

INDEPENDENT PUBLICATIONS FAIR

16, 17, 18
October

at Goethe-Institut in Lisbon

~~Print Pause Lisboa~~

Open Call
Regulations
2026

(Where)(Print)(Slows)
(Things)(Down)

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Print Pause Lisboa

About Print Pause Lisboa

Created by Gerador, Print Pause Lisboa is a new international fair for independent publications and self-publishing in the fields of journalism, the arts and knowledge.

The first edition will take place on 16, 17 and 18 October 2026 at the Goethe-Institut in Lisbon, with a programme that includes a fair, talks, workshops and informal moments of encounter around print culture.

Print Pause Lisboa was born from the desire to create, in Lisbon, an international meeting point for publications and projects that resist haste and turn publishing into a space for thought, beauty, resistance, risk and relation.

Through this open call, Gerador invites national and international independent publishing projects to apply to take part in the exhibitor area of the fair's first edition.

Key dates

Applications open:
21 May 2026

Submission deadline:
10 July 2026, by 20:00 GMT

Announcement of selected projects:
21 July 2026

Payment deadline:
14 August 2026

Public announcement of the programme:
15 September 2026

Print Pause Lisboa Fair:
16 to 18 October 2026

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Who can apply?

National and international projects connected to independent publishing, self-publishing and print culture may apply. Eligible applicants include small independent publishers, independent magazines, zines, artist books, photography books, cultural publications, independent journalism projects, experimental editorial projects, informal collectives, artists, designers, researchers, journalists, authors and creators with an editorial practice.

Projects working across journalism, the arts, critical thinking and knowledge are especially valued, as are publications that tell stories, raise questions, share research, experiment with formats and create new ways of reading the world.

Applications may be submitted by an individual, collective, association, publisher, studio, organisation or informal structure, as long as one person is designated as responsible for communication with the organisation.

What are we looking for?

Print Pause Lisboa is looking for independent publishing projects of different scales, languages, geographies and formats. The fair aims to bring together magazines, books, zines, newspapers, artist editions, self-published works, visual essays, printed objects, research-based publications, experimental editorial practices and collective publishing initiatives.

Projects will be considered if they have a clear relationship with print culture, even if they originate from or also include digital, performative, sound-based, exhibition or community-based dimensions. However, the presence at the fair must focus on the presentation, sale or sharing of publications, editorial objects or graphic materials associated with an editorial practice.

Print Pause Lisboa is not intended for the sale of generic products with no connection to independent publishing, such as merchandising disconnected from an editorial project, decorative objects, crafts without an editorial component or undifferentiated commercial products.

The organisation reserves the right to assess the suitability of the proposed materials in relation to the context, scale and spirit of the fair.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted through the online form available [here](#), by 10 July 2026, at 20:00 GMT.

The project description should make it possible to understand its editorial identity, the formats it works with, its relationship with independent publishing and how it fits within Print Pause Lisboa. Whenever possible, applicants should include links to images, sales pages, editorial archives, portfolios, social media pages or other materials that allow the organisation to assess the application clearly. Applications may be submitted in Portuguese or English.

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How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed according to the following weighted criteria.

30% Suitability for the concept and objectives of Print Pause Lisboa — The project's relationship with independent publishing, self-publishing, print culture, journalism, the arts, critical thinking or knowledge will be analysed, as well as its contribution to the spirit of the fair.

25% Originality, experimentation and critical relevance — The project's ability to propose distinctive editorial approaches, explore less conventional formats and contribute to new ways of thinking about publication will be assessed.

20% Diversity and contribution to the overall composition of the fair — The application's contribution to a plural programme will be assessed, taking into account diversity of geographies, languages, formats, themes, scales and levels of professionalisation.

15% Quality, consistency and singularity of the editorial project — The clarity of the editorial identity, the quality of the publications, the graphic, conceptual or journalistic consistency, and the coherence between the proposed materials and the practice developed will be considered.

10% Quality of the application — The objectivity and robustness of the information submitted will be considered, including visual materials, links or descriptions that support the assessment.

Due to the expected volume of applications, individual feedback on each application cannot be guaranteed. The selection decision is final and not subject to appeal.

Selection and waiting list

The selected projects will be announced on Gerador's website and social media channels on 21 July. The communication will include information about confirmation of participation, assigned table type, participation fee, payment deadlines, schedules and practical conditions.

Participation will only be considered confirmed after a formal response from the selected project and payment of the participation fee within the indicated deadline.

The organisation may create a waiting list. In the event of withdrawal, lack of confirmation or failure to pay by a selected project, the place may be assigned to another project, taking into account the assessment criteria and the overall composition of the fair.

Conditions of participation

Participation in Print Pause Lisboa requires payment of a fee, according to the type of table assigned. A full table will cost €50. Half a table will cost €25. Each table measures 120 cm wide by 75 cm deep.

Solidarity-based or emerging projects may receive a discount or even a waiver of the participation fee, upon duly justified request. Institutional projects or projects belonging to structures that, although independent, are recognised as having greater financial capacity may be assigned a higher table fee, based on the organisation's assessment.

The participation fee includes the exhibition space during the days of the fair, the table or equivalent area according to the assigned type, inclusion of the project in the official communication of Print Pause Lisboa and access to the fair's public programme, subject to venue capacity.

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The participation fee does not include travel, accommodation, meals, transport of materials, insurance, additional equipment not previously agreed, customs costs or other expenses associated with participation.

Payment must be made by 14 August. Failure to pay within the indicated deadline may result in the loss of the place and its assignment to another project on the waiting list. Payments will be made by bank transfer, according to the instructions sent by the organisation.

Withdrawals and cancellations

In the event of withdrawal, the selected project must inform the organisation by email as early as possible. Withdrawals communicated by 8 September may be eligible for a refund of the participation fee. Withdrawals communicated after that date will not be eligible for a refund. Failure to attend the fair will also not be eligible for a refund.

The organisation reserves the right to cancel a project's participation if false information is provided, if the defined deadlines are not met, if the required payment is not made or if these regulations are breached.

Allocation of spaces

The distribution of spaces, tables or exhibition areas is the responsibility of the organisation.

The allocation of spaces will take into account the layout of the Goethe-Institut in Lisbon, the technical conditions of the venue, audience circulation, the diversity of the projects, accessibility needs and the overall balance of the fair.

Exhibiting projects are not guaranteed the possibility of choosing their own place. Whenever possible, the organisation will seek to take into account specific needs indicated in the application form, but the final decision will rest with the organisation.

Presence during the fair

Selected projects undertake to ensure the presence of at least one responsible person during the fair's opening hours.

Exhibiting projects are responsible for setting up, presenting, selling, supervising and dismantling their materials within the schedules defined by the organisation. Dismantling before the official closing of the fair is not permitted, unless expressly authorised by the organisation.

Prolonged or unjustified absence during public opening hours may compromise participation in future editions.

Each project must provide its own means of payment, including cash, payment terminal, bank transfer or any other systems it considers appropriate.

The organisation does not intervene in sales carried out by exhibitors, nor does it charge commission on them. Each project is responsible for complying with the legal, tax and commercial obligations associated with the sale of publications, editorial objects or other materials.

Participation is assigned to the selected project and may not be assigned, sold, transferred or sublet to third parties without prior authorisation from the organisation.

If two or more projects wish to share a table, this intention must be indicated at the time of application and will be subject to approval by the organisation. The presence of materials from other non-selected projects will only be permitted if it has been previously communicated to and approved by the organisation.

Materials presented

The materials presented during the fair must generally correspond to the description submitted in the application.

The organisation reserves the right to request the removal of materials that have no relation to the project presented, do not fit within the spirit of the fair, violate current legislation, promote hate speech, discrimination, violence or harassment, or compromise the safety, dignity or well-being of other participants, visitors, team members or partners.

Print Pause Lisboa values editorial, artistic and critical freedom, but will not accept materials or behaviours that compromise a safe, plural, respectful and open environment.

Responsibility for materials

Each exhibiting project is responsible for its own materials, equipment, means of payment and personal belongings throughout the entire period of the fair, including setup and dismantling.

The organisation is not responsible for loss, theft, damage or misplacement of materials belonging to exhibitors. Exhibiting projects are advised to ensure the necessary conditions for the transport, storage, supervision and protection of their materials.

Shipping of materials

In the case of international projects or projects that are unable to transport their materials directly, the possibility of shipping materials in advance must be agreed with the organisation. The organisation will only accept materials sent in advance if this has been expressly agreed by email.

All costs associated with shipping, customs, fees, returns or storage of materials are the responsibility of the exhibiting projects. The organisation is not responsible for delays, customs holds, damage or loss during transport.

Accessibility and specific needs

Print Pause Lisboa will seek to ensure the best possible conditions for welcome and participation. Applicants should indicate in the form any specific accessibility, mobility, communication or logistical support needs.

The organisation will analyse each situation and seek to find suitable solutions, within the possibilities of the venue and the resources available.

Communication and image

By participating in Print Pause Lisboa, selected projects authorise the organisation to use the project name, description, images, biographies, links and other materials provided in the application for the purposes of communication, promotion, archive and documentation of the fair.

Photographs and videos may be taken during the event for the purposes of recording, communication and archiving by Print Pause Lisboa, Gerador and the initiative's partners.

Processing of personal data

All personal data provided by applicants will be processed solely for the purposes of managing this application, assessing proposals, communicating with applicant projects, selection, confirmation of participation, organisation of the fair, promotion of selected projects and documentation of Print Pause Lisboa.

The data will be retained for the period necessary to assess applications, manage participation and comply with applicable legal, administrative and accounting obligations.

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Some data, namely the name of the project, name of the responsible person, country, city, application date, public description of the project, images provided for promotion and information potentially contained in communication materials and the final documentation of the fair, may be retained indefinitely, solely for the purposes of statistical management, institutional memory and maintenance of the historical archive of Print Pause Lisboa and Gerador.

Applicants may, at any time, withdraw their consent for the processing of their personal data, in accordance with applicable legislation, without prejudice to the lawfulness of processing carried out on the basis of consent previously given.

Since personal data is necessary for the management of the application, assessment, communication of results and possible participation in the fair, if applicants do not consent to the processing of their personal data, it will not be possible to complete the application.

Gerador may be contacted at geral@gerador.eu for any matter related to the processing of personal data, including requests for access, rectification, restriction, objection or deletion of data, under the terms of applicable legislation.

Changes to the programme or conditions of participation

The organisation reserves the right to make changes to the programme, schedules, layout of spaces, logistical conditions or other elements of the fair whenever this proves necessary for reasons of production, safety, force majeure or other unforeseen circumstances. Any relevant change will be communicated to the selected projects as early as possible.

Notes

By submitting the application, applicants declare that they are aware of and fully accept all the points set out in these regulations.

Applicants are responsible for the originality of the projects, publications, images, texts and materials presented, guarantee their authorship or authorisation for use, and assume full responsibility for any third-party claims relating to copyright, related rights, image rights, trademarks or other applicable rights.

The organisation does not guarantee and cannot be held responsible if an idea, publication, format, image or material presented is later copied, imitated, plagiarised or otherwise used by third parties. Participation in this initiative implies acceptance of the results, as well as all decisions made by the organisation and the selection committee.

All points in these regulations may be changed by the organisation whenever necessary, with changes duly communicated through the channels considered appropriate. The organisation will decide on all matters related to this initiative that are not covered by these regulations or that may result from different interpretations of them.

The email geral@gerador.eu is available for any further information.

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About Gerador

Gerador, created on 27 May 2014, is an independent non-profit organisation based in Lisbon. It works in the fields of journalism, cultural programming and education, understanding these areas as essential tools for a more critical, creative and participatory society.

Since 2014, Gerador has published Revista Gerador, an independent biannual magazine. Each issue is built around a specific theme and its own visual identity, bringing together in-depth reporting, essays and original artistic contributions.

Beyond its editorial work, Gerador develops cultural initiatives, courses and international projects that create spaces for critical thinking, artistic experimentation and encounter between different communities.

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