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GENERATIVE PLACES

SMART APPROACHES

HAPPY PEOPLE

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

CONTENTS

Plenary Sessions

Generative Places: a new concept for emerging practices (summary)
Fernando Brandao Alves & Sara Santos Cruz

Becoming Local: prospects and consequences
Ali Madanipour

Place-Making and Policies for Competitive Cities
Sako Musterd

Emotional Places: Disputed meanings of tourist sites
Carlos Fortuna

Planning theory, public space and open innovation?
Sabine Knierbein

Parallel Session 1.1 *Physical Dimension / Real and Virtual boundaries*

Liveable informal spaces
Paulo Silva

Public Spaces as Places of Informal Appropriation
Rita Vaz, Sara Santos Cruz

The (In) Formal City
João Marrana, Francisco Serdoura

Seeing, standing and seating: the architecture of co-presence in small urban spaces
Maria Guerreiro, Israel Guarda, Valério Medeiros

Towards Designing Safer Neighbourhoods using a community-based approach: the case of Lithuania and Portugal
Miguel Saraiva, Irina Matijosaitiene, Mónica Diniz, Vilius Velicka

'Trac(k)ing' methodology: A kinetic approach to everyday places
David Viana, Vitor Oliveira

Parallel Session 2.1 ***Social Dimension / (Un)successful mediation***

Forms of “new” cultural and economic experience of Oporto city centre: the Urban Markets
Célia Ferreira, Paula Guerra, Teresa Sá Marques

Promotion of “Generative Places” based on Municipal economic and financial sustainability
Emília Rebelo

The role of local knowledge in spatial policies: contextualizing community engagement within existing discourses
Isabel Coimbra

Overcoming distance in design and planning methodologies and thinking in order to support climate change adaptation strategies and projects to become local.
Jonna Krarup

Becoming local at Parque das Nações: the urban political economy of a planned neighbourhood in Lisbon
Patricia Pereira

Becoming Local: the dynamic process of urban policy transfer of the “Land Regularization Programme”
Brazil”
Tatiane Serrano, Isabel Breda Vazquez

Parallel Session 3A.1 ***Cultural Dimension / Local identities and meanings***

Urban space and rural heritage: the case of Vila Franca de Xira
Maria da Graça Moreira, José Luís Crespo

From The Philharmonics to a Cultural policy in an urban regeneration area
Maria Graça Moreira

The lost identity of the city: case of Damascus
Hasan Mansour

The Fountain Square –‘Shadervan’– a living landmark of Prizren
Ilir E. Gjinolli

Theoretical premises of cityscape identity evaluation
Ingrida Povilaitienė, Jūratė Kamičaitytė-Virbašienė

Affect and Intimacy in Generative Places
Linus de Petris, Paul Carlsson, Peter Giger

The Cultural Dimension of Urban Space - Carnide as Place of Memory
Jorge Nicolau, Manuela Mendes, Carlos Ferreira

Parallel Session 3B.1

Cultural Dimension / Local identities and meanings

The Potential of Constructor Theory Use in Architecture and Urban Design
Dubravko Aleksić

Design and Ageing - more real life, less virtual spaces
Lara Mendes, Fernando Brandao Alves

The construction of the metropolitan areas as public space - the possibility of a collective project for Porto and Lisbon
Patrícia Ribeiro

Happy cities, happy inhabitants? Social endure in Lisbon's public space
Sofia Morgado, Inês Moreira

Social reuse of confiscated goods to Camorra: civic activation and collective goods
Gabriella Esposito De Vita, Stefania Ragozino

Can a (new) port bring happiness to city people? The case of Suape (Recife – PE)
Filipa Malafaya, Luisa Batista, Emília Rabanni, Simone Silva

Parallel Session 1.2

Physical Dimension / Real and Virtual boundaries

Connecting places. Smart pedestrian space: network potentials based on user experiences and activities
Aleksandra Djukic, Milena Vukmirovic, JugoslavJo kovic

Characteristics of the intensive places: Open public places in the towns of Vojvodina Province
Aleksandra Djukic, Isidora Karan

Finding Accessibility Thresholds
Ana Amante, Cecília Silva, Paulo Pinho

Public space and mobility in historic centres
Anabela Ribeiro, Nuno Cavaco

The role of non-motorized transport accessibility instruments - Fostering collaborative decision making
Miguel Pimentel, Cecilia Silva

Urban fragmentation and discontinuity: case study of Paranhos
Marcelo Altieri, Johnny Morales

Atelier da Rua: a participated street design process
Pedro Mendes, Maria João Pita, Ana Rodrigues

Parallel Session 2.2
Social Dimension / (Un)successful mediation

Improved and Extended Public Participation by City Information Systems: A Quasi-3D Example of Kayseri Municipality, Turkey

Ebru Kamaci, Serkan Kemeç

Citizen-Based Participatory Urbanism as an Alternative to Master Planning for the Development of Postwar Residual Urban Spaces

Jeff Givens

CONTACT-REACT: How the design of a new public space can be the urban answer to the social problems of Fontainhas's Neighbourhood

Pedro Coutinho, Madalena Silva

Retro-active Implementation Gaps of Urban Planning Processes – The Nova Luz Case in São Paulo

Sheila Mizushima

Digi-Tel: A Personalized, Interest and Location-Based City for You

Zvi Weinstein, Liora Shechter, Zohar Sharon

Intelligent cities and intelligent plans: how to foster self-organization?

Jorge Silva, José Antunes Ferreira

Parallel Session 3A.2
Cultural Dimension / Local identities and meanings

Local Identities and Shared Worlds in Nicosia's Public Space

Charalambous Nadia, Anaxagorou Glykeria

More than just a Cup of Tea: Coffeehouses as Alternative Institutions of Local Culture

Reza Arjmand, Laleh Foroughanfar

Architecture for revitalization: The local wisdom and practice of a Swiss vernacular architect in the reconstruction of cultural and economic identity in Vrin Village

Shiyu Wei

(Re)Introducing water to public spaces: The blue-green network of Lahijan, Iran

Alessandro Rogora, Masoumeh Mirsafa, Claudia Poggi

Social flows and multiculturalism in urban space-time interrelations and landscape identity transformations. Case study Mouraria district, Lisbon

Ana Moya Pellitereno

Critical analysis of liveability. The parish core of the parishes union of Aldoar, Nevogilde and Foz do Douro

Barbora Salyova, Carlos Antonio, Sandra Kallus, Sopiko Begashvili

Parallel Session 3B.2

Cultural Dimension / Local identities and meanings

Contributions for a participated and inclusive municipal planning in the city of Lisbon: The Local Housing Program (PLH) and the Priority Intervention Neighbourhoods / Zones (BIP/ZIP)

Miguel Graça, Teresa Craveiro, Miguel Brito

Syncretic design as solution for a new urban identity

Bianca Petrella, Claudia De Biase, Veronica De Salvo

Dealing with History, Rome and its alternative production of “public” space

Clara Archibugi, Clemens Nocker

The pulse of Campanhã parish

Doroteia Ribeiro, Sandra Borges, Sofia Rozeira

Tree-Squares in Anatolia: What does an emergent public space mean?

Duygu Cihanger

Reflection of political restructuring on urban symbols: The case of Presidential palace in Ankara, Turkey

Ezgi Orhan

Place attachment concepts and their underlying understanding of space

Franzisk Kügler

ABSTRACTS

‘Generative Places’ / Introduction to the Theme of the Conference

Sara Santos Cruz & Fernando Brandão Alves (University of Porto / CITTA, Portugal)

Along the decades, planning has been evolving from expert-led or top-down approaches to more community-led, interactive and participatory approaches, valuing the social capital of local communities and putting citizens at the centre of planning processes. Research has been emphasizing the importance of local contexts to set goals and establish priorities through adaptive learning processes. Additionally, it is relevant to identify places here understood as ‘generative places’, where the emergence of local initiatives based on knowledge-based creativity and interactive learning occur. In other words, places should demonstrate the capacity to flourish and reinvent themselves - hopefully revealing their true *genius loci*, meaning the location’s unique character - most of the times through spontaneous processes based on community action and groups of individuals’ initiatives.

BECOMING LOCAL means that the contemporary rationale should zoom in to ‘local’ spaces and places, policies and practices, and everyday life; this way, the human capital (citizens and their social and cultural background) play an important role as key agents of urban change and, in particular, of defining what is meaningful within the city. The understanding and the production of these meaningful places is, nowadays, increasingly confronted with diversified real (material) and virtual (immaterial) spheres of urban spaces, either private or public. Planning has to be prepared to embrace both these spheres of the city, as they both contribute to the construction of meaningful places.

Moreover, the idea that the use of technological or smart driven approaches in planning processes can, firstly, facilitate political discourse and participation by strengthening the link between citizens and governors, and secondly, better respond to people needs and improve the quality of life of citizens, has been around in different contexts and dimensions. Several projects, applications and approaches are making evident that we are forced to live and use technology in our daily activities and inevitably in the city arena. Technology affects our behaviours and the way we move and live in urban areas at various levels. However, regarding the access to (new) technologies (transports, communication/ICT networks, etc.), a certain asymmetry still exists due to the vulnerability of some communities and deprived families. Also, the operative structures of public institutions and private representative bodies of local people interests are often different. Additional, in some regions, physical distance is not yet counterbalanced with technological proximity. Thus, participatory planning processes may be less efficient and even threatened. Though, it is imperative to investigate and discuss how these technological tools can lead to the idea of what is usually designated as e-inclusion and most importantly how it can promote, ultimately, social cohesion and integration.

Intensifying the role of citizens by, either community-led, interactive, or participatory approaches, is consensually argued as responding more directly to people’s needs and aspirations. Nonetheless, the level of quality of life, and even the level of happiness, is far from being truly and completely achieved. Urban planning has been concerned in creating better places, but nowadays is also focusing in increasing the levels of happiness, following the wider trend in discussing what makes people happier.

Becoming local: prospects and consequences

Ali Madanipour (University of Newcastle, UK)

Top-down and extra-local planning and design tends to be insensitive to local conditions and needs, and the proposed solutions may impose disruption, displacement, gentrification, and alienation. In response, it is widely argued that if the local people are involved in a process of planning, design and development, they have a stronger sense of ownership and control over their own lives, and a stronger commitment to supporting the effort and its outcome. Planning and design ideas are, therefore, expected to become local in order to be effective and legitimate. This presentation will examine this idea, analysing the concept of becoming local and exploring its prospects and

consequences. What is local; who is becoming local; who is already local, and what does this all mean? The examples that are used to discuss this include the UK cases of the national policy of neighbourhood planning and the planning and development of a neighbourhood.

Place-Making and Policies for Competitive Cities

Sako Musterd (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

At the end of the first decade of the new millennium a pan-European research team carried out an encompassing study among managers and high-skilled (international) employees in creative and knowledge intensive industries. The study aimed at understanding the conditions for economic development in a variety of European city regions. The study evaluated various theories, including 'path dependence theory', 'classic' location theory, cluster theory, network theory, and soft-conditions theory. Findings were linked to current debates about urban economic development. Special attention was given to policy implications and how these relate to current policy practices. The most significant outcomes were that the pathways city-regions have gone through and which gave the city-region its own place-specific characteristics, are still highly important for understanding the city-region's perspectives. These findings push towards the development of city-region specific tailored policies. Personal networks and trajectories turned out to be key factors as well, because if people are not connected to a place because of job availability, it is the personal network that explains the attachment. Classic conditions, such as infrastructure development and the development of (institutional) clusters around economic activity remain necessary conditions, but they never are sufficient conditions. Soft conditions, such as amenities, aimed at attracting talented people, were regarded hardly relevant.

Emotional Places: Disputed meanings of tourist sites

Carlos Fortuna (University of Coimbra, Portugal)

Assigning meaning to objects and places is part and parcel of the heritage culture of today. In such a context tourism and tourist places are powerful means of enhancing the emotional significance of various places. The current search for emotional experiences worldwide plays a key role not just in the development of memory tourism, but also in dark and reality tourism. The different ways in which those experiences are perceived are taken as modes of social dispute over meanings and signs of a process of *tourismification of emotion*.

Planning theory, public space and open innovation?

Sabine Knierbein (Vienna University of Technology, Austria)

Contemporary trends in planning schools show that planning education is facing a performative and relational turn, based on issues of citizen involvement, improved participation and hands-on-urbanism which all take into account the lived spaces of the city in a different way. Already heralded in planning theory a decade ago, it seems as if relational conceptions of space are becoming the new mainstream of social space based approaches in planning alongside positivist conceptions of space that are still prevailing strong bases of technocratic planning regimes. In the course of this turn, public space receives more attention because it is where physical conceptions of space and social space ideas intersect and overlap. So many planning schools have started to promote public spaces and urban cultures a core ingredients of their renewed educational agendas, and have thus repoliticised planning education in times of austerity, crisis and instability in Europe. One facet of this turn,

however, has not received sufficient attention, that is, that public spaces play a vital political economic role for the new urban regeneration schemes. As in times of crisis, capital searches for new territorial niches and public space has become the key arena of postfordist urban restructuring, the keynote speech will offer some insights into the ambivalent role of public spaces (and public space education) in the new political economy of contemporary cities, both in contexts of crisis and of (relative) urban stability. By taken the example of debates on „open innovation“ that are particularly discussed in the course of smart city approaches produced by the European Commission in cooperation with strong market players, a plea for a wider conception of open innovation that stimulates civic, public and social innovation will be presented.

Liveable informal spaces

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Abstract

Informal settlements are an important dimension of the urbanized world. Over 1 billion people in the world are estimated by United Nations (UNECE, 2010) to live in these territories, sometimes within the largest cities in the world. Although it is considered a phenomena of the global south and affecting less developed regions in the world, even in Eastern Europe UN estimates that 50 million people live still in informal settlements. Most efforts have been put in dealing with practical issues regarding property rights and less has been discussed about its livelihood values

1) The issue/research problem; Research in informal settlements has been confined to its own domain, but recently some efforts have been put in showing how lessons from informal settlements are transferable to other domains such as the one of legal urbanization (Silva, Farrall, 2014); therefore the research problem is related with the idea of livable places in informal settlements, when these territories experience a process of integration in wider territories such as metropolitan areas.

2) Its relevance for the conference theme; it is the paper's aim to contribute to the discussion of public spaces, having in mind the way they were generated – in this case through informal ways – and how informal intertwines with formal processes – public interventions, private legal allotments, etc.. Evolving spaces from informal settlements can contribute to a rich debate on the quality of urban spaces in a context of diversity of users and how spaces adapt to their uses.

3) The background; informal settlements tend to be seen through a dominant perspective of bottom to up urbanization, in which spaces reflect previous urban experiences from residents in these areas. However, less has been explored in terms of what happens when these areas evolve from informal to formal and they become integrated in wider territories. Being part of the wider urban networks means to cater to a larger number and type of functions and users and play new roles in the urban systems. These are topics that have been less explored in previous research and in which in this paper will be approached.

4) The methodology; in addition to literature review, main data and discussion will have as reference a case study. Quinta do Conde, located in the south bank of Lisbon Metropolitan Area is considered to have been the largest informal settlement in Portugal, covering a territory of over 400 hectares and today with more than 20.000 inhabitants. Its consolidation as an element of the urban fabric has been the result of bottom up intervention combined with a strong top to bottom urban planning framework (Silva, 1996, 2010, Portas et al., 2011). Its public space, which started by being the result of an informal allotment providing the urban grid combined with the way residents started to use it as internal inputs and turned to be an attractive place in metropolitan terms providing external inputs to its public space.

5) And the key results of the paper. The expected results of the paper are: to shed light on a less explored aspect of the informal settlements (how do they evolve when they move from informal to formal); to discuss public space physical boundaries; to understand how internal and external inputs meet; to reflect how much of the results of the analysis of the case study is a contribution to promote more livable spaces in other urban contexts.

Keywords: public space, informal settlements, urban livelihood, Lisbon metropolitan area, Quinta do Conde.

Public Spaces as Places of Informal Appropriation

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Abstract

Public spaces are consensually recognized as important places for social interaction and public life. Throughout history, these spaces have been reflecting the ways of living of the societies and evidencing the interactions between people and the city. Also, different planning paradigms on how to plan and manage urban spaces have been accompanying the social, political, economic and cultural changes over times. More recently, there is a growing concern with the quality of urban spaces, based on sustainability and competitiveness paradigms but also, and more importantly, on the quality of life. Thus, it is recognized that urban spaces should be conceived for people, i.e. spaces should respond to people needs and, on the other hand, people should feel good in urban spaces. Ultimately, people should feel happy living in urban areas.

From the literature review, the study of the quality of public spaces is mainly based on qualitative parameters, revised mostly in formal forms of use and appropriation. However, there are a number of other informal types of appropriation, some of them with a more marginalized character, but most of them from everyday life experiences.

This paper intends to clarify the concepts of use and appropriation of public spaces, and, subsequently, identify and characterize different forms of informal appropriation. The research is based on a literature review, where these concepts are distinguished, namely pointing out three main types of spaces of informal appropriation: boundary spaces, found spaces and open-ended spaces. In order to identify its characteristics and the reasons behind those forms of expression of public life, the study comprises the analysis of some representative cases from the city of Porto.

The methodology undertakes two phases. In the first phase, twenty spaces of different types - streets, squares, gardens and parks - were visited in the city, and analyzed according to a methodology using the following parameters: accessibility and linkage, comfort and image, uses and activities, and sociability. Based on that analysis, we proceeded to the selection of case studies, a smaller number of public spaces, in which their characteristics give rise to informal forms of appropriation. To complement the visual and physical analysis of the spaces, some surveys in a form of structured interviews were carried out in order to understand the perception of space and opinions from those who use them.

Based, both on the visual observation of these spaces, illustrated by a photographic survey, and on the results obtained from the interviews, this research aims to: (i) identify the forms of appropriation, (ii) study the urban contexts in which these forms take place, (iii) understand the perception or connection of the users to each one of these spaces and finally, (iv) analyze the distinctive characteristics that enable these types of appropriation within the city.

The paper, ultimately, expects to contribute with recommendations on the role of urban planning facing these spontaneous activities and appropriations in public spaces, in particular, when and how planning institutions should intervene in these citizen-based processes.

Keywords: formal appropriation; informal appropriation; public space; use of place.

The (In) Formal City. Is there room for the informal in the formal city?

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Abstract

Kostof (2009), considers there to be two types of city. The first type is the planned or designed city, one that has an orderly geometric pattern, registered and developed by an overseeing authority, thus allowing us to consider it as the “formal city”. The second type of city is the spontaneous or geomorphic city, one that is absent design, rules and regulations, and “subject to no master plan but the passage of time” (Kostof, 2009, p.43). Such type of city could be understood as the “informal city”.

It is a known fact that the informal or unplanned city has been steadily emerging for the past centuries in light of the world's rising demographic trends, existent economic asymmetries (between the developed and developing countries), and constant migration flows from rural to urban areas.

In one of its most recent reports from United Nations, the UN (2014) addressed a fundamental question regarding such migration trends, namely the reason for this incessant attraction that the world shares for urban areas.

“Cities are important drivers of development and poverty reduction in both urban and rural areas, as they concentrate much of the national economic activity, government, commerce and transportation, and provide crucial links with rural areas, between cities, and across international borders. Urban living is often associated with higher levels of literacy and education, better health, greater access to social services, and enhanced opportunities for cultural and political participation.” (United Nations, 2014, p.3).

Stewart Brand (2009) also elaborates on this particular subject. In his opinion people move to cities because urban areas are “new” and exciting, they are lands of opportunity, better paid than rural areas, upwardly mobile, resilient and they are creativity hubs.

In fact, since the dawn of time, cities are territories of choice to live and work for most of the world's population. And despite being lands of opportunity and creativity, stage of great changes and innovation, they are also areas of abundant problems. Its expansive and unplanned growth, poor housing conditions, insecure land tenure, needs in terms of infrastructure and services, or environmental degradation, are well known difficulties, which they accommodate.

In 2012, approximately 863 million people lived in such informal and deprived urban areas in developing countries, representing, roughly, 33% of its urban population (UN-Habitat, 2013). A trend that, unfortunately, endures and grows stronger by the minute.

But is this “informal city” so different from its counterpart, the “formal city”? What separates them? Its origins? Its urban form and townscape? Its resilience and sustainability? Its social and economic characteristics? Its cultural and ethnic heritage?

These are some of the main questions that will be addressed in this report by exploring the existent “symbiotic links” between “formal and informal city”.

The report is organized in two parts. The first will provide a brief historical description exploring not only the origins and development of informality but also the impact of such development in today's societies.

The second part, will focus on the identification and comprehension of known differences and similarities on both concepts, doing so by providing definitions from recognized dictionaries and encyclopaedias in addition to different authors, which will offer similar and/or distinct visions and approaches on the matter.

By opposing these two concepts (formality and informality) it will be possible to determine their differences and similarities. Initial interpretations will demonstrate that, essentially, they are in fact the opposite of one another, possess a reduced number of common features and in which basically formality should be seen as something to aspire and informality as something to decline.

Nevertheless, those that know both realities, either by professional or by living experience, realize that such preliminary conclusion is in fact more complex. Such complexity derives from the fact that both notions possess more common features than those initially anticipated. Let us look at them.

Cultural aspects are one of the features not highlighted as a similarity, when in fact slum dwellers have, directly and indirectly, made valuable contributions to the 20th century cultural life, either in music, literature or dance (UN-Habitat, 2003).

Social aspects are also another common feature that was not highlighted. Famine, poverty, crime, and social exclusion are also well-known stigmas of cities in developed countries.

Economic distresses namely the existence of informal or parallel transactions, are also another shared concern between "formal and informal cities".

The current environmental degradation of developed countries and cities, which is a direct result of ecological crimes, massive garbage production and of a high percentage of CO2 emissions, can be easily compared to the informal city's environmental challenge regarding sanitation and garbage disposal inefficiency.

Last but not least, although presently informal settlements are not a main concern in "developed cities", its presence, nevertheless, is still well felt. Even regarding urban planning and design there are also known similarities, since not all informal settlements start out with a spontaneous occupation absent of rules and intent. In light of such explanations, one can likely determine that the main differences between formality and informality, reside in four "simple" features:

Dimension, Resources, Determination and Recognition.

Hopefully, by understanding the physical and social dimensions of both formal and informal city, we may start to envision sustained and sustainable solutions that will allow to break the "virtual boundaries" that separate them thus contributing to the development of more comprehensive, inclusive and creative territories.

Keywords: City; Urban; Formal; Informal; Slum.

Seeing, standing and seating: the architecture of co-presence in small urban spaces

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Abstract

The senses are part of the everyday life of the people and they play an important role to experience the quality of public spaces. This paper addresses the question to what extend people co-presence in public spaces is related to their field of vision while they are seated in benches or movable chairs or just standing there. A method based on Isovists and Visibility Graph Analysis is proposed for the evaluation of space affordances concerning visibility, exposure, use, comfort and social interaction. Through the analysis of places, a more detailed and qualitative interpretation of the city is carried out.

William Whyte, who extensively investigated patterns of co-presence and suggested the importance of places to seat in successful public spaces used to say that “people seat wherever they have a place to seat”. In this paper we pretend to be a little more specific and investigate the hypothesis that “people seat wherever they have a place to see” combining direct observation with space syntax tools and techniques.

The layouts of three plazas in Lisbon were analyzed and compered according to their intensity level of use and success. For each layout standing activities were mapped several times and at different times of the day. Using the software UCL Depthmap the position of the benches and other standing places were evaluated in terms of the size and properties of their isovists, visual control and controllability as well as coefficient visual of clustering. The results of these configurational measures were compared with the data collection of behavior mapping.

The study demonstrates the use of the proposed method in the evaluation of the social life of public spaces showing evidences on the relation between standing activities and benches occupancy and the importance of the fields of vision in people social behavior. The results suggest a good correlation between the syntactic measures and the user evaluation of the benches and other standing places in the plazas. The results also suggest how designers and policymakers can manipulate space in order to contribute to the urban life.

Keywords: space configuration, places to seat, Isovist, panopticon space, convex space.

Towards Designing Safer Neighbourhoods using a community-based approach: the case of Lithuania and Portugal

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Abstract

Crime and fear of crime are two of the major concerns in modern day societies, as they hinder urban citizens of experiencing in a positive way their daily existence, at the same time as they can contribute to the physical and economic degradation of urban spaces. From the 1960s/1970s onwards, works as those of Oscar Newman or C. Ray Jeffrey introduced the concept of crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), i.e. crime could be prevented by integrated, multidisciplinary approaches concerning the structure, organization, planning and design of urban spaces.

Despite the recognition of CPTED, known in Europe as CPT-UD, as a major crime deterrent from organizations such as the Justice and Home Affairs Council of the EU, and the existence of an European Standard on 'Prevention of crime - Urban planning and building design' (CEN/TR 14383-2), the truth is that in most European countries, urban planning, building and development projects are still not considering, as a mandatory requirement, safety criteria design. Central European countries such as France or the UK have been introducing over the last two decades top-down approaches to legislate safety criteria standards into planning and building design. France's ESSP ('L'étude de sûreté et de sécurité publique'), for instance, mandatory for new developments of a certain size, functions like an impact assessment study, but it is more than a "*simple technical constrain*" that developers need to comply with. It represents and added value to the project and to the neighbourhood, because the implications of crime prevention have a long lasting effect on communities, and to work require positive integrated approaches between decision-makers, stakeholders, technicians, the police and the public.

Nevertheless, in many peripheral European countries of smaller size, specific top-down policies concerning CPT-UD are still inexistent, and existing best-practice manuals, based on the European Standard and crime-prevention theories, are seldom known or applied. Yet although at national level CPT-UD is still not a priority, at local level and in small projects, ground-breaking bottom-up collective methodologies of participatory planning and community policing have started to be developed, applying the principles of CPT-UD with positive results.

This paper describes and compares the methodology of implementation of such approaches in two cities in peripheral Europe; Lisbon in Portugal, and Kaunas in Lithuania. Its main goal is to address the processes and the challenges of establishing synergies between areas of expertise, that have been developed to introduce a CP-UDP-based model into municipal planning. One of the main challenges is that the police may not be equipped with the necessary expertise to act according to CPT-UD principles. At the same time, the public is not aware of what may be its role in the process. Therefore, inevitably, the local development of CPT-UD strategies is more than just a question of the right 'design'. To be successful, efficient working models/partnerships should be established between planning professionals, the police and the community.

By reflecting on the collective approach for crime-prevention through environmental design that has been established in these two case-studies, relevant contributions may be given to the development of local/municipal planning policies that may ensure a more inclusive urban safety strategy around peripheral Europe. The local bottom-up approach is also crucial to raise awareness and disseminate knowledge and best practices, paving the way for proper top-down policies and planning legislations in these countries.

Keywords: crime-prevention through urban design; community-based approach; bottom-up strategies; participatory-planning; community-policing; safer-neighbourhoods.

‘Trac(k)ing’ methodology: A kinetic approach to everyday places

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Abstract

The paper will explore the methodology ‘*Trac(k)ing*’: *tracing by tracking – a kinetic approach*, developed within the Post-Doctoral Report “(Self)Organization and Urban Form: Combining Different Morphological Approaches in the Study of Maputo”. This research was developed at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (2012-2015) under the supervision of Vítor Oliveira and Isabel Raposo.

The research problem is how to assemble different morphological approaches (with qualitative and quantitative methods) in order to highlight the sort of everyday appropriations that occur in the urban form of cities revealing diverse types of places with complex configurations, uses and activities. This framework redirect one particular issue – the way one perceives the urban form, not as a static and general platform of policies and practices, but as a very dynamic set of diverse spaces and different places embracing cultural, social and physical contrasts between the public (and formal) sector and the emergence of local and individual initiatives and appropriations, structured on knowledge-based creativity and interactive learning processes.

The relevance of this project for the conference theme is related to the possibility that, through ‘*Trac(k)ing*’ methodology, one can point out the relevance of this kind of production of urban spaces, where public and collective places are shared and (self)organized in order to promote social, cultural and commercial interaction among the multiplicity of urban forms in order to systemize, in critical and interpretative terms, the sort of relations that are set between urban structure, building patterns and urban activities into a new and augmented cartographies of cities and its places, meanings and location’s unique character. The development of these issues will contribute to Topic 3 of the Conference: Cultural dimension / Local identities and meanings.

In order to recognize the coexistence of normative physical planning and empirical urban self-organization processes in cities, one ought to understand the individual and the communitarian multiplicity and the specificity of micro-strategies that results in renewed ways of urban space production – so that it will be possible to frame urban processes that will increase into the urban *dynamic-form* ‘Spaces of Integrated Dynamics’ and ‘Axis of Connected Fluxes’. As such, it will be possible to understand the cultural meaning of urban spaces and to investigate how cultural practices and dynamics determine the construction of local identities and meanings, bringing to surface emergent and alternative cultural transformations.

The methodology will be held from the combination and articulation of different morphological approaches, assembled into ‘*Trac(k)ing*’ methodology, presenting qualitative and quantitative methods, diagrams of actions into the public space, (dynamic) collaborative maps of fluxes and appropriations on collective spaces, (augmented) cartographies of use and activities based on subjective ways of space perception.

The main results of this paper are: *i)* the full presentation of the new methodology ‘*Trac(k)ing*’: *tracing by tracking – a kinetic approach*; *ii)* the introduction of the concept “urban *dynamic-form*” (instead of “urban form”); and finally *iii)* the definition of two urban indicators: ‘Spaces of Integrated Dynamics’ and ‘Axis of Connected Fluxes’.

Keywords: kinetic urban spaces; everyday places; urban self-organization; urban appropriation; dynamic transformation of public spaces; collective and shared spaces.

Forms of “new” cultural and economic experience of Oporto city centre: the Urban Markets

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Abstract

The scientific literature on urban markets is scarce. The subject is approached in a diffuse way in the analysis of economic dynamics of cities. There are not numerous scientific studies that focus on understanding the role that urban markets have today in urban contexts. Consequently, there is a lack of a robust and coherent theoretical framework that support the analysis of case studies. Research gaps are diverse, so is lacking a framework to guide the analysis at the level of the factors behind the creation and development of urban markets of different formats or a framework to analyze similar or distinguishing characteristics. On the other hand, we don't know the real impacts and implications of urban markets at community level and, more broadly, at the scale of cities.

Despite the scarcity of academic works, there is consensus that markets bring life to urban places.

It also agreed that these forms of economic activity create synergies with the community and are, often, events simultaneously with economic and cultural character and with a playful nature that animate the streets or places where they occur, like “new urban scenes”. They involve many and differentiated local actors, who interact in networks of formal and informal relationships, through institutional partnerships or individual or organizational collaborations. Attract consumers and entrepreneurs and, above all, they generate flows of people who give life and animation to the spaces. In this sense, they are considered as driving forces in terms of living of communities, in general, and local economic development, in particular. They are unique experiences of shopping and socialization.

Under the URBACT Markets project, a number of European cities have joined forces in the sharing of knowledge on this issue. Recognizing the important role urban markets play in economic, social and cultural development, these cities developed action plans to boost local markets. The project led by Barcelona (Spain) has as partners the cities of Turin (Italy), Attica (Greece), Suceava (Romania), Pécs (Hungary), Wrocław (Poland), London (United Kingdom), Dublin (Ireland) and Toulouse (France).

In Oporto city center, in recent years, there has been the emergence and development of several urban markets, which are held in buildings or outdoor, with a fixed or a variable place, which are more or less focused on cultural or recreational experience of spaces. These markets are, in some cases, more modern variants of the street fairs or craft fairs, commercializing national or local traditional products. In other cases, they are ways of more innovative micro-enterprises and new entrepreneurs to make themselves known to new consumers and open new markets.

Using a methodology that consisted of interviews with responsables for organizing these markets and direct ethnographic observation of them, this work analyzes the urban markets of Oporto city center. We analyze the factors that give rise to them, the motivations of those who are in charge of their organization, the difficulties and obstacles to their achievement. We point the different formats, their common features and the aspects that distinguish them. The issue of partnerships, institutional support, financing mechanisms and the communication and marketing strategies is addressed. It is also analyzed the involvement of the markets with the community and, in particular, with the local economic activity. Finally, and based on opinion of those responsible for organizing, we seek to systematize the main impacts of urban markets in the city center of Oporto.

Keywords: Urban markets; Oporto city centre; Cultural events; Economic dynamics, Living spaces, Cultural scenes.

Promotion of “Generative Places” based on Municipal economic and financial sustainability

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Abstract

1) The issue/research problem

The research reported in this article aims at assessing how territorial management instruments applied at the municipal level can allocate for the social interest the land unearned increments that stem from public decisions concerning the implementation of territorial plans and/or changes in land uses or land use intensities.

2) Its relevance for the conference theme

This issue assumes the utmost importance for the conference theme. Indeed if, on the one hand, the characteristics of the physical spaces – that result from public, private and/or community decisions – set the conditions for local peoples’ everyday life, the municipality shall vest economic and financial sustainability conditions that are able to support peoples’ quality of life, on the other. Thus territorial management instruments applied at the local level shall be able to manage the physical, social and cultural spaces in a balanced way. And to pursue this goal, these instruments shall be able to recover the land unearned increments engendered by public decisions that, instead of finishing at private landowners hands, should better go back to that municipality’s population.

3) The background

The concept of Land Value Capture (LVC) argues that land value derived from public decisions should be recaptured, what enables a decrease in real prices and speculation, is economically efficient, and has allowed the implementation and improvement of land-based taxes.

Historically the literature has asserted the idea of land social function: the increase in land value that results from public decisions should be reassigned to the social welfare. But the territorial management instruments that render this concept operational (surplus values capture instruments) are still underdeveloped around the world.

Within the scope of the revision of the Land, Territorial Ordinance and Urbanism Act, currently under way in Portugal – linked together with the revision of the Juridical Regime of Territorial Management Instruments, the Juridical Regime of Urbanization and Edification, municipal master plans and respective regulations, other legislation that falls on territory, and the new Cadastral Law - this article presents the assumptions, methodology, outcomes and conclusions of a new territorial management instrument aimed at capturing, at least, part of the land unearned increments stemming from planning decisions and from plan implementation. As the current crisis framework strongly impacts on municipal finance, this research aims at contributing to endow municipalities with financing-efficient instruments, thus reinforcing their ability to fight for the interests of their populations in a sustained way, namely in what concerns the provision of high standards of life quality.

4) The methodology

Herein is proposed a new territorial management instrument, aimed at recovering part of the surplus values engendered by urban planning decisions, applied at the Municipal level. It consists in charging a 20% fee on the land value increase that results from the assignment by plans of concrete building capacity/m² to specific urban interventions. This fee will, later on, be used by the municipality on behalf of social purposes. The current proposal is applied, as a case study, to the Urban Development Plan of the Planning Unit 11 of the municipality of Lagoa, located in the Algarve (Portugal). The methodology pursued in the current study consists in the computation of the building capacity/m², and of the surplus values and corresponding 20% fee that accrue from the establishment of that plan, to be charged to promoters and builders, in order to recover part of their unearned increments.

5) The key results of the paper

This article clearly states the computation of the amount the municipalities are able to recover from the application of this proposed innovative territorial management instrument. It strengthens municipal’s economic and financial sustainability based on urban interventions, clears up the origins and applications of municipal funds, and ensures that the unearned increments (surplus values) engendered by plans are pointed to social purposes and not to specific private interests.

Thus “generative places” can be promoted and supported at the municipal level, considering the funding achievable through this innovative territorial management instrument.

Keywords: land social function; land value capture; territorial management instruments; municipal economic and financial sustainability.

The role of local knowledge in spatial policies: contextualizing community engagement within existing discourses

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Abstract

Maps were historically used to govern the territory, to support colonial and army operations and to maintain the superior position of those with power. The spatial concept of 'territory' itself is indivisible from 'power' and 'sovereignty', having helped construct the identity of the 'us' inside the territory and shape the difference between us and the 'others' outside its borders. Nowadays, however, the institutional use of cartography and spatial information has long ceased to be dominated by the state. It includes initiatives such as participatory mapping, a product of new trends in the development and policy-making discourse that allow local communities to become part of and influence the existing power structures.

Local knowledge, the object of this study, is a type of spatial knowledge of particular significance to activities subordinated to space and place, and held by individuals or a community that belongs to that same place. It has been targeted by participatory mapping and other collaborative initiatives that act over space and seek community engagement, improvement and emancipation, both at the physical and social levels. While local knowledge is not exclusive or sufficient for tackling the challenges people face today, it is nevertheless pointed as very useful resource in areas such as the preservation of cultural and biological biodiversity, informing spatial policies or the support of resilience views. Moreover, it is a part of global knowledge, which can be preserved, transferred, or adopted and adapted elsewhere, and thus has a value and relevance in itself. It is also recognized that some forms of local knowledge, such as traditional knowledge, are important to local communities beyond scientific or broader societal merit: they encompass the concepts of social justice, sovereignty, autonomy and identity.

Local knowledge, like other types of spatial knowledge and its representations, is strongly connected to power, local politics and the relationship between the local community and governmental entities, a connection played over the location of knowledge production and tools for communication. Understanding this connection is a key to studying conflict. Beyond these broader purposes of the harnessing, study, and use of local knowledge, there are other specific and pragmatic uses: managing complex knowledge systems, building cooperation, improving communication, response and resilience, and improving cost-effectiveness of projects.

However, harnessing local knowledge in order to inform spatial policies is a complex task that needs investment of resources, due to the fact that only local people possess local knowledge and it is impossible to access it without them. Its role in the context of current spatial policies is also unclear, since they are informed by a myriad of concepts and normative positions that get tangled and often seem at odds. Nevertheless, the interest on the various forms of local knowledge keeps growing, as well as the perception of its legitimacy as part of current complex knowledge systems.

This growing interest should be understood in the context of governance issues and the movement towards participatory and emancipatory approaches in planning, development and resource management. Since the inception of the concept, paradigms have changed, from considering what people do to the cultural context in which knowledge is generated, from an interventionist external paradigm for development to an increasingly participatory one, from the hegemony of scientific knowledge to complex knowledge systems with very different legitimate sources. A new ethos has emerged in favour of participatory and decentralised development, as well as (to some extent) the disengagement of the state in favour of the growing role of the NGO sector or even the communities themselves, provided they have access to the range of technological solutions necessary to generate solutions.

This paper is based on a document research from multiple sources which seeks to clarify the position of local knowledge concerning different discourses that inform spatial policies. The analysis focuses both on theory-centred publications and case-studies of collaborative initiatives to harness local knowledge.

In order to better support collaboration, boost social learning and capacity development, assert the local identity or preserve cultural diversity, amongst other functions, it is argued that it is advantageous to include local knowledge in current spatial policies for intervention, development or management. In this work, the main normative and conceptual discourses that shape spatial policies are juxtaposed to the themes surrounding local knowledge, in an effort to draw parallels and evidence both the successes and difficulties of its integration. Such themes include space as a multidisciplinary and aggregative dimension, the importance of 'place', the recognition of complex modes of knowledge production, participation and community engagement, auto-determination and the role of local communities in governance, amongst others.

Keywords: local knowledge; spatial policies; community engagement.

Overcoming distance in design and planning methodologies and thinking in order to support climate change adaptation strategies and projects to become local

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Abstract

This paper is a reflection on barriers in architectural and planning thinking and methodologies that prevent us from seeing and understanding local potentials and resources in design and planning processes.

The reflection takes its point of departure in a question on the use of generic ('objective') methodologies in planning and architecture and the impact hereof on analysis results, and hence on our ability to understand and work with local potentials and resources, and thus to support and enhance local aspects in planning and architectural design.

This paper argues that the understandings and thinking behind architectural and planning methodologies, colors the way we as professionals look upon and interpret the site and information gathered. As a result hereof we may overlook important information provided by the site and the users but not articulated or visible - for us.

The reflection refers to two sources; the one related to the critique by Hajer and Reijndorp (2001) on the similarities of taste, background, preference etc. among deciding parties in planning and designing urban spaces, and hence designs that users don't relate to or attach meaning to, i.e. public spaces, which do not function as public domains.

The other is more specific and refers to a recent PhD study at KADK that cleverly contributes to developing methods of mapping of people in public urban space in Copenhagen by using smartphones in tracking people and identifying the public urban spaces they spend most time in. It is argued (Scharnhorst 2015) that by using GPS tracking, we may gather information on where, what and how local non-professionals use the city, and the information gathered being more objective than information gathered through more traditional architectural survey studies and methodologies, and hence more representative for (real) city life.

These arguments hold true in several respects, but they also raises questions on how the information is processed and interpret.

Addressing these questions seems essential if we want to support and implement local site characteristics and local human capital in planning and design, especially in developing climate change adaptation measurements that will be

1. Locally anchored and accepted
2. Adapted to site specific conditions
3. Respecting and developing local land(-scape) use and perception

Due to the impacts of changing climate on the built environment an interest in understanding relationships and interdependencies between cities and their local land(-scape) now re-appears. Understandings hereof are essential in developing adequate climate change adaptation measurements. But even so the thinking behind is often situated in and drawing on an urban perspective (Krasny 2014), that is too one-side focused on urban questions and solutions, and therefore tends to reduce and simplify, or simply overlook, aspects, characteristics and potentials in both the land(-scape) itself but also local user information hereon, resulting in pure aesthetic interpretations of landscape features and green elements in the designs. The underlying notion (thinking) of nature may thus be described as purely aesthetic and thus overlooking other notions, among others of the local users notions.

The above-mentioned PhD study (Scharnhorst 2015) does, like many other urban space and city life studies and researchers, lean on analytical methodology and quality criteria set up by Gehl (2006), and J. Jacobs. Both these figures are regarded as authorities within their field, and their understandings and analytical methods are referred to and used globally across cultural and historical, economical, and social differences - their thinking and approaches may thus be described as generic.

An advantage about generic approaches and methodologies is that they provide a common ground and a commonly accepted ground.

A disadvantage is that in order to be generic they also tend to become insensitive towards specifics, here understood as local context and site specific – land(-scape) related - conditions.

An example hereof is that some of the most interesting findings – characterized by their landscape features - in Scharnhorst's study were left unnoticed; this may be due to low quality of the study and analysis (this was not the case), but it could also be due to an imbedded insensitiveness towards the specific site characteristics in generic analytical methodology and quality criteria used in analyzing the findings.

This assumption is supported by other researchers (Krasny 2014; Angle 2011), and suggests to me that a critical approach towards imbedded barriers in our thinking and methodologies is needed, so they become in sync with the challenges and problems we are facing adapting the built environment to climate change. This suggests an awareness of the balance between generic methodologies and solutions (for example best practice and evidence-based based) with site specific methodologies, and site specific conditions and resources such as the human capital, if planning and design solutions are to become locally anchored.

A first step in doing so is starting to uncover, explore and communicate material, notions and ideas on nature, land(-scape) green elements, especially with a focus on examples – texts, theories, methodologies, research - on the interdependencies and exchange between land(-scape) and cities, for example theory on Ornamental Farming and concrete projects; secondly, to discuss whether this material holds potentials usable in developing climate change adaptation measurements strategies and projects.

Keywords: methodology, generic, site specific, climate change.

Becoming local at Parque das Nações: the urban political economy of a planned neighbourhood in Lisbon

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Abstract

The Lisbon World Exhibition of 1998 was an official celebration of a modern and cosmopolitan Portugal as well as of the country's historical maritime achievements. The event encompassed the renovation of Lisbon's eastern waterfront, emerging as an opportunity to symbolically redefine its metropolitan development and to redraw its image as a contemporary and international city.

The aim was to create a new urban centrality, through the regeneration of an area that was until then occupied with port, industrial and storage facilities, along with working-class family housing. The project included the dismantlement of the existing infrastructures, the displacement of residents, the building of the Expo's precinct and of a planned new neighbourhood around it.

Renamed Parque das Nações and promoted as the 'Imagined City', after the conclusion of the exhibition, the site became an emblematic space for the Lisbon metropolis due to the lasting symbolic association with the event. It also grew as a residential area for the urban middle classes and as the location of numerous enterprises, as well as commercial, cultural and leisure venues. The existence of a transport interface with local, metropolitan, national and international connections strongly enhanced the relevance of Parque das Nações in the urban and metropolitan context, by placing it at the centre of several mobility networks. Finally, the public spaces and the vast and well cared for green areas, while becoming attractive leisure spaces for different kinds of urban populations, were and are used as instruments of real-estate valorization.

Until December 2012, Parque das Nações was an exceptional case in the Portuguese context: urban management was not under the responsibility of the two municipalities the neighborhood belonged to (Lisbon and Loures), but of Parque Expo, the public capital firm created to infrastructure the area and build and manage Expo'98. The firm's revenue originated mainly from the public budget, bank loans and from selling the land to private developers that ultimately built the edifices and sold them at market prices.

During the fourteen years Parque Expo managed Parque das Nações, public spaces were cleaner than the rest of the city and provided with more public and private security mechanisms, aimed at collective and individual behaviors.

In August 2011, the Government decided to gradually extinguish the firm due to its debts. By the end of 2012, as dictated by the national parliament, the whole area became a new *Freguesia* (smallest local administrative unit in Portugal) of Lisbon and was subsumed under the management of this municipality and the new executive of the Junta de *Freguesia*, to be elected in 2013. In September 2013, a movement composed by members of the residents association, with no party affiliation, won the local elections. In April 2015, the executive of the Junta de *Freguesia*, claiming difficulties in managing the large territory with no party support, affiliated to the Portuguese Socialist Party. For most residents, this process was a success of local based bottom-up political action. Recently, urban management problems and conflicts inside and outside the executive started to rise.

The main objective of this paper is to describe and interpret the implementation of a specific modality of 'urban political economy', between 1998 and 2012, and the alterations it suffered since 2013.

The main idea behind the notion of 'urban political economy', inspired by Y. Fijalkow (2009), is that a city is, among other things, a political object resulting from the implementation of urban policies, rationalization and bureaucratisation processes that are supported by legal instruments. But at the same time, it is also based on implicit rules of collective action, on negotiations between the elected, the technicians and the users/residents/city dwellers. And this authorizes a sociological analysis of the 'government of the city'. This notion also integrates processes of adjustment and control of frontiers and of social and spatial distances within the territory.

This 'urban political economy' is decomposed in three main dimensions: discourses and practices of urban management; border/frontier management; and community making actions. In the three dimensions, I will seek to describe the negotiations, the cooperation and the conflicts between the different actors.

The discourses and practices of urban management suffered a great transformation from 2013 on, since Parque das Nações is no longer a showcase for the urban planning work of Parque Expo. The other two dimensions are strongly linked. The attempts to create a "community" of Parque das Nações are mainly led by the residents association whose key objective was the

creation of the Freguesia. Their actions to reinforce place attachment in a new neighborhood and the idea of a "community" contained within the borders of Parque das Nações, simultaneously contributed to strengthening the borders that separate it from its surroundings and that separates them from other less affluent population groups living in those surroundings. In their search for a community with a strong local identity, attachment to place and a socially homogeneous local base, they managed also to further objectify, in an administrative division, the physical boundaries and the social distance that separates Parque das Nações from nearby places.

Another interesting idea this paper deals with relates to the fact that to build Parque das Nações, another place, in that same location, with its own people and its own meanings, was totally erased from existence and from urban memory.

The paper relates to the conference theme (session 3) in the sense that it focuses on a local process of place building that involves policies and urban management principles and instruments, but also community action, and everyday practices. It really is about new ways of becoming local in contemporary, globalizing cities.

The data and analysis presented in the paper are the outcome of a PhD research in Urban Sociology completed in 2013 (Pereira, 2013) and of a more recent follow up on the issues related to the new Freguesia do Parque das Nações. Participant observation, in-depth interviews and documental research were the main instruments used to face the complexity of the issues in focus.

Keywords: Lisbon; Parque das Nações; urban political economy; borders; community; urban management.

Becoming Local: the dynamic process of urban policy transfer of the “Land Regularization Programme – Brazil”

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Abstract

This study analyzes the urban policy transfer process of the *Land Regularization Programme of São Bernardo do Campo - Brazil*, bearing in mind the socially produced processes and the complex policy making practices, guided in the knowledge transfer among diverse actors in multiple spatial and temporal scales. Thus the analysis of policy transfer intends to understand the transformation in policies and hence the transformation of the territories in which they are implemented. Through a dynamic process, the transfer interconnects stakeholders, places and scales shaping the form of production of contemporary urban spaces.

The importance of this analysis follows the existence of gaps in the study of policy transfer that suggests the need to consider complementary perspectives. The gaps relates with the discussion between the process and its results, the emphasis on national scale, the focus on agency rather than structure, among other difficulties that result in incomplete analyzes of processes and practices in study. Therefore, it is necessary to broaden the spectrum of transfer analysis to use the contributions of concept, but also to consider other perspectives that complement the research in theoretical level - improving the analysis quality, and in practical terms - minimizing the policy "failure" and thus to optimize the results of the policy transfer processes.

Currently, the policy making presupposes to consider numerous contexts that require quick and uncomplicated solutions. It is observed an intense knowledge transfer and learning shaping the decision-making processes. However, there are diverse implications in the adoption of practices and policies originated elsewhere that deserve attention. In this scenario, policy makers choose to adopt many "models" of pre-tested policies to balance the uncertainties of policy making processes. It stands out in this environment of complexity and specific uncertainties of contemporary urban policy – the policy transfer. The extensive literature of theme presents a concept developed over two decades, used as an analytical tool of various phenomena.

The Land Regularization Program of São Bernardo do Campo is analyzed through a relational methodology (Fig.1) based on policy transfer, but also on elements extracted from other perspectives identified in various related themes (lesson-drawing, policy diffusion, policy convergence and urban policy mobilities). The aim is to explore the complementarity relationships between the different themes to address the gaps of the investigation.

Thus, the relational methodology consists on “process tracing” in order to identify key situations and events in the formulation of Land Regularization Programme. It is organized in three stages: *(i) definition of tracing phases; (ii) process tracing in phases; and (iii) making a timeline*. The phases of the process tracing are: *identifying exporter* – level macro/meso and micro, *characterization importer jurisdiction*, *implementation importer jurisdiction* and *results importer jurisdiction*. The aims is to expand the spectrum of analysis to study various angles of the process, addressing the different stakeholders involved, practices and structures.

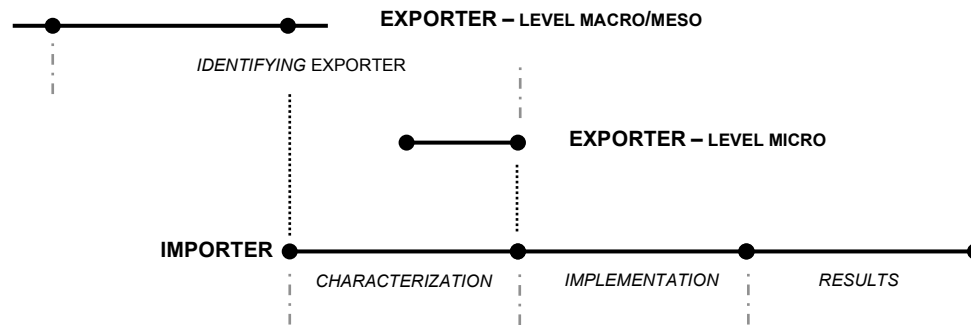


Fig. 1 – Relational Methodology – Process Tracing.

The application of the relational methodology to Land Regularization Programme of São Bernardo do Campo presents several results for each analysis phase. In particular, the existence of a diffusion process of the topic "land regularization" at the national level, the participation of many actors at different spatial scales and its influence on results, the modification of various local structures, among other results which allow to visualize the complete policy transfer process.

In addition to specific results, the relational methodology has the flexibility to adapt to other methods and techniques, identifies specific actors and structures for each phase and enters the study of policy transfer in a broader vision that includes (social) production of the urban spaces and policies transformation "in motion".

Keywords: Urban Policy Transfer, Relational Methodology, Land Regularization, Brazil.

Urban space and rural heritage: the case of Vila Franca de Xir

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Abstract

The urban space is often the scene of demonstrations of rurality its surroundings.

The intangible cultural heritage of rural areas tends to disappear as the territory is urbanized and lifestyles changed, reducing the daily activities that justified them.

The cultural heritage of some rural areas, particularly where cattle ranching is more representative, maintains its visibility in small and medium towns in periodic events even when integrated in a metropolitan area, such as the Lisbon one, and probably influences the evolution of urban public spaces.

The happenings that mark the places and promote the identity are the events. It is important for the city there are events of various types and which create reasons of common interest for locals and tourists. Some events are the result of ancient traditions and others like the leisure ones, sports, festivities or cultural are created to promote places.

In the late twentieth century the urban and commercial feature of the town of Vila Franca de Xira, has become a communications and service center, without losing its roots of simplicity, hosting and maintenance by the Tagus, the Lezírias (a tract of marshy land alongside of the river Tejo) or Bullfighting , power-up testimony to the surrounding rural territory.

This paper examines an urban area, its evolution and morphology, in the town of Vila Franca de Xira, and his relationship with the "Red Waistcoat / Colete Encarnado" event, tradition that has existed since 1932, party tribute to "campino", held in its central area, this activity is considered as part of the intangible heritage of the region and a land mark.

Keywords: Urban space, intangible heritage, Vila Franca de Xira, Red Waistcoat /Colete encarnado.

From The Philharmonics to a Cultural policy in an urban regeneration area

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Abstract

This paper studies the importance of cultural activities, like philharmonics, especially those that are developed in the framework of cultural and recreational associations, how they emerged, developed and organized in the industrial city, in order to address the needs of the population, namely the occupation of their free times and in leisure activities or in adaptation activities to urban life for migrants, from rural areas who came to live in the new industrial centers of the nineteenth century.

Their characteristics in the industrial phase of the urban agglomeration, the role of its location as a qualifying element of the centrality in urban space.

How has been made the transition from an industrial city to a post-industrial city to their centrality and the evolution of the functions of cultural associations, in this process.

In the post industrial city cultural activities have been used as urban regeneration tool in addition to the rehabilitation of the areas where they are located.

The cultural dimension of a city is a factor of social cohesion and therefore very important for the local territorial identity. This paper analyzes the impact that the cultural dimension can have on urban space.

Studying the evolution of the characteristics of a set of cultural associations, from those with philharmonics to those with theatre and urban performance that have for many decades, an important cultural promotion instrument in the industrial cities on the outskirts of Lisbon, particularly in the municipality of Almada in the southern part of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area.

Cultural and recreational associations according to the time of its creation are studied, its initial activity, the respective built heritage, if exist, and the relationship with their performance in urban life.

In the study that we are developing it is analyzed the activities of cultural associations to its importance in the urban space and the potential that seem to transform the surrounding territory, in an important cultural center in partnership with the local authority.

Demonstrate the potential that cultural associations have in the qualification of urban space and its role as urban regeneration partners as well as their difficulties in an cultural policy in the city.

The importance that cultural activities has had, in recent years, as tools of urban renewal policies in low-cost strategies compared to tools used in the rehabilitation of buildings and public spaces at local level.

Keywords: Urban regeneration, cultural and recreational associations, post-industrial cities, social cohesion, local cultural policy.

The lost identity of the city: case of Damascus

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Abstract

In contemporary urban planning literature, there is a big concern towards the "urban identity" after the loss of characters, essence, soul, individuality and distinctiveness of many cities especially those with a heritage, cultural, and historic significance such as Damascus which is one of the oldest cities in the world.

The city is a normal humanitarian situation, as long as human is in permanent movement, change and a constant search for development which imposes multiple temporary identities on the city, but all are stemmed from an inclusive identity which is the time Tri-dimensional memory where we can feel that timeline which brings us inside the wall of time to remind us of how the city was formed as a result of the accumulation of events.

We can not deny that the contemporary Arab cities is living under a lot of urban pressures where many defects in the temporal spatial structure of the city are happening and the distorted situation is becoming prevalent, which make these cities in a case of constant loss for many of their civilizational and cultural gains, and this drives them into more deformity and loss of aesthetic and historical values that are supposed to be reflected in these cities.

In this paper I define the concept of city Identity and study the case of losing the identity in Arab historical cities by studying Damascus as an example. The paper gives a detailed information about emergence and unique qualities and characteristics of Damascus which make it different from other cities, then define the start of the change in the physical and social combination of the city and its role in the loss of the identity, then the effects of proposed general plans in the early 20th century on the urban fabric and the soul of the city, and in the recent time I will study the role of slums areas in changing Damascus from a city surrounded by green areas into a city surrounded by a desert and the effect of this growth on the urban environment and identity of the old city defining the current problems and providing some proposals to maintain and save what is left from Damascus identity. Finally the paper study the role of globalization phenomenon in changing the identity of the city and how can we reflex this effect and get benefit from the globalization products in saving the identity of historic cities.

The Fountain Square –‘Shadervan’– a living landmark of Prizren

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Abstract

1) The issue/research problem

The Fountain square or ‘The Shadervan’ in Prizren is a central public space, one of the most important landmark of the city. Any visitor who comes for the first or countless time in Prizren’s Shadervan square is amazed with the vitality of the place and the human scale. We are searching here the cultural values embedded in the square being those simple life culture such as coffee and tea culture during an ordinary day or in the evening during the Ramadan, or cultural events that takes place in Prizren such as Dokufest, the international documentary and short film festival.

2) Relevance for the conference theme

The paper tries to present the importance of local cultural values of the city of Prizren embedded in its cultural heritage. Empowered by the civic activism to enrich the culture life, Prizren is today known all over the world through DOKUFEST. The Shadervan square, as one the main public space and landmark is the center of all activities and a starting point of any story about the culture in Prizren. It is a landmark in physical terms, but it has also a strong social and cultural dimension bounded with many stories, songs and events across the history.

3) The background

Prizren is one of the oldest cities in Kosovo, Due to its position it is a very important city in terms of economy and culture. It is also a touristic city with cultural heritage attractions and a very lively public space and public life.

The Fountain Square – or ‘Shadervan’ in Prizren presents foci of public life with a long history, dating back to 16-17 century in the Ottoman Empire. It is a place where several old bazaar streets terminate and meet each other. Through the century the artisans guilds of Prizren – so called ‘esnafs’ maintained the tradition of meeting at the ‘Shadervan’ for business exchange and coffee and tea talks during the whole year, whether outside or in the inner coffee and tea shops interiors. The transformation of the ottoman city started since the beginning of 20th century, when Prizren felt under Serbian, Croat and Slovenian Kingdom in 1918. But, because Prizren was a city in the periphery of the Kingdom, it did not suffered much in terms of eradicating of the Ottoman structure. The fountain square – Shadervan preserved its importance because of its role as a crossroad of main bazaar streets. This remained even during the communism time when the esnafs dissolved and the shops were partly nationalized, and artisan’s products lost importance due to more industrialized products.

Major transformations took place after the World War II – 1950’s to 1970’s, when some parts of the bazaar were demolished and modern buildings replaced the older.

After the war in Kosovo, beside the new forms of artisan production and services, the cafe culture regained important role in the public life. As one of the oldest cities in Kosovo, dating back to ancient time, beside it’s cultural heritage, Prizren possesses a strong sense of community self-organized in terms of keeping a traditional vitality in the public spaces. These facts are motives for different initiatives in terms of enriching public life in the public space. During the socialist period, there were many local culture initiatives such as festivals and does a very strong culture community of Prizren primarily organize exhibition. This was continued after the war supported also by the international community, which governed in Kosovo until 2008. One of the mainstream local initiatives is the DOCUFEST, the International Documentary Film Festival organized since 2002. The initiative came from local people working in culture and from a very modest three day festival it grew to a ten day international event that brings more than 10.000 thousands visitors in Prizren.

4) The methodology

This is a combined research methodology/strategy involving interpretative historical research and case study research method. In the analyses of the development of the ‘Shadervan’ area through history the basic arguments are found in the literature and archive documents. In the current standings, beside the literature and archives, the case study method using analyses of the public life is used to present the findings and make comparisons within the same time frame and fast changing context.

Using the simple tools such as counting, mapping, tracing, tracking, photographing, keeping diary and making test walks, we tried to generate the intensity of public life linking the festival event as a major event with the square and the surrounding spatial elements that makes it lively 24 hours.

5) Key results

We classified the findings in three main categories: the cultural values and meanings for the local settings and identities that Shadervan Square produce in term of physical, social-cultural and functional dimension. Positive features that supports these values are identified and others that should be improved as well. As there is a growing awareness for protection of cultural heritage, we considered a set of recommendation in terms of keeping the vitality of the square and improving the actual situation.

These recommendations are classified in terms of visual and functional dimension such as missing urban furniture, universal access and visual appropriateness. A number of measures were proposed in terms of management of public space as well.

Keywords: Prizren, Shadervan Square, DOKUFEST, Coffee and Tea Culture.

Theoretical premises of cityscape identity evaluation

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Abstract

Sustainable urban planning and design is a process for which not only environmental, economic, but also sociocultural and aesthetic aspects of urban environment are important. One of the main aims of this activity is to create aesthetic, distinctive, healthy living environment strengthening a sense of identity and sociality, to protect and enrich cultural heritage. However, it is still not clear how to solve the questions which are not so explicit. It is difficult to measure aestheticism, distinctiveness or identity of the place. Formants of city identity are ones of the most important components of the preferred environment (concept of environmental psychology) which are expressed differently in different urban areas due to natural, historical, political, social and economic factors. Different expression of identity formants is primarily perceived visually observing the cityscape because there is no inherent identity to places, i.e. reaction comes after visual-aesthetic-semantic perception. The scientific literature distinguishes between existential (place), spatial, personal, and cultural dimensions of landscape/cityscape identity concept important to overall understanding and evaluation of landscape identity. These dimensions are related with individual landscape sites, their properties; landscape features for which time factor is important, and they separate landscape of one place from another; landmarks, roads, boundaries, etc., which play an important role in people's perception of the living environment. Hence evaluation of the formants of city identity and their significance in a cityscape is necessary in order to create distinctive urban environment. There are many methods of city identity evaluation. Some of them are *qualitative* and the others are *quantitative*. There are quite a lot of cases of qualitative research of city identity. Some authors use terms "*non-positivistic view*" or "*phenomenological approach*" for such kind of research, because there are strong statements made about general concept of place-based identity, however, empirical guidelines for assessment or evaluation are lacking. Still, while the qualitative analysis of place-related identity is quite common, *quantitative (positivistic)* approaches are not widely analysed yet. The reason, why such kind of researches are rare, might be a debatable validity of currently applicable criteria, indicators and their significance at ranking procedure in order to convert results of empirical observations into mathematical expressions. There are a lot of discussions and doubts what should be measured, how and why, that the place-based identity would be appropriately revealed. In urban planning and design the analysis of urban structure itself, its' characteristics or features is very important. Thus, there are some studies attempting to reveal the character of urban place or identity by analysing the urban fabric. Mostly they are related with analysis of separate cityscape components as identity formants: building height, building density; some authors establish stability coefficient (the stability coefficient of a feature of a concrete territorial unit shows how evenly the feature is spread over the entire territory of a locality and whether it is exclusive for that part of the locality). However, there is no research known for us which specifically would be concerned with establishing the objective index of urban identity. Both qualitative and quantitative structural evaluation is very useful for designating zones of urban environment with different semantic load but overall quantitative identity index can be very effective for modelling of cityscape identity in urban zones where there is a lack of identity formants. Therefore, the main aim of the paper is an overview of research, where methodological systems for the quantitative measurement of identity were created, tested or applied, in order to achieve the following result: to propose methodological framework for complex qualitative and quantitative structural evaluation of cityscape identity which could be useful for planning and design of distinctive urban environment. The analysis results are grouped by the concepts, which were used to define the phenomena of *Identity*, due to the complexity of the term. The methodology used to get the desired results is literature analysis and generalization.

Keywords: city identity, cityscape, qualitative and quantitative evaluation.

Affect and Intimacy in Generative Places

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Abstract



We were standing at a bus stop in central Berlin. There was a public work of art nearby. The artwork represent three human(ish) figures trying to peak through holes in a wall - and it was quite clear that the wall was supposed to be the Berlin wall.

There were a lot of people stopping by, interested in something on the other side of the wall. They crouched by the wall looking for something in the bushes. As it happened, the three art figures came to look down on the people crouching on the other side - a peculiar sight.

We were puzzled. What were they doing? They did not seem even remotely interested in the artwork, with their full attention directed toward something in the bushes. We were watching the whole scenario from across the street. After a while, when we had seen several groups of people stopping by the artwork, poking around in the bushes, we finally got the point. The artwork was a location for geocaching. The location was probably chosen because of the work of art, but the people involved in the geocaching event did not seem to be interested in the art, only in the location as a link in the geocaching event.

Inspired by post-humanistic insights from Karen Barad, Donna Haraway and Gilles Deleuze, this paper will discuss affect and intimacy and how they fuel generative places. The short story presented will be used as an example. We will specifically use the concept of landing sites by Madeline Gins and Shusaku Arakawa (2002, p. 5 ff) and the concept of happy objects by Sara Ahmed (2010).

The paper starts by questioning how (digital) media traditionally have been studied as something separate from the natural and the real, as separate objects and layers. This is apparent even in how we denote some things as virtual reality, augmented reality, etc. The paper then introduce landing sites and happy objects to present an alternative view on how to understand what happens when (digital) media is made part of our everyday lives.

The events taking place around the public artwork are all examples of landing sites. During the short time of the events, the site inhabits a multitude of landings. Landing sites emerge through and within other landing sites. Depending on what is perceived a landing site may be taken as complete or as part of a larger landing site. For each landing site there are multiple lines of attention and affect. Attention and affect is the fuel that vehicles a particular landing site. Landing sites are temporary, although they vary greatly in space-time extent. Understood through the complex procedure of landing a site, (digital) media need not appear as separate layers or objects.

Returning to our short story, comparing tourists and geocachers, they are involved in both the same and different landing sites. The tourists as well as the geocachers form landing sites with the artwork as an object of attention. They are however are vehicled by different lines of attention as they are in arrangement with either city guide books or smart phone geocaching applications. Put In other words, "the world one finds in place lends itself to being mapped by means of a multiple, complex siting process or procedure" (Gins & Arakawa, 2002, p. 7).

To further our understanding on what was going on at the location, and how it may be understood as a generative place, we also introduce Sara Ahmeds happy objects. With the theory behind happy objects we can see how they lead way to happiness in contingent and contagious ways. Building on a foundation of situated knowledges (Haraway, 1988) and intra-action (Barad, 2007), the paper wraps up by combining landing sites and happy objects to present a theory for affect and intimacy in generative places.

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Keywords: landing sites, happy objects, intra-action, situatedness, attention.

The Cultural Dimension of Urban Space - Carnide as Place of Memory

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Abstract:

Today's cities are the result of successive transformations that have been suffering over the years, this urban networks and overlapping process will successively rewriting a territory (palimpsest) that is slowly losing its identity. The new urban projects, based on an overall strategy, there are unlinked to an existing urban narrative, physical and social, to substantially modify the structure and the cultural dimension of the same.

In this article, we intend to show not only the importance of place in the consolidation of collective memory, but also the reverse, that is, how the collective memory influences the consolidation and preservation of that same place, so understanding the place as memory organizer. On the other hand, memory is a constituent element of the sense of identity, both individually and collectively (Pollak, Michael, 1992), hence a place with memory is a place with identity.

From the empirical reference - Bairro Padre Cruz, located in Carnide parish, once a rural nucleus of relief in Lisbon, we intend to highlight the importance of "place" in memory consolidation and strengthening of the sense of identity. The "Place of Carnide" for its history and collective memory, was consolidating an urban narrative, physical and symbolic, that was perpetuated in time, taking as a catalyst of urbanity, which has allowed absorb the temporal transitions between past and the present - The city as a place of uniqueness.

In this case — Bairro Padre Cruz — we intend to demonstrate how important it was the "place of Carnide" in the formation and consolidation of the city's identity as space diversity. Carnide was always a "safe haven" for the residents, directly or indirectly, to the extent that they trusted and were welcomed in the construction of a new history and memory, while idyllic setting, relational and meaningful. However, Carnide residents never considered them as equals.

In this sense, this presentation is structured primarily according to two main themes: the physical analysis of the territory, on the one hand and social analysis and symbolic of that territory and how people relate to each other and the physical space that surrounds them.

We used this research the case study method, whose methodology requires the mobilization of different techniques for collecting and analyzing information on the various stages of research. The evidence for a case study based primarily on six observation sources (Yin, Robert K., 2005): the existing documentation on file for registration interviews, the direct observation, participant observation, and physical artifacts or cultural.

Keywords: Carnide, neighbourhood, memory, identity, urbanity and urban culture

The Potential of Constructor Theory Use in Architecture and Urban Design

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Abstract

The text represents a multidisciplinary research that explores the relationship between a British quantum physicist David Deutsch's constructor theory and architecture and urban design methodologies.

Space creation generally comes as a result of an architect's, or some other mediator's, interpretation of users' wishes and needs. Also, an urban space is designed based on a previous designing experience, by coming to some general conclusions about a man and his needs. Interpretations, general conclusions, and previous architectural experience are usually not sufficient to meet the needs of a contemporary user. Constant upgrade of the relationship between a user and his surroundings and a higher level of participation is always needed.

Research shows how constructor theory, embedded in architecture and urban design processes, can increase and improve users' participation in personal and public space design. Presented methodology directly and in real time enables a user to create his environment, and thus potentially increase his happiness. That is achieved by simultaneous designing of both real and virtual environments on the same territory. With constructor theory a new design methodology could be created so that a real space could be mixed with numerous layers of a virtual space. A constructor enables incessant upgrade of environmental potential without losing original space potential.

This research is connected with the previous research of quantum architecture, a newer spatial paradigm created as a fusion of specific principles of the quantum theory and architecture. Quantum architecture defines the built environment as a space which is not created based on the predefined and unchangeable elements; instead it is based on behavioural patterns of both a space and its users, each of which has its own role in the process of creation of the space. It explores various options and models enabling a user of the built space to participate more directly in its formation and perceive himself as a creator of the space he is using.

Connection to the generative design can be seen in the necessity of having a program that runs the constructor. Programming includes input of data usually used by architects in the process of design: built and natural contexts overlapped with users behavior and needs. The program represents a sort of a code that runs the constructor, which creates the space with certain level of autonomy. Architect designs both the program and the constructor.

Research method that will be applied in the text is an analytical method that integrates the theoretical and empirical research in order to present concepts for architectural and urban design. Abstraction and iteration methods will be applied further in the research to define models for development and creation of public and personal spaces. Multidisciplinary approach will combine principles of the constructor theory with the abstraction and iteration method.

The key result of the paper will be creation of the framework for future personal and open public space design methodologies. The framework will lean on the constructor theory regarding the use of possible and impossible physical transformations and use of transformations in architecture and urban design. The goal of this paper is to set the basis for high level and direct users' participation in the designing process, and to expand the role of an architect in virtual space designing without neglecting its role in real space designing. Expansion of the role of an architect will be further presented in designing of the constructor and program that runs it. Presented methodology enables an architect to create systems that could set or erase borders between real and virtual spaces and increase the interactivity between a user and his both personal and public surroundings.

A space designed using the constructor theory concept could boost up users' and architects' social and personal creativity, and make them more connected to each other. The same space can allow a user to be alone in a public space or to be with someone in a private space, thus questioning the existence of the border between public and personal.

Keywords: constructor theory, quantum, user, real, virtual, participation.

Design and Ageing – more real life, less virtual spaces

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Abstract

The issue/research problem

A new paradigm of culture about active aging in a humanistic perspective of urban design can constitute an innovative tool to potentiate city public life in contrast to the porous network of our daily virtual lives and spaces.

Among citizens, elderly are most probably those that are more available to become involved with new figurines of public life, detached from the general strong tendency to follow the virtual social spheres, and therefore helping to generate new spaces and public life.

The relevance for the conference theme

Population ageing and urbanization are two global trends that together represent the major forces shaping the twenty-first century. Accordingly to WHO, the global population aged 60 will double from 11% in 2006 to 22% by 2050. The article attends to the contribution of citizens' active ageing as a vehicle to potentiate new shapes of public life. The scale of application aims the urban design principles to respond to the emergence cultural effect of ageing population.

References to new local policies/governance and professionals to get good urban design practices will be explored in this paper, regarding elderly peoples' quality of life.

The background

Planning age-friendly spaces is one of the most effective local policy approaches for responding to demographic ageing. Physical, social and cultural environments are key determinants of whether people can remain healthy, independent and autonomous throughout the standard process of getting older.

Public space is the right stage to promote the real public life, where elderly people should play an important role directly contributing to help places to be generative and liveable. At the same time as contributing to the real life of public spaces, elderly people gain advantages in the perpetuation of their active life. Also, urban design should emerge as a supportive instrument for city.

Methodology

The research will reach:

- A proposal relating elderly needs and capacities with the assessment of the quality of public space.
- Applying for (alternative) programmes / municipal rules actions and urban design criteria for public spaces regarding elderly outdoor daily life as a tool to improve the quality of outdoor public and liveable places.

Innovation and key results of the paper

This paper aims to demonstrate how 'age-friendly urban design and programmes' can contribute to liveable spaces and better citizens' life.

Keywords: public life; quality of public space; age-friendly places; urban design; liveable places; municipal programmes.

The construction of the metropolitan areas as public space - the possibility of a collective project for Porto and Lisbon

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Abstract

Contemporary Portuguese metropolitan areas, Porto (AMP) and Lisbon (AML) have been recognized by juridical/political forms as spaces of metropolitan dynamics, scale and complexity even if it doesn't exist any integrated strategy, plan or tool of intervention that builds a specific identity, a collective urban project, an administrative structure or political legitimacy. In other words, although highly urbanized these remain *unmeaningful* spaces where the conceptualization and the issues of the common have fragmented views and answers, emphasizing the absence of a plural, generative place.

Contemporary metropolitan areas are therefore, disruptive scientific objects to study the public space and real/virtual spatial articulation debates since they are built on dislocation between physical space and other dimensions of the *urban condition*. More defined by social, cultural, political, technological and economic processes than morphological/typological dimensions. This raises some questions we pursued on our paper that directly interpellate the conference debate.

Contemporary metropolitan space is beyond physical dimension, it's real and virtual, it's simultaneity. This means urban space isn't necessarily a coherent, close, physical existence but it became a broader idea through the *metropolization* processes, from which the variety and freedom of technological possibilities, infrastructure, mobility, online life is everyday questioning its limits. Generative places in our society very hardly are only physical localized processes, becoming real/virtual and local/national/international/global ones. They wouldn't exist or be relevant if outside the dispersed, heterogeneous concentration of people of the post-industrial metropolitan space but are very rooted in a concern common to a group. We should then ask; how can generative places contribute to the construction of a metropolitan public space, a meaningful/interventional/integrated idea of common and how can the formation of a metropolitan public space integrate local initiatives and senses of collective? Which approaches (planning, governance, private, institutional) are being made to configure a structural public space that deals with the problems of the whole and supports local ability to transform? What are the goals for the planning system when the organization of space is not sufficiently relevant to increase quality of life, build common future expectations and make people happier?

The idea of city is still very much present in the ways we look, organize and plan our collective urban future. Mainly European urbanism deals permanently with the heritage of the traditional city; space, tectonics, scale, continuous fabric and pedestrian mobility, mix-use functions of buildings, the main cultural, political and administrative centres, the way it was thought, drawing and morphological tools, the possibility of order, of organization, the historical/memory/collective value, the social recognition of the architect, the urbanist, the city hall, etc... However this no longer exists in its full extension because we live in different societies with many concepts and ways of urban life in the same agglomeration. We have a market economy, mass-consumption, developed techno-human condition, cultural, social, political, economical global relations, that transform how we dwell our collective space. The society that built our cities doesn't exist anymore neither does the way we lived in them. What we have today are fragmented, heterogeneous and incoherent urban spaces where local is no longer a relation of proximity (but a convergence of relations) and metropolitan is no longer a major radio-centric city. Although the debate about the construction of public space for the transformed contemporary metropolitan spaces is not a new one, mainly analyzing the prolific field around the dislocation between the spatial, administrative and political dimensions, as we face the Portuguese cases the mentioned question of how this real and virtual space hasn't been a public construction arises and drives our strategy of research.

As a specific urban space mainly reachable through fragments of the planning system, urban policies, institutional organization, individual and group initiatives or imaginary this investigation departs from - metropolitan areas as public space and the possibility of its urban project - as main scientific concern, observed and analyzed from the facts, narratives and fictions that form the concrete metropolitan spaces of Porto and Lisbon; National Program for Territorial Planning Policy (PNPOT), *Regional Plans for Territorial Planning*, AMP and AML (PROT Norte, PROT AML), *Municipal Plans* (PDM's); *2020 Agenda*, *Leipzig Letter 2007*, ESPON reports, *National Policy for Architecture and Landscape*, documents produced by Coordination Commissions for Regional Development (CCDR N, CCDR LVT) such as *Norte Regional Operational Program 2014-2020*, *Norte 2020: Regional Smart Specialization Strategy*, *AML Regional Action Plan 2014-2020*, documents produced by/for the Metropolitan Areas such as, *Metropolitan Structure: The present and the future* AMP/CEAU, *Integrated Strategy for Territorial Development of AML*, documents from the Metropolitan Authorities for Transport (AMTP, AMTL) *Strategical Plan for Transports and Infra-structure - Horizon 2014-2020*, documents from the Territorial General Department (DGT), *Cidades Sustentáveis 2020*, Laws as 75/2013 and 31/2014 as well as, political/institutional speeches (*Metrópoles* magazine), mottos and branding initiatives from AMP and AML.

This methodological approach to the metropolitan public space allows the production of a cross reflection based on the articulation of the contemporary urban space (real and virtual) where people dwell with the contemporary intervention instruments so that the key results are presented through this polyhedral relationship that draws the absence of the metropolitan space from the public debate. It is our understanding that the various documents analyzed present different, conflictive and sometimes not accurate perspectives on contemporary metropolitan spaces and even the documents produced by/for the AMP and AML don't show an endogenous strategy for the construction of its public space but rather a centralized and partial thinking based on a linear hierarchy and centralized organization of political/administrative space. Mutual contribution between the metropolitan public space and the local/community *generative places* is being deprived from contemporary democratic participation because the policies being produce don't reflect the speed, multitude and complexity of our *urban condition*. In fact, the existing planning system does not address the territorial perspective on the development of our society as a collective public project.

Keywords: Public space, Metropolitan Areas, collective urban project.

Happy cities, happy inhabitants? Social endure in Lisbon's public space

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Abstract

The paper addresses an on-going research project *Minimal Resources*, developed at CIAUD/M^{urbs} (FAUL), as well as open debates on the subject promoted by different institutions and presented at a previous version at the 50th *ISOCARP* International Conference - *Urban transformations – Cities and Water*. Gdynia, 2014, with the title *Where land and water meet, people join together and (re) create*.

It designs an approach to the impact of the dynamics associated with the period that several authors currently refer to as the *Age of Scarcity*, which has been developing since mid-80s, with the fall of the Berlin Wall, social transformations and, the economic and financial crisis originated in the U.S.A., started in 2001 and then extended to the Eurozone. However dimmed by scarcity and lack of resources, public spaces have contributed to metropolitan liveliness and social endure, by means of recent and innovative projects that bring together landscape, unique facilities and the city, exploring resilience and flexibility in design.

Planning with minimum resources in metropolitan Lisbon has redirected the discussion from the visual and spatial dimension of the space to its social and symbolic dimension, which has remained unnoticed despite fundamental. The use of the public spaces and the soft skills of local communities are the main contributors for the (re)construction of a collective narrative linked to the presence of the Tagus estuary, in order to (re)create and strengthen Lisbon as a two banks metropolis.

In this scenario, the paper will focus on the involvement of the local communities in the use of the public space, inducing a positive spatial and social change, in the current context and taking advantage of the human and social capital.

Keywords Lisbon metropolitan area; Scarcity; Public Space; Social endure; Resilience.

Social reuse of confiscated goods to Camorra: civic activation and collective goods

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to discuss the social activation strategies within the context of urban regeneration processes. In so doing, the research focuses on contexts managed by mafia, where the planning process needs to deal with a complex system of interests, constraints and risks that compromises transparency and effective procedures of “social self-promotion”. In these areas, communities are surrounded by criminal activities, suffering the inadequacy of the public sector in guarantying basic social services and accessible public spaces. This issue, even if specific, could contribute to the discussion on commons by giving a new perspective and moving forward traditional dichotomies as top down/bottom up, community led/market led and private/public. The social reuse of goods - such as buildings, farms and companies - confiscated to organised crime groups has been chosen to discuss social activation and emancipatory processes in contexts challenged by conflicts and crime.

In order to develop this argument, the research focuses on civic practices activated in properties confiscated to camorra. The Italian law system on organised crime states that the residential and productive buildings seized from organized crime should be reused for beneficial purposes and for social services managed by NGOs with social scope. The aim of this approach is twofold: on the one hand, it should respond to the demand of services and public spaces for segregated communities, on the other hand it could support an emancipatory process from territorial control of organised crime clans.

The amount of confiscated properties in Italy is relevant in terms of number of items and in terms of economic value; the five regions targeted by this phenomenon are in order Sicily, Campania, Calabria, Lombardy and Puglia. Thanks to the Law 109/96 on the use of social assets, in over fifteen years valuable entrepreneurial and cooperation experiences were born: many young people have had the opportunity to work honestly, without having flee or stooping to compromises; many territories, for too long subjugated from mafia violence, have been able to start a social and economic redemption.

Two case studies have been selected in order to develop the narration about metropolitan area of Naples and through the “case study approach” (Yin, 2008) both the experiences will be analysed to extract potentialities and criticalities in order to build a generalized conceptualization about these themes. The results of fieldwork could offer the opportunity of define possible partnerships and incentives for auto-promotion regarding diffused interests.

Keywords: confiscated goods, collective goods, social activation, social reuse, Naples.

Can a (new) port bring happiness to city people? The case of Suape (Recife – PE)

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to understand how far port infrastructure and activities can be related to the changes in the territory's development model. This study focuses on the case of new ports that were created more recently (1970s) and how they affect the preexisting cities - ports that in many cases are related to the creation of MIDAs (Maritime Industrial Development Areas), separated physically from the city but integrated with the territories around it (Hoyle, 2011). These ports portrayed effects since their influence is exerted over the social and economic reality that existed previously.

The port always presents itself with a set of advantages and disadvantages. On the one hand it brings economic and technological development, but on the other hand produces consequences on the structure of the city and impacts in the environment. Most of the negative impacts are felt locally but is it possible to identify the positive effects at local level in all cases? Can the (new) port bring happiness to people in the city and in the surrounding territories? This is an important question that embraces the Conference theme, mostly with regard to the integration of urban and port planning instruments and local features are significant in this process.

The truth is that seaports produce great impacts on its urban economic and social dynamics (Alemany, 2011), in a process that involves as Llaquet (2011) refers, interaction between port and city, sharing or disputing space and functions, due to its proximity. According to Verhoeven (2009), ports require a permanent process of improvement of their competitiveness and this represents an effort to develop technologically and to integrate intermodal systems in order to integrate in the transport system. Still, these seaports are placing strong environmental pressure in these areas as Hall (2007) mentions - environmental is here used in its broader sense – but they are also considered to play an important role towards urban sustainability, contributing to improve social and economic conditions, invest in environmental qualification, reduce impacts due to its environmentally friendly nature compared to other modes, amongst others.

The Cabo de Santo Agostinho and SUAPE port in the Recife Metropolitan Region in Brazil is a good example to study these issues. Traditionally it was a territory with mills and plants related with cultivation and processing of sugar cane. The city of Cabo is not located in a coastal position since its main function was to support the industrial activities and for doing so, positioned itself near the main roads that ensured accessibility to Recife and its port, the existing port in the area for centuries. Some fisherman communities existed along the shore line. In this scenario Cabo was mostly a peripheral city and presents significant signs of the typical Brazilian urbanization process, unplanned, chaotic, lacking infrastructures and public services and equipment. Population presents very low income and qualification levels, people arriving from the rural areas that installed themselves in the available spaces crating huge slums, the famous “favelas”, which are representative of the spatial and social segregation that characterizes these processes. It also presents several cases of cultural heritage abandoned and degraded (SUAPE, sd).

The SUAPE port and its industrial district occupy a surface of 13.500 hectares that includes the port facilities, the industrial area, management and services areas, ecological and cultural preservation areas (59%). This important infrastructure dates back to the 1970s and brought significant changes with regard to economic development, with more than 100 companies present in the area, with a significant job creation rate. An important fact is the growth of GDP in Cabo and Ipojuca which is now higher than in Recife but the population average income remained low. The fact is that local population was excluded from this process of economic development. Most of the jobs created required qualified professionals that came from other municipalities such as Recife and Jaboatão. In these later, GDP is not so high but the population income is much higher.

Nevertheless, the truth is that the port also developed different actions in other areas in order to contribute to local sustainability, as well as the local municipal authority, the Prefeitura. Suape developed the Project “Suape for all” that includes all the social programs in its territory, such as professional education and training. It also created housing programs as well as several environmental basic programs, to preserve the “Mata Atlântica” (Atlantic Forest), to promote waste treatment and to implement environmental education (SUAPE, sd). The municipal authorities also contribute to this process of change, through its Plano Diretor (Local development Plan), thanks to the new legislation where it emerges the City Statute, creating Special Zones for different purposes: Social Housing, Heritage and Cultural Preservation, Ecological Interest, and the Suape Area itself. Other instruments are the Urban Development and Environmental Plan of Cabo Municipality (2006) and the Law of Land Use and Occupation (2004) with a set of guiding and restricting rules with regard to urban development.

Feat the assessment of the first decades of the relationship between the port of Suape and its surrounding territory, the challenge for the future will be on deepening social component towards a more cohesive and inclusive development. This

greater cohesion will also have to be reflected at territorial level. This moment presents a combination of contextual factors that may benefit an upgrade in this port-territory integrated development model: (i) the creation of a foundation financed by ecological taxes that has as object intervene in sustainable development ; (ii) the development of some social programs in partnership between the Brazilian public institutions and UNESCO, (iii) the existence of any latent local communities dissatisfaction on the negative social impacts of the port (namely, the unbalanced distribution of wealth); and finally (iv) the existing example of numerous port facilities, all over the world, that have invested strongly in its social responsibility component, even without good practice guides. If this upgrade relationship between port and the region translate a more community led approach certainly will produce happier people.

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Keywords: sustainable development, port and city, social and territorial cohesion.

Connecting places. Smart pedestrian space: network potentials based on user experiences and activities

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Abstract

Kosancicev venac is placed in the historical urban core of Belgrade next to the confluence of Danube and Sava rivers and Kalemegdan fortress. Its network of open public spaces is isolated from other parts of the city although it is one of the most attractive and important urban ambient. Considering the current trends of urban redevelopment of Belgrades' riverfronts with two megaprojects along the Sava and Danube rivers ("Belgrade Waterfront" and "City on Water"), Kosancicev venac could be developed as an important connection between this sites and historical core of the city. According with these objectives, Kosancicev venac was analyzed as a territory with the potentials to become pedestrians' connections between new developments and historical city center. The methods that were used in analysis include method of direct surveying of inhabitants based on the Kevin Lynch's determination of the image of the city, Space Syntax method, as well as the method of mapping users on social maps (via social networks). Digital social media is a medium that allows creative participation of users and social maps are important indicators for measuring the concentration of users and their satisfaction about the quality of open public spaces. During the last decade digital tools, networks and applications, allowing users to capture, produce and process information in real time and communicate, spreading information in real time. The aim of the text was measuring the intensity of pedestrian movement in the monitored territory and concentrations of users in open public spaces. The study was conducted with students of the first year of Master studies of Integral Urbanism on the course "Methodology of Urban Design" at University of Belgrade – Faculty of Architecture. Summarizing and interpreting the collected data obtained three groups of results. First group of results has enabled the determination of the image of Kosancicev venac, composed of five elements: paths, edges, districts, nodes and landmarks. The second group of results presents an overview of the intensity of pedestrian movement on the observed territory, compared with the content located along the path and with the distribution of elements of the image of the city. The third group covered the results of the intensity of users and data obtained through social networks, with the aim to measure the quality of open public spaces and concentration of users. This research has indicated the potential of the analyzed area for the formation of transverse and longitudinal pedestrian flows as well as concentrations. On the one hand they could enable active use of The research area and its public space networks segment of longer paths that could integrate the connection of the Sava's and Danube's Amphitheatre.

Keywords: open public spaces, Belgrade, Kosancicev venac, social maps.

Characteristics of the intensive places: Open public places in the towns of Vojvodina Province

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Abstract

Most of the towns in Vojvodina Province nowadays lack of "flourish" places or those where the public life is intensive. Even the places with cultural values or situated in central zones, are often obsolete and isolated. On the other hand, the place "intensity" that already exists in urban space can be spread around and new places of urban activity can be generated. This paper aims to enhance the public life of Vojvodina town and to increase the "intensity" of their urban space. At the same time, for the objective has the revealing of a towns identity, discovering the true meaning of place and location's unique character. In order to achieve this, the circumstances and characteristics that make one place "intensive" and keep it "flourish" must be identified and analyzed. The relevance of their analysis is that they can serve as a base on which guidelines for the enhancement of public life and place identity can be established. Open public space is a main carrier of urban life in Vojvodina towns. However, it could be considered as the locus of urbanity and town's identity in a broader sense. From here derives the focus of the research presented in this paper, which is defining the characteristics of open public space which create the "intensive place". The theoretical background is developed on the "intensity" of place. The "intensity" as it is understood in this paper relies on the next basic conceptions: (1) intensity is not the same as density, although it is closely related with the presence of the people in open public space; (2) it is created through the everyday experience, but it is also determined by urban space construction during the time and cultural influences that this construction follow; (3) intensity means continuity and vitality of place achieved simultaneously, and in this regard, it is very important for urban identity and public life. In this context, the methodological framework that conducts this research is created, and it is composed of two parts. The first part investigates the historical and cultural transformation of place of Vojvodina towns and the characteristics of open public space as they are perceived today. The form and function of the open public space is analyzed, as well as its influence and meaning. In the second part, the intensity of use, vitality and attractiveness of open public space are explored. The method of space syntax is used for the measuring of flows and concentrations of users. From the first part of investigation the elements of identity of open public spaces and their cultural value are identified. From the second part of investigation, the main pedestrian routes and point of users concentrations are registered. By comparing and overlapping of all the data collected, the characteristics that make the open public space intensive, "lively" but also rooted in the "local" are identified. Their potential as tools for the "reinvention" of places and encouraging of intensity of open public space of Vojvodina towns is discussed, and the way of its possible application is suggested.

Keywords: open public space, flourish, intensive places, Vojvodina towns.

Finding Accessibility Thresholds

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Abstract

Accessibility measurements are still under debate within academic field and professional practice (te Brömmelstroet, Silva and Bertolini, 2014). Over the last decades, many accessibility instruments have been developed based on assumptions fuelled by mobility patterns. At least, the operational form of accessibility measures should follow accessibility goals distinguishing "real mobility" from "potential mobility" (Silva, 2008). In fact, there seems to be a gap in the implementation of operational measures on the assessment of mobility patterns and accessibility levels in planning.

This paper aims to discuss the appropriate accessibility thresholds to be used in accessibility measures. For this, the results of a survey are presented by evaluating accessibility perceptions instead of mobility patterns. The survey is innovative because is focused on accessibility questions related to people's everyday life, also collecting socio-economic data and mobility patterns (as control variables). The survey has been conducted in the city of Oporto from November 2014 to April 2015 involving a representative sample of the population.

The main result of this research will contribute to improvement of the understanding on accessibility thresholds supported by a wide range of individual preferences, disconnecting accessibility assessment from mobility assumptions. Both "real" and "potential" accessibility preferences are assessed by type of opportunity / activity. In addition, categories of activities are also grouped according to "short" or "long" term duration by preferable transport mode.

Keywords: Accessibility Planning; Accessibility Measures; Accessibility Thresholds; Local Planning.

Public space and mobility in historic centres

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Abstract

The recent 'Alta de Coimbra e Rua da Sofia' area, classified as World Heritage by UNESCO, is a unique opportunity that has triggered numerous support projects initiatives, encouraged by the University of Coimbra. One of the challenges that arises is the question of mobility, an issue less treated in the classification process (which is mainly focused on buildings). The quality of public space in general and the case of adequate infrastructure for mobility on one side, and the mobility management on the other side, are not areas set as criteria for classification by the UNESCO.

The main motivation of this work is the need to encourage classification that takes not only buildings but also specific characteristics of public spaces, that include not only infrastructure and also mobility management within smart approaches where inhabitants and visitors are locality guided and supported.

This study suits the thematic area '1 - Physical dimension / Real and virtual boundaries', saying that the structure of the city should invite and encourage "public life", through its public spaces and transport systems. This certainly applies to historic centers and the need to promote new approaches for the rehabilitation and for the use of these areas.

The quality of urban space can be measured by several urban indicators. The issue of mobility (in terms of infrastructure and management) is a key aspect for urban qualification, and can be measured by sustainable mobility indicators. Space Syntax techniques can provide some of these indicators, related with connectivity.

The geographical area compromise all routes serving this area. Several scenarios will be tested that favor marriage between soft modes, public transportation and electric mobility. The results should provide guidelines for decision support in sustainable mobility policies or historic centres. Besides Space Syntax, the programs used are ArcGIS (Geographic Information System), Geoda (territorial statistical analysis program) and multi-criteria analysis techniques.

The results include the identification and measurement of the most adequate indicators for classification of public spaces in areas applying for classification in terms of World Heritage. Based on this, a tool for creating several scenarios within a multicriteria analysis supporting decision was achieved. This was fully achieving combining a diagnosis for the 'Alta de Coimbra e Rua da Sofia' with the development of different scenarios for future improvements in the area.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage Classification, Public Space Qualification, Sustainable Mobility.

The role of non-motorized transport accessibility instruments. Fostering collaborative decision making

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Abstract

Due to its complexity, the evolution of cities is something that is difficult to predict and planning new developments is therefore a difficult and complex task. Travel behaviour, transport networks and spatial patterns have changed significantly over the last decades and led to a number of unsustainable trends, such as increasing average travel distances and increasing levels of car dependence hence negative externalities. A better integration of transport and land-use planning is believed to be crucial in achieving more sustainable mobility patterns in urban areas. Underlying this is the belief that if the land-use and transport (LUT) systems are reciprocally supportive (the land-use and transport cycle), important benefits of mobility are increased, while negative impacts are reduced. Although the large number of accessibility instruments available in the literature, they are not widely used to support 'real life' urban planning practices and are mostly restricted to motorized modes, to a restricted set of destination activities and have some limitations in the level of desegregation and even interpretations of their outputs.

This paper pretends to unveil the steps for the development of an accessibility instrument for non-motorized transport modes (NMT), namely bicycling and walking, also vis-à-vis with the transit network interactions as part of the first and last trench of urban commute (first-to-last distance). This multimodality framework intendeds to find some direction for future development of non-motorized accessibility measures (what can be termed as 'sustainable accessibility') and ideas about their applicability as a planning support system (PSS). The second development focus on the fact that PSS shows a continuous mismatch between the characteristics of the developed accessibility tools and characteristics of dominant planning traditions. The tools that do find their way into planning practice are in most cases developed to support the analysis of trends, the evaluation of alternatives or the assessment of projects. Not many of them are able to support scenario-building and all specific tasks in early planning phases (the so-called implementation gap). This second development aims to demonstrate the barriers to integration of land-use and transport planning and help to establish a common language that can support planners from both domains in developing shared instruments for integrating a better accessibility analysis in their daily practice fostering collaborative decision making.

Considering the stated developments, this paper concludes on how important NMT accessibility measures with public transport interactions can provide planning practitioners with different solutions in opposition to the static traditional approaches of transport planning. Also it is given a structured idea on how to grasp the implementation gap of PSS, constructing a structured dialogue between modellers and planners to develop and use existing LUT information for the support of early planning integration as part of a vast PSS where planners (and later on, citizens) can view and reclaim several aspects of the planning practices.

Keywords: Land-Use and Transport, Non-Motorized Transport modes, Accessibility, Planning Support Systems.

Urban fragmentation and discontinuity: case study of Paranhos

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Abstract

Issue/research problem

This paper aims to study design and urban planning tools able to create, enhance, transform or rescue the identity and cultural meaning of fragmented and discontinuous central/focal urban spaces. In Portugal, the spatial rupture phenomenon is a direct result of the intensive development of urbanization and agglomeration process, mainly occurring during the second half of the twentieth century.

Relevance to the conference

This work uses as a case study to the parish of Paranhos in Porto. Former peripheral area where, during the last fifty years has undergone relevant morphological and functional specialization changes. As a result, the region has lost its ability to define a central zone, with strong pulsar dynamic and able to structure the local character, making the territory a fragmented and discontinuous public space. Therewith, the cultural dimension and local meaning decrease significantly, been overshadowed by the heavy metropolitan road system.

Background

To meet the growing demand for metropolitan mobility and activity/functionality were created some new infrastructure with higher complexity and capacity. So, new areas dedicated to certain urban functions was settled, such as social housing, technological and university centres, shopping malls and others, being strongly supported by new infrastructures, such as highways, viaducts and road intersections, lines metro, train terminals and etc.. This process, eventually, cracked some locations, breaking both their physical structure and their social dynamics and cultures. The deployed infrastructure transformed into urban hindrances, creating empty spaces without any use, requiring to the local agent a new reality dynamics and cultural relevance. This gesture shows the ideology of order and rationalism that guided public planners at the time, exclusively focusing mass behavior, large scale interventions and motorized displacement. As an example, we can mention the High Line in New York and the 'Minhocão' in São Paulo.

Methodology

As it's a study focused on the design and urban planning, its methodology is supported by essays and empirical studies based on available built repertoire and designer cultural references. As a project, it's structured following a 'macro' to 'micro' scale. The narrative begins with a historical analysis, determining the evolution and current characteristics of the territory. Later, took place a study about the existing cores and the intrinsic urban dynamics developed, defining which has the most relevant social and cultural value – 'heart of the parish'. This step is complemented by a field research – interviews – on the main local agents and how the development of urban dynamics happens. Then, using an empirical analysis, it sets up the main promoters of the fragmentation of space and what their intrinsic characteristics. Finally, it's presented a proposal in public space able to create, enhance, transform or rescue the identity and cultural meaning inside parish focus point.

Key results

The improvement of the central area of Paranhos parish focusing the recreation of the (new) core and urban pulsar through the urban design solutions. The following issues will be considered: pedestrian permeability, traffic management and infrastructure, and land use management.

Keywords: urban fragmentation; urban design; local meaning; urban core; liveability; urban pulsar.

Atelier da Rua: a participated street design process

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Abstract

1) The issue/research problem

Lack of investment in the realization, use and maintenance of many streets combined with the local government difficulties to deal with citizens everyday life problems within the street, diffuse and weakened civic structures are just some of the problems encountered in small local scale urban projects of the public space of the streets in Portugal. Participated project processes tackle these issues through the understanding of the existing problems and new processes to face them. This paper is done in the scope of the research of *Atelier da Rua* (Street Atelier) that is developed to meet contemporary needs of intervention in the street. The methodological hypothesis is to use the strategy of *Atelier da Rua*, a citizen participative process applied to identify and propose effective design projects in order to improve community living and physical spaces. This paper aims to explore the combination of street intervention strategy of *Atelier da Rua* (PITA, 2014 b) and the principles defined in the text *A ladder of citizen participation* written by Sherry Arnstein (ARNSTEIN, 1969), focusing in the particular issue of achieving "partnership" on the *Atelier da Rua* investigation and practice.

2) Its relevance for the conference theme

The present proposal explores the possibilities, on the Portuguese context, of fitness between a local, bottom up process and the results of a participative project design solution. It looks forward to deep involve citizen participation, empowering local communities on the generation of better places, strengthening the cohesion and awareness of their local (street) and global (the neighborhood, the city, the country) condition.

3) The background

The participation of citizen and/or their representatives on the development of a urban or building design solution gathers an unanimous agreement of all the agents involved (ARNSTEIN, 1969), Although this foundation stone of a democracy frequently derives to other paths that lead to inefficient results concerning the adjustment of the proposal and the existing problems.

Atelier da Rua arises with the prospective goal to find specific and concrete answers to the following questions:

What alternatives can be offered to current dominant participation models of intervention on the public space and the street?

How can we gather better, happier and engaged spaces for and with the citizen?

Atelier da Rua was finalist at IOP 2014 (PITA, 2014 a), promoted by *Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian* (<http://www.gulbenkian.pt/Institucional/en/Homepage>), Portugal. This competition looked for pertinent projects on social entrepreneurship created by the recent Portuguese emigration. The working team directly involved is composed by a three generation group of Portuguese architects and a sociologist, offering multidisciplinary academic experience along with professional skills. The team advocates a participative methodology to transform the ordinary public space, with particular focus on the street.

Atelier da Rua assumes that citizens need to live the street in a positive way, recognizing and exploring its value (BOURDIN, 2011). To reach this, it is recognized the need of awareness and the involvement of, street users, inhabitants, stakeholders and local government representatives (JACOBS, 1962). However, one of the main project challenges lies in the difficulty to reach communities, reinforcing their conception of the street as an important structure to improve the spatial and social quality of our cities. The generalized gap between people and their power to change and improve their street demands to question in a broad perspective:

How is your street? In order to contribute to a possible answer, *Atelier da Rua* firstly aims to:

- Defend the street as a structural civic and physical city element;
- Stimulate and activate the street as a social-human-economic-environmental space vector;
- Make the street a place of debate and construction of collective human processes;
- Activate and implicate the street scale consciously in everyday life. (MENDES, 2014)

4) The methodology

The methodological approach is supported by *Atelier da Rua* strategy, a citizen participative design process applied to develop effectively and efficiently urban interventions on the street. This methodology is defined by the combination of a conventional architectural design approach (QUARONI, 1977) and a bottom-up participatory process (BOURDIN, 2011). Due to the

specificities of each case, the general methodology (PITA b) is case sensitive to the communities and site characteristics, amount of time available and availability of resources (NIKKI, 2003).

5) And the key results of the paper

The implementation of the methodology of *Atelier da Rua* establishes the foundation stone on the production of architectural designs linked to a bottom-up process. This way it is possible to generate efficient, citizen centered public spaces (streets), enabling the public awareness and confidence on the decisions. The apprehension of the specific context (local communities identities, program and resources) along with the effective strengthening of citizen participation on design decision will set the conditions to reach “partnership”, the rung of the ladder where “power is in fact redistributed through negotiation between citizens and power holders” (ARNSTEIN, 1969).

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Keywords: Local, *Atelier da Rua*, public space, street, partnership

Improved and Extended Public Participation by City Information Systems: A Quasi-3D Example of Kayseri Municipality, Turkey

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Abstract

Public participation opens the door of pluralistic concerns and increases the applicability and reliability of the any urban related management decision, through the adding the concerns as well as knowledge of diversified groups. Since the 1950s, the role of public participation in planning practices has become larger and expanding; and after the communicative turn it has become one of the influential topics of planning. While public participation has become one of the common topics in research and development agenda of contemporary societies; it is still a blurred concept to explore. The term 'participation' can only be understood perfectly through considering these two broad recognitions: public participation as method and public participation as a goal. While it is commonly accepted that public participation is not a tool but the main goal in urban planning. Another uncertain side of participation is what is the best way of involving public in urban planning practices?

Participatory planning and decision-making requires availability of a combination of spatial data and software tools to utilize for stakeholders. When participatory GIS focuses on the "who, what, why, where and when questions of participation- rather than having precise maps of land use- it is more likely to better enhance local knowledge to be employed in urban planning. While there are significant obstacles to putting the 'empowerment' in practice, participatory GIS aims to empower the public with new knowledge and to assist the public for articulating their needs and demands using computer- and network-based technologies. This study raises questions for exploring the rationality of these assumptions.

Despite several attempts to increase public participation in spatial decision-making processes, the central government has not been able to compel municipalities to engage their constitutions in a meaningful way. Studies on participatory GIS show that on-line public participation technology extends the scope for decision-making and policy support. Although, it is not yet widespread even in European countries, it is being developed for example in Turkey. In this paper we try to explore Kayseri 3D City Information System, fosters the implementation of public participation in urban planning processes? To answer this, needs supplementary questions:

- Have this software been an example of good practice?
- How it enhances and supports public participation in data collection and planning?
- Does this software help in terms of creating more reliable data outputs, and encourage local knowledge enhancement, and address local stakeholders' underlying interests?
- Who is participating? Who control the process? Who uses the outputs?
- How do the GIS tools behave in terms of the purposes and intensives of participation?
- Is local knowledge applied to urban planning practice?

Studies on participatory GIS reveal that geographic information technologies alone cannot solve all the problems in a planning process, but their integration with other participatory tools seems to offer the digital infrastructure for developing a new kind of decision- process in the age of Internet. Our research shows that electronic media can advance solving complex problems with multiple stakeholders significantly. For successful IT-support of the decision processes, a deep knowledge on the underlying cooperative elements, especially the communication between the concerned stakeholders, is needed.

Keywords: Participatory Planning, Public Participation, Participatory GIS, Web-based GIS.

Citizen-Based Participatory Urbanism as an Alternative to Master Planning for the Development of Postwar Residual Urban Spaces

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Abstract

Introduction

The underutilization of postwar spaces in European cities makes for fragmented and scarred urban fabrics. Complex adaptive systems (CAS) theory, and more specifically participatory urbanism, can be applied in these spaces to promote smart, citizen-driven development that can both emerge and be sustained over time. Many of these spaces have sat empty for decades; their very nature makes them intensely culturally, socially, and politically charged, and therefore their development presents additional challenges. Top-down development strategies, including modernist master plans in England and France have proven historically inadequate and unsuccessful in the long term. However, applying CAS and nimble participatory strategies puts the decision making power directly into the hands of the local citizens and no longer leans on the shortcomings of well-intentioned master planners and politicians, who's increasingly geriatric top-down approaches seem injudicious to the sensitive nature of the spaces.

Theory

The idea that bottom-up decision-making yields stronger results than master plans is not a new one. Many master-planning critics such as Clarke, McNeill, Njoh, and others have written about the contemporary shift towards development patterns that emerge over time and employ at least some degree of civic engagement throughout the process. I believe that this way of thinking, combined with various aspects of complexity theory, will lead to an urban development model that is ultimately comprehensive and thorough, but also intrinsically respectful to the local citizens and their needs and desires. If we view this development problem-at-hand as a complex adaptive system, we can identify each part of the system and each role within the system as well. Local citizens act as the agents within the system and are responsible for proposing and decisions about land use. A digital platform will be established that allows these agents to easily vote on 'good' and 'bad' proposals, and see results unfold in real time, thus removing the barriers of time and money from the scenario prototyping process. These votes, or 'tags' that the citizens are leaving become signals to other users and may influence their voting patterns, which in turn shapes the eventual form that this digital fitness landscape evolves into over time. Through this explanation it is clear that this model is in opposition to the rigid and increasingly geriatric master-planning way of thinking about urban development. It truly is a bottom-up model that marries participatory urbanism with elements of CAS theory.

Approach

The way this plays out can be best described through an example. Consider a substantially large, open space within a relatively dense urban setting that has been left empty for decades and exists as a prohibitively large relic of WWII. These spaces exist across European cities, one such example is Tempelhof Airport in south-central Berlin, Germany. The site is essentially a 250-hectare wide-open space in the heart of Berlin that is ripe for development, but daunting in scale. Berliners can take back this space and work toward a cohesive urban fabric by using scenario-based digital prototyping methods as a vehicle for smart growth that manifests itself physically over time. Acting as agents, each citizen in the adjacent neighborhoods can create an online 'profile' that allows them to log in to the system as a user. Users are allowed to propose project ideas that would be built within the park space such as shops, schools, fitness centers, transportation hubs, etc. The more users propose and vote on ideas, the higher their individual rating, and ultimately the more 'trustworthy' they are in the eyes of other users.

Each of the proposed ideas is an individual attractor point that will become weighted to some degree based on the amount of votes or support it is gaining from the users. Unpopular and unsupported ideas will fade into oblivion as the favored ones climb to the top of the list that users see when logged in. Furthermore, when voting in favor of a new proposal, each user will have to answer a couple basic questions such as "How far are you willing to travel from home to get to X?" and "What is your preferred mode of transport to get to X?" These questions do not effect the weighting of the attractors within the emergent digital 'fitness landscape' but they will help situate each proposal within the potential physical development of Tempelhof. For example if citizens from various neighborhoods all around the site vote for a new school and are all willing to drive up to fifteen minutes to get there, the potential area that the school could be built may drift toward the center of the park and include ample parking, whereas if citizens of one neighborhood vote favorably for a music store within a five minute bike ride, its possible area would straddle the edge of the site and include bike racks. Users would be given a finite number of votes to use per day (or week) and the scenario would run for six to twelve months, depending on its usage and rate of success in outputting a developed scheme. A decision would have to be made that only a percentage of the most popular ideas will be built. At that point, designers,

contractors, and municipal entities can get involved to make the winning proposals reality. After completion of this 'Scenario One' the online system would basically reset and scenario two would begin, and so on.

Discussion

The result of these efforts is the eventual re-densification and cohesion of the urban fabric that has been missing for the better part of a century. On the surface this is no different than the goals of urban master-planners, who also aim to add density and cohesion through their one-size-fits-all solutions. However, the application of these CAS theory principles ensures urban growth that emerges over time (years, decades) and is directly responding to the ever-changing requirements of local citizens. This then is what separates the results of participatory urbanism from the results of master plans. Participatory models are nimble, adaptable, inclusive, and cheap to employ, whereas master plans are rigid, non-interactive, and can be prohibitively expensive to implement all at once.

Keywords: complexity, participatory urbanism, digital platforms, generative urban development.

CONTACT-REACT: How the design of a new public space can be the urban answer to the social problems of Fontainhas's Neighbourhood

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Abstract

This project approaches the design of a public viewpoint space, as a way of shaping Fontainhas's neighborhood facilities, bringing the locals to the discussion of which kind of "private-collective" spaces should be erected in this patrimonial area.

The cultural role of the collective memory of a city has an extremely important influence to its habitants when it comes to the construction of new building sites in the urban centre. In the case of Oporto, and due to its prime location, the city enjoys a reciprocal relationship with the Douro river, providing the city with a functional scenic character bursting with high aesthetic value. Consequently, urban development in the last centuries helped transform a sloping topography into a landscape of irregular but organized buildings which have been recognized as UNESCO World Heritage since 1996.

More specifically, the citizens of Oporto often reveal a critical reaction when faced with the design of new public spaces. If, on the one hand, all the restorations in the main squares of Porto's 2001 projects provided a wide range of traffic solutions, an abundance of safe places to walk and the opportunity to host a big variety of public events, on the other, popular opinion seems to emphasize the absence of consideration of the past essence of these public spaces.

The project CONTACT-REACT aspires to be a different way of re-thinking the contemporary public space paradigm, based on a methodology where the people are the protagonists of their neighborhood. Firstly, the main rule is to contact the population (participating in the leading decisions of the Public Space Design), additionally it's time to react. On this note, CONTACT-REACT presents the case study of the population of "Bairro Tapada" and "Maria Vitorina". This group of small houses emblematically portrays the Ilha's nineteenth century architectonic typology, where the central corridor assumes itself as the collective connector of the quotidian of each parceled house.

In this case, the population analyzed consists of a small sample of traditional families with kids and 29 elders, some of them couples, but mostly old solitary widows, many of them facing daily locomotive space constraints.

When interviewed, some of the families revealed discontent about the lack of children playground spaces, the constant noise of the weekend fair and the inexistence of a Coffee Shop where people could gather at the end of a work day. However, it is highly important to notice that considering that the majority of the population of this space spent its whole life here and still, that more than 50% of these inhabitants wish to spend the rest of their life here. Furthermore, their past memories are also the bond that happily anchors them to this place, constantly enjoying the privilege of Douro's river view.

So, how can a projected collective public space be the answer to the cultural problematic of a neighborhood?

In the case study of Fontainhas, this thesis aims to show a positive response based on a policy scheme stimulated by the collective housing process developed in Oporto 1970's SAAL and by the Incremental Housing and Participatory Design Manual of ELEMENTAL. This Chilean atelier, exposed by MOMA in 2010 as an example of contemporary social housing, frequently underlines the role of the Social Dimension in Architecture. Inviting people to discuss a better way to build a relationship between their dwelling and the gathering experience of a Douro's Viewpoint is the focal target of this plan.

As long as the locals were heard, a project was designed attempting to collect all the generative solutions to the population problems. Therefore, the west area of the neighborhood, (which fifteen years ago suffered a violent landslide that destroyed part of the "Ilha"), would be completely re-design. A system of paths combined with viewpoints would be created, punctuated by numerous open-spaces. A playground, a mini sports camp, a picnic area, gardens, a coffee shop and a meeting room to discuss the future events of this place will transform Fontainhas in a better place to live. To benefit the subsistence of the living community, marked zones for family food gardening will fill part of the abandoned area destroyed by the landslide. The importance of a free space to celebrate the holiday of S. João is also not forgotten, giving the community a sense of union and belonging to their city.

In a conference where "social cohesion" and "integration" are two of the main points to debate in terms of public space, the presentation and discussion of this project appears as an interesting line for intensifying the role of citizens and consequently building better cities for tomorrow. In conclusion, in a zone where cultural history embraces a powerful social character, the frontiers between public and private space challenge themselves, aspiring to an urban transformation where a democratic methodology improves the inclusive atmosphere of the city.

Keywords: Ilhas of Oporto, Collective Space Solution, City Memory, Participatory Design, Social Dimension, People.

Retro-active Implementation Gaps of Urban Planning Processes – The Nova Luz Case in São Paulo

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Abstract

The configuration of large cities has undergone major socio-economic and spatial transformations after industrial decline, and some results of these mutations was emptying of urban centers, the abandonment of industry areas and the uncontrolled growth to the periphery. Because of these transformations, urban centers have become an exciting element to the development of projects and reintegration in the context of life in cities.

During this process, discussions about the importance of the scale of pedestrian, the possibilities of open spaces and especially the importance of community participation were part of new projects for degraded areas. Thus, the purpose of this paper is to analyze the implementation process of projects involving the center of Sao Paulo, where suffered in the last two decades intense transformations. By analyzing the different scales, LEITE (2004) points out that the building scale occurred transformations of functions required by the dynamics of the local society, as they appear the architectural recycling. On the scale of cities, functions, uses and spaces are dynamic and unusual way; historic buildings are emptied and entire neighborhoods are speculation objects, residential areas of luxury arise in the middle of depreciated peripheries like islands closed amid the total lack of urbanity.

The focus on the “Nova Luz” is due to complexity of challenges found for preparation of projects for the rehabilitation of urban fragments and for being the first region marked by the expansion of the city center, where represented the São Paulo elite in the mid-nineteenth century and where the twentieth century the decline of the neighborhood was marked by abandonment, prostitution and drug users. The “Nova Luz” Project has existed for over thirty years and the last “Nova Luz” Specific Urban Plan, presented by the Prefecture of Sao Paulo in 2011, aims to create an inclusive intervention with opportunities for all socioeconomic groups, promote the occupation of different uses (residential, commercial, cultural, civic and educational), create an attractive urban sector through via connections with neighboring districts, attract promote standards of sustainable development, facilitate travel by foot or bicycle, to rescue the values of the historical heritage and increase green areas. Three-dimensional images elaborate in the Project representing a vigorous area of plenty of life, show the concept of a new neighborhood in São Paulo were widely propagated by the media. However, in 2013, the City in meeting with representatives of the public-private consortium winner, who would execute the whole project, concluded that the proposal had become technically unfeasible. In addition, there were several events organized by community representatives, who questioned about the future of the residents and traders who would be removed from their homes for expropriation and the project is another hygienist character of political project for the site.

Thus, the analysis of the process of public consultations, public agencies involved with the Urban Plan becomes essential to understand how far the proposals have achieved and rethink how to deal with the urban interventions in large scales in such a dynamic scenario like São Paulo. In this way, some questions can be raised: How can we evaluate the effectiveness of public participation provided for in Urban Planning? How to integrate different layers of society in improving the neighborhood discussions? How to balance private and public interests in large urban interventions? A well-designed Urban Plan is extremely important, but we can see that it cannot be disconnected with the economic, social and political sectors, so that we can achieve. Certainly, these are just one of the great challenges in the search for greater popular participation in development of the project; therefore, the purpose of this paper is to analyze the actual effectiveness and which activities resulted in creating a greater sense of belonging of the project with the site.

Keywords: urban transformation, urban process, community participation.

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Digi-Tel: A Personalized, Interest and Location-Based City for You

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Abstract

The article will describe unique technology developed and innovated by Tel Aviv Municipality, Israel. The project is called Digi-Tel, which is a combination of the words – Digital and Tel Aviv. It aims to engage, involve and to connect the city residents directly to municipal departments, and to enable them to benefit from the efficient use of Information Communication Technologies. It delivers updated information in a variety of domains, providing municipal services, encouraging resident engagement, transparency and mobility to improve the quality of life of city residents.

Digi-Tel innovation has created a prominent ICT revolution among the residents of Tel Aviv, which was an important deciding factor in winning the Smart City Award in the Barcelona World Smart Cities Expo in November 2014.

There is no duplicate start-up in existence elsewhere in the world. It is considered most original in its aspirations, its conceptualization, its successive development since it was created, its paradigm transformation and its impact in terms of effective involvement of ordinary citizens in knowledge production and creating processes.

Digi-Tel is composed of three basic elements defined as people friendly cities perspectives– the first is the people (citizens, residents and visitors), the second is a friendly city (quality of life) and the third is data (technology). These elements are essential and integral parts of the city's vision to create a city for all residents, to implement resident-oriented government, to maintain an appealing urban environment and to advance city's status as a financial and cultural center.

There is no duplicate innovation in existence elsewhere in the world. It considered original in its aspiration, its conceptualization, its successive development since it was created, its paradigm transformation and its impacts in terms of effective involvement of ordinary citizens in knowledge production and creating processes.

Digi-Tel operates as a two-way street. The local municipality harbours a policy of transparency of the information provided to the general public, enabling residents to access the municipal databases on one hand, and encourages residents to proactively engage in municipality decision-making policy on the other hand. The network systems hold variety of components divided into three main classifications – applications, logistical infrastructure and physical infrastructure aiming at facilitating the uses and accessibility to services and empower the residents.

Keywords: civic engagement; urban innovation; resident-led government; open data; public participation in decision making policy.

Intelligent cities and intelligent plans: how to foster self-organization?

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Abstract

Intelligent Plans are viewed, for the time being, as a possible planning tool that can be used by intelligent cities to promote collective intelligence and exploit the expanding world of information and communication technologies in urban environments. This new plan concept, based on an Information and Communication Technology platform or portal, offering special ability of visioning, preservation of memory and communication, intends to promote the relationship between urban planners, local authority managers and urban actors. The article reflects about the evolution of plan forms and their evolving functions in Portugal at the local level and about the future attributes and mechanisms of the intelligent plan in order to foster emergence of self-organizing initiatives. The process of self-organization can be promoted by the planning process and governance when launching challenges to motivate local actors as may be the case concerning open procedures related to new urban developments. Self-organization is viewed as a collective expression of different rearrangements of values and interests, enhanced by this particular digital format of spatial plan which may shape properly its future functions towards more intelligent cities.

Keywords smart cities, intelligent plans, collective intelligence, self-organization, open procedures, urban procurement.

Local Identities and Shared Worlds in Nicosia's Public Space

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Abstract

Local Identities and Shared Worlds in Nicosia's Public Space

The existence of transient people in cities has resulted in an intense flow of people and cultures leading to 'social and cultural diversity, challenging people's sense of identity and social relationships (Philips, 2007). These changes entail a respective transformation of public space where the everyday life of a number of the different and diverse users unfolds. Understanding the processes at work in the way different users of public space relate to it and to each other and in the ways "locality" is understood or defined is quite complex and difficult. The difficulty may be because 'community membership can shift in time and space, so that an individual can express different solidarities throughout the course of a day or week' (Hanson, 2000). It could also be because the notion of place, understood as a process, is continuously redefined in terms of social interactions which are dynamic processes. Since places do not have boundaries in the sense of divisions that frame enclosures, they do not have static identities and are instead full of internal conflicts, a mixture of global and local social relations (Massey, 1994).

Things get more complex in the case of Nicosia in Cyprus where the ethnic demographic of the city (historically inhabited by a number of transient ethnic groups) is subject to a changing population dynamic precipitated by net in-migration, both from EU and Third World countries. The historic center has recently experienced yet another transformation of uses and users as a result of gentrification projects while accommodating a diversity of ethnic groups that co-exist and share the public realm with those viewed as "indigenous" population. Furthermore, numerous activists' led urban movements have been taking place in the area under study.

The understanding of the processes and conflicts that such contested spaces go through in relation to the construction of local identities and meanings lies at the heart of this presentation. The mechanisms involved in the ways people perceive and use the public space of the urban center, the interface (or lack of it) between them and emergent cultural transformations are of interest to this study. Building on existing empirical research, the presentation focuses on a ring of public spaces in the urban centre which, despite their small size and the absence of any clearly defined boundaries, form a physically continuous spatial entity that is either distinctly divided among different users spatially and many times temporally or is "shared" among different local groups. The lines of segregation are found to be different in different parts of the public space; in some cases they are found to be distinct and persistent through time while in others they are blurred and continuously modified. An attempt to account for the observed phenomena is facilitated by the discussion of a number of relevant topics such as: a) "locality" and "local identities", b) top-down and bottom-up interventions and the emergence of social phenomena from the attempts of individuals to 'make-do' and c) relationship between contemporary urban form, localities and "spatial inheritance".

Such discussions bring forth the difficulty and the inherent complexity in any attempt to map shared worlds, cultural practices and dynamics in a comprehensive way. New variables and consequently methods of analysis -spatial, social and temporal- are deemed necessary to take account of the physical, social and policy context bringing together both qualitative and quantitative viewpoints (spatial analysis, observations, snapshots, mental maps and questionnaires). The study suggests that one could look at urban places as dynamic processes where "boundaries (between localities) are continuously being raised, bridged and evaporated along different social lines" (Franzen 2009).

Keywords: shared worlds, public space, local identities, Nicosia.

Local More than just a Cup of Tea Coffeehouses as Alternative Institutions of Local Culture: Case study of Eastern Azerbaijan in Iran

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Abstract

Albeit the fact that Iranian theocratic administration has systematically limited rights of the ethnic and linguistic minorities to practice their culture and language, those minorities experience a new era of cultural and artistic bloom. Such thrive is partially ascribed to a process of appropriation of the informal urban institutions to assume new roles and functions.

A prime instance of such institutions is traditional coffeehouses (Ghahve kaneh) which while maintaining its traditional functions as “third places”, have also adopted new functions within the realm of art and culture. This, however, met the resentment of the formal establishment in Iran and resulted in a series of policies and practices to divert and/or restrict such activities.

Nevertheless, coffeehouses have gradually turned into the alternative venues for preserving and promoting cultural, artistic and linguistic heritage. In a crossroad of local values and global discourses, where the real world meets the virtual, coffeehouses become communities of ethno-cultural Azeri identity (re-)construction in Iran. This study is a scholarly endeavor to enhance understanding and decipher counter-hegemonic processes of identity building through coffeehouses as informal institutions of cultural practices in the context of such highly normative society as post-revolutionary Iran.

While throughout its long history, Iran has always been a multi-ethnic, multi-linguistic and multi-cultural society, rights of the minorities have always been an avenue of contestation. Azeris, as the largest minority in the country have always posed a challenge to the central government. Known for its active social and political participation and serving as one of the major hubs of social innovation and reform, the city of Tabriz –the capital of

Eastern Azerbaijan where this study is conducted- has secured its place as one of the economic and industrial poles of the country. Sharing border with Turkey at one end and

Azerbaijan Republic at the other, has increased the strategic importance of Tabriz. This in turn has posed new sets of complications for the Iranian government which feels under the constant threat in fear of a potential sense of solidarity among the three aforementioned societies as one large “imagined community” of Turkic culture. Departing from those premises, the present paper endeavors to study the role of coffeehouses in the crossroad of such urban, social and cultural realities.

Based on findings of an extensive empirical cross-disciplinary research between social sciences and urban planning, the paper addresses the changing functions of traditional coffeehouses in Eastern Azerbaijani province of Iran. It discusses, among other topics, the manner in which the coffeehouses change from “third places” to venues of cultural and artistic practices, to form a high degree of place attachment and sense of community. Analyses of data collected through critical ethnography, based on in-depth interviews and intensive observations reveal a multi-fold taxonomy of coffeehouses with different socio-cultural self assumed functions to extend and promote the Azeri culture. The paper also provides an understanding on the functional in-flux of informal spaces for socialization conditioned by temporal and territorial features to adapt to such rapid changes within the society.

The findings of the study also suggest that, while the official hegemonic apparatus applies various methods of (hard and soft) power and surveillance on (semi-)public spaces, through a dynamic process of adaptation coffeehouses lend itself into a sense of resilience to provide alternative strategies and survive the hostile formal milieu. This results in a process of appropriation to sustain practices and to maintain a culture which otherwise under the hegemony of the formal forces of the dominant culture and globalization will gradually weaken and vanish. Also, the paper attempts to analyze and discuss the key factors in the process of social sustainability through traditional coffeehouses and their transformations into local informal public places of culture.

The paper fits well into the main theme of the conference as it focuses on the notion of local identities and meanings through in-depth analyses of such identities in its making. Along with social, functional and temporal, the cultural dimensions of the coffeehouses as urban institutions are among the main objectives of the present study. The authors hope to share their findings and receive scholarly reflections from an academic audience recognized for their scholarly excellence.

Keywords: Cultural practices, Third places, Place attachments, Public places, Coffeehouses, Urban informal institutions, Local identities.

Architecture for revitalization: The local wisdom and practice of a Swiss vernacular architect in the reconstruction of cultural and economic identity in Vrin Village

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Abstract

In the middle of last century, the reflection of industrialization and modernization, especially the recognition of developing limits and sustainability, brought countryside into peoples' attention. In architecture field, the interest on vernacular architecture has developed to the discussion on contemporary agriculture patterns in vernacular settlements.

This paper takes the practice of Gion A. Caminada in Vrin (Switzerland) as an example to study the architectural strategy for a vernacular settlement involved in the reconstruction of local identity (both cultural and economic). Vrin, a village that was dying, both in terms of population and economy, started to thrive again since Caminada set about providing infrastructure and then focused a major part of his lifelong effort on. Initially trained as a carpenter and cabinet-maker, the architect has designed a series of houses aimed at combining traditional constructions with modern detailing. This paper unveils the architect's understanding of local life, his response to our times and reflection on the nature of architecture, during his design and construction for the periphery. Further it explores the role of his works as the reconstruction of local identity, the regeneration of historical culture, and the re-organization of economics and politics in Vrin.

The strategy is examined from the overall location to the architectural space of 4 selected works, in relation to the evolution of the village in geographical and historical context. Detailed history research combined with site investigation and oral interviews are made to clearly understand the process. The analysis of Caminada's strategy not only reveals the new identity of Vrin, but also adds to the broader social, cultural, economic and architectural discourses about the periphery in urbanization, as well as building practices in rural localities with rich cultural traditions.

With a review of Vrin's process from decline to revitalization, the first part of this paper tries to unveil Caminada's role as an architect and conductor in the village's social change. In a poor condition, Caminada and the Support Vrin Association proposed a special developing mode of joint discussion participated by all the Vriners, including: introduce modern farming machines to improve the production efficiency; establish new building regulations that respect and strengthen the quality of the existing village. During the past 30 years, Camiada also took a series of actions to improve local living standards and villagers incomes, including:

- Clean the meadows, build the slaughterhouses and barns, establish a cooperative of cow owners, resulting in a new industry prospering in Vrin;

- Construct modern, large-scale and more efficient agricultural buildings to increase productivity;

- Construct a multi-functional hall to enrich local living;

- Employ more local carpenters in the construction process to keep the money in the village.

Caminada's works has achieved good results, and Vrin begins to gain respects in many aspects: the incomes increase and no more villagers move out; new public and private buildings, with modern agricultural facilities, are constructed; the new buildings not only meet people's various needs, but also show the re-interpretation of traditional wood construction "Strickbau", which strengthen the traditional Alpine style.

The second part gives a brief introduction of Caminada's works. They are a villager's house, the chamber for the dead, the multi-function hall and the slaughterhouses, which respectively describes Caminada's attitudes of "Learn from the tradition", "Praise and commemorate for a historical ceremony", "Building is everyday life" and "Exceed the nature of architecture: re-organization of economics and politics".

The third part shows the development of Caminada's career as a vernacular architect and the stories behind some of his projects, with a personal interview with him.

Keywords: Local Practice in Swiss Countryside, Vrin, Gion A. Caminada's Works, Inheritance and Innovation of Tradition, Building is Everyday Life; Re-organization of Economics and Politics.

(Re)Introducing water to public spaces. The blue-green network of Lahijan, Iran

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Abstract

Water is and has always been the vital element of life. The history of civilization and urbanization are tied to the sources of water and it contributes to the higher quality of a space in many different ways. From ancient times to the current era, water has been considered a source of metaphysical symbolism, aesthetic and visual pleasure, desired comfort and therapeutic value and leisure and recreation.

While water and waterscapes have been considered a great asset to the cities for centuries, the growing problem of pollution of water resources made the waterscape unpleasant to people. Rural-urban migration and expansion of the cities along with the industrial revolution and more use of fossil fuels are among the trends within the 19th century which caused dramatic water pollution. The problem of pollution and its risk to public health were the main reasons of less appreciation, and later disappearance of water from urban spaces. Apart from industrial revolution and rapid urbanization and their water-related consequences, the modernist urban planning and design of the cities also contributed to less use and weakened presence of water in urban spaces. The urban planning and design of the cities in this period was mainly composed of a set of rigid street systems which lacks the beauty and grace of the architecture of the past. Despite people's interest in water and their efforts to integrate it as an important part of their living environment and popularity of gardens, fountains and alike, the presence of water as a visual pleasure and aesthetic quality in recent centuries has dramatically decreased. Moreover, in response to the unsustainability of the conventional approach towards urban water systems, some environmentally-friendly initiatives have recently emerged in urban design practices. An integrated stormwater management is among such solutions to integrate rainwater into urban design practices, and therefore, to reintroduce water into urban spaces. This paper aims to argue how an integrated approach towards urban water management through design of public spaces can change the conventional approach towards water within the cities and recall its aesthetic values and social benefits.

Some results of a case study conducted in Lahijan, a small city in north of Iran, are used to provide examples of the strategies and guidelines which are argued in this paper to highlight the multiple role of water in the cities. Despite the fact that unlike most Iranian cities Lahijan enjoys high rainfall, the conventional approach of urban water management in Lahijan considers rainfall and stormwater as a problem which causes pollution and floods. To deal with such issues, the city has developed its sewage system to convey urban runoff as fast as possible out of the city and put it out of sight. Within such process, many natural streams have been covered or converted to concrete channels for the purpose of fast conveyance of sewage out of the urban center. The new approach, however, considers rainwater a valuable and available source of water for decorative purposes of urban waterscapes in parks and recreational areas, for the enjoyment of people, and especially children, and ultimately, a source for water arts and fountains in city plazas and water festivals. Some key results of this study reveal that integrating water into design of urban spaces reduces the environmental impact of our urban life, and also contributes to the creation of generative places in which the water is not only the essential element for life but also a decorative feature of the space; it highlights the local identity of a place and it is a contributor to the social life of the community through improving the vitality and attractiveness of a given space.

The paper concludes that the current water management system of cities must change to meet the goals of a sustainable development. Water management system in the new era must be considered as an integrated part of urban design. After the long period of absence of water in urban spaces, the real values of water from many different aspects are being rediscovered again and water is being reintroduced to urban spaces. Highlighting the multiple role of water in the cities; water needs to be considered as a crucial element from the very early stages of design of the cities. Connecting water management with making good places would contribute to the higher living standards of people in cities, and it would also address the problems of water scarcity, flooding and pollution. In this regard, rainwater and urban runoff, as an ecological asset and an aesthetic value rather than problems will play crucial roles not only in water management systems of the city but also in enhancement of the visual pleasure and attractiveness of a given space.

Keywords: urban water management, rainwater, public space, generative places, visual pleasure, aesthetic quality.

Social flows and multiculturalism in urban space-time interrelations and landscape identity transformations. Case study Mouraria district, Lisbon.

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Abstract

The paper enquires into the identity transformation of the urban landscape and its heritage (tangible and intangible) in super diverse historical centres (Vertovec, 2007), specifically within globalization processes that imply intense social flows, including immigrations and city tourism, with the apparition of multicultural communities and tourist mobility. Nomadism and mobility are features of our global liquid society (Gilroy, 2004; Bauman, 2000; Urry, 2000, 2007). The importance of city tourism as a driver of urban economic growth and development, also may threaten the sustainable fragile balance of local communities and their local identity. At the same time, the incoming of immigrants, contribute to the incorporation of new cultural patterns that unbalance the fragile equilibrium of the relational urban space and the historical cultural landscape. The case study of Mouraria historical district, in Lisbon, presents the evolution, fragmentation and foreigner hybrid structures absorbed by the Lusitanian identity, which is submitted to processes of immigration and cultural-ethnic diversity (Mendes, 2012; Fonseca & McGarrigle, 2013). The analysis of the fusion of resources and identities show us a dynamic urban heritage (material and immaterial), always in transition and transformation, with continuous processes of absorption of foreigner cultures. In Mouraria district, together with its multicultural nature, converges, since 2010, political and institutional policies for the renovation and urban rehabilitation of the historical urban tissue, with the investment of millions of Euros. The improvement of the socio-spatial self-image of the neighbourhood makes it more attractive for touristic targets and new residents (local and foreigners). This multicultural dynamic urban heritage becomes an attractive value for city tourism, inside the concept of the touristic consume of experiences and city-branding (Clifford, 1997; Crouch, 2002). Mouraria district, contains a space of movement, temporality and deterritorialization (Seller & Urry, 2006); immobility and social exclusion; tourism and travel; migration and diasporas; social networks and mobile media; transitions in complex systems; routes and connections (Clifford, 1997). In order to understand the nature of this multicultural and dynamic urban space, it is necessary to analyse those processes happening inside a relational space-time. The dialectical interrelation between different space-time categories inside the district of Mouraria (absolute, relative and relational) (Harvey, 2006), together with the experienced (space of perceptions and sensations), conceptualized (representation of space) and lived space (space of representation) (Lefevre, 1974), give shape to a qualitative urban landscape, with a dynamic identity and heritage, built on memories, meanings, emotions, narratives and perceptions always evolving in time and dependent on the input of social flows.

The study and analysis of local social processes happening in Mouraria district within the local community, visitors, and incoming immigrants, together with the understanding of those abstract representations, conceptualizations, interactions and dynamic social participation in the urban space, help us to elucidate which are the qualitative dynamic meanings and identities hidden in this multicultural urban landscape. The relevance of this paper for Porto AESOP conference relies in its contribution in order to enlarge the knowledge on the methodological analysis of the nature of dynamic multicultural urban landscapes, taking into consideration the observation of the actors involved, and their social flows, detecting how these actors observe, represent, conceptualize and construct the urban space and its identity. We will use the methodology of generating a "matrix of spatialities" (Harvey, 2006) creating nine categories of space-time relations (combination of the absolute, relative and relational space with the Lefebvrian categories of experienced, conceptualized and lived space), for the case study of Mouraria District. The data for the creation of the "matrix" will be obtained from the analysis of published (print and digital) information on Mouraria district created and produced by the actors involved (local community associations, immigrant groups, touristic industry, cultural and youth groups, district government, and real estate agents).

Keywords: historical centres, multicultural heritage, urban landscape, super diversity, migration, city tourism.

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Critical analysis of liveability. The parish core of the parishes union of Aldoar, Nevogilde and Foz do Douro

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Abstract

The cities have naturally grown and transformed along the history. In the last years the studies in urban planning have had tendency to research the subject of "sense of community". Looking for a strong social participation and interaction has become a necessity. The wellbeing of the people has turned into focus point of the urban planning, and the needs of daily life have been taking on a great importance. Nowadays, it is a priority to foster places and spaces with a significant "becoming local" phenomenon. This process is based on spontaneous activities with creativity and identity, looking for a better quality of life and contributing to the happiness and satisfaction of the inhabitants. The concept of a space generating this standard itself, is a matter of walkable cities. The space should provide sufficient greenery, safety, socializing possibilities, education conditions and overall accessibility and legibility. At the same time, economic dynamism and diversity should be taking into account, as well as range of services, considering environmental and ecological aspects, as in public, as in private sphere. And thus, the space would contribute to specific character of the city and its surroundings. Those aspects and ideas were the basis for the process of this work, which was developed in the union of parishes Aldoar, Nevogilde and Foz do Douro. The target area, formed of strongly tight community was found in Foz do Douro, where one cannot ignore the nature of everyday movement, as it works as a single mechanism. Even though it offers a potential for renaissance of the life in community. For this, the street Senhora da Luz lined with Rua da Diu, was the adequate core. This axis represents good living standards, by providing various services within immediate distance from an attractive area of the seaside. At the same point the accessibility and articulation with main roads plays an important role.

The analysis of those streets was focused on an issue of liveability and the ability to maintain its authenticity. It was based on search of indicators and signs that are crucial for individuality of a community, as a self-functioning organism. Groundwork for the analysis were economic, social and cultural attributes within the area. Primarily, the greater scale of the parish was considered, to define the core line, as a point of living space. Following that, local analysis was carried out, to identify the sense of belonging and ambience of the core. It was essential to consider history and its consequences for evolvement of the space and their impact on environmental, governmental and demographic relations. As a result of the work a list of required actions was developed, and different kinds of changes were suggested. During the work, the topographic changes were proposed, to enable easier access to public places. The parking lots were rearranged, so it would be available for higher amount of cars. Another changes were made for better visual access to the ocean view. For better use of public space more green areas were created and revitalized. With those processes the sense of liveability and identity was enhanced.

Keywords: local identity, liveability, urban planning, core

Contribution for a participated and inclusive municipal planning in the city of Lisbon: The Local Housing Program (PLH) and the Priority Intervention Neighbourhoods / Zones (BIP/ZIP)

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Abstract

One of the biggest challenges for today's planning is how to integrate, in the decision processes, the active participation of populations, in order to articulate the aspirations of communities with the technical and financial resources of Municipalities.

This communication has, as a subject of study, two initiatives developed by Housing, Local Development and Social Rights of Lisbon's City Council: the Local Housing Program (PLH), implemented since 2008, and the Action and Strategy Program BIP/ZIP - Priority Intervention Neighbourhoods / Zones, implemented since 2011, which has this year its 5th edition; these tools for municipal planning are subject to analysis, as well as to testing the different participative processes used as tools for support to decision in planning housing policies in a municipal scale.

The Local Housing Programs (PLH) are planning tools — foreseen in the Housing Strategic Plan 2008/2013, responsibility of the Housing and Urban Rehabilitation Institute — whose objective is to define locally a strategic vision in the field of Housing.

In Portugal, the first experience for the elaboration of a PLH would be developed by Lisbon's Municipality. Lisbon's PLH, whose program began in 2008, would have as a territorial scope the limits of this city's county and would be elaborated based in the existing wisdom and knowledge of the municipal services, through the creation of "contact points" with these services, complemented with the information originated from a wide participative process: identifying as active agents to include in this participative process, on the demand side, the current and future residents and, on the supply side, the real estate, cooperative and social sectors and the public entities promoters of housing in Lisbon.

Lisbon's PLH would, therefore, develop a second methodology with 3 sequential phases designed as: "To Know", "To Choose" and "To Accomplish". Presently we are in the 3rd phase, Accomplish - "The PLH in Action", having been created then the PLH's Project Team with the purpose of elaborate this tool in a first moment, and its implementation and monitoring, in a second moment.

Among the actions "born" with PLH we can highlight, under the citizens participation challenge, the Priority Intervention Neighbourhoods / Zones (BIP/ZIP). From a methodology of territorial identification with socioeconomic, urbanistic and environmental needs with Lisbon's Municipality would be, in a first phase, mapped the "spot" of the socio-territorial fracture in the City. Afterword, supported by a process of local participation, were identified 67 BIP/ZIP territories, which benefited from a typological and individual diagnostic. The implementation of this new municipal strategy, under way since 2011, is assured through two intervention levels: the operations of urban regeneration: the operations of urban regeneration, lead by the Offices of Support of Priority Intervention Neighbourhoods (GABIP) and an activation program of Local Partnerships with BIP/ZIP.

The BIP/ZIP program was approved by Lisbon's City Council in 2010, with an initial yearly budget allocation of €1M euros, having grown presently to €1.6M euros, to share according to a methodology of Participative Budget.

The financial support is granted by a signature of cooperation protocols between Lisbon's City Council and the project promoters. The financing of the approved projects is 100% until the financial limit defined for each intervention typology. May apply to the Program the organizations of the civil society that develop or intend to develop activity within the territories identified by BIP/ZIP, such as the Local Parishes which include in their territory, at least, one BIP/ZIP. All applications must be presented by a territorial partnership that includes at least two entities.

The evolution of the number of applications (77 in 2011, 106 in 2012, 108 in 2013 and 146 in 2014), the quality of the projects submitted to the program, the number of applications already approved (152, in all the 4 editions) and the results already obtained in the field show the transforming potential of what we could call the "BIP-ZIP Energy" and which sets, in our

opinion, a new species of "emergent urban planning" or "grassroot planning", potentially innovative and increasingly necessary.

The municipal government plan, recently up voted by the end of 2013, would establish as priorities in the Axis "Inclusive Lisbon" the promotion of Social Rights and with the Axis "Close Lisbon" a more participated and citizen City; projecting a new cycle that goes through the conception, planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation of municipal policies that promote a real access to social rights, the inversion of poverty and inequality cycles and the fight against discrimination, focusing in a model of local development based in the participation and co-decision, maintaining an action focused in the elimination and prevention of risk elements, which are at the origin of the situations of exclusion and discrimination.

As signs of this real change we can identify the reconversion, in 2014, of the Project Unit of the Local Housing Program (PLH), extinct in the meantime, to the renewed Project Team of the Housing and Social Rights Local Program (PLH+DS) and the creation of a new Local Development Department in the municipality, that will processed with BIP/ZIP strategy and help steer, in this territories, the Community Based Local Development Network.

All this has the purpose of continuing the work done as well as to answer the challenges of a new cycle of policies of municipal planning which is intended to be inclusive, sustainable and participated, with the purpose of promoting territorial and social equity.

Keywords: Participated and Inclusive Planning Tools; Housing, Urban Rehabilitation, Local Development and Social Rights Planning; Local Housing Program; BIP/ZIP; Community Based Local Development Programs; Lisbon's City Council.

Syncretic design as solution for a new urban identity

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Abstract

The identity of places is the complex of tangible and intangible factors which generate that sense of belonging that every human being develops towards the space he lives in. These factors are identified as in cultural values, for instance related to the memory or nostalgia of a place, as in physical and concrete actions related to the direct experience of the space that surrounds us and the type of relationships that we interweave with it.

Within an increasingly intercultural context as that of the contemporary city, the recognition and shaping of places that can act as catalysts for social integration processes, is of leading importance, if not extremely urgent. The coexistence between different communities within the wefts of the same urban fabric provides, in fact, as many difficult questions as interesting opportunities relating to the living conditions of the "new citizens" and their chance of integration (linguistic, cultural and social) with the urban territory and the rest of the community that inhabits it.

The identity- making character of a place is therefore, an essential factor in the process of mutual understanding between the city and its people. The mixture between the physical and intangible space elements, sometimes even imaginary ones, that the human being projects on it can be crucial in the creation and enhancement of places that could work as symbols of integration and coexistence.

These aspects are inevitably interesting for both the discipline of urban planning and social design. The first one has always focused on the analysis of the territory and the development of solutions able to solve conflicts of spatial order and not only. The design, understood in its role of observer of those social dynamics, if interpreted in the right way can help to define possible future scenarios characterized by an improvement in living conditions for human beings. This methodological scenario includes, moreover, the urban syncretic design whose purpose consists in this case in redefining the urban environment, both at a structural level and a perceptual one, in order to foster a preparation process of the interethnic and intercultural city able to recognize itself as such facilitating inside relations between "old and new citizens."

On the basis of the above, this paper deals with the issue of urban identity in the contemporary city characterized by the presence of immigrants.

Following the analytical reading of the phenomenon and its influence on the concept of identity, it proposes a project of interethnic space to be carried out through urban syncretic design.

Keywords: identity, urban place, syncretic design, new citizen, immigration.

Dealing with History, Rome and its alternative production of “public” space

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to redefine the interaction between historical architecture – which are focused to be comfortable, accessible and representative of the city - and local space production, which is linked to the construction of cultural identity. Seeing that identity is something that cannot be produced by a direct urban planning, how is this translated in the construction of place identity or urbanity?

For more than three decades, the built heritage in European cities has been a focus of attention in the discourse of architecture, urban design and planning. The European Union is launching historical city centres. In the last decade built heritage and the UNESCO heritage status had become a big promoter in the economy of city tourism. However, these processes do not guarantee a cultural identity for the citizens and their daily life. In many “superhistorical” European cityscapes we can see the tendency for an over-musealisation of historical urban spaces. This phenomenon creates an enlarging discrepancy between the local citizens and their relation to their city. It seems that paradoxically, the more a city governance tries to preserve its cultural identity the most the local production of space gets lost – and consequentially its identity.

The prototype of this process is the city of Rome, with its historical weight that blocs an innovative local city development. The point is that this effort to preserve identity is blocking the affection of the unexpected, something that constitutes and renews cultural production - which constitutes local identity.

In Rome the main contemporary cultural production is held by autonomous institutions – often illegal – which is characterized by a bottom-up process of the reuse of former industrial buildings. This was leading into the creation of many self-organised and mainly illegal culture centres. Some of their main characteristics are accessibility, inclusivity and multi-functionality. Furthermore, they have developed interesting decision-making processes. The function and programme of each of these “New Generation Squats” is based on an open hybrid space for many different users in form of lectures, concerts, working spaces, sports facilities, parties and many others. It’s within the crossing of these different activities – inscribed in a direct democracy process – that eventually local culture is produced.

How can the informal planning and decision-making processes of self organised and temporary cultural and social centers influence and change the static way of traditional modern city-planning? What are the tools that could possibly be used for an alternative urban planning, seeing that the main direction seems the production of non places?

Keywords: Superhistorical, urbanity, UNESCO, self organisation, social centers, non places.

The pulse of Campanhã parish

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Abstract

The Campanhã parish is located on the easternmost of Porto municipality. With an identity of its own it is unique for its yet unleashed or long forgotten potential which is finally beginning to be noticed, valued and explored by both the local administration and the scientific community.

Of relevant size, Campanhã is noted for being home of the city's food supply hub, as being an important point of entry to the city, for its aged population and as an area where the urban buildings clash with pockets of almost rural life styles and a close knit community which nonetheless readily embraces newcomers.

As a consequence of being overlooked for decades, the area's development has been compromised in several domains which resulted in desertification, unemployment and the gradual but inexorable degradation of its buildings

After conducting our brief analysis, we found that this parish is on many levels full of potential and there is a clear opportunity to revitalize an area which was once so very importante.

The available space allows for the introduction of heretofore unavailable services and activities which would then result in better living standards therefore creating the possibility for the experience of "becoming local" and improve "liveability".

These two concepts form the basis of our work appearing in it as not only desirable outcomes but also as the main challenges to be addressed.

The latter is described by HUD, DOT and the EPA as "being able to take your kids to school, go to work, see a doctor, drop by the grocer or post office, go out to dinner and a movie, and play with your kids in a park, all without having to get in your car."

This article therefore aims to analyse the Campanhã parish's centre. To that end, we chose to focus on the area that surrounds the Campanhã train station because it is the busiest spot in the parish, being an important rail, tram and bus hub which allows for easy access to the city's different areas, to neighbouring municipalities and the rest of the country. In addition, we chose this parish for the availability of expectant areas in connection with a diversified urban mesh, with lots of commercial activities, amenities and related services although not integrated with one another. The key idea to develop the intervention proposal is to make the area more permeable by taking advantage of the inherent natural capabilities.

We began the article by exploring the concept of liveability, proceeded by laying out the geographical and historical context and the presentation of the area's functional survey. We then made a critical analysis of the area from the liveability point of view and concluded with a proposal for the betterment of the space in case.

These concepts and proposals will work very against one of the subjects of the conference, since much of it addresses the identity of the area and its meaning not only to the resident population but also for those who visit and because of the challenges of "becoming local".

Keywords: becoming local, liveability, identity, parish, connection.

Tree-Squares in Anatolia: What does an emergent public space mean?

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Abstract

Urban places, besides their physical characteristics, are regarded as grounds where personal or collective meanings are created and accumulated. An individual can capture the meaning of a place, or create a new meaning by relying on his/her own feelings and experiences. This research, by discussing the idea of togetherness of meaning and design in urban spaces, presents trees both as place making and meaning generating features which honors the local identity of a site. Tree-squares are, therefore, are the unique urban public places where this relationship is successfully observed.

The researcher's encounter with a Çınaraltı Square (a Turkish term used to define public places under massive and historical plane trees and will be referred as Tree-Square within the scope of this paper) which is marked by a plane tree that is called Musa (Moses) Plane in Antakya/Turkey has triggered an idea of questioning the urban planning and design approaches beyond the broadly accepted role of trees as natural and aesthetic beings in cities. Later on, Yalvaç Plane (Yalvaç Çınarı) in Yalvaç/Isparta, and the grand public place under its tremendous branches carried this wonder one step further, since this Tree-Square was not only an attractive place with a magnificent plane tree, but also the heart of the city.

This emergent public space is a product of a long term social and historical interaction process that created the main public place of a medium-sized Turkish city, as in many Anatolian cities. It carries significant urban qualities such as creating a city center and having a visible impact on the urban macroform. Therefore, a case study research has been conducted in Yalvaç Tree-Square to gain a comprehensive grasp of the social and spatial organization of an urban place that is dominated by a historical plane tree. In this sense, the role of Yalvaç Plane in the historical and spatial development of an urban space will be evaluated by relying on socially produced meaning in the built environment.

This research expresses the need for an inquiry that tries to understand these emergent character of tree-squares in cities, through developing an understanding of the role of trees in place making and meaning formation. It intends to find the chain between people, trees and urban public places, the meaning channels that contribute to the formation and maintenance of cultural identities on urban physical environment. Therefore a suitable question to ask can be "Do these generative places contribute more to the meaningful of the city?"

The case study conducted in Yalvaç Çınaraltı Square sets a successful example for its values in contexts of space and meaning. This tree-place is an outcome of long historical processes. Once there was only the plane and earlier people of Yalvaç must have seen it substantial and acted accordingly to the tree and the place around it. These initial and spontaneous acts have merged with the purposeful design actions on the site today. That is, 800 year old existence of a being has been favored by its users throughout the years, and in turn the plane tree carried the spirit of its history, meaning and value till today, and it is quite sure that this will last as far as the tree lives. What has been inferred from this case study shows the validity of the hypotheses produced for a tree-square scenario. The case study research has presented four hypotheses and related four sub-questions related to the tree-squares. These concerns have been enlightened throughout this case research and can briefly be analyzed respectively:

- (1) The relationships between people and trees have direct or indirect impacts on the location and spatial organization of a tree-place.
- (2) Tree-places act as semi-public or public places that offer various activity choices and motives. The activity patterns on the site indicate that there are a high number of permanent users of the site, preferring to experience the site for various reasons.
- (3) Tree-places carry the characteristics for its users to associate meanings and to develop a place identity, place attachment and the notion of sense of place (Meaning in Place).
- (4) There exists a profound relationship between people and trees that is shaped throughout history and experiences.

The investigation of tree-square has demonstrated the power and impact of trees on urban places and provided a framework for further design applications with trees. The problem of placelessness and loss of distinctiveness can successfully be solved through this awareness by enhancing existing tree-squares or creating new examples. The concluding question in this context is how to relate these findings to the fields of urban planning and design. Some inferences for urban design are prepared in accordance with the literature survey and case study research. They are to create a framework for design actions through which designers can learn more about the emergent spaces such as tree-squares in cities.

Keywords: public space, emergent space, meaning, local identity, tree-square, meaning in urban design.

Reflection of political restructuring on urban symbols: The case of Presidential palace in Ankara, Turkey

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Abstract

The issue/research problem;

Ankara, capital of Turkey has been the revolution space of the country after the proclamation of republic in 1923. The city has carried out the urban symbols of the republic and modernity vision created by the nationalist administrators and elites. The newly established state used architecture and urban planning in transmitting the ideals of national unity and sovereignty by breaking off its ties from Ottoman heritage. After the span of eighty years, Turkey has experienced a new political hegemony. Post-2000s' political approach changed the urban symbols of early Republican period and redesigned the capital in the line with its ideological basis. One of the most concrete transformations is observed in the presidential palace of the country which conveys the political intents of each period through its spatial and architectural organizations. This study, therefore, aims to put forward the change in urban symbols and their meanings by focusing on the presidential palace of early republican and post-2000s periods.

Relevance for the conference theme;

The abstract accompanies with the conference theme in the sense of its conceptual background. This paper provides a framework on physical dimensions and spatial configuration of a political space and a debate on its symbolic meaning over community and changing urban identities.

The background;

Capital cities "play a significant role in representing the ideals of a nation, or at least the national government's interpretation of these aspirations and ideals" (Shatkin, 2005; 577). They are "symbolic theatres for national ideology, a reflection of the larger national stance towards urbanism, a catalyst for national economic development, and at least historically, a bridge between local culture and the 'imagined community' of the nation-state" (Campbell, 2000; 1). Being the host of nation's history and future ideals, physical development of capital cities is shaped by political intents and, their physical form in turn affects the political action.

Scholars usually demonstrate the relation between nation building and place-making and architecture and urban planning. Therborn (2000; 61) claims that "national capitals are modern social constructions" and also their planning efforts are the parts and instruments of this goal. In addition to symbols of national identity "works of architecture and acts of urban design assume a peculiar place in the assemblage of national symbols" (Vale1992; 47). By discussing the formation and reproduction of presidential palaces as deliberate projects of political intents, this paper draws attention to the transformation of urban symbols to demonstrate the prevailing power.

The methodology;

The comparative analysis on presidential palaces in Ankara is significant in understanding the spatial structuring process of the city with respect to the change in political objectives. The Presidential Palaces were investigated in observational domains; their spatial configurations, buildings, and symbols in relation to the political intents on urban areas and public realm.

The key results of the paper;

This paper concludes that in both strong authoritarian periods in Turkish political history, presidential palaces with respect to their spatial and architectural designs are regarded as the icons in transmitting the messages of the dominant political intentions to the public; in the former period it was used as an instrument of national sovereignty whereas in the latter it has used as a mark of government dominancy over the nation.

Keywords: urban symbols; presidential palace; spatial organization; Ankara.

Place attachment concepts and their underlying understanding of space

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Abstract

Since the late 1960's research on people's relations to places have been addressed by diverse research fields such as environmental psychology or human geography. The reason for this might have been a reaction to the former common emphasis on place as little more than a container for human action. The concepts "Sense of place", "Place attachment" and "Place identity" are the most well-known ones. Nowadays the idea of people establishing relations to places, varying in number, size and shape, is widely accepted.

Therefore one as a planner has to assume that there exist bonds to almost every setting one is confronted with. Planners can benefit from knowledge about individuals place attachments to help understand why people resist or support change. But until this very day it is still uncommon for planners or architects to include people's relations to place into their planning concepts. So while being the ones to have the most influence on the physical world planners they rather do not consider the influence their intervention might have on existing relations to place. This might be due to the necessity of interdisciplinary collaboration going along with limited budgets in planning processes, the need to transfer information from the individual to neighborhood or community level and the diversity of concepts describing place relations.

But while trying to get an insight into the diversity of concepts concerning place relations, one soon realizes that there are diverse philosophies of science and methodological preferences within one concept such as place attachment. As I am a planner myself (landscape architect) it strikes me, that there is no reference work helping planners to understand the diversity of place relation concepts and what which concepts stands for. While environmental psychologists focused on measuring strength of attachment and identity, human geographers concentrated on the role of place as a part of the whole identity and sociologists shed light on the social contexts of house and neighborhood. Added on this difficulty every discipline has a different understanding of what a place is and what space means. While most researchers agree on the depiction of place as one definable piece of space enriched with personal meaning, there are many concepts of what space is, starting with Aristotle.

Surely one as a planner has a different concept of what space is than a sociologist, for example. To make place relation concepts applicable for planners it is therefore necessary to analyze the underlying concept of space. Therefore, the aim of this paper was to gather different concepts of space with the same level of detail from different fields such as human geography, sociology and planning.

One of the first results was, that most of the encyclopedias used by planners only have shortened versions of sociological concepts of space, while sociological summaries lack of detailed concepts concerning physical understandings of space. So there is a necessity for a reference book addressing physical-material concepts of space as well as sociological ones. This paper will offer a diversity of different place and space concepts. These will provide the basis to analyze the underlying understanding of space in existing place relation concepts to make them applicable for planners.

This relevance of this paper will be to offer different definitions of space and place as one of the key words being used in the conference. Furthermore it will provide an insight into the most important concepts addressing place relations, such as place attachment, place identity and sense of place. These place relation concepts can support gaining knowledge about why some places work and some do not. While there is an already existing large fundus of concepts describing place relations there is no reference work making them available and applicable for practitioners, although they might in some cases provide an explanation, which is missing right now.

Keywords: place, space, place attachments.