



**NUR**  
**OPEN CALL**  
**2025**

PHoto**ESPAÑA**



**“NUR” OPEN CALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS  
CASA ÁRABE - PHE 2025**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1. Introduction to the call and its aims**

Casa Árabe and PHotoESPAÑA jointly present the fifth edition of NUR, an open call for applications for a photography exhibition that will be displayed at Casa Árabe's premises as part of the Official Section of the 28th edition of PHotoESPAÑA. International Festival of Photography and Visual Arts, to be held in 2025.

The objective of this open call is to give visibility and diffusion to a project that offers a look at one or several aspects of Arab societies, from a contemporary curatorial perspective. **Specifically, the concept of “After all” is invited to be explored from a humanistic perspective that includes the experience of Arab countries. Proposals are expected to address the revision and reconstruction of our societies, with a critical approach to the dynamics of post-conflict, post-colonialism, post-nature, transhumanism and post-photography. In particular, works that, through the photographic medium, reflect on the complex realities of the Arab world in its process of transformation, resilience and reconstruction will be valued. The call invites participants to examine the scars left by historical struggles, the imprint of colonialism, contemporary challenges arising from conflicts and environmental crises, as well as the new forms of identity and representation that emerge in a globalized and digital context.** This contest aims to show a critical and profound look at the transformation processes that define the present and anticipate the challenges of the future, especially from a region marked by its own historical and cultural trajectories.

The call is aimed at **curators or institutions**, who have demonstrable prior experience and who submit an exhibition project which complies with the guidelines outlined here.

All projects will be reviewed and evaluated by the organisation, which reserves the right not to admit those that do not meet the requirements of the call.

The selected project will be on public display in the form of an exhibition at Casa Árabe's Madrid premises (c/ Alcalá, 62) in June 2025, as part of the 28th PHotoESPAÑA Festival, with the possibility of it being shown at a later date at Casa Árabe's premises in Córdoba (c/ Samuel de los Santos y Gener,

9).

## 1.2. Casa Árabe

Casa Árabe is an inter-administrative entity under public law, run as part of Spain's General State Administration, with its own legal status, full capacity to act and with its own assets. The consortium is made up of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAEC in the Spanish acronym), the Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID), the Regional Government of Andalusia, the Community of Madrid, Madrid City Council and Cordoba City Council.

Casa Árabe operates as a strategic centre for Spain's relations with the Arab world. It is a meeting point that promotes dialogue between private and public actors and institutions in the fields of culture, education, academia, politics, etc. It was founded in 2006 and has been working ever since with the aim of building bridges, fostering cultural and educational links, as well as awareness and an understanding of the Arab and Muslim world.

## 1.3. PHotoESPAÑA

PHotoESPAÑA was born in June 1998 with the aim of being a photography festival rooted in society. Supported by the Fundación Contemporánea and organised by La Fábrica, each year PHotoESPAÑA turns Madrid and Spain into a focal point for the world of photography. It is a festival designed and created in Spain, which has become an international benchmark thanks to the work and involvement of specialists and actors from the artistic, cultural and political fields, the collaboration of institutions and the participation of the public. PHotoESPAÑA looks at the past, the present and what is shaping up to be the future.

## 2. APPLICATIONS

### 2.1 Eligibility

The call is **aimed at Spanish and international curators and institutions** that demonstrate, through the CV they submit with their application, previous experience in carrying out exhibition projects.

The application may relate to an individual project or to a group of artists.

For the project to be accepted, it is essential that it should provide a contemporary look at some facet of Arab societies that **that includes the idea of "AFTER ALL"**, the thematic axis of PHotoESPAÑA 2025, described in the above section 1.1.

The project, with photographic content, must be presented following the template outlined in Annex I. The application will be considered eligible if it meets each and every one of the following requirements:

- A. The applicant, curator or institution must submit only one proposal.
- B. The applicant curator or institution must demonstrate previous experience in carrying out an exhibition project.
- C. The proposal must not have been exhibited in Spain before and must be related to the theme of the programme.
- D. The proposal must not contain content that is racist, violent or pornographic, that violates people's right to privacy, gender equality and in general, any type of content that violates local, community, national or international laws, or that may offend other religions, beliefs or ideologies, or be contrary to the aims of CASA ÁRABE.
- E. The application must include all the items listed in these guidelines.

## 2.2 Language

The application document must be written entirely in Spanish, English or French. Proposals that are not in one of these languages will not be accepted.

## 2.3 Documentation and submission of applications

Applicants must submit all information preferably in PDF format as outlined in Annex I. Files submitted must be uploaded to the open call's platform that can be accessed here:

<https://forms.gle/b64vCMtVXLjb9XPJ6>

Projects may be submitted up to 11.59 p.m. on 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2025, Spanish time (UTC/GMT+1). For any further clarification on the guidelines, please contact [nuropencall@gmail.com](mailto:nuropencall@gmail.com)

## 3. BUDGET

### 3.1. Expenses that may be included in the budget for this open call

For the exhibition at the Madrid premises, Casa Árabe will allocate a maximum of 15,000 euros (including VAT) which should be used to cover items such as:

- Curator and artist's fees for the Casa Árabe exhibition in Madrid and Córdoba (if held there).
- Fees must be calculated bearing in mind the relevant VAT, if any, as well as any withholding tax on Personal Income Tax (IRPF) or Non-Resident Income Tax (IRnR) amounting to 19% to 24% in accordance with the tax residence of the recipient.
- Travel expenses of curators and artists for the Casa Árabe exhibition in Madrid.
- Insured transportation of work (to and from Madrid). The applicant should bear in mind that it is often, and especially in the case of photography exhibitions, more expedient to produce the exhibition on site (in this case in Madrid) than to hire international transport.
- Production of work: printing of photographs, framing, etc. (Annex II lists the frames that are already available in Casa Árabe and that can be used by the project in order to avoid having to manufacture them).
- Construction of walls and carpentry features that are not in place in Casa Árabe (Annex II details the features that are already in place in Casa Árabe and that do not need to be manufactured).
- Rental of audio-visual equipment not available in Casa Árabe and its upkeep for the duration of the exhibition (Annex II details the items already available in Casa Árabe that do not need to be rented or purchased).

The total amount allocated to the selected project (a maximum of 15,000 euros including VAT) will be managed directly by Casa Árabe, which will be responsible for making any and all expenses relating to items such as those described above.

### 3.2. Other expenses not included in the budget for this open call that will be borne by Casa Árabe regarding the organisation of the exhibition.

Casa Árabe will cover the costs of elements essential for the organisation of the exhibition, and which are not included in the above point, such as the design of the exhibition graphics, production of the exhibition graphics (production or printing of cutting vinyl, exterior canvases, leaflets, posters, etc.), assembly and disassembly work, insurance during the exhibition (excluding insurance for international transport), PR and promotional activities, etc.

Similarly, in the event of travel to Casa Árabe's premises in Córdoba, additional costs for production and transport from Madrid to Córdoba will be the subject of an additional budget on the part of Casa Árabe and will not be included in the budget allocated to this call.

#### **4. OBLIGATIONS OF THE SELECTED PROJECT.**

Regarding the exhibition/s at Casa Árabe, the winning curator or institution must accept the following obligations which will be set out in a contract:

- The drafting of a detailed final plan in which all the requirements for the exhibition must be included.
- The delivery of a final work listing with image description, measurements, technical description and insurance value.
- To provide all the necessary documentation (texts, images, etc.) for the press release, for the design of PR materials (canvases, invitation, brochure, etc.) and for the room graphics (introductory text, biographies, room sheets, posters, etc.)
- To obtain from the artists and/or lending institutions the necessary permissions and the assignment to Casa Árabe and PHotoESPAÑA of the rights to public display of the works for promotional purposes as well as their reproduction in the brochure, on the internet and in any other printed or digital media.
- To act as a liaison with the artist(s) for everything related to the display and handling of their works in the space.

#### **5. EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

The candidates will be evaluated based on the information presented:

- Documentation as outlined in Annex I.
- An exhibition proposal that will be particularly assessed for its innovative character, its artistic quality and its examination of an issue that relates to the idea of "After all", the thematic axis of PHotoESPAÑA 2025.
- The jury will also assess the technical and budgetary feasibility of the exhibition. For this reason, a list, which is as detailed as possible, of the technical and production requirements of the project is requested.
- The track record of the curator or institution, particularly their previous experience in the area of photographic projects.

The decision as to the selected project, which must be substantiated, will be the responsibility of the jury and may not be appealed.

#### **6. THE PANEL OF JUDGES**

The panel of judges will be made up of:

- A representative from Casa Árabe
- A representative from PHotoESPAÑA
- The curator of the previous winner of the NUR open call

The panel's decision will be announced publicly on 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2025 and all the candidates who were chosen to enter Phase 2 will be notified by email.

Casa Árabe will sign a contract with the entity or curator selected, which will establish the terms for the running of the exhibition at one or both of Casa Árabe locations.

## **7. TIMELINE**

- December 20th 2024 to March 7th 2025: open call for the selection of an exhibition project.
- From 7 to 17 March: selection of the winning project by the panel of judges. The winning project will be announced on 18 March 2025.
- March to May 2025: production and organisation of the exhibition.
- May 2025: setting up.
- June 2025: opening in Madrid (date to be determined).
- June to September 2025: exhibition at Casa Árabe's exhibition spaces in Madrid.

## **8. CHANGES TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The organisation reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions, as well as the deadlines mentioned here, and may even suspend the exhibition.

If there are any changes to the call, these will be announced via the same channels used to advertise the initial call and/or through the Casa Árabe and/or PHotoESPAÑA websites.

With the submission of each proposal, each applicant declares that they are familiar with the content of these terms and conditions, which they accept without reservation.

## **9. EXEMPTION FROM LIABILITY**

Casa Árabe and/or PHotoESPAÑA are exempt from any liability arising from the relationship between curators, artists or third parties involved in the exhibition projects.

## **10. REPRESENTATION**

The proprietor of the selected project shall not have any power of attorney or power to represent Casa Árabe or PHotoESPAÑA against third parties, and consequently may not enter into any contract with third parties in the name and on behalf of said entities, which shall be solely entitled to decide upon, agree to, formalise, conclude or enter into any business relationship with third parties.

## **11. NON-ASSIGNMENT**

The proprietor of the selected project may not assign the rights and obligations derived from having been selected to third parties without the express written authorisation of Casa Árabe.

## ANNEX I - DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CALL

Applicants must submit all information in PDF format as outlined below.

Files submitted must be uploaded to the open call's platform that can be accessed here:

<https://forms.gle/b64vCMtVXLjb9XPJ6>

### 1 Information on the applicants (curator(s) or institutions)

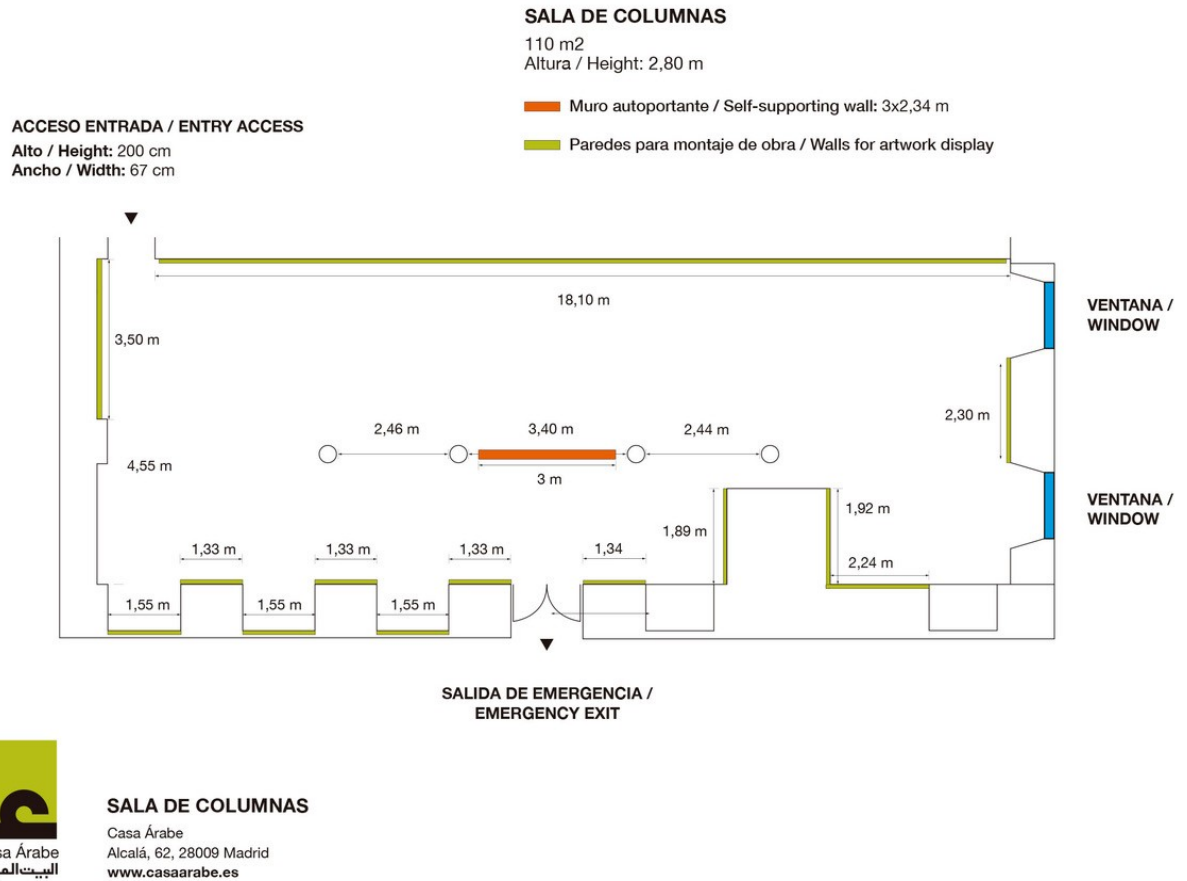
- 1.1. If the applicant is a curator, a curriculum vitae detailing their professional background is requested, with particular emphasis on curatorial projects of a photographic nature.
- 1.2. If the applicant is an institution, an activity report and documentation relating to previous exhibition projects is requested, with particular emphasis on projects of a photographic nature.

### 2 Dossier for the project being submitted, which must include:

- Project description (max. 1,000 words)
- Nominal list of the proposed works, including the following:
  - a) Creator(s)
  - b) Dimensions and technical characteristics
  - c) Images of the works
- Preliminary exhibition proposal tailored to the specifications of Casa Árabe's exhibition space (see Annex III). This proposal can be outlined in greater detail or modified, should it be selected.
- As detailed a list as possible of the technical and production requirements for the proposal, as well as a breakdown of estimated costs. This will allow Casa Árabe to evaluate the proposal both from a technical point of view and from the point of view of its budget costs, which should not in any case exceed the 15,000 euros (VAT included) allocated to the project.

## ANNEX II – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE EXHIBITION SPACE AND THE EQUIPMENT AT CASA ÁRABE IN MADRID

### Floor plan of the exhibition space:



## DESCRIPTION OF CASA ÁRABE'S EXHIBITION SPACES

### Layout of the exhibition spaces:

Located at the basement level, the space is rectangular in shape and has three columns in the centre. One of the walls is self-supporting and can be placed anywhere in the room. The space is located next to the Casa Árabe cafeteria.

Room area in square metres: 142 m<sup>2</sup> Room length in metres: 45 m

A drawing and photos of past exhibitions held in the same space can be downloaded at [this link](#).



**Walls:**

Most of the walls on which the work is hung are MDF facings.

**Ceilings:**

The ceilings are technical (false ceilings) with aluminium sheets suspended on a grid pattern.

**Lighting system:**

Ceiling mounted rails with reorientable and adjustable PHILIPS spotlights.

**Loading and unloading:**

For loading and unloading, the Casa Árabe premises must be accessed via Calle O'Donnell, vehicles must be parked in the front yard and from there, materials must be transported to the rooms by appropriate means and sufficient personnel.

The vehicle access gate has a maximum height of 340 cm and a width of 280 cm.

The access door to the building (interior) has a maximum height of 202 cm and a width of 151 cm.

**EXHIBITION EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS AVAILABLE IN CASA ÁRABE**

The material available at Casa Árabe is outlined below. Any other item (frames, stands, display cases, etc.) not included in this list must be manufactured on an ad hoc basis and the manufacturing cost accounted for in the project budget.

**Display cases:**

1. MDF display case with Perspex cover, 80 x 60 x 100 cm (+20 cm Perspex cover).
2. Display case with anthracite grey metal edging, 120 x 60 x 90 cm (including the box, which is 29 cm high). It has a glass cover on top.

**Monitors available:**

1. Monitor with black frame, 97 x 56 cm

**Frames available (to be confirmed in 2025, after dismounting of current exhibition)**

**ANTHRACITE GREY FRAMES**

42.5 x 32.5 cm	35
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**BROWN FRAMES**

43 x 53 cm	3
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62 x 32 cm	3
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**BLACK FRAMES**

32 x 32 cm	4
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32 x 42 cm	2
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32 x 47 cm	4
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42 x 42 cm	10
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42 x 57 cm	6
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42 x 67 cm	1
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49 x 72 cm	5
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32 x 52 cm	1
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62 x 62 cm	1
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62 x 42 cm	8
103 x 103 cm	1
<b>BLACK LAQUERED FRAMES</b>	
21.5 x 30	2
20 x 30	1
23 x 30	1
43 x 30	1
44 x 30	2
50 x 30	3
<b>WHITE FRAMES</b>	
57 x 77	11
55 x 45	2
67 x 87	7
57 x 106.5	3
77 x 106.5	4
99.5 x 73.5	2
79.5 x 98	2
<b>NATURAL BEECH FRAMES</b>	
17 x 23	1
25 x 25	3
31.5 x 31.5	3
31 x 41	23
31 x 51	5
34 x 34	1
40 x 60.5	1
43 x 68	1
64 x 79	1
67 x 88	6
74 x 94	1
<b>SMALL BLACK AND WHITE FRAMES</b>	
16 x 22 (14 x 20) white	28