

# **7th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2018**

## **20th - 24th of March 2018 - Gozo, Malta**

Hosted by: University of Malta, Anhalt University of Applied Sciences



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## **LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum Malta 2018**

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMPETITION**

## **Future! Envisioning the Eco Island of Gozo in 2050**



This International Student Competition is part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Landscape Forum of the LE:NOTRE Institute. The competition working period is from October 10, 2017 – January 19, 2018. The forum will be hosted by the University of Malta in cooperation with Anhalt University of Applied Sciences from March 20 – 24, 2018.

#### **1. COMPETITION ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**Competition Concept + Coordinaton**  
**University of Malta**  
**Anhalt University of Applied Sciences**  
**LE:NOTRE Institute**

Dr.-Ing. Ellen Fetzer, LE:NOTRE Institute  
Prof. Saviour Formosa  
Prof. Erich Buhman  
Prof. Nilgul Karadeniz

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## 2. AIM OF THE COMPETITION

The LE:NOTRE International Student Competition aims to support integrated and holistic landscape approaches through multidisciplinary student teams elaborating planning and design proposals at various scales. This year's competition invites you to envision the future of an entire Mediterranean island. Gozo is the smaller sister island of Malta located in the north of the archipelago. Around 30,000 inhabitants share this small territory of approximately 67 km<sup>2</sup>. According to the development agenda of the Maltese archipelago the Island of Gozo is to be developed as an ECO ISLAND.

The vision 'Eco Island' has recently undergone a local consultation process during which a rich set of ideas has been collected (see → <http://www.ecogozo.com>). The ideas gathered during this process have derived from various sectoral needs and perspectives, such as niche tourism, renewable energies, rural identity and much more. While each idea makes sense in its own right an integrated vision of how all of this will come together in an island landscape with limited spatial resources still needs further thought. The objective of this student competition is to envision the ECO Island at a landscape scale.

The local landscape potential is therefore seen in the context of the grand challenges as well as in regional driving forces of our times as summarized by the following keywords:

- Climate change
- Digitalisation
- Migration
- Globalisation
- Individualisation
- Urban Sprawl
- Biodiversity Loss
- Eco and Heritage Tourism
- Regional agricultural production and marketing

The participants are asked to reflect how these challenges and driving forces will affect the island of Gozo over the coming decades. They are then asked to design a vision of how an ideal response to those challenges could be exemplified on Gozo. Based on a holistic understanding of the landscape and its various social and environmental layers, the response should be formulated from a human perspective: How do we want to live in and with the landscape of Gozo in 2050?

The LE:NOTRE Institute invites any discipline to participate in this visioning process. Proposals need to take least three of the above mentioned grand challenges into account. The scenario logic needs to be built on that basis. Ideally, students will get together in multidisciplinary teams.

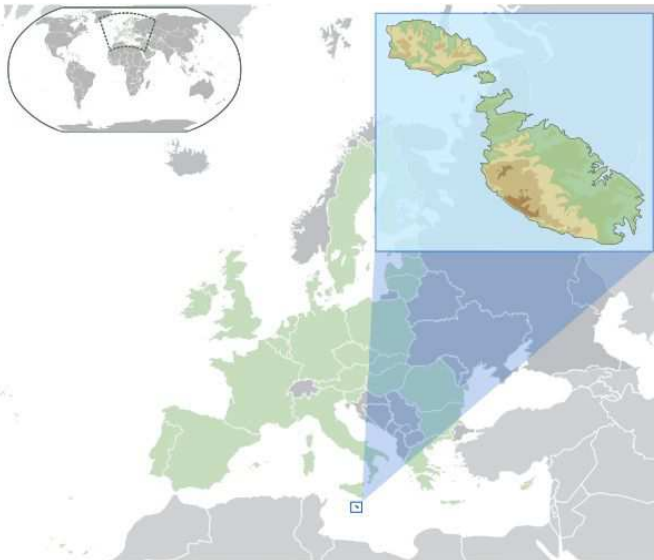
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### 3. LOCATION OF MALTA AND GOZO



#### Location of the Maltese Archipelago

Map source: By Location\_Malta\_EU\_Europe.png:

User:3meandEr derivative work: Trex

(Location\_Malta\_EU\_Europe.png) [CC BY-SA 3.0

(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>), via Wikimedia Commons



#### General Map of the Maltese Archipelago

Map source: By Location\_Malta\_EU\_Europe.svg:

\*Location\_Malta\_EU\_Europe.png: User:3meandEr derivative work: Trex (talk) derivative work: Bjankuloski06en [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Gozo belongs to the state of Malta and is located in the north of the Maltese archipelago. Malta entered the European Union in 2004. Gozo has around 30 000 inhabitants with a moderately ageing demographic structure. The island is currently only reachable by ferry via Malta, from where international airlines depart. Compared to the highly urbanised island of Malta, Gozo has largely maintained its rural character which is greatly enriched by various archaeological sites, some sandy beaches and a spectacular coastline. Gozo is also known as a good destination for all kinds of water sports.

Tourism in Gozo and Malta is constantly rising, driven amongst others by the increased availability of low-cost airlines across Europe. However, from almost one million visitors to Gozo in 2014 only 16% stayed overnight. This raises concerns considering the overall sustainability of visitor flows to Gozo. Day visitors leave certainly a social and environmental impact on the sensitive landscape of Gozo while the economic benefits of overnight stays remain in Malta (Source of numbers: Gozo in Figures 2015, National Statistics Office, Malta).

The eco island vision for Gozo is an ambitious response to this trend. It is also an attempt to define the future role of Gozo in relation to its sister island Malta.

However, what if all of these attempts will result in ever more day visits based on low-cost flights across Europe? What could sustainability really mean in this landscape context? This is one of the major challenges the competition teams are asked to address.



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**Gozo Orthophoto**, *unscaled*, source: ESRI

The scope of this competition is the entire island of Gozo. The participating teams are invited to envision a scenario of the islands' potential landscape status in 2050. Gozo measures 14 km from west to east and 7,25 km from north to south. The topographical map shown here is unscaled. Original scaled topographic maps, thematic maps, GIS data and secondary materials can be retrieved after registration. Registered participants will receive access to the competition online repository.



**Gozo Aqueduct**, Photo by James Stringer

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#### 4. OUTCOMES AND SUBMISSION FORMAT

Participants are asked to present and submit their ideas as follows:

##### 1. Your understanding of the Gozo Landscape

The first poster will summarize your analysis process. You can use various scales and analytical presentation methods. We encourage a mixed-methods approach combining scientific, creative and artistic analysis methods.

##### 2. Scenario Gozo 2050

This poster will cover the entire island and show how the landscape of Gozo will respond to the major driving forces you have chosen (remember that you need to choose at least three driving forces from the list on page 2). The working and presentation scale is 1:15,000. Aspects to be covered: landscape elements and their enhancement, functional zones including natural areas and open space typologies, connectivity, sustainable traffic. Combine your plan with visualisations and explanatory graphics. Keep explanatory notes short and concise. Format: A 0 landscape format.

##### 3. Local Detailing: Living with the landscape in 2050

The third poster will show a spatial concept for a local landscape context of your own choice. The choice of your detailing area needs to have a coherent link to your overall strategy. Working and presentation scale is 1:1 000 with additional conceptual graphics and visualisations. Format: A 0 landscape format.

##### 4. Written Project Description

The overall concept and rationale of the project needs to be explained in words on one A4 page.

**The competition organisation is looking for reflexive and innovative approaches, giving value to the identity of the place and showing a strategy for project realisation.**

#### 5. REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPANTS

The full set of background documents and plans is accessible after online registration. Registered participants will receive a neutral login ID which will also be used for submitting the proposals in an anonymous way. This ID needs to be shown on all submitted posters.

**Please register under the following link:**

[https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat\\_19329&client\\_id=hfwu](https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat_19329&client_id=hfwu)

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The competition is open to students and recent graduates of landscape-related disciplines, in particular landscape architecture/planning, urban/regional planning and architecture as well as related disciplines such as arts, geography, agricultural sciences, dendrology, economics, environmental psychology, forestry, hydrology and water management, IT, archaeology, ecology, social anthropology, sociology or tourism. Levels of study may be bachelor, master or PhD.

Both individual and group submissions will be accepted. Each student or group is allowed only one entry. The maximum group size is limited to eight contributors. Interdisciplinary submissions are welcome. However, the design should still focus on the configuration of the landscape, so consultation from and cooperation with landscape related disciplines is very important.

### **6. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

A colloquium in the form of a web conference will be held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, at 18 pm CET. Registered participants will be able to submit questions for the colloquium in advance.

### **7. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The LE:NOTREInstitute will award three prizes and select another three submissions for being honourably mentioned. The award winners will get the possibility to present their project at the LE:NOTRE landscape forum to a group of international professionals and local stakeholders. The results will also be documented on the LE:NOTRE Institute website.

### **8. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Poster size and format**

The submitted project must comprise three posters A0 in landscape format. The submission format is PDF. The submission is only online.

#### **Submission ID**

Each participant or participating team will receive a unique and anonymous ID upon registration. This ID needs to be put into the top left corner of each submitted poster. Size and format for the ID are: Arial, font 72. The posters must be numbered to be seen in that order during the selection.



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### Written information

Entrants must also submit a brief description (250 words maximum) in a separate PDF file, identified only by the anonymous ID (DO NOT include the names of the students or the name of the university). This description must be a clear and concise text explaining the key aspects shown in the concept design proposal. The text is not to be justified, left aligned and double spaced, in Arial, font 12.

### Competition language

All submissions must be entirely in English, which is the official language of the LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum. Local names and specific conditions of each country may be included in the local language. This is to ensure that all material can be understood by the jury, who conduct their reviews in English.

## 9. REQUIRED GRAPHICS

- A plan showing in a synthesis the analysis of the present landscape situation
- A process model showing the impact of the three selected grand challenges/regional driving forces on the landscape of Gozo and the suggested responses
- The alternative future for the landscape of Gozo by 2050 at scale 1:15,000
- Spatial concept for a local landscape context of the team's own choice at scale 1:1,000
- Cross sections, 3D drawings, sketches and details as necessary to illustrate the concept proposed. Both hand-drawn and computer-based visualisations are welcome.

Individual PDF files should not exceed 50 MB (upload limit), minimum resolution is 200 DPI.

It is the responsibility of the participants to guarantee that the final images and files are in the size and resolution adequate to their reading. The entrants must ensure that all images, photographs and other material taken from other sources are correctly accredited.

## 10. ANONYMITY

All plans are supposed to bear the anonymous ID number given to each registered participant in the top left corner (Arial, font 72).

The following naming convention applies to all submitted files: Your ID\_1.pdf, Your ID\_2.pdf etc.

An additional PDF file with the complete declaration form must be included. This must be fully completed. The declaration form will be submitted separately from the project PDF files, and will only be revealed to the jury once the final deliberations have been completed.

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### **11. COMPETITION RULES**

**Participation in the competition implies acceptance of the competition rules.**

- Proposals received after the deadline will not be admitted.
- Presentations that do not include the declaration form will not be admitted.
- Submissions shall only be accepted if sent by the means established outlined above.
- A selection of the works submitted will be shown in an exhibition during the 7<sup>th</sup> LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum in Gozo, and may be also be exhibited elsewhere at the discretion of the Local Organizing Committee
- The Local Organizing Committee retains the right of duplication or publication of any or all the material submitted to the competition, and there shall be no obligation whatsoever to the entrants, beyond acknowledging the authorship of the works exhibited or published.
- Submissions that have been published in any way prior to the notification of the jury final decision will not be considered
- The jury shall preside over the competition and is the sole arbiter at all levels until the final awarding of prizes. All decisions of the jury are final.
- The winners of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes shall be announced by the Chair of the 7<sup>th</sup> LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2019 in Gozo/Malta, upon recommendation of the jury
- All inquiries must be directed to the competition organising committee. Please read carefully through the brief and instructions, as all required information should be contained there. Jury member are not to be addressed in any way in relation to the competition.
- Participants will need to submit a declaration confirming that competition data and background information will not be used for other purposes.

### **12. SUBMISSION FORMAT**

**The submitted folder shall include:**

- **3 PDF files - 1 for each of the A0 posters**
- **1 PDF file with the Project Description**
- **1 PDF file with the Declaration Form**

**All files must be completed in English. Registered participants will receive further information concerning the electronic submission.**

### **13. JURY MEMBERS**

The competition jury will be composed of local and international experts in the field of landscape architecture, urban design and infrastructure planning and regional development. We are in the process of composing the jury. Updates will be announced as soon as possible.



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### 14. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The jury will evaluate your projects according to the following set of criteria. Please always check your project against these criteria during your work process:

Criteria	Details
<b>The degree of connection of the proposed vision to the actual landscape context</b>	The authors show that they have studied and analysed the characteristics of the Gozo landscape from various perspectives. They are aware of the specific spatial, ecological, social, cultural and economic factors. The analysis takes current trends, threats and challenges into account.
<b>Methodological clarity and consistency</b>	The step from analysis to concept development is clearly structured. Challenges, potentials and threats for the Gozo landscape have been derived from the analysis in a logical and coherent way. Planning and design objectives have been on this basis and are clearly articulated.
<b>Conceptual expression and clarity</b>	The concept is clearly linked to the objectives derived from the landscape analysis and evaluation. The concept responds to the local landscape context.
<b>Sustainability</b>	The three pillars of sustainability are supported by the planning and design concept: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social dimension</li> <li>• Environmental dimension</li> <li>• Economic dimension</li> </ul>
<b>Innovation and creativity</b>	The authors demonstrate that they have worked with the local landscape context and added a new dimension of reflection, design and visioning to Gozo.
<b>Visual communication</b>	The posters are well readable. The authors have managed to illustrate the complexity of the landscape and landscape-related processes in a way that is understandable for other disciplines and stakeholders from different sectors. The authors succeed in integrating process models and holistic visions that build on the specific character and topography of the place.

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### 15. SCHEDULE AND DEADLINE

	Dates
Registration opening	October 10 , 2017
Feedback colloquium for registered participants	November 15, 2017, at 18 CET
Latest registration date	January 10, 2018
Entries received	January 21 , 2018, at midnight CET
Jury selection	January 22 - February 28, 2018
Award Ceremony and Exhibition, Gozo, Malta	March 20-24, 2018

### 16. CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information about the 7<sup>th</sup> LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 'GOZO GOES LANDSCAPE' 2018 and participation at the student competition, please visit the forum website:

<http://forum.ln-institute.org/>

**Competition Registration link:**

[https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat\\_19329&client\\_id=hfwu](https://ilias.hfwu.de/goto.php?target=cat_19329&client_id=hfwu)

**Competition materials and data:** electronic access will be provided for registered participants