

ngbk

Call for Submissions
Art in the Underground 2019
Up in Arms

**International open single-phase art competition according
to the Guidelines for Planning Competitions RPW 2013**

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Art in the Underground 2019 – *Up in Arms*

Occasion and objective

At the beginning of 2019, a public suggestion emerged in German politics to loosen the controls on arms exports became public.^[1] This contrasts with the fact that most people in Germany are fundamentally opposed to the export of weapons.^[2] Despite the headlines, the latest political plans, which must be understood as part of increasing rearmament, did not trigger widespread protests among the population. One explanation for this public silence may be the complicated nature and opacity of the arms industry. Public discourse seems to suffer a general lack of information about the concrete meanings and implications of the arm's industry and its role in our world, both near and far. In this sense, one aim of *Up in Arms*, the current iteration of the competition *Art in the Underground* is to engage and help make these structures visible and present in the public eye.

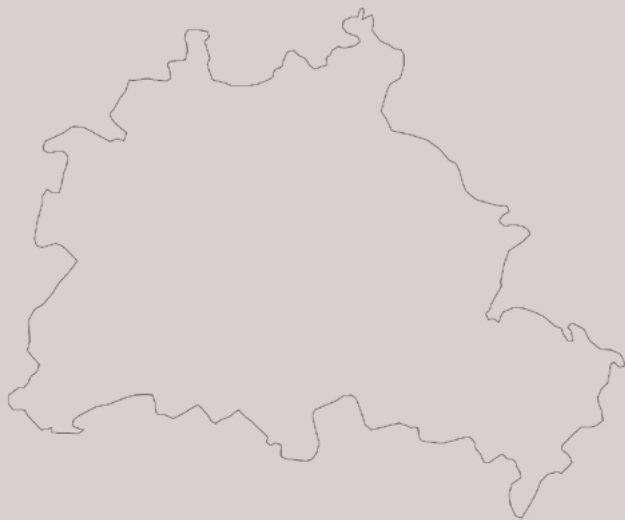
While Berlin has not been a center for weapons production for a long time, the city still plays a central role in the arms trade because it is here, where the political decisions that regulate arms production and exports are made. For this reason, the largest arms companies and associations are based in the capital and can represent their interests in the corridors of power. Most people don't notice the physical proximity between lobby-ism and politics when, for example, they take photos in front of the Brandenburg Gate while the offices of important arms companies linger in the background. In this competition, artistic interventions are intended to highlight these 'iconic' landmarks in contrasting ways.

Art has its own independent forms of visualization and mediation, and can have an impact on social processes. The works of art, supplemented by guided tours, the project website and accompanying program, are intended to initiate a critical examination of the arms industry. The works in public space will be realized parallel to the exhibition *Up in Arms* by the neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst (nGbK) in cooperation with Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien.

^[1] Daniel Brössler and Paul-Anton Krüger: *Merkel will Rüstungsexporte erleichtern*, in: *Süddeutsche Zeitung Online*, 17th February 2019 <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/sicherheitskonferenz-merkel-waffen-ruestungsexporte-1.4333412> (last access: 27.02.2019)

^[2] YouGov Survey May 2018, commissioned by Frieden geht!

https://www.frieden-geht.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/20180516_Results_R%C3%BCstungsabbau.pdf (last access: 27.02.2019)



History of the competition

Since the beginning of the 1990s, the nGbK has been realizing artistic works under the project title *Art in the Underground* in or in the immediate vicinity of underground stations in Berlin. The annual, open and international art competition is held with the support of the Senate Department for Culture and Europe - Art in Urban Space. Initially, artists showed art as an alternative to advertising on the walls of various underground stations in Berlin. Since the 2000s, the competition has also included participatory and interventionist concepts.

The competition was held for the first time in the GDR in 1958 under the theme "Posters for Peace." In this time of global political tension, rearmament and fear of a new war, graphic designers were invited to apply in a public reflection on peace. In 1982, the competition also reacted to the arms race between East and West and the NATO-Double-Track-Decision with artistic means: art schools and technical colleges of the GDR were invited to make a public poster presentation under the title "Peace of the World" at Alexanderplatz underground station.

The 2019 open call can thus be seen as a recollection of the pacifist impetus, from which the art competition emerged. At the same time, the pressing relevance of those subjects is made more and more apparent by recent developments. In light of the seemingly never-ending growth in the weapons business – both in Germany and internationally – the project will explore an artistic form of engagement and resistance.

The competition in 2019

In 2019, the competition *Art in the Underground* is dedicated to a critical examination of the armaments business. Through artistic approaches the historical conditions, economic and political interdependencies of the arms trade and its extent and ambivalences are to be experienced aesthetically and physically.

In the framework of *Up in Arms*, artistic interventions are to emerge in places that are connected to the armaments industry in Berlin. Artists are invited to conceive works in and around underground and suburban railway stations. Permitted are all artistic approaches that can be realized on billboards of station's tunnel walls, in the area and vicinity of the stations themselves, as well as concepts and performances that transcend local boundaries. Economic and socio-political aspects, lobby-ism, social and political responsibility and connections between the arms industry and everyday life can be taken up. The historical context of Berlin as a significant production site for armaments during the Second World War and as a former center of Prussian military power are also of importance.

Dates and deadlines

Publishing of open call documents:
12th March 2019

Date for queries:
5th April 2019, 5-7 p.m. in the office of the nGbK
(Oranienstraße 25, 10999 Berlin, first floor)

Deadline for written queries:
15th April 2019

Submission of works:
until 6th May 2019

Selection day:
16th May 2019

Realization period:
mid-September to mid-November 2019

Art in public space and complementary guided tours are intended to add transparency about the actors in the arms industry and their effects and to inform the general public about their activities in Berlin. Beyond the city, cooperation with NGOs opens up further potential and scope for action for protest and engagement.

Part 1 Procedure

1.1

Competition organizer

Competition organizer

Kunstverein neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst
(nGbK)
Oranienstraße 25
10999 Berlin

Competition management

Kunstverein neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst
Lilian Engelmann (managing director)
Oranienstraße 25
10999 Berlin
Tel.: 030 616 513 –0
Email: office@ngbk.de
und Naomi Hennig (project management
Art in the Underground 2019, nGbK)
Oranienstraße 25
10999 Berlin
Tel.: 030 616 513 –0
Email: kunst-im-untergrund@ngbk.de

In coordination with the Governing Mayor of
Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Europe,
in cooperation with the Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe
BVG (Berlin Public Transport), financed by funds
from the Land Berlin for artistic design in urban
space as part of a grant.

1.2

Nature of the competition

The call is open internationally to professional
artists and artist groups. The competition is
single-phased and anonymous. Submissions
should be made in German or English.

As part of the competition, up to four art works are
to be realized. Depending on the location, different
media are available: City light posters, foil stickers
on the floor and stairs in the underground and
suburban railway stations (see below for list) and
video clips, as well as further options in the station
area, above ground, and billboard space in tunnels.
Detailed information can be found in section 3.2
Venues of the Competition.

The art works should critically examine Berlin's
present and historic role and agency in the arms
industry and refer to the presence of the arms
trade, which can be found in the immediate vicinity.
Relevant information can be found on the project
website: <http://upinarms.ngbk.de/> (under *map*).

1.3

Principles and guidelines

The open call is made in accordance with the
Guidelines for Planning Competitions (RPW 2013),
where these are applicable.

Through their participation or involvement in the
competition, all participants, judges and visitors
automatically declare their consent with the
participation conditions. The Committee's decision
is final.

Statements of all kinds concerning the contents and
procedure before and during the competition period
– including the publishing of results – may only be
made by the competition organizer or in
consultation with the competition organizer.

Competition entries that are made public before
or during the art competition period violate the
condition of anonymity stipulated in § 1 Paragraph
4 and § 6 Paragraph 2 of RPW 2013 and these
entries will be excluded from being judged.

Data Protection:

By his/her participation or involvement in the
procedure, each participant, selector, expert,
preliminary examiner and guest agrees that his/her
personal data in connection with the above compe-
tition will be kept by the organizer in the form of an
automated file. Name, address, telephone number
and bank details will be recorded. After completion
of the procedure, these data will be deleted upon
request (corresponding note on the submitter's
declaration). In accordance with the Data
Protection Basic Regulation (DSGVO), the consent
of the parties involved is necessary, as there is no
specific legal basis for maintaining this file.

1.4

Number of realizations and time period

Depending on the type and scope of the submissions, up to four art works are to be selected for realization by the selectors. The implementation of the project proposals recommended for realization will take place from mid-September to mid-November 2019. The nGbK will provide advice and support on questions concerning implementation as is possible.

1.5

Competition selectors and preliminary selection

Selector's committee

Professional Selectors

Johanna Werner, Eva Hertzsch, Laura Horelli, Christophe Ndabananiye, permanent deputy: Karin Kasböck

Expert Selectors

Stéphane Bauer, Gabriela Seith, Ayşe Güngör

Further Experts

Lilian Engelmann (managing director nGbK), Katrin Sander (Department Kunst im Stadtraum, Senate Department for Culture and Europe), Christian Schliemann (Legal Advisor at European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights), t.b.a.

Preliminary check will be undertaken by:

Naomi Hennig

1.6

Publication of competition documents, queries

The competition documents will be available from 12th March 2019 on <http://www.ngbk.de/> under Calls / Proposals / Jobs as well as under <http://upinarms.ngbk.de/>.

Queries may be submitted in person to the nGbK on 5th April 2019, 5-7 p.m. in the office of the nGbK.

Written queries may be submitted by 15th April 2019 by email to kunst-im-untergrund@ngbk.de.

All questions (oral and written) will be answered in written form until 19th April 2019. The replies will be made available to all contestants on the nGbK website under Open Calls and at <http://upinarms.ngbk.de/>.

1.7

Submission of works

Please hand in your submissions until 6th May 2019, Mon - Fri, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at:
Office of neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst (nGbK), 1st floor
Oranienstraße 25
10999 Berlin

In the case of submissions by post or courier service (postage and delivery free for the recipient), the posting deadline is deemed to have been met if the posting stamp bears the date of the end of the posting deadline or one of the preceding days and the consignment has been received at the above address by the fifth following day at the latest.

Since the date stamp (post) on the item to be sent may have a later date, the participant must ensure that he/she can provide evidence of timely posting on the basis of the posting receipt until the end of the procedure, if necessary.

1.7.1

Anonymity - identification of works

To ensure anonymity, the submitters must mark all parts of their competition work with a self-selected identification number consisting of six Arabic numbers. The identification number should be noted on the top right-hand corner of every page.

To ensure anonymity, please put competition work in a closed envelope marked with your identification number and the note "Art Competition Art in the Underground".

There should be no reference to the author of the work. For submissions made by post or courier please mark the recipient as the sender.

1.8

List of competition documents

Open call text with appendix.

1.9

Required submissions and format specifications

Submissions requirements by the participants are as following:

1. Depiction of the idea not larger than DIN A2 format (unfolded). Concept and realization proposal should be communicated precisely, clearly and with visual clarity, for example with drawings, drawn or painted sketches, collages, photos, model photos, digital collages etc.

2. Written explanation which describes the intention of the work and includes information about materials, presentation formats, presentation of the place, visits to the site, etc. This text should fit on two DIN A4 pages (minimum font Times New Roman 11 points). The technical requirements for the execution of the project must be clearly defined.

3. An informative image file of the artistic design for the preliminary examination report and the documentation (jpg-file in a Windows compatible quality, at least 300 dpi, Euroscale CYMK or 2,000 pixel width).

4. Cost estimate: for each artistic work, the submitter must calculate up to 10,000 Euro (incl. VAT) for material and production costs. This does not apply to realizations on billboards. These costs will be calculated by the organizer in direct consultation with the suppliers.

5. The submitter's declaration form (form, see appendix)

6. List of submitted works

Points 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be attached to the documents to be submitted in digitized form (PC-compatible file format) on a stick. The participant must ensure that the anonymity of the digital submissions is maintained.

Additionally submitted images, catalogues, media, originals and unique copies will not be consulted by the selectors and will not be returned.

Each participant may submit only one work without variants.

The contestants commit themselves to submit a work that will be made especially for this competitions task.

1.10

Important technical data and information

Regular rail traffic on the underground lines must be maintained both during the period of installation and the duration of the presentation.

Intervention in other areas of metro stations must not interfere with public transport. The location of a work of art desired by the artists and groups of artists may have to be modified due to approval-relevant issues.

Irritations or distractions in the field of vision and hearing of the subway driver must be ruled out. This includes, for example, bright light, mirrors and moving parts. Sound installations must not interfere with the perception of railway clearance. A power supply (220V) is usually possible. Projections are not technically feasible due to the increased light intensity. All materials and parts of installations must be installed firmly, but without drill holes in the walls, floors and ceilings. Fire protection requirements must be taken into account (only flame-retardant materials).

Only the employees of BVG/ Wall AG/ Draussenwerber/ Ströer have access to the tracks. Photography and filming at the station require a permit, which can be obtained after consultation with the nGbK.

For information on a partial selection of possible realization formats in underground stations and trains see *2.2 Places of realization of the competition*.

1.11

Selection procedure

The organizer will check the competition submissions formally on receipt and inform the selectors. The final, binding selection of the works will be made solely by the selectors. The selection criteria relate to the competition task and the objective identified by the organizer in this call. The selectors decide on the admission of the competition works, select the admitted works and recommend up to four drafts for realization for 2019.

Selection criteria

Design concept and main artistic idea

Design implementation

Spatial integration

Technical feasibility under consideration of the framework conditions

Environmental compatibility and sustainability

Cost framework

Up to 10,000 € (in words: ten thousand Euro) incl. VAT is available for the realization.

For honorary per work 4,000 € (in words: four thousand Euro) are available including all additional costs and if necessary resulting tax.

The overall cost framework must be adhered to at all costs, and the subsequent approval of further funds is excluded.

1.12

Property and copyright

Copyright and the right to publish submissions is retained by the applicant. The submissions may only be published by the applicants after the selection meeting. However, the competition organizer and the State of Berlin have the right to first publishing and are entitled to publish parts of competition works free of charge under the submitter's name (in the form of photographs or on the Internet). The copyright holder and year of creation are to be named in every instance of publication.

Submissions can only be returned by post if an envelope with sufficient postage is provided.

Submissions can be picked up until 16th July 2019 from the organizer. For submissions which are not picked up by the given date, the organizer assumes responsibility for storage or removal.

1.13

Submitter's declaration

With their signature on the submitter's declaration, the contestants confirm both that they are the authors of the contest work and that they are able to execute the project on time.

1.14

Notification and competition exhibition

After selection has been completed, all submitters will be informed in a timely manner of the result.

The protocol will be sent to the participants.

The organizer intends to exhibit the submitted designs after the competition has been completed.

1.15

Liability and returns

The competition organizer is only liable for damage to or loss of submitted works in the case of demonstrably culpable behavior.

Part 2

Competition task

2.1

Competition task 2019

Art in the Underground 2019 seeks to establish a framework for critical discussion of the economic and social fabric of the city. Artists and groups of artists are called upon to refer to the topic, the locations mentioned in the open call and the background information made available online at <http://upinarms.ngbk.de/> (under *map*) when submitting their designs. They can refer to networks, lobby-ism and politics, as well as historical backgrounds of the arms trade and arms production in general and to selected locations of the arms industry in particular. The aim is to make Berlin visible as an important location for armaments by means of artistic interventions in urban space.

The submissions should refer to one of the listed locations. All listed media are possible, as long as they take the budget into account. All artistic approaches that can be realized on the billboards of the stations, in the station areas or above ground in the vicinity of the stations, as well as concepts and performances, that transcend local boundaries, such as posters, video works, sculptural and performative works in public space, are permitted.

1.16

Summary of dates and deadlines

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12th March 2019

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(Oranienstraße 25, 10999 Berlin, first floor)

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15th April 2019

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until 6th May 2019

Selection day:
16th May 2019

Realization period:
mid-September to mid-November 2019

2.2

Possible places of realization of the competition

1)

U-Bahn station Stadtmitte & immediate vicinity

up to 8 billboards in the station Stadtmitte
of line U6 (size each 2,52 x 3,56 m)

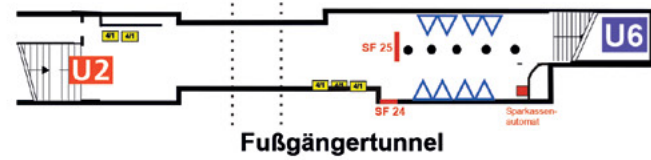
Station area (subject to reservation and taking
into account *1.10 Important technical data and
information*)

Above ground in relation to researched
locations in the surrounding area: for example
on the Gendarmenmarkt (from 11 November
2019 at the latest restrictions imposed by the
Christmas market; realizations are subject to
approval)

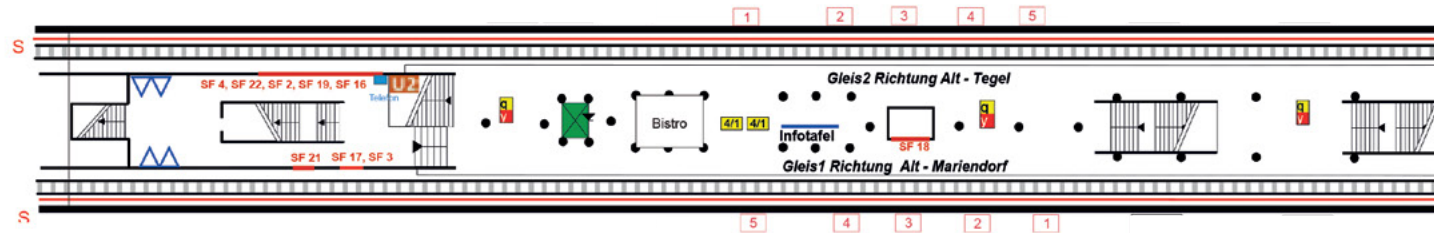


U6 U - Bhf. Stadtmitte

Bahnsteigebene DS
ca. 100 m Länge



Historische Holzrahmen
Innenmaß: 2,25 m Höhe x 4,24 m Breite
Werbung: Untergrund 1 mm Komacell



Historische Holzrahmen
Innenmaß: 2,25 m Höhe x 4,24 m Breite
Werbung: Untergrund 1mm Komacell



2) S-Bahn station Brandenburger Tor & immediate vicinity

up to 8 city-light posters (1,19 x 1,75 m (format 4/1), backlit, in glass showcases, can be occupied on one or both sides)

up to 6 ground posters on the platform (120 x 180 cm surface size, self-adhesive, robust foils)

up to 2 stair brandings (foil covering of a stair landing in standard format approx. 150 x 150 cm)

Above ground in relation to researched sites in the surrounding area: Pariser Platz (Restrictions due to events around the Brandenburg Gate on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall; realizations are subject to approval)

3) Station Hauptbahnhof

up to 20 floor mounted posters, depending on position: in basement, street level, first floor (120 x 180 cm) or one XXL ground poster in the entrance area on the southern street level (540 x 360 cm)
as well as possible locations in the surrounding area (subject to approval)





**4)
Stations Paradesstraße/ Platz der
Luftbrücke & immediate vicinity**

up to 10 billboards in the underground stations
Platz der Luftbrücke or Paradesstraße on line
U6 (Platz der Luftbrücke: 6 billboards per side;
Paradesstraße: up to 2 billboards per side)
up to 4 ground posters
Station area (subject to reservation and taking
into account *1.10 Important technical data and
information*)





Above ground in relation to researched locations in the surrounding area: Platz der Luftbrücke/ Tempelhofer Damm: 10 x 10 m area on the forecourt („Ehrenhof“) at Platz der Luftbrücke to the street side, as well as possible further location in the area of Tempelhofer Damm 45



5) Digital Walkway at Schönefeld Airport

Full HD video with maximum length of 10 seconds for Digital Public Net screens on the Digital Walkway

Check list for required documents

To ensure the anonymity following documents must be marked with an identification number (see *1.7.1 Anonymity - identification of works*)

- Visualization of the idea and concept (maximum DIN A2, unfolded)
- Written explanation (max. two DIN A4 pages)
- Image file of the artistic design
- Budget

Name required:

- Submitter's declaration form (see appendix)
- Index of submitted material

Please find further information and background information under the following link:

<http://upinarms.ngbk.de/>

published under:

<http://www.ngbk.de/>

Part 3 Appendix

Form submitter's declaration

Submitter's declaration

Art competition Art in the Underground 2019

ID-number: _____

Artist / Submitter: _____

Assistants: _____

Address (studio / office): _____

Telephone / Fax: _____

Email: _____

Address (private): _____

Telephone / Fax: _____

Email: _____

Special experts/consultants: _____

By participating in the art competition, I(we) commit in the case of an assignment by the organizer, to commit and carry out the proposed work.

I(We) declare with my(our) signature that I(we) am(are) the intellectual creator(s) of the work.

I(We) hereby agree that my(our) personal data contained in this form may be used in connection with the above-mentioned competition will be conducted in the form of an automated file by the organizer.

I(We) ask you to delete my(our) data after the end of the contest - yes/no (underline as appropriate).

Date, signature
