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Publicat a COL·LEGI D'ARQUITECTES DE CATALUNYA (https://www.arquitectes.cat)

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The number of female architects has grown exponentially over the last few decades, but it is still a long way from reaching parity with men: at present, just 32% of all COAC members are women, some ways below the European average of 39%. The number of new memberships show that women are carving out a bigger and bigger niche in architecture, historically a profession dominated by men.

For some time now, one of the COAC?s priorities has been to promote and encourage women to join the profession and to make their work more widely visible. To mark International Women?s Day on 8 March, the COAC organised an event to showcase the professional excellence of female architects. During the whole week, we featured on our social media the 36 women who have won a national or international prize in the last year, using the hashtag **#socArquitectA** [2], whether this was for a particular project or for their

lifetime achievements.

Happy International Women?s Day, architects!

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5/03/2021

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