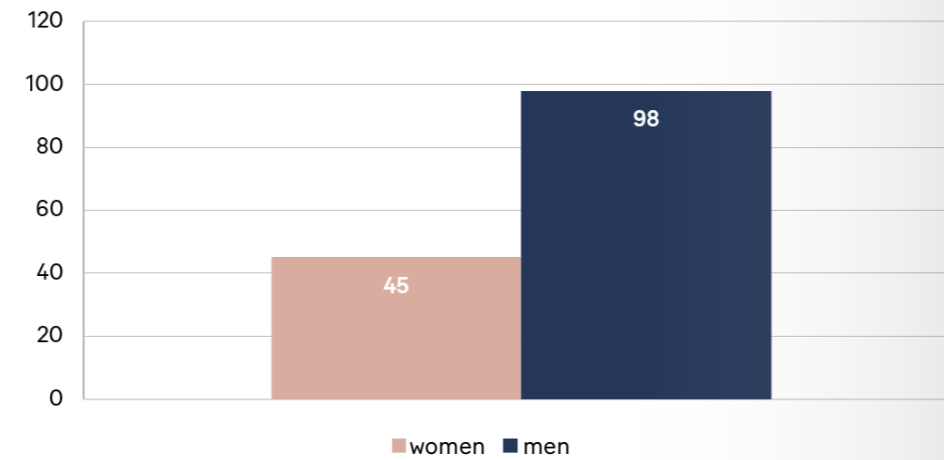
##### Respondents structure

The form was completed by 97 respondents who provided a total of 143 comments on all five Phase 2 competition proposals. Some respondents submitted comments on multiple competition proposals. More than a third of the comments were submitted by respondents in the 21–30 age category, and slightly fewer by respondents in the 31–40 and 41–50 age categories (see **Chart 1**). Men were more likely to comment on proposals (see **Chart 2**).

**Chart 1** Age structure of respondents, source: ONplan, 2023



**Chart 2** Respondents' gender, source: ONplan, 2023



##### Comments structure

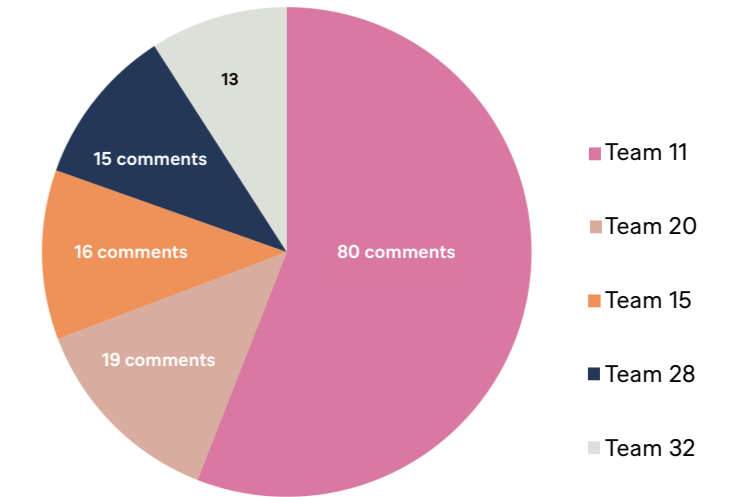
Team 11's proposal evoked the most reactions with a total of 80 comments submitted. For the other competition teams, there were between 10 and 20 comments (see **Chart 3**).

Team 11 was also the most commented on by foreign respondents, with teams 20 and 15 commenting slightly less. On the other hand, teams 28 and 32 were commented on only by Czech respondents (see **Chart 4**).

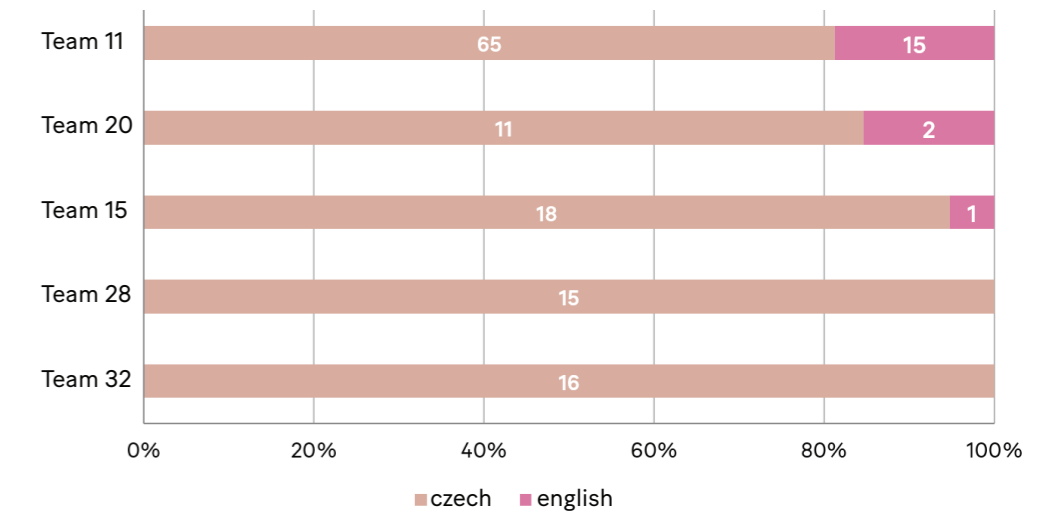
##### Method of public comment evaluation

To assess public comments, a method was used in which the nature of each comment was assessed as positive, neutral or negative. According to this characterization, charts were then created showing how the proposals were rated (positive, neutral, or negative) on each topic. At the same time, the most recurrent, interesting or pithy comments or phrases were generated from the verbal ratings and presented for each proposal.

**Chart 3** Number of comments submitted to each team, source: ONplan, 2023



**Chart 4** Proportion of comments submitted to the individual competition teams in Czech and English, source: ONplan, 2023

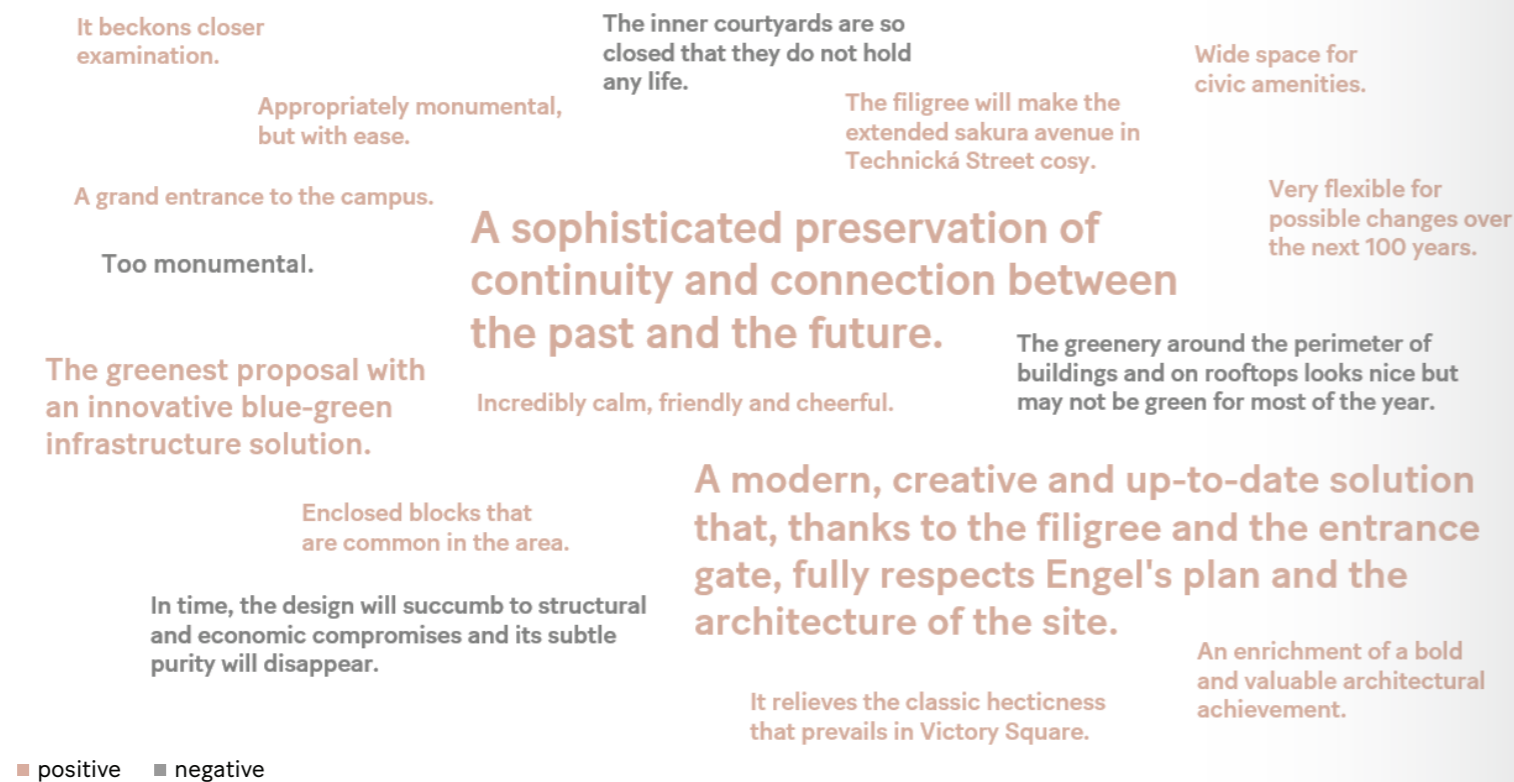


### Public comments on the competition proposal of Team 11: MVRDV

A total of 80 comments were submitted on Team 11's proposal, of which 15 were in English.

The theme of blue-green infrastructure was the most positively evaluated, especially the amount of greenery and its incorporation into the facades of the buildings, as well as the proposed roof gardens. Respect for the character of the surrounding buildings and the architectural design of the buildings was also highly appreciated by the public. In particular, the modern concept of Antonín Engel's original design was emphasised, which refers to the history and character of Dejvice, but is also conceived in a creative and innovative way that can bring new architecture to Prague. A number of respondents were impressed by the light and calm feel of the design, which can provide a relaxed atmosphere in the currently hectic Vítězné náměstí.

On the contrary, some respondents highlighted the fact that the greenery on the facades can be non-green for a large part of the year and the facade structure itself can succumb to ageing. The excessive monumentality of buildings or the enclosure of courtyards was also viewed negatively.



**Figure 4** Most frequent and interesting verbal comments from the public on Team 11's proposal, source: ONplan, 2023

### Public comments on the competition proposal of Team 15: Pavel Hnilička Architects+Planners, Baumschlager Eberle Architects

A total of 19 comments were submitted on Team 15's proposal, of which 1 was in English.

The most positive comments were received on the topic of public spaces and blue-green infrastructure. The high degree of permeability and openness of the courtyards was positively evaluated in these aspects. Related to this is the positive assessment of the representation of green spaces in the inner blocks and their good accessibility.

On the other hand, the theme of respect for the character of the surrounding buildings was rated most negatively. Although some respondents were positive about the division of the weight of the blocks into multiple buildings, more emphasised that this particular break-up was inappropriate, did not refer to Antonín Engel's original plan and gave the buildings a robust and cumbersome impression.



**Figure 5** Most frequent and interesting verbal comments from the public on Team 15's proposal, source: ONplan, 2023

**Public comments on the competition proposal of Team 20: Benthem Crouwel International, Opočenský Valouch Architekti**

A total of 13 comments were submitted on Team 20's proposal, of which 2 were in English.

The most positive assessment of the proposal was on the topic of public spaces, specifically a small square with a sunken space that is shielded from traffic noise and creates a pleasant space around the UCT building. The good permeability of the two blocks was also viewed positively.

On the other hand, respect for the character of the surrounding buildings was rated most negatively. The different character of the individual buildings was emphasized, which looks chaotic, as well as their uniformity due to the use of currently common and modern materials – glass and concrete. A large number of respondents were also negative about the proposed new small square, which they considered unnecessary given that there is already a Victory Square.

The passage from the left block does not follow the axis of Zikova Street.

Suitable location of the residential part and its level of permeability.

Both blocks are well permeable.

Each building has a different character, creating an impression of distraction and chaos

Sunken amphitheater that breaks up a uniform surface.

Lack of integration of greenery and green spaces.

Nice public space around the UCT building.

No need to build a little square behind the big square.

Quiet square shielded from the traffic.

Giant regular windows do not fit here.

Original openwork façade.

Modern interpretation of the original design.

Glass, concrete and sterile and uniform shapes.

■ positive ■ negative

**Figure 6** Most frequent and interesting verbal comments from the public on Team 20's proposal, source: ONplan, 2023

**Public comments on the competition proposal of Team 28: A69 - architekti**

A total of 15 comments, all in Czech, were submitted on Team 28's proposal.

Public spaces and blue-green infrastructure were rated most positively in the proposal. Respondents highlighted that the proposal offers a variety of public spaces and interesting corners with a unique atmosphere, providing plenty of green space and amenities. They also commented positively that the building fits in with the surrounding buildings, appearing light, simple and timeless.

However, respect for the character of the surrounding buildings was assessed rather negatively. A large number of respondents felt that the design was inconsistent and discordant with the surrounding buildings and that each building was very different. At the same time, respondents pointed out that the design was uninventive and did not bring any original or innovative features. The large glass areas were also viewed negatively and gave a monotonous impression to the public.

The only proposal with a sports field.

A simple and light building, blending in with the surroundings, which does not unnecessarily overwhelm it.

A central street with tall trees and scattered islands of greenery on the ground.

The facades are differentiated according to their function, thus creating a pleasant collage.

Inconsistent and disharmonious impression to the surrounding development.

Timelessness.

The residential block is non-inventive.

It is not disturbing to the surroundings.

Each route through the development offers a different kind of experience.

The most attractive proposal for the cultural center.

Interesting nook with atmosphere. It's like it's always been there.

The different levels in the courtyard limit the movement of people.

Public amenities meaningfully distributed around outside of the blocks.

■ positive ■ negative

**Figure 7** Most frequent and interesting verbal comments from the public on Team 28's proposal, source: ONplan, 2023

**Public comments on the competition proposal of Team 32: Cityförster, Studio Perspektiv**

A total of 16 comments, all in Czech, were submitted to Team 32's proposal.

Public spaces, transport and mobility and amenities were rated most positively. Good permeability of new development was positively rated by the public, the fact that the development has an open and airy feel and creates pleasant public spaces with sufficient green space. The public space around the new UCT building and the sunken square were positively evaluated. Some respondents were positive about the overall simplicity and lightness of the new development and especially the UCT building, which fits into the context of the site.

Yet the theme of respect for the character of the surrounding buildings was perceived most negatively. In particular, the pronounced sloping facade towards Vítězné náměstí was emphasised, but also the overall massive buildings, which look uninspiring, monotonous and do not bring any aesthetic value.



■ positive ■ negative

**Figure 8** Most frequent and interesting verbal comments from the public on Team 32's proposal, source: ONplan, 2023

**Comparison of comments of each competition teams in terms of topics**

When comparing the individual topics on which respondents commented, Team 11 and Team 32's proposals were rated most positively by the public.

In terms of civic amenities, team 32 was rated significantly highest, teams 20 and 32 were rated significantly highest in the public spaces theme, team 11 was rated significantly highest in the blue-green infrastructure and respect for the character of the surrounding buildings theme, and teams 32 and 11 were rated most positively in the transport and mobility theme (see Charts 5 to 9).

**Chart 5-9** Assessment of the competition proposals in each theme, source: ONplan, 2023

