

*Please note: this is a draft translation which may contain certain imprecise formulations. KORO will update the document if necessary. Please contact us if you have any questions: Mari Magnus: mm@koro.no*



# Open call for expressions of interest National memorial for 22 July

KORO- Public Art Norway invites artists and architects to submit expressions of interest to an international call to design a permanent national memorial for the 22 July 2011 terrorist attacks.

The application deadline is 01.11.2023.



*The new Government Quarter in Oslo. The Memorial will be situated at Johan Nygaardsvolds Plaza, next to the entrance to the 22 July Centre. Illustration: Statsbygg/Team Urbis/Nordic Office of Architecture.*

Norway's Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development (KDD) has commissioned KORO to develop a preliminary project for the permanent national memorial in the Government Quarter in central Oslo. This commission shall be implemented as an open call for expressions of interest, followed by a subsequent invited competition consisting of two stages.

We are now welcoming applications to the open call, with a deadline of 01.11.2023.

Ten participants will be selected for the invited competition. Participants can be individual people or groups. The competition phase will take place from January 2024 to spring 2025. Participants invited to the invited competition will develop a proposal for a permanent memorial at Johan Nygaardsvold Plaza, next to the entrance pavilion of the 22 July Centre.

The bombing in Oslo and the massacre on the island of Utøya on July 22, 2011 constitute the worst terrorist attacks in modern Norwegian history. Eight people were killed in the Government Quarter in central Oslo, and 69 were killed on Utøya, an island outside the capital that is the historic home of a summer camp organised by

the Norwegian Labour Party's youth wing (AUF). Most of the victims were young people. Many more were injured and subjected to life-threatening danger, both in the Government Quarter and on Utøya. The damage was enormous.

The attacks were politically motivated, carried out by a Norwegian right-wing extremist targeting democratic institutions, the Labour Party in particular, and politically involved youth. The terrorist's atrocities lack precedent in Norwegian history.

The 22 July terrorist attack affected the nation, and many were directly impacted as bereaved or as survivors of the attacks. The memorial will be located where terror took place and be directly linked to the historic location and trauma of the event, but it will also be an integrated part of Oslo's urban landscape and of the newly rebuilt Government Quarter. The national memorial shall be a meaningful place to gather, remember and reflect for Norway as a society, for all those affected and for those who lost loved ones.

The memorial shall have strong artistic qualities and integrity. The process is constructed around the conviction that artists, architects and designers have a particular sensibility for working with cultural and historical memory, and the competition aims to facilitate a diverse range of artistic ideas. KORO's way of working on this open call will be based on dialogue and involvement, with a specific ambition for openness and mutual knowledge sharing with a range of stakeholders and the public.

Applicants wanting to participate in the open call should familiarise themselves with this invitation, including the information about the open call, what you need to submit in order to be considered for participation and information about the subsequent stages of the process. This invitation only contains brief descriptions, and we also recommend that applicants familiarise themselves with the following documents to understand the scope and complexity of this commission:

- [the project's website](#)

The ten participants invited to the competition will receive a detailed competition brief.

# Information regarding the open call

## Qualification requirements:

The task of designing a memorial for 22 July is complex and can be resolved in collaboration with different areas of expertise. It is possible to participate as an individual person or form a group of up to three people. Groups must assign a primary applicant. KORO will engage relevant experts within the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, cultural heritage and any other relevant areas to assist the competition participants in the further development of their project.

## The following qualification requirements apply:

- > The primary applicant must have formal artistic or architectural background from an educational institution or sufficient relevant practice.

This can be documented with a CV and portfolio/reference projects.

- > Primary applicants must be proficient in a Scandinavian language or English. Applications may be submitted in Norwegian, English, Swedish or Danish.

Participants must be able to follow the competition timeline and milestones . Please note the mandatory start-up seminar on 10-12 January 2024.

# What needs to be submitted now?

Applications for the open call must be completed **electronically** and include:

**1. Motivational letter: describe your interest, ability and suitability for the commission.**

The text should be a maximum of one page/4,000 characters.

**2. Description of qualifications, practice and background.**

If you apply as a group, please explain the group composition.

You must also deliver a CV. (If you are a group, please include CVs for all participants).

**3. Selected reference projects (Each applicant can show up to three reference projects)**

Describe briefly how the projects are relevant here and combine it all in one file. 'Relevant' reference projects can be interpreted broadly. The size of the attachment must not exceed 12 MB.

**No design materials or proposals should be submitted at this stage.**

# Assessment criteria and evaluation

To be assessed, participants must have completed [the electronic application form](#) by the deadline of 01.11.2023 at 13:00 (CET).

KORO will assess the applications submitted.

KORO has the option, but is not obligated, to request lacking documentation and can employ external expert support to review applications.

KORO has the option of calling in candidates to a conversation or interview.

When assessing the submitted applications for the open call, the following will be emphasized:

- > A motivational letter displaying the candidate's suitability for the task and understanding of the nature of the commission.
- > Relevant skills, practice and/or experience.

If the applicant is a group, a total view of the skills in the group will be taken into account.

KORO is hoping for variety and a range of ages amongst competition participants, and will strive for both newly-qualified and experienced applicants to participate in the next stage.

-> Relevance of the provided reference projects.

There is no requirement for applicants to have experience working with memorials, but displaying an understanding of what it means to work closely, site-specifically, sensitively and with stakeholder involvement on a project will be an advantage.

KORO will present a report with analysis of submissions and proposals for participants for the jury's consideration. The final decision on the open call shall be taken by the jury.

KORO can invite directly up to three (of the ten) candidates outside of this open call.

The result of the open call will be published on [KORO's website.](#)

Only those who advance to the next round will receive a direct response from KORO.

## Information regarding the invited competition

The invited competition will take place in two stages:

The first stage of the competition aims to explore the scope of possibility for what a meaningful memorial can be in the 21st century, putting forward different expressions and good, relevant proposals.

KORO wants *all* of the ten design proposals to be regarded as meaningful artistic statements and for the proposals to shed light on the question of what a contemporary memorial can be, and thus be regarded as a valuable contribution to the public conversation and administration of memories around 22 July.

The ten design proposals shall be presented to the public, and the proposals will be discussed and debated before any decisions are made.

### Competition stage one:

#### Remuneration:

The ten participants in stage one of the competition will each receive NOK 90,000. The amount is fixed regardless of whether the participant is an individual or a group. Travel and board for mandatory meetings will be covered. If the participant is a group, travel and board will only be covered for one person per group.



## Deliverables in stage one:

-> Participation in mandatory start-up meetings.

The meeting will take place over three days (10-12 January 2024) and include a visit to the Government Quarter, the 22July Centre, Utøya and meetings with relevant parties.

-> Submission of simplified design material (deadline 30.05.2024).

The material shall be limited, but must contain illustrations and text suitable for imparting the idea and concept. In addition to the submitted material, the jury will lend weight to the oral presentation (see next point). KORO has the right to use the submitted material (text and illustrations) in publications.

-> Oral presentations for the jury (4 or 5 June 2024).

-> Oral presentations at a public event (6 June 2024).

The event will be streamed, and the recording will be made available to the public.

Of the ten proposals, the jury will select three proposals that will move on to stage two of the competition.

The competition's second stage aims to further develop the three most relevant proposals to a level corresponding to a design project. The further development will be based on input from the jury, as well as relevant user and expert communities. Considerations of physical conditions may lead to a need for changes to the proposals during the process. The winning proposals will be selected by the jury and further developed to a preliminary project level.

## Competition stage two

**Remuneration:** The three participants in stage two of the competition will each receive NOK 100,000. The amount is fixed regardless of whether the participant is an individual or a group. Travel and board for mandatory meetings will be covered. If the participant is a group, travel and board will only be covered for one person per group.

## Deliverables in stage two:

-> Participation in meetings with the curator and expert support

-> Participation in cooperation meetings with relevant communities: those affected, users and experts (including the Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property).

-> Submission of further developed proposals.

The material shall consist of text and illustrations sufficient enough to communicate the design project.

(Models may be submitted but are not a requirement).

A proposed budget and implementation plan should be attached. These can be developed with assistance from relevant experts.

It should be possible to realise the proposals within the financial framework determined for the commission.

-> Oral presentation for the jury.

# Information regarding implementation and construction

Once the preliminary project has been submitted, the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development will decide on the model for implementation and construction.

It is possible for the Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property (Statsbygg) to act as the developer, but this depends on the design of the memorial. There is also an option for KORO to implement the project and the artist acts as the total supplier.

The progress and plan for implementation shall be assessed in stage two of the competition, and will be developed in close collaboration with the winner of the competition.

There are no requirements regarding the completion or unveiling date.

A preliminary financial framework of NOK 50 million has been put forward for the implementation phase, i.e. the construction of the memorial.

The framework will apply to all costs, including the detailed design, remuneration, rig, operation, administration and all construction costs. A budget shall be drawn up for the three further developed proposals.

The preliminary project (based on the winning proposal) shall be developed with a detailed budget and must be realisable within the NOK 50 million framework.



*Illustration: Statsbygg/team Urbis*

# Milestones for the competition and commission

## Open Call

1 November 2023

Deadline for registering for the open call

15 December 2023

Announcement of successful applicants, and invitation to the closed competition

---

## Competition stage one (Ten participants)

January 2024

Start of competition stage one  
Listening phase: Competition participants must participate in a mandatory start-up seminar with site visits, presentations and dialogue in week 2, (10-12 January).

January - May 2024

Design phase

30 May 2024

Deadline for submission of design proposals

4-5 June 2024

Presentation of design proposals for the jury

6 June 2024

Presentation of design proposals for the public event

30 August 2024

Announcement of the participants through to stage two of the competition

## Competition stage two (Three participants)

2 September 2024

Start of competition stage two Meeting with the jury

September - December 2024

Further development and collaboration phase

- Meeting with the jury
- Meetings with user communities
- Collaboration with the Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property and advisors

15 January 2025

Deadline for submission of further developed proposal

17 January 2025

Presentation of proposals for the jury

1 March 2025

Announcement of the winning proposal

---

## Preliminary project phase

March - mid-June 2025

Further development up to preliminary project

Mid-June 2025

Hand-over of the preliminary project to the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development.

# The jury

The jury has been appointed by KORO's Director according to the mandate and composition discussed with the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development. The jury will follow the process from the open call, through screening proposals, and to selecting the winner. The jury consists of the following people:

Name	Born	
Marianne Borgen (Chair)	1951	outgoing Mayor of Oslo
Mohamed Abdi	1986	Teacher and chronicler
Regitze Schäffer Botnen	1994	appointed by the National support group
Mathias Danbolt	1983	Professor of Art History, University of Copenhagen
Hege Maria Eriksson	1969	Director of Consulting and Early Phase Planning, Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property
Lena Fahre	1968	Director of the 22 July Centre
Ingeborg Hjorth	1977	Faglig leder på Falstadsenteret
Trude Schjelderup Iversen	1974	curator of the memorial, KORO
Nora Ceciliedatter Nerdrum	1978	Head of the Art Section, KORO
Camille Norment	1970	Artist
Fabian Wahl Sandvold	2000	appointed by the AUF



# Organisation

The commission is organised internally in KORO with a core group with skills within the areas of project management, curation and art production, architecture, promotion and communication.

The core group consists of:

Project Manager: Mari Magnus, mm@koro.no

Curator: Trude Schjelderup Iversen, ti@koro.no

Communication and education: André Gali, ag@koro.no

In addition, KORO has internal resources such as peers, administration skills and an internal management group made up of managers for the art division, promotion and communication as well as the Director.

The Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property and the 22 July Centre will be closely involved throughout the entire project.

Prosjektleder Mari Magnus vil være juryens sekretær.

# Application deadline

## 01.11.2023

### Useful links:

-> [project website](#)

-> [application form](#)

Inquiries can be directed to:

Mari Magnus: mm@koro.no

Trude Schjelderup Iversen: ti@koro.no

André Gali: ag@koro