

Ánako

3D Printing Design Award
FOR SOLIDARITY
2026



FAQ – Ánako – 3D Printing Design Award for Solidarity

1. What is the Ánako – 3D Printing Design Award for Solidarity?

It is an international competition dedicated to the design of **open-source, 3D-printable solutions** for humanitarian and emergency contexts. The award is developed by Ánako APS in collaboration with Prusa Research.

2. What is the objective of the competition?

The objective is to identify **simple, robust and realistically producible objects** capable of addressing concrete needs in contexts of crisis, emergency and vulnerability, using 3D printing as an operational tool.

3. Who can participate?

The competition is open to **designers, engineers, makers and students**. Individual or team participation (up to 5 members). For larger groups, please nominate up to 5 official team members; additional contributors may be acknowledged in the project documentation. There are no age limits and no geographical restrictions.

4. Can I participate as a student or without professional experience?

Yes. The competition is open to students and early-stage practitioners. What matters is the **quality, feasibility and real usefulness** of the project.

5. In which language should projects be submitted?

Projects may be submitted in **English, Italian or Spanish**. Further language details are specified in the full regulation PDF.

6. What kind of projects are you looking for?

We are looking for **physical tools, components, accessories and devices** designed for real-world use, for example in:

- water and hygiene,
- health and care,
- safety and protection,
- repair and maintenance,
- everyday organisation.

We are not looking for abstract concepts or purely demonstrative objects.

7. Which 3D printing technologies are allowed?

Projects must be designed for **FDM (Fused Deposition Modelling)** 3D printing on consumer or prosumer printers.

8. Are there technical constraints?

Yes. The main constraints include:

- maximum size of a single printed part: **20 × 20 × 20 cm**;
- main printing material: **PETG**;
- geometries printable without complex support structures;
- objects simple to assemble and repair;
- no complex electronics or dependence on stable infrastructure;
- the project may consist of multiple separately printed parts assembled together.

Full technical details are available in the regulation PDF.

9. Do projects have to be open source?

Yes. All submitted projects must be released as open source to encourage adoption, improvement and dissemination in humanitarian contexts.

Project files will be published under a **Creative Commons Attribution–ShareAlike (CC BY-SA)** license. Authors retain ownership of their work, and attribution will always be guaranteed.

10. Can I submit an existing project?

Yes, provided that:

- the project complies with all technical requirements of the competition;
- it has not been developed under incompatible restrictions;
- it is released under the required open-source license.

11. What are the evaluation criteria?

Projects will be evaluated based on:

- real usefulness;
- printability and replicability;
- robustness and repairability;
- clarity of use;
- consistency with humanitarian contexts.

12. What are the prizes?

The prizes include:

- **1st prize:** PRUSA CORE One+ kit 3D printer
- **2nd prize:** Original Prusa MINI+ (Enclosure Bundle)
- Additional prizes: access to Prusa Academy training programmes
- Special mentions for social impact, technical quality and project clarity

13. Will the winning projects be produced?

Selected projects may be further developed and tested in a pilot real-world phase through a 3D printing laboratory in a humanitarian context, coordinated by **Ánako APS**.

14. Is the competition linked to Design for Gaza?

The award represents one of the first operational building blocks of **Design for Gaza**, a broader programme promoted by Ánako APS and currently under development.

The competition itself is autonomous and open to solutions for humanitarian contexts in general, not limited to a specific geographical area.

15. What are the dates of the competition?

Call opening: 1 April 2026

Call closing: 31 August 2026

Selection: September 2026

Results announcement: 31 October 2026

16. Where can I find full details?

All technical requirements, modelling constraints and participation guidelines are available in the **full regulation PDF**, accessible from the competition landing page.

<https://www.anako.it/3daward.html>