

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### The skyscraper of the year: Prestigious Emporis Skyscraper Award goes to Lakhta Center in St. Petersburg

Hamburg, November 10, 2020 – The Emporis Skyscraper Award, one of the world’s most renowned prizes for high-rise architecture, goes to a project in Russia for the very first time in its 20-year history. The 462-meter-high *Lakhta Center* in St. Petersburg, designed by GORPROJECT and RMJM, is not only the tallest building in Russia, but is the tallest building in Europe and the fourteenth tallest building in the world.

The winner was chosen by an international jury of experts from over 700 skyscrapers completed in 2019 with a minimum height of 100 meters. Marking its 20th anniversary this year, the prestigious Skyscraper Award by Emporis ([www.emporis.com](http://www.emporis.com)), a global provider of building data, has become an indispensable part of the international architecture scene since its introduction in 2000.

When choosing the *Lakhta Center* as its favorite, the jury was impressed by the skyscraper's unusual form. The exterior structure of the building consists of five wings that rotate almost 90 degrees. The twist creates a dynamic impression, giving the building the shape of a blazing flame, which resembles the logo of Gazprom, the natural gas producer that has taken up its new headquarters inside the building. The skyscraper was also able to score points with the jury due to its use of environmentally friendly and energy-efficient technologies. As the northernmost supertall skyscraper in the world, the building is exposed to extreme temperatures. A double skin façade prevents unnecessary heat loss and makes it extraordinarily energy efficient. In addition, thanks to the innovative use of infrared radiators, excess heat is not lost but fed back into the system.

#### Emporis Skyscraper Award 2019

#	Building Name	City, Country	Height	Stories	Architect(s)
1.	Lakhta Center	St. Petersburg, Russia	462 m	87	GORPROJECT; RMJM
2.	Leeza SOHO	Beijing, China	207 m	46	Zaha Hadid Architects; Beijing Institute of Architectural Design
3.	35 Hudson Yards	New York City, USA	308 m	72	Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
4.	Tianjin CTF Finance Center	Tianjin, China	530 m	97	Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; East China Architectural Design & Research Institute Co. Ltd.; Ronald Lu & Partners
5.	Aurora Melbourne Central	Melbourne, Australia	270 m	84	Elenberg Fraser
6.	18 Robinson	Singapore, Singapore	180 m	28	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; Architects 61 Pte Ltd.
7.	The Paragon	Chicago, USA	157 m	48	Solomon Cordwell Buenz (SCB)
8.	One Thousand Museum	Miami, USA	215 m	62	Zaha Hadid Architects; O'Donnell, Dannwolf & Partners Architects
9.	Omniturm	Frankfurt a.M., Germany	190 m	46	BIG; B&V Braun Canton Architekten
10.	Rosewood Bangkok	Bangkok, Thailand	155 m	32	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; Tandem Architects

Source: [www.emporis.com](http://www.emporis.com)

Voted into second place, was the *Leeza SOHO* in Beijing. The unique office building with its round shape and twisted inner core was one of the last projects by star architect Zaha Hadid before her death in 2016. Especially striking to the jury was the atrium of the tower, which runs through the entire building from top to bottom and elegantly divides it into two halves. With a height of 194 meters it is also the highest atrium in the world. The continuous glazing of the

atrium ensures that the building is flooded with light and allows an exceptional view into the building as well as to the busy streets of Beijing.

In third place is *35 Hudson Yards* in New York. The skyscraper is located in Manhattan and is part of a major Hudson Yard construction project bound to reshape the west side of Manhattan. *35 Hudson Yards* is the tallest residential building of the Hudson Yards project and includes 143 apartments and a luxury hotel that extends over 11 floors. The 72-story building stood out to the jury particularly due to the use and mix of special building materials. The façade is made of Bavarian limestone and glass, adding to its unique appearance with several setbacks over its full height of 316 meters.

This year's results show again that Europe is quite capable of keeping up with the competition from Asia and North America. After already claiming 2nd and 3rd place in the previous year, this year a European skyscraper was finally able to win the sought-after award again, the first time since 2013.

### **Download Images of the Top Ten**

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### **About Emporis**

Emporis is a database provider for buildings and construction projects, based in Hamburg, Germany. For over two decades Emporis has helped companies, organizations and individuals to stay informed about the building industry. The Emporis Skyscraper Award is the world's most renowned prize for high-rise architecture.

### **About the Award**

The Emporis Skyscraper Award has been given out since 2000. The jury is formed of architecture experts from all over the world, who judge nominated buildings according to aesthetic and functional design criteria. Previous winners include *MGM Cotai* (2018) in Macau, *Lotte World Tower* (2017) in Seoul, *VIA 57 West* (2016) in New York City.

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