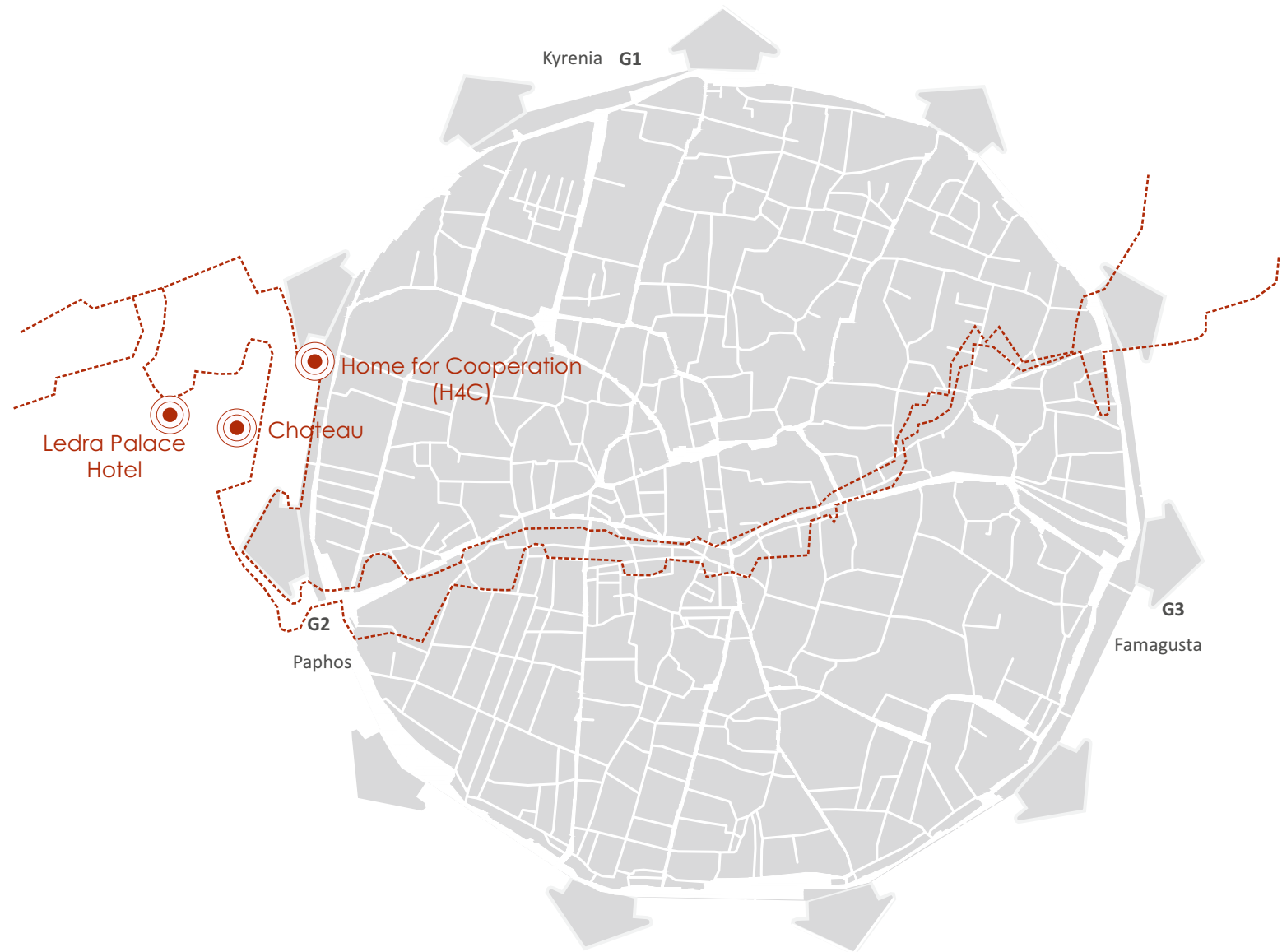


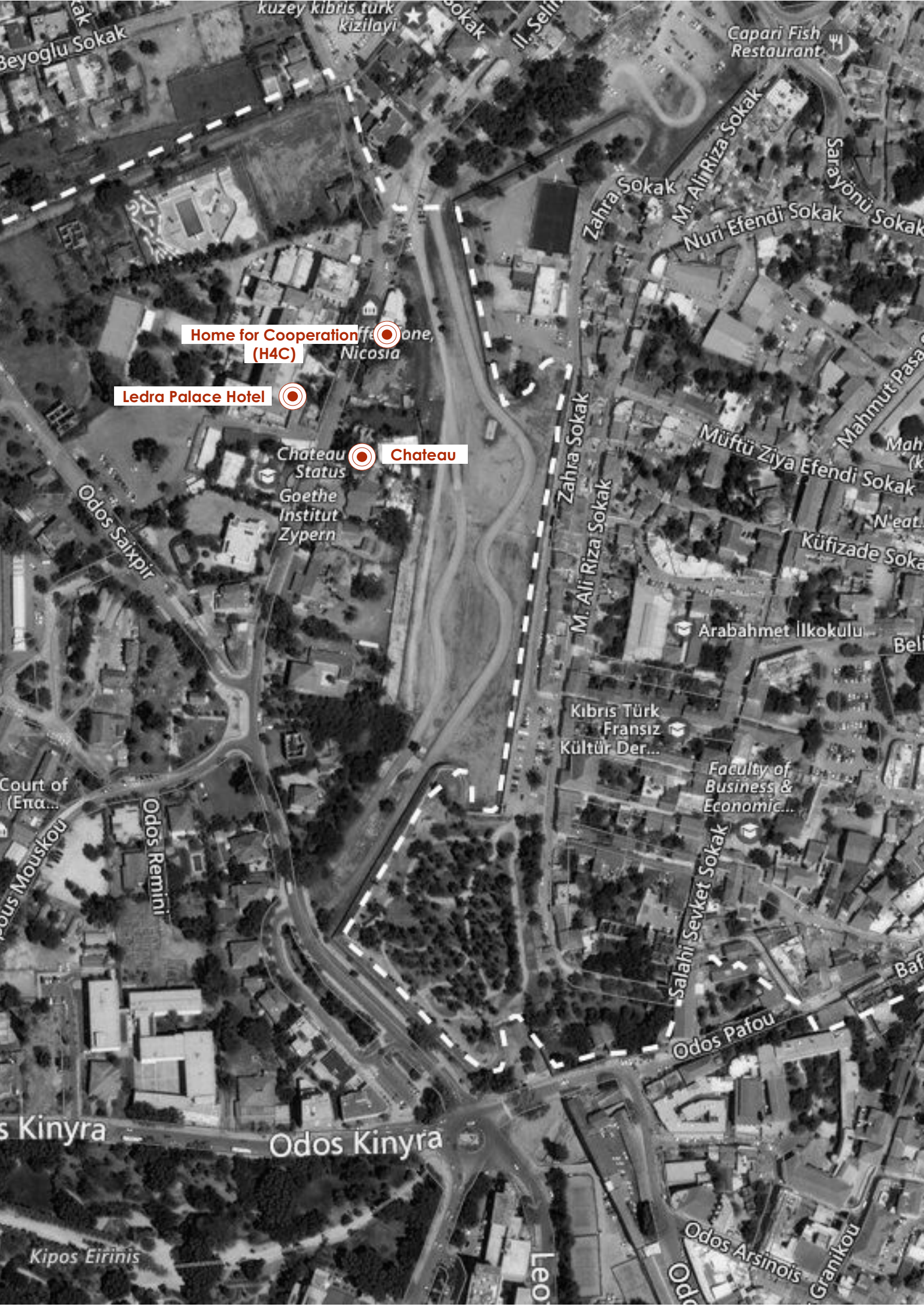
PROGRAMME



**Urban Morphology in South-Eastern Mediterranean Cities:
Challenges and Opportunities**

VENUE





Home for Cooperation
(H4C)

Ledra Palace Hotel

Chateau
Chateau Status

Goethe
Institut
Zypern

Capari Fish
Restaurant

Beyoglu Sokak

kuzey kibris türk
Kizilayi

Sokak

II. Selim

Zahra Sokak

M. Ali Riza Sokak

Nuri Efendi Sokak

Sarayönü Sokak

Odos Saixpir

Court of
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Mouskou

Odos Remini

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Kipos Eirinis

Leo

Salahi Sevket Sokak

Odos Pafou

Odos Arsinois

Granikou

Kıbrıs Türk
Fransız
Kültür Der...

Faculty of
Business &
Economic...

Arabahmet İlkokulu

Küfizade Soka

Müftü Ziya Efendi Sokak

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Urban Morphology in South-Eastern Mediterranean Cities: challenges and opportunities

The Cyprus Network of Urban Morphology will host its first regional conference in Nicosia, Cyprus. The conference aims to address current issues related to urban form from an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary perspective, while engaging a variety of actors and stakeholders. The purpose of this conference, organized in parallel to the AESOP Thematic Group for Public Spaces and Urban Cultures (AESOP TG PSUC) meeting, is to unfold themes related to South-Eastern Mediterranean cities within the local context of Nicosia.

Theme. Over the past few decades, South-Eastern Mediterranean cities have become radically altered in the sense of scale, scope and complexity as a result of globalization, increased mobility at all levels, massive internal movements of labour, climate change, technological developments, economic fluctuations, unemployment and urban conflicts. Migration flows as well as internal displacements and the movement of refugees, demographic, spatial and socio-cultural changes have had profound consequences on city life and have created an increasingly diverse and continuously transformed urban population. Contemporary everyday life is, in these parts of the world, characterized by diverse manifestations of instability which continuously challenge and redefine everyday patterns of living and cities' infrastructures and urban form.

Nicosia, the last divided capital of Europe, with a prolonged history of conflict, internal refugees' displacements, migration and tourists' flows, economic fluctuations and rapid, often abrupt urban transformations serves as an ideal laboratory to explore, unravel, and question urban form development in contexts of uncertainty and contestation. It is a city of contrasts in terms of its spatial, social, cultural and economic composition. The location of Cyprus in the Eastern Mediterranean offers a unique venue at the confluence of three continents and a multitude of cultures that face unique urban challenges. In a region of intense conflict, Cyprus offers a common ground for bringing people together in a neutral venue and it has acted thus numerous times in its past. The island is currently dealing with urban issues related to the movement of refugees and other transient populations in the region and to the influx of foreign investors, seeking luxury housing in its coastal cities. While increasing populations from Europe and beyond continue to settle in the island, Cyprus is also now facing a renewed need to provide housing for local people facing challenges due to the recent economic crisis. Cities' urban development and sustainability have thus been central in the local and national agendas, providing a unique opportunity for urban morphology research and scientific knowledge to contribute towards this end.

CyNUM's 1st regional conference aims at establishing a common platform to promote and develop the subject of urban form in Cyprus and within the Mediterranean region. Through different perspectives, the CyNUM conference aims to address the role of urban form in relation to the sudden and sometimes recurring dynamics that affect everyday urban life. Learning from cities in the South-Eastern Mediterranean region can provide a significant input to the fields of urban planning, architecture and design. To this end, the conference will develop links with other organizations (universities, NGOs, research centres and planning authorities) concerned with the built environment and with other regional ISUF networks and the central body of ISUF.



Organisation

Scientific Committee

Michael Barke, *Northumbria University, UK*
Kai Gu, *University of Auckland, New Zealand*
Nilly Harag, *Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Israel*
Aykut Karaman, *Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Turkey*
Ayşe Sema Kubat, *Istanbul Technical University, Turkey*
Peter Larkham, *Birmingham City University, UK*
Teresa Marat-Mendes, *Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal*
Nicola Marzot, *TU Delft, Netherlands*
Kostas Moraitis, *National Technical University of Athens, Greece*
Vitor Oliveira, *University of Porto, Portugal*
Giuseppe Strappa, *Sapienza University of Rome, Italy*
Tolga Ünlü, *University of Mersin, Turkey*

Organising Committee

Alessandro Camiz, *Ass. Professor*
Nadia Charalambous, *Ass. Professor*
Nevter Zafer Cömert, *Ass. Professor*
Naciye Doratlı, *Professor*
Ilaria Geddes, *Researcher*
Şebnem Önal Hoşkara, *Professor*
Marko Kiessel, *Ass. Professor*
Constantinos Kypris, *Architect/PhD Student*
Elena Konstantinidou, *Ass. Professor*

INDEX

programme

parallel sessions

abstracts

Programme

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

Morning

08:30 - 13:00 & Registration

14:00 - 18:00 *Chateau Lobby*

09:30 - 10:15 Welcome Notes by CyNUM and AESOP representatives (Chateau 2)

10:15 - 11:00 Keynote

**Ayşe Sema Kubat - *EXPLORING THE FRINGE BELT PHENOMENON
IN THE CASE OF ISTANBUL***

*Faculty of Architecture, department of Urban and Regional Planning
Istanbul Technical University*

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:30 Parallel Sessions

Session 1_Urban Morphology (Ledra Palace)

Session 3_Urban Form - Methodologies (H4C)

13:30 - 15:00 Lunch Break

Afternoon

15:00 - 17:00 Parallel Sessions

Session 2_Urban Evolution - Conservation - Heritage (Ledra Palace)

17:00 - 17:30 Coffee Break

17:45 - 19:30 Keynote

Wendy Pullan - *Justice as everyday life: Urban conflict and civic space*

Professor of Architectural and Urban Studies

Clare College (Fellow)

University of Cambridge

20:00 Opening Reception (H4C)

Programme

17 May 2018 | Thursday

Morning

09:00 - 13:00 & Registration

14:00 - 18:00 *Chateau Lobby*

09:30 - 10:15 Keynote

Kayvan Karimi - *Tackling the Challenges of Urban Conservation: an evidence-informed spatial network approach*

Senior Lecturer

Bartlett School of Architecture

10:15 - 11:00 Keynote

Karl Kropf - *Looking for sources: diversity and the sense of a region (video lecture)*

Senior Lecturer

Oxford Brookes University

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:30 Parallel Sessions

Session 5_ Urban Sprawl, Fringe Belts (H4C)

Session 7_ Urban Form and Social Phenomena (Ledra Palace)

13:30 - 15:00 Lunch Break

Afternoon

15:00 - 17:00 Parallel Sessions

Session 6_ Urban Design - Revitalisation (H4C)

Session 8_ Buildings - Design (Ledra Palace)

17:00 - 17:30 Coffee Break

17:45 - 19:30 Keynote

Ali Madanipour - *Social justice and public space*

Professor of Urban Design

Newcastle University

20:00 Dinner (Chateau)

Programme

18 May 2018 | Friday

Morning

09:00 - 12:00 & Registration
15:00 - 18:00 *Chateau Lobby*

09:30 - 10:15 Keynote
Tarek Osseiran - *The Urbanization of In (justice)*
UN-Habitat Lebanon

10:15 - 11:00 Keynote
Mustafa Dikec - *Exposing injustices: urban uprisings and liberal democracies*
Professor of Urban Studies
Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris and LATTS

11:00 - 14:00 Field Trips - Nicosia Walkshop

Afternoon

15:00 - 17:00 **Session 9_Urban Conflicts**

17:30 - 19:00 **Round Table Discussion**

Emerging Perspectives on Urban Morphology: RESEARCHING AND
LEARNING THROUGH MULTIPLE PRACTICES

Conference Themes

Session 1_ Urban Morphology

1. Emerging Perspectives on Urban Morphology
2. The Economics of Urban Morphology
3. Morphological Development of Urban Blocks in Famagusta Walled City
4. The urban morphology and metamorphosis of Nicosia
5. Physical Revitalization Based on Typo- Morphological Analysis:
The Case of Famagusta's residential district
6. From comparative studies to an integrated approach to urban morphology

Session 2_ Urban Evolution - Conservation - Heritage

1. Tangible, Intangible Cultural Heritage and landscape in the Old Town of Nicosia.
Arabahmet Quarter, Salahi Sevket Street, Historical Ottoman Houses.
2. In Memory of Home
3. Typological Analysis of Lot-House Relationship in The Case of Kula
4. Nineteenth Century Social Housing settlement in the North side of Nicosia
5. A Morphological Practice: Conzenian and Canniggian Approach, Analysis of Zaria City
6. Changing collective meaning of Saburhane Public Space in Mugla, Turkey

Session 3_ Urban Form - Methodologies

1. Analytical Measuring of Spatial Layouts through Multi-Scalar Adjacencies:
Lower Manhattan Case Area
2. A methodological framework for identifying and evaluating centralities with
space syntax and land-use pattern analysis in a GIS environment
3. Walkability and Urban Morphology: Analysing urban fabrics in northern and southern European
capitals
4. City Information Modeling Usage in Built Environment: A case study in Baku, Bayil district
5. Urban morphology as factor of pedestrian accessibility: Investigation of the pedestrian network
of Patisia in Athens

Session 5_ Urban Sprawl, Fringe Belts

1. Arsinoe, Ammochostos, al-Mau'dah, Famagusta, Magusa:
attractors, repellers and fringe belts for a longue durée history of the urban settlement
2. Typomorphological Study of Beyarmudu/Pergamo, Cyprus
3. Impact of Urban Sprawl: The case of the Famagusta, Cyprus
4. Development of green spaces in fringe belts: As a case of Nicosia
5. Commercial Urban Fabrics Updang. Globalizaon and Exchanges between the Euro-
mediterranean and North-american cultural areas
6. Urban sprawl typologies in medium-sized Greek cities.
A qualitative morphological analysis in the peri-urban landscape.

Conference Themes

Session 6_Urban Design - Revitalisation

1. Revitalization strategies for historic Turkish quarter in Kyrenia, Cyprus: A city within a city
2. The city of Marseille as a significant environment
3. Making Past Morphological Traces Legible Through Design Intervention
4. The performance of relationship between instrument and mechanism: the hidden value of urban design guidelines for sustainable urban development
5. Conflict urbanism in ethno-national divided cities and the paving of their gentrification through the arts
6. The Varying Degrees of Informality

Session 7_Urban Form and Social Phenomena

1. Tracing the impact of socioeconomic transformation on urban form: across two coastal Albanian cities, Vlorë and Saranda
2. The Casbah of Algiers: from a fortified city to a “ghetto”
3. Nicosia Through Time: A Diachronic Analysis of Socio-Spatial Dynamics
4. Urban Form and Social Cohesion.
Decoding urban fabrics in the Mediterranean with a typo-morphological approach
5. Persistence at the edge:
the socio-economic make-up and configurational properties of Agios Kassianos, Nicosia
6. Evaluating Socio-Spatial Qualities of Urban Public Spaces in walled city of Famagusta

Session 8_Buildings - Design

1. Rolling Shutters: a neglected element of urban morphology
2. Reading the sociability of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) campus through twitter feeds
3. A socio-spatial approach to a morphological analysis of educational buildings in Cyprus
4. Building Facades Typology as an Expression of Urban Development Processes
5. Shade maps for climatically-aware urban design in Tel Aviv-Yafo
6. Form Follows Necessity. The case of Athens

Session 9_Urban Conflicts

1. Spaces of war and peace: the spatiality of urban conflict in postwar cities.
2. On Urban Conflict: Strategies to Counter the Division of Cities
3. The Southern Israeli City of Ashdod-The Backyard of Ethnicity
4. Enlivening the dead zone
5. Charting the boundaries of the Dead Zone in Nicosia
6. Reweaving stitches over the Buffer Zone Nicosia
7. A Virtual Environments co-design practice for “community participation” in reactivating historic sites as public space.

Programme

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

Parallel Session
11:30 - 13:30
Ledra Palace

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

Chair: Naciye Doratlı

1. Emerging Perspectives on Urban Morphology
Nadia Charalambous, Vítor Oliveira
2. The Economics of Urban Morphology
Glafkos Constantinides
3. Morphological Development of Urban Blocks in Famagusta Walled City
Nevter Zafer Comert, Şebnem Önal Hoşkara
4. The urban morphology and metamorphosis of Nicosia
Eleonore Zippelius
5. Physical Revitalization Based on Typo- Morphological Analysis:
The Case of Famagusta's residential district
Rokhsaneh Rahbarianyazd, Nevter Zafer Comert, Naciye Doratlı
6. From comparative studies to an integrated approach to urban morphology
Ana Claudia Monteiro

Parallel Session
11:30 - 13:30
H4C

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

Chair: Ayşe Sema Kubat

1. Analytical Measuring of Spatial Layouts through Multi-Scalar Adjacencies:
Lower Manhattan Case Area
Harun Ekinoglu, Siying Du, Bora Koç
2. A methodological framework for identifying and evaluating centralities
with space syntax and land-use pattern analysis in a GIS environment
Yannis Paraskevopoulos, Yorgos N. Photis
3. Walkability and Urban Morphology: Analysing urban fabrics in northern
and southern European capitals
Iasonas Anastassiou
4. City Information Modeling Usage in Built Environment:
A case study in Baku, Bayil district
Anar Mustafayev, Gökçen Firdevs Yücel Caymaz
5. Urban morphology as factor of pedestrian accessibility:
Investigation of the pedestrian network of Patisia in Athens
Stefanos Tsigdinos, Maria Lanopoulou

Programme

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

Parallel Session
15:00 - 17:00
Ledra Palace

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

Chair: Marko Kiessel

1. Tangible, Intangible Cultural Heritage and landscape in the Old Town of Nicosia. Arabahmet Quarter, Salahi Sevket Street, Historical Ottoman Houses.
Chiara Odolini
2. In Memory of Home
Riva Lava
3. Typological Analysis of Lot-House Relationship in The Case of Kula
Hayriye Oya SAF, M. Emre ERGÜL, Hatice Gökçe TÜRKOĞLU
4. Nineteenth Century Social Housing settlement in the North side of Nicosia
Valentina Donà
5. A Morphological Practice:
Conzenian and Canniggian Approach, Analysis of Zaria City
Abdulsalam Shema
6. Changing collective meaning of Saburhane Public Space in Mugla, Turkey
Feray Koc

Programme

17 May 2018 | Thursday

Parallel Session
11:30 - 13:30
H4C

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Chair: *Şebnem Önal Hoşkara*

1. Arsinoe, Ammochostos, al-Mau'dah, Famagusta, Magusa: attractors, repellers and fringe belts for a longue durée history of the urban settlement *Alessandro Camiz*
2. Typomorphological Study of Beyarmudu/Pergamo, Cyprus
Jason Winn, Angela Hartsell
3. Impact of Urban Sprawl: The case of the Famagusta, Cyprus
Kamyar FULADLU, Müge RİZA, Mustafa İLKAN
4. Development of green spaces in fringe belts: As a case of Nicosia
Saloumeh Khayyat Kahouei, Nevter Zafer Comert
5. Commercial Urban Fabrics Upda ng. Globalization and Exchanges between the Euro-mediterranean and North-american cultural areas
Giuseppe Strappa, Vincenzo Buongiorno
6. Urban sprawl typologies in medium-sized Greek cities.
A qualitative morphological analysis in the peri-urban landscape.
Charis Christodoulou, Maria Oikonomou

Parallel Session
11:30 - 13:30
Ledra Palace

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Chair: *Kayvan Karimi*

1. Tracing the impact of socioeconomic transformation on urban form: evidence across two coastal Albanian cities, Vlora and Saranda
Athanasios Pagonis
2. The Casbah of Algiers: from a fortified city to a “ghetto”
Issam Sekkour, Laura Vaughan
3. Nicosia Through Time: A Diachronic Analysis of Socio-Spatial Dynamics
Nadia Charalambous, Ilaria Geddes
4. Urban Form and Social Cohesion.
Decoding urban fabrics in the Mediterranean with a typo-morphological approach
Alcestis Rodi, Iason Anastasiou
5. Persistence at the edge: the socio-economic make-up and configurational properties of Agios Kassianos, Nicosia
Ilaria Geddes
6. Evaluating Socio-Spatial Qualities of Urban Public Spaces in walled city of Famagusta
Reihaneh Rafiemanzelat, Aida Jalalkamali

Programme

17 May 2018 | Thursday

Parallel Session
15:00 - 17:00
H4C

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

Chair: Nadia Charalambous and Elena Konstantinidou

1. Revitalization strategies for historic Turkish quarter in Kyrenia, Cyprus:
A city within a city
Damla Misirlisoy, Silvia Covarino
2. The city of Marseille as a significant environment
Nikolaos Kaldis
3. Making Past Morphological Traces Legible Through Design Intervention
Acalya Alpan, Aybike Ceylan Kızıltaş
4. The performance of relationship between instrument and mechanism:
the hidden value of urban design guidelines for sustainable urban development
Ebru Gürler
6. The Varying Degrees of Informality
Karolina Moretti

Parallel Session
15:00 - 17:00
Ledra Palace

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

Chair: Alessandro Camiz and Constantinos Kypris

1. Rolling Shutters: a neglected element of urban morphology
Walter Matznetter
2. Reading the sociability of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU)
campus through twitter feeds
Aminreza Iranmanesh, Nevter Zafer Cömert, Şebnem Önal Hoşkara
3. A socio-spatial approach to a morphological analysis of
educational buildings in Cyprus
Chrystala Psathiti
4. Building Facades Typology as an Expression of Urban Development Processes
Alcestis Rodi, Iason Anastasiou
5. Shade maps for climatically-aware urban design in Tel Aviv-Yafo
Or Aleksandrowicz, Shachar Zur, Yonatan Lebendiger, Yoav Lerman
6. FORM FOLLOWS NECESSITY. The case of Athens
Alcestis Rodi

Programme

18 May 2018 | Friday

Parallel Session
15:00 - 17:00
Ledra Palace

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

Chair: Socrates Stratis

1. Spaces of war and peace: the spatiality of urban conflict in postwar cities.
Ivan Gusic
2. On Urban Conflict: Strategies to Counter the Division of Cities
Kai Voeckler
5. The Southern Israeli City of Ashdod-The Backyard of Ethnicity
Nilly R. Harag
4. Enlivening the dead zone
Elena Konstantinidou, Nelly Marda, Marina Pasia
5. Charting the boundaries of the Dead Zone in Nicosia
Effie Nicolaou, Sophia Vyzoviti
6. Reweaving stitches over the Buffer Zone Nicosia
Ariadni Vozani
7. A Virtual Environments co-design practice for
“community participation” in reactivating historic
sites as public space.
Georgios Artopoulos, Panagiotis Charalambous

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

Emerging Perspectives on Urban Morphology

Nadia Charalambous, Vítor Oliveira

Contemporary cities are characterized by a variety of forms of socio-spatial patterns and increasing social, economic, and political fragmentation strongly related to their urban form. Urban municipal authorities, policy makers, urban designers and scholars are called to respond to such challenges and a variety of approaches on understanding urban form, both theoretical and operational, has developed. However, these are characterized by specific disciplinary and geographical trends and have seen the emergence of separate schools of thought. Each approach tends to be associated with a main research centre or with certain individual researchers and, despite some exceptions, they have traditionally been applied in isolation.

This paper presents the 'Emerging Perspectives on Urban Morphology' (EPUM), a transnational research project which aims at the integration of different, often isolated urban form research and teaching approaches through pedagogic innovation and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The project identifies the need to establish a network linking the different approaches, developing learning platforms that foster the exchange of knowledge, providing opportunities for contact between members and encouraging the dissemination of findings. This coming together of researchers, educators and learners from different geographical areas and disciplines will provide the basis for a multidisciplinary exploration and the opportunity to establish common theoretical foundations for the growing number of urban form studies in many parts of the world. It will provide the means to engage all stakeholders currently within introverted disciplinary, institutional and geographical boundaries, in a fruitful discussion through a collaborative open learning curriculum supported by a blended learning approach.

The project aims to develop an innovative, inclusive system of teaching and training in urban form from a multidisciplinary perspective, which is capable of enabling the current and future generation of design professionals to address comprehensively and effectively the variety of challenges faced by contemporary cities.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

The Economics of Urban Morphology

Glafkos Constantinides

Urban Morphology is about the form urban development takes under diverse condition, pressures or policy influences. The form of urban development presents particular methodological, research and policy challenges and merits particular study. However, the factors underlying, influencing or even determining urban morphology are as important, if not more important, than morphology itself. Three points are relevant in this context: First, urban morphology is an outcome, the result, of diverse factors shaping urban development rather than a self- standing phenomenon. Second, economic and social factors are particularly powerful in urban development. Third, the true role, extend and complexity of market forces require greater methodological attention, more discussion and closer integration within the mainstream study of morphology per se. There is a need therefore to develop and promote integrated methodologies and tools of analysis urban morphology giving greater attention to the role of market forces and urban economics.

This presentation will focus on the economics of urban morphology as a methodology and a tool for the analysis of urban morphology. Simple but important principles of economics will be discussed to clarify the linkages of morphology with economic pressures and highlight their role as tools in public policy (spatial planning and urban design). The city focus will mainly be Nicosia to illustrate the urban economics / urban morphology relationship and show how a better understanding of this relationship can support urban planning and urban design interventions.

The following themes will be developed and discussed to support conclusions on the contributions of the economics of urban morphology:

- All cities, all places, have a physical shape. Where does it come from and how does it matter?
- An even more integrated approach to urban morphology should include market forces, the factors shaping the demand for and the supply of urban development and spaces and the implications for planning policy
- The importance of urban morphology as value, quality and asset in urban development

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

Morphological Development of Urban Blocks in Famagusta Walled City

Nevter Zafer Comert, Şebnem Önal Hoşkara

Plots are important urban elements for the formation of cities/towns which have been results of the formation of urban blocks through out the ages. The block, however, is a combination of plots and it is a form identified by both Conzen and Caniggia who are the pioneers of urban morphology in England and Italy. Caniggia argues that the block is a combination of pertinent strips, beginning as the result of the fusion of serial built routes. This conception, while valid in many cases, shows the limits imposed by Caniggia's concentration on a particular regions and periods. Conzen (1969), however, defines the block as a combination of plots, street system and buildings. Both of them argues that without buildings blocks are only two dimensional areas.

This study focuses on the urban blocks and their morphological development in Famagusta Walled City. Components to be investigated include plot characteristics, pertinent strip character, route types, and block types in terms of the typological process with the elements' aggregates. Additionally, the study investigates building positions within the urban context and building typology in terms of evolutionary process which has been defined by Conzen (1969). Within this context, the research to be presented in this paper contributes to the understanding of the impact of all components of the tissues in the selected urban context through the methodologies of both Conzen and Caniggia. Besides, the relationships helps to understand changes in the block typology within the town morphology, as well as the development of the town.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

The urban morphology and metamorphosis of Nicosia

Eleonore Zippelius

Morphology is the study of physical forms in order to gain insight into the connection between their nature and performance. Such an investigation will not provide a wholesome image if the object of investigation is approached by a separation of its parts into discrete elements nor if the fact is ignored that it is part of a process of continuous reformation. By inference it is assumed that the study of the physical form of the elements that constitute a city needs to deliver information on the nature and performance of these elements, their connection to the overall form of the city and their formation and reformation through urban processes. These reference criteria are used to assess the urban morphology of the city of Nicosia and to derive challenges and opportunities to be addressed in urban design and planning. The paper, first, analyses urban form in relation to its formation of space and the creation of formal and functional patterns. It, then, investigates Nicosia`s transformation through time, its metamorphosis, and the traces this process has left behind. The identified urban properties are, then, evaluated with a view to human perception and the creation of meaning and further discussed concerning their response to and shaping by urban dynamics such as social life and economic development. The paper is concluded by identifying challenges related to prior determined key features such as diversity and unity, compactness and proximity, or robustness and adaptability that can constitute an agenda and become a framework for future action in urban design and planning.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

Physical Revitalization Based on Typo- Morphological Analysis: The Case of Famagusta's residential district

Rokhsaneh Rahbarianyazd, Nevter Zafer Comert, Naciye Doratlı

In many cities, because of changing social structure and subsequently needs, spatial configuration of historic residential buildings become incompatible with their way of living and became abounded regarding to its function. Due to these abounded, the building fall into not only functional but also physical deterioration. Historic residential buildings in the city of Famagusta are not an exception with this regard and fall into process of decay in terms of structure and function. The aim of this paper is to analyze a declined residential area of Famagusta city by field of observation. These analysis are based on typo- morphological approaches basically on the Conzen who is the pioneer of English morphological analysis and Caniggia who is the pioneer of Italian typo- morphological analysis in urban context.

This paper by considering the social needs firstly tries to propose some acceptable changes in both plan and façade of current building for their physical improvement and consequently physical revitalization of this declined part by applying the Caniggia and Conzen methodology. Secondly attempts to propose new design in homogeneous with existing morphology in undeveloped lands in the area.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 1_URBAN MORPHOLOGY

From comparative studies to an integrated approach to urban morphology

Ana Monteiro

The debate on urban morphology includes two fundamental issues: comparative studies and the relationship between research and practice. On the one hand, the dominant morphological approaches have been mainly developed back-to-back; on the other hand, there is a feeling among urban morphologists that the main theories, concepts and methods that are being proposed are not been applied in professional practice, undermining their potential impact on the urban landscape. This paper, which is part of an on-going PhD dissertation, aims at dealing with these two major issues by proposing a 'Methodology for morphological Analysis and Prescription' (MAP), that be able to integrate different morphological approaches and to inform planning practice. The MAP is based on three positions that have been reinforced by the debate: i) a consistent system of morphological description and explanation is fundamental both in the 'analysis' and in the 'proposal' (Marshall and Alişkan, 2011); ii) different morphological approaches taken in isolation are not able to capture all the urban complexity, with clear advantages in the integrated combination of these tools to structure the stages of analysis description, and prescription (Oliveira, 2016); and iii) a correct morphological analysis leads to a better prescription (Samuels, 2013). The MAP aims to integrate three different morphological approaches – historico-geographical (Whitehand, 2001), process typological (Cataldi et al., 2002) and space syntax (Hillier, 2007) – and three morphological concepts – morphological region, typological process, and segment analysis.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

Analytical Measuring of Spatial Layouts through Multi-Scalar Adjacencies: Lower Manhattan Case Area

Harun Ekinoglu, Siying Du, Bora Koç

Space is a cultural process. It contains various ingredients that affect the degree of liveliness and wholeness, however, these are mostly the qualities that we cannot always measure using conventional methods. In urban design theory, there are normative concepts to explain the link between good urban form and robust urban places that emerges the feeling of wholeness. However, these approaches are mostly objective and require quantifiable methods to test.

This study raises the question of whether or not we can analytically measure Alexander's definition of wholeness using Shannon's information entropy. This study develops a mathematical model of wholeness through generating the entropy for particular pixel levels out of building footprints raw data in a systematic and multi-scalar adjacency. Scale, in a dynamic grid interface with equally divisible units, refers to the different spatial formations through the units of a grid overlaid upon the raw data. Eventually, in each pixel level, through varying morphologic formations framed by each grid unit, varying entropy values are calculated throughout the grid.

Various type of figure-ground experiential case studies, through the above-defined method, confirm that it is not only their geographic positions but also the way built entities come together across scales in making larger clusters matters about the degree of wholeness emerged. The method has been applied on a case study with a remarkable change in two periods. World Trade Center Area in Lower Manhattan, before and after 9/11, has been analyzed through ten different pixel levels and the results indicate that the Entropy-IQR, the level of uncertainty, increased from 1,04 to 1,56 which means the degree of wholeness decreased regarding the inverse correlation between entropy and wholeness.

The method draws a potential in practice of relational measuring built environment that may face a particular change in different portions.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

A methodological framework for identifying and evaluating centralities with space syntax and land-use pattern analysis in a GIS environment

Yannis Paraskevopoulos, Yorgos N. Photis

Contemporary cities are continuously transformed, sprawled and diffused into space with a highly intense pace, resulting to car-dependent suburbs. In this context, cities around the world are implementing sustainable urban form policies, in order to alter mobility patterns (reducing the length and the number of car journeys) and promote sustainable urban mobility (walking, cycling, and public transportation). A crucial tool in this direction is the transformation of the city's local centres into sustainable clusters of functionality that facilitate the everyday needs of residents.

The proposed framework aims to function as a decision support tool for sustainable mobility planning by identifying activity centres in a city; and evaluate their functionality, diversity and dynamic. More specifically, in this paper a two-stage methodological framework is presented which combines space syntax and land-use pattern analyses in a GIS framework in order to identify centralities and evaluate their strength and their potential.

The present paper is structured in five main chapters. In the second chapter, the theoretical background of this research is presented. In the next chapter, we analyze the methodological framework presented in this paper. The fourth chapter contains the analysis of the study area and the detailed description of the application and results of the proposed framework. In the last chapter, the findings of this research are described as well as, some thoughts regarding further research in this area.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

Walkability and Urban Morphology: Analysing urban fabrics in northern and southern European capitals

Iasonas Anastassiou

Over the past decades cities were faced with the augmentation of car traffic and with an unmanageable deterioration of the pedestrian. The human need to regain his spot in the urban environment is still concerning urban designers and architects. Considering human scale to be of major importance for the city scape, walkability, as a means of evaluating public space, has a vital role in urban design practices. It is related with levels of livability, safety and sustainability; three of the major city aspects (Gehl, Svarre, 2013) while it is highly affecting everyday life. Current literature and discourse have proved that various urban tissue typologies among Europe have a different impact on pedestrian experience. Cultural and morphological differences between Northern and Southern urban areas are associated with different walkability rates. The aims of this research were to highlight urban form factors affecting pedestrian routes and to compare walkability rates between Northern and Southern European urban areas. Subsequently, a set of criteria has been established so as to evaluate the chosen case studies. Diagrammatic analysis has been used as key element for the comparative analysis of four representative capitals of the north and the south. One neighborhood per city has been examined thoroughly to certain urban form characteristics. Therefore, with this methodology a new vision on how architecture can be man's major tool to regain his spot in the city is to be proposed. This is both the challenge and promise of walkable urbanism. Walkability sets the stage for such healthy human interactions and discourse between people and the city. In this context, it is now up to us to develop the means that propose alternative, inspiring and ameliorating urban environments.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

City Information Modeling Usage in Built Environment:

A case study in Baku, Bayil district

Anar Mustafayev, Gökçen Firdevs Yücel Caymaz

In urban scale both urban planners and architects participate in creating and keeping urban environment. This is a complicated process. First urban planners make decisions in order planning the urban environment, then afterward architects fill the gaps with buildings and other urban elements and shape this environment according to the urban planner`s decisions. The existing urban form shapes the decisions in order to plan the urban morphology. In this case the relation between planners and architects working process very important. The main relevance of these two disciplines is very different. Planners focus on the usage and distribution of the functions of urban forms. And architects focus on the distribution of built forms and open spaces across an urban area. In the process of shaping the urban environment which consists design and planning, communication between planners and architects is very important and often there is a problem in it. Badly organized communication is occurs for the reason that architects and planners use different task environment. This is true even new computer technologies became available for both sides. Architects generally use computer-aided design (CAD) software, when planners focus on geographical information systems (GIS). CAD is a drawing tool with good graphic support and its abilities are not enough for urban planners. GIS focus on spatial data and topology and its abilities are not enough for design. It is necessary to develop tools and methods that address both planners and architects. This method is City Information Model. The City Information Models generated by parametric modelling, combine the valences of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities and detail of a Building Information Model (BIM), facilitate information management and allow a variety of analyzes in geographic space where it belongs (Isikdag et al. 2008).The CIM is an analogy to BIM in urbanism. (Ana CamõesGalego, 2014). The field of building design has responded to similar challenges with the development of variousBuilding Information Modeling (BIM) technologies and there have been calls for the creation of somethingequivalent in urban design, a City Information Model (CIM) (Khemlani, 2007; Gil et al. 2010).The CIM would extend the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in urban planning as decision support tools(Webster, 1993; Batty et al., 1998) through the integration with Computer Aided Design (CAD), to become a design support tool (Dave and Schmitt, 1994; Maguire,2003). In this paper we will represent the advantages on usage CIM in creating and improving the urban morphology.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 3_URBAN FORM-METHODOLOGIES

Urban morphology as factor of pedestrian accessibility: Investigation of the pedestrian network of Patisia in Athens

Stefanos Tsigidinos, Maria Latinopoulou

The urban built environment morphology plays a significant role in its use by the residents of the city. The present paper intends to investigate the form of the pedestrian network in the light of the characteristics of the social groups living in a given area. Specifically, the study focuses on how to configure the range of pedestrian movement according to the potentials and weaknesses of each individual. Through the comparison of the pedestrian traffic network with the vehicle one, the question addresses the priorities of designing and managing street's public space.

The first step of the research is to record the characteristics of morphology and the structure of both the road network and the pedestrian traffic network with the aim of identifying crucial spatial issues (street pattern, pavement and roadway width, urban equipment, etc.). These elements are then combined to allow walking accessibility to be evaluated in the area, while the last part of the methodological approach attempts to outline the sections of roads that require immediate change to improve walking conditions.

As study area is defined a part of Patisia neighborhood, which belongs to the 5th municipal district of the Municipality of Athens. It has an interesting social composition, while at the same time its location in the wider area of the municipality and the good connection with its center through public transportation favors the promotion of walking, along with limiting the car use.

The research is based on primary data concerning all those elements of public space that are considered necessary to answer the main research question. These data resulted from on-site recordings and observations, while their processing took place in a GIS environment.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

Tangible, Intangible Cultural Heritage and landscape in the Old Town of Nicosia. Arabahmet Quarter, Salahi Sevket Street, Historical Ottoman Houses.

Chiara Odolini

The study undertaken, of a theoretical and practical nature, deals with the urban morphology of Old Town of Nicosia/Lefkosa and the investigation of the urban agglomeration in particular of the Arabahmet Quarter and of its possible transformation, by analyzing the fundamental lines of its urban fabric starting from Salahi Sevket. Nicosia / Lefkosa is the capital of Cyprus and is the political, cultural, educational and religious center of the country. Nicosia's urban structure and organization is the result of the combination of Roman, Greek, French, Venetian, Turkish and English elements and reflect history and evolution.

The island of Cyprus has had to face constant political, social and economic problems from the very beginning of its foundation until its division in 1974.

The District of Arabahmet has been overlooked for many decades. The study had been about typology of the Lusignan, Venetian, Ottoman and British historical houses in walled city of Nicosia.

The neighborhood has several Ottoman-style houses that could be conserved and restored. Sustainability is also interesting for building technologies, such as the presence of adobe walls and the presence of water recovery and wells.

The neighborhood of the Arabahmet Quarter, its Conservation, Restoration and the surrounding cultural upgrading will be able to accommodate spaces for the dissemination and preservation of cultural heritage, cultural and recreational services, conference rooms, exhibition areas and bars, able to create a pole of cultural attraction, a landmark for spending leisure and cultivating one's own interests and becoming a reference point for Cyprus. The birth of a new university and its services are generating a substantial difference from the past. The site could be a center of community cultural and social life, becoming a strategic presence in urban fabric. This is the goal that we seek to achieve with the research and the upgrading.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

In Memory of Home

Riva Lava

For many migrants, the transition from villages into cities took place under urgent social and economic circumstances; rural dwellers did not become city dwellers in ways that allowed for and promoted an understanding of their new, inhabitable urban enclosures.

Thus, many newcomers to the city remained defined and bound to inhabitation rituals of their villages. They created their own intimate world within their city domiciles. They actually established an intangible home within the tangible house, resulting into intertwined rituals of inhabitation.

Such conflicts and dualities unfold countryside rationales at the very heart of urban living. With my dissertation work *City and Representation*, 2009, I concluded that such city dwellers establish an architectural program of loss at the very centre of their new homes. Such a bold move invites poetic interpretations of space which stem from a perpetual desire to return which cannot be met anymore. Thus, city dwellers construct their own cultural morphology as part of urban mythologies of loss and return.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

Typological Analysis of Lot-House Relationship in The Case of Kula

Hayriye Oya SAF, M. Emre ERGÜL, Hatice Gökçe TÜRKOĞLU

Today approach to the conservation of historical-urban pattern covers mainly the aspects of buildings protected during the process of preparing conservation plans and taking decisions for development. The period, material, structural formation, and plan and facade characteristics of each building within the urban pattern constitute the database for the conservation works. On the other hand, new inputs, obtained by the morphological analysis of the pattern, can enable creating better-qualified master plans. Undoubtedly, not only buildings form the urban pattern but also the characteristics of streets and garden walls, and, more significantly, how a building is positioned within a lot, of which it belongs, are considerably important. If a particular plan type is applied on a certain type of lot and how the plan type is adapted to the lot type can be comprehended, then better-qualified conservation plans could be prepared. Within this approach, this study, based on the morphological analysis method, perform the analysis of urban-historical housing pattern through the parameters related to houses and lots. Variables related to the house are defined as house main plan type, house sub plan type, location of house, area of house, and the entrance of houses whereas variables related to the lot are identified as lot's geometrical shape, location of lot, area of lot, plot ratio (PAR), and floor area ratio (FAR).

The major material of case study is urban-historical pattern of Kula region. Total of 275 traditional Ottoman Houses have been taken into consideration in context of this study and effort has been spent to determine the relationship between house and lot. It is proposed that obtained results can be used as a design guide in the development of such historical areas.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

Nineteenth Century Social Housing settlement in the North side of Nicosia

Valentina Donà

This contribution aims to deal with the social housing interventions realized in the northern part of the city of Nicosia in the Sixties and Seventies. More in detail with the district of Göçmenköy and the area between Dr. Fazıl Küçük boulevard, Kemal Aksay street and a tributary of the Kanli river.

In the mentioned area four main urban settlements were built in different stages and with different sources for the financing during the troubled period between the dissolution of the Republic of Cyprus (1960-1963), the division of the island into two parts by the Green Line and the declaration of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (1983).

The displacement of Turkish Cypriots pushed the Turkish- Cypriot administration to build new dwellings for those who were living in enclaves, initially coming from the area around Nicosia and later from other areas of the Island and looking for a shelter in the capital.

In the paper an investigation will be held to understand if and how these new settlements affected the further development of the city in the following years.

Since the city of Nicosia, out of the walls, grew up mainly without a clear planning strategy, the social housing interventions become important moments in the urban development because of the coordination by the Government and the Municipality. They were realized in areas far from the stabilized city at that time in a moment of pressing emergency and later connected to infrastructures and provided with services.

An historical survey supported by a literature review, interviews, site visits and the reading of the cartographic documents available related to the time span taken into consideration can be a step further on the topic about the development of Nicosia in the second half on the XXth century that still has not been investigated enough.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

A Morphological Practice: Conzenian and Canniggian Approach, Analysis of Zaria City

Abdulsalam Shema

Currently, cities across the globe are in continues transformation, planning and re-planning processes. These processes are extemporaneously developed thorough holistic approach with respect to transformation factors such as natural, political, socio-economic and cultural circumstances in a different period. Mapping of morphological units became part of the historical, and landscape approach to urban structural analysis. Urban morphology represents the entire city's built environment consisting of two parts: generated form and planned form, in terms of their growing processes and morphological characteristics. Historical sequences of forms in the landscape were evinced in surviving forms. Understanding the morphological concepts is becoming a necessity for the successful decisions in the urban planning and design. This paper presented an innovative method of analysis, which lies on the dialectical explorations of M.R. Conzen's theoretical approach and Canniggian approach by establishing basic models applicable to persistent phenomena of analyzing cities through constructive judgement. The city of Zaria has experienced various functional and physical modifications and that made it suitable for this research. This research studied and scrutinized the urban morphological structure of Zaria city from a geographical standpoint (Conzenian) and architectural standpoint (Canniggian). Combination of these two different schools of thought in analyzing Zaria city generated a basis for establishing a general hypothetical base for urban morphology across the globe. This study involved the analysis of the historical, contemporary and the future urban development of Zaria city in view of both planned and unplanned areas. This paper examined and understood the decisive factors for the transformation of Zaria city over a period of time, Similarly, the paper examined and investigated the morphological transformation and spatial organization of Zaria city (traditional and modern). These studies are helpful to environmental design research; this is because it will provide a conceptual framework for understanding the dynamics of our built environment.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 2_URBAN EVOLUTION-CONSERVATION-HERITAGE

Changing collective meaning of Saburhane Public Space in Mugla, Turkey

Feray Koca

Public space is the social, cultural and political manifestation of the society. The use of public space is the outcome of the collective relations between human activities and physical forms. Function is more implicit and evanescent than form that perception of the urban space may change in time according to changing needs and desires of the occupants. The historical layout of streets and squares in a city reflects the pattern of past landownership, social organization of the society and give clues about changing collective meaning of public space among its community.

Saburhane is a historical neighborhood in the old town of Mugla where Rum community settled in and structured it with Rum architecture for centuries. It has a public square formed around a coffee house, a mosque and a plane tree close to Karamugla Creek. During the Ottoman Period, Saburhane public space was formed simultaneously to contribute the satisfaction of the daily needs and face-to-face relations of the society. During the late Ottoman period, Saburhane Neighborhood has been the entertainment neighborhood of the town. In 1924, as a result of the compulsory population exchange between Greece and Turkey, the Rum population was forced to abandon their homes in Saburhane neighborhood. After this exchange, the daily practices on the space and its meaning has changed. In 1970s, Karamugla Creek, which was the most characteristic structure of Saburhane Public Space was buried underground and the historical wooden bridges were demolished. In time, the public space that carry a collective meaning for the society has dissolved and the spirit of place has been neglected. This study historically analyses the layout of Saburhane Public Space and its close environment in Mugla and asserts changing collective meaning of public space linked to ongoing transformations of urban form.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Arsinoe, Ammochostos, al-Mau'dah, Famagusta, Magusa: attractors, repellers and fringe belts for a longue durée history of the urban settlement

Alessandro Camiz

Outlining a longue durée history of an urban settlement is very challenging, the reconstruction of the early medieval and late antique phases, must face the absence of archaeological data and the scarcity of written documentation. The paper poses some historical questions about Famagusta: is it a Frankish city? Is there any evidence of a pre-Lusignan phase in the urban tissue and in the city walls? Can the attractor theory help the reconstruction of the medieval and late antique phases? The city itself is a material historical document, without any opposition with archaeological data, quantitative notarial sources, cadastres, plans and city views. Most written histories identify this settlement with Arsinoe, and Ammochostos, interpreting Famagusta as the franchised version of Ammochostos. The place name Famagusta seems instead to belong to a Latin linguistic layer, as Fama Augusta. Similar examples include Fama Iulia Seria, (Jerez de los Caballeros), Caesar Augusta (Saragozza), Augusta Treverorum (Trier), Augusta Raurica (Augst) and Emerita Augusta (Merida). The paper investigates the evidence of a Roman phase, by considering written and epigraphic sources, and analysing the urban tissues with the attractor theory and the fringe belt analysis (Whitehand, Morton 2004). The theory of attractors, assuming that the evolution of urban routes follows the changing morphology of urban limits and centres, considers the diachronic deformation of streets as caused by attractors, such as bridges, city walls, city gates, water systems, markets, special buildings. By recognising the route's attraction, it is therefore possible to infer the attractor. Each anthropic attractor has an equivalent morphological attractor at the geographical scale. (Caniggia, 1976). The analysis interprets the effects of attractors on urban routes and fabrics as a method for the reconstruction of Famagusta's late antique phases, in continuity with the Conzenian approach (Whitehand, 2012) and the Italian School of Urban Morphology (Marzot, 2002).

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Typomorphological Study of Beyarmudu/Pergamo, Cyprus

Jason Winn, Angela Hartsell

Itself a town divided by a conflict zone, Beyarmudu facilitates studies in the typomorphology of divided communities. Hydrologic patterns established a pre-urban nucleus informing the historic development of the town. The buildings' material, elevation, and proximity to the street established the Genetic Plan Unit per the Conzen typomorphological method.

Geographically, Beyarmudu's urban fabric is evolving in an unintentional way dictated by an early parcel pattern which supported an agricultural economy of small farmsteads. The newer developments in the north-west corner of town are the first example of organized subdivision development.

The rapid redevelopment of the town has removed many of the historic structures indicated on the older parcel maps, leaving most of the original architecture types scattered around the town. The new typologies are predominantly variations of reinforced concrete construction (both monolithic and frame).

The study aims to demonstrate the influence of hydrologic and political fixation lines on the typomorphology of cities which can be used for comparison to other cities and help predict the changes anticipated for like cities under similar circumstances. By highlighting the variations in density of Beyarmudu plan unit, the study results suggest a typomorphological land policy would improve the enjoyment of future development. Future efforts in urban design should capitalize on the character of the higher-density old town.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Impact of Urban Sprawl: The case of the Famagusta, Cyprus

Kamyar FULADLU, Müge RİZA, Mustafa İLKAN

Urban sprawl is a debatable topic among scholars and so far, there is no universal agreement on the definition of the urban sprawl. However, all scholars emphasize on the multidimensionality of this phenomenon (Frenkel & Ashkenazi, 2008; Galster, et al., 2001). The causes for urban sprawl can mainly be seen in rapid urbanization resulting in a fast expansion of urban areas towards their suburban areas. Urban sprawl is not just affecting the spatial form of the city, but also has negative environmental, social and economic impacts. Most studies reveal that the negative impacts surpass the positive ones and result in automobile dependency, social fragmentation, numerous health issue and etc. (Bhatta, 2010, p. 28). This study aims to evaluate the impacts and implications of the urban sprawl on the residents in the case of Famagusta, Enkomi (Turkish: Tuzla) region. As a result, the assessment of the impacts reveals that in the case of Famagusta sprawl has no negative influence on social interactions and is not directly related to automobile dependency as the city in general has an insufficient public transportation system.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

**Urban sprawl typologies in medium-sized Greek cities.
A qualitative morphological analysis in the peri-urban landscape.**

Charis Christodoulou, Maria Oikonomou

The growing literature on the causes and conditions of 'Greek sprawl' is based on analysis of the legislation on out-of-the-official-plan development and on other sectoral policies producing spatial effects around cities. Another strand of approaches relates to reporting on the signification of rural-urban landscapes and imagery. Various methodologies have been applied to document, model and measure land use change and relevant dimensions of sprawl in qualitative and quantitative terms in the largest conurbations of the country, Attica and Thessaloniki. However, restricted empirical research has been conducted in relation to medium-sized cities sprawling into rural landscape.

This paper examines the physical expansion of medium-sized Greek cities (capitals in their region) into their rural landscape from a qualitative morphological perspective. The purpose of the research has been to identify and categorize the existing urban sprawl typologies in order to respond actively towards policy change concerning sprawl repair in Greek cities. The paper presents original and systematic findings about the morphology of Greek urban sprawl by documenting existing conditions and identifying spatial patterns across scales in the peri-urban landscape.

Following the scale transition from urban landscape to peri-urban landscape, the study introduces the production of physical space in relation to urban processes, dynamics and mechanisms, e.g. urban planning statutory framework, urban plans, socio-economic and socio-demographic changes, etc. Methods include the use of contemporary and historical maps and plans, remote sensing tools, physical form and land-use analysis as well as in situ visual survey. The urban morphological data are collected both diachronically (different time periods) and synchronically (different peri-urban landscapes) in the same time period, at the same scale. (see Sheer, 2015)

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Development of green spaces in fringe belts: As a case of Nicosia

Saloumeh khayyat kahouei, Nevtter Zafer Comert

Fringes of the cities defined development of urban area and emphasizing the limitation and boundaries of the cities cycles. Urban morphologists and geographers have been studying urban fringe belt concept since the last half of the century. MRG Conzen has made first comprehensive definition in 1969, as “a belt-like zone originating from the temporary stationary or very slowly advancing fringe of a town and composed of a characteristic mixture of land-use units initially seeking peripheral location” (Conzen, 1969). Fringe belts are the morphological unit in the formation of the higher dimension of the urban pattern. MRG Conzen (1960) divided the fringe belts under 3 development cycles, which are inner fringe belt, outer fringe belt and middle fringe belt. Whitehand (1981) grouped the fringe belt development into three categories and identified that as “a zone of extensive urban land use formed at the edge of an urban area during a period when the built-up area is either not growing or growing slowly” (Whitehand & Morton, 2006).

Within this context, this study aims to explore the fringe belt of Nicosia by analyzing the development cycle of the urban unit. Since the green space typically distinguish the outer fringe belts, therefore the role of various landscape elements might be effect the development of the cities. Therefore, the primary concern of the study is exploring the public open spaces development within the fringe belt especially for landscape formation. At the end, it will expected to discuss how landscaping affect the fringe belt development.

Abstracts

16 May 2018 | Wednesday

SESSION 5_URBAN SPRAWL, FRINGE BELTS

Commercial Urban Fabrics Updating. Globalization and Exchanges between the Euro-mediterranean and North-american cultural areas

Giuseppe Strappa, Vincenzo Buongiorno

Over 60 years after the beginning of the importation process of North-american model of suburban commercial specialized fabrics in the Euro-mediterranean area, the strong crisis and the consequent changes (e-commerce etc.) that are affecting the retail sector, require a new reading of the phenomenon to identify perspectives for a transformation and rebalancing of the existing build environment.

Starting from the 60s, the massive introduction of the Supermarket type and, then, the Shopping mall type, together with the related suburban fabric, have greatly contributed to the crisis of urban life in the Euro- mediterranean cities by operating a complex insertion of some serial characters of the North-american metropolis in the context of a plastic/organic area.

The phenomenon of mutual exchange between the two cultures, if on the one hand has seen the introduction of North-american models with exclusively commercial specialized fabrics (mall) in the Euro-mediterranean area, from another one sees, in the last decades, transformations of North American specialized fabrics that seem to refer to more organic models of formative and trasformative processes.

The reading of the contradictory development and possible conversion processes of the commercial fabrics in the two cultural areas constitutes the focus of the paper, in the perspective of a “processual” design.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Tracing the impact of socioeconomic transformation on urban form: evidence across two coastal Albanian cities, Vlora and Saranda

Athanasios Pagonis

The paper looks into the interrelation between processes of socioeconomic change and urban morphology in the context of coastal urbanization in the South of Albania. The particularity of the Mediterranean coastline of Albania, is that it has remained almost entirely undeveloped up to 1990 when intensive urbanization processes abruptly set up. Coastal cities in particular were caught up in a double process of social change with the majority of their original inhabitants migrating to the capital or abroad while new rural migrants from the countryside settled in, in less than a decade. This vast transformation within such short period has had dramatic consequences on urban form characterized by simultaneous processes of alteration of the character of core urban areas through redevelopment and infill, emergence of informal housing annexed to core areas combined with urban sprawl with second homes and speculative investments in the wider urban periphery. The paper traces the evidence of this complex urban morphological transformation across two coastal cities of Vlora and Saranda where most urban development has concentrated. The two cities have profound differences in size, terrain characteristics, geographical context and architectural identity but also strong similarities shaped by their common Communist past and current pressures of coastal tourism development. Through the comparative analysis of built typologies, the aim of the paper is to interpret the dynamics of continuity and rupture in the evolutionary pattern of urban form as well challenges and opportunities of redefining the identity of these two reemerging South Eastern Mediterranean cities. The paper evidence draws on fieldwork carried out in the context of a recently completed complex planning project, which involved the preparation of Local Plans for the two cities and other relevant professional experiences accumulated over a period of last 6 years.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

The Casbah of Algiers: from a fortified city to a “ghetto”.

Issam Sekkour, Laura Vaughan

The transformation of the Ottoman city of Algiers by the French colonial power into Alger La Blanche or white Algiers was accompanied by a deep spatial segregation between its historical Medina, the Casbah, and the European city. Later, this segregation transformed the Casbah into, in all intents and purposes, a ghetto – with limits on movement of its inhabitants, as well as their political marginalisation and social isolation. In order to understand this transformation, this study focuses on the temporal process of segregation on two levels. The first level can be described as the French colonial urban planning, and colonial policies in general, applied to the city of Algiers since 1830, which aimed to both control the indigenous population and isolate it, by building a European gridded town plan on its western boundary. The second is the socio-spatial transformation (and degradation) of the Casbah as an effect of its isolation. Using space syntax methodology, the street network of the city was analysed in five colonial periods, using historical maps of Algiers. We suggest that the evolution of the street network in Algiers from 1830 to 1954 represents the actual implementation of the colonial policies in relation to the segregation of the Casbah, thus linking the two levels. The results suggest that colonial urban planning played a major role in segregating the Casbah and reveals how the socio-spatial transformation of the Casbah was shaped by the evolution of its street network.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Nicosia Through Time: A Diachronic Analysis of Socio-Spatial Dynamics

Nadia Charalambous, Ilaria Geddes

This paper aims to address the temporal dimension socio-spatial characteristics of the city of Nicosia in an attempt to a) further facilitate an understanding of the ways in which urban form relates to social phenomena and vice versa, b) explore whether socio-spatial urban patterns may be better understood as being conditioned by the interaction between “inherited” spatial configuration and contemporary life. In order to understand the relations between space and society through time, this study focuses on a diachronic analysis which explores possible impacts of the development of the one on the evolution of the other. Key periods in the development of the city, historically inhabited by a number of transient ethnic groups, are explored through spatial and social data. The temporal dimension appears important and highlights the role of history and spatial adjacencies even if no traces of its action are visible; while some areas may have gone through rather big changes through the years since the island's independence, others kept a similar character in terms of spatial characteristics and user profile. We can thus, in some cases, detect persistence through time of the same residential patterns of user profile, suggesting an underlying spatial effect. Analysis of spatial configuration and observation of residential distributions confirm the need for a diachronic understanding of patterns of urban form as a dynamic process through space and time rather than as an outcome.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

URBAN FORM AND SOCIAL COHESION.

Decoding urban fabrics in the Mediterranean with a typo-morphological approach

Alcestis Rodi, Iason Anastasiou

Recent surveys in Europe have shown that the lowest levels of satisfaction with immigrant presence and degree of integration are found in Mediterranean cities such as Athens, Istanbul, Rome, Palermo, Naples, and Nicosia (Eurobarometer 2013, 2015).

Socio-economic transformations attendant on migration turn social cohesion into an imperative policy in Southern Europe. Social fragmentation has already been reflected on the spatial configuration of inner cities by the emergence of ghettos. At the same time, their built environment presents inertia and resistance to change that might foster social cohesion. Although social problems cannot be waived by (re)designing space, it is argued that urban design may help social fragmentation trends in cities decrease. Governance creates opportunities for a socially cohesive city. However, it is urban design and planning that translate these decisions into actions transforming urban space.

Our research aims at establishing new urban forms through either regeneration or new development so as to meet social cohesion criteria as found in literature. We examine case-study typologies of urban form in central neighbourhoods of Southern Mediterranean cities (Athens, Nicosia, Rome, Naples). We decipher the properties of the selected case studies through a process of classification and comparative analysis of their typo- morphological features. Through the typo-morphological approach, the common characteristics of the selected urban fabrics can be determined, and strategies for social cohesion can be designed according to those typical characterisations.

The research can be applied by planners, designers, decision and policy-makers so as to assess, comparatively evaluate and design urban form with the aim of meeting physical environmental conditions to develop a social cohesive urban environment. Along with its applicable deductions, our study alludes to the imperative for urban planning and design practice and theory of applying social cohesion considerations to all urban forms regardless of location.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Persistence at the edge: the socio-economic make-up and configurational properties of Agios Kassianos, Nicosia

Ilaria Geddes

This paper focuses on the configurational properties and social make-up of the quarter of Agios Kassianos in Nicosia. Historically inhabited by Orthodox clergy and low-income Greek Cypriots (Papadopoulos, 1965), this quarter was the only Christian area which was spatially segregated even during times when the city was united (Charalambous & Geddes, 2015). The area now finds itself at the edge of the city, its northern boundary marked by the buffer zone and its eastern one marked by the Venetian walls. The social make-up and built fabric of the rest of the walled city has changed drastically since the division of the city in 1974 through the replacement of older run-down buildings with new ones and a shift to a large proportion of immigrant groups residing in the centre since the change in immigration laws in the 1990s. Contrary to this trend, Agios Kassianos has retained a high proportion of Greek Cypriot inhabitants, most of its buildings are listed and have not been replaced – many remain empty and run down; the area also continues to have high levels of disadvantage.

This paper explores how the spatial properties of the area, its traditional building typologies, its cultural background and the division of the city have played a role in enabling the retention of the local population. The methodology combines a diachronic space syntax analysis of the area with descriptive statistics from census data, area observations and residents' surveys. The research shows that a complex interaction of socio-economic factors related to the urban form characteristics of the area have led to the persistence of its cultural and physical identity.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 7_URBAN FORM and SOCIAL PHENOMENA

Evaluating Socio-Spatial Qualities of Urban Public Spaces In walled city of Famagusta

Reihaneh Rafiemanzelat, Aida Jalalkamali

Considering any outdoor activities throughout the city, they are all taking place in urban public spaces. The study attempts to examine social and spatial components of space, and how they affect the quality and amount of outdoor activities in urban public spaces. Physical environment plays important role in generating various activities in different levels. This paper attempts to investigate structure of urban public space and its component from a socio-spatial perspective. Public spaces are multi-layer spatial configuration, where they have occurrence of all outdoor activities. Structure of these places is based on social interaction with urban space, therefore if the social interactions decreases, non-functional spaces could accrue in the city. This research pursues a syntactic analysis of the urban public spaces, within a social exploration to understand the process of change and social continuity of urban public spaces in historic walled city of Famagusta located in North Cyprus. Methodologically the research utilizes both qualitative and quantitative methods, which are including the quantitative syntactic analysis, space simulation, and descriptive mathematical analysis. Firstly, the paper tends to read physical structure of city through its public spaces. Secondly it has been tried to illustrate the correlation between social interactions and spatial structure in urban public space of walled city of Famagusta via space syntax methodology. This methodology utilizes variables of connectivity, integration, and depth factor in order to measure socio-spatial relation and process of change in urban public space of case study. The results will be illustrated through syntactic maps, tables, diagrams in order to specify social attributes of the case study.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

Revitalization strategies for historic Turkish quarter in Kyrenia, Cyprus: A city within a city

Damla Misirlisoy, Silvia Covarino

The Turkish Quarter area is a historic district located in the city center of Kyrenia, which is under protection and reflects the characteristics and the features of various civilizations lived on the island. The area is called Turkish Quarter since before the division of the island it was a district that only Turkish Cypriots were living.

Today, the historical area began to lose its livability and attractiveness due to physical, functional and image obsolescence. As a conclusion of that, people living in that area have started to sell their houses and move to the new development areas. The city is growing very fast and the new development areas are not in harmony with the identity of the city. The Turkish Quarter has the potential to be used as various activities but unfortunately the quarter is left hidden in the new developing districts and lost its attraction. The identity and authenticity of the district should be preserved since it is the only historic area of the city that reflects the characteristics and features of various historic layers of the island.

The aim of the paper is to propose revitalization strategies for the district in different topics as: improvements in the streets and its connection with the city, renovation and reuse of abandoned heritage buildings in the district, providing new activities and facilities for the stakeholders, proposing green areas, vegetation and infrastructure.

The proposals have been developed according to the results of a third year design studio, which was held in the Girne American University, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Fine Arts in 2016/2017 Fall semester.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

The city of Marseille as a significant environment

NIKOLAOS KALDIS

What makes an ideal city? What the pros and cons of Marseille city throughout the years? Is it possible to build an ideal city opposite Marseille, on the breakwater of the port? What are the characteristics that make it special and how public spaces can become the core of this city?

The brief of Elias Zenghelis' studio, in the Architecture and Urban Design Master Program of the Patras School of Architecture, was about "The City as Meaningful Environment". This was also the theme of the architectural competition organized in 1972 by the Italian architectural magazine "Casabella" in which Zenghelis and Rem Koolhaas, OMA, won the first prize with their much-published and well known work "Exodus or the Voluntary Prisoners of Architecture".

After extensive research on Marseille and the Mediterranean city in general, we traveled to the city. Through a multitude of ideograms and alternatives, the breakwater of the harbor is the final site. A multi-functional structure is proposed. City services, trade center, education and culture spaces are placed parallel to the breakwater of a total length of 3 km and the residence vertically. The goal of this effort is to create ideal public spaces along the length of the breakwater. A metallic frame supports the whole construction and creates the impression that the public spaces are in the air. This city could accommodate about 2.000 people.

This proposal, finally, concerns a fine city standing opposite Marseille offering special views and comparisons. The abundance of public spaces, order, clear boundaries, green and structure are those elements that make the opposite city different.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

Making Past Morphological Traces Legible Through Design Intervention

Acalya Alpan, Aybike Ceylan Kızıltaş

The current approach to urban heritage, that is historic urban landscape (HUL), considers urban area as a landscape, which refers to past-present-future timeline (Rodwell, 2010) rather than an historic object. HUL approach puts a particular emphasis on city's being an evolved entity. In this regard, the authors argue that invisible urban heritage resources –not to be confused with the intangible- such as buried archaeological resources or past morphological traces have also the potential to contribute in HUL approach by being the hidden binders between spaces and forms. In case these invisible heritage resources made legible, they can make the evolution of the city and particular historic timeline more evident and thus contribute to integrity and space identity by providing a more controllable development by sensitive design. In this framework, this study will first discuss the contribution of design intervention in making these invisible resources legible in urban space through selected examples, and by doing this it will interpret the possible contributions of the invisible urban heritage resources to HUL approach. The study will then discuss the potential at Ulus, the historic center of Ankara, which is a historically and spatially stratified entity, settled down by many civilizations in history. e American University, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Fine Arts in 2016/2017 Fall semester.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

The performance of relationship between instrument and mechanism: the hidden value of urban design guidelines for sustainable urban development

Ebru Gürler

For more than 40 years, Urban Design Guidelines have practised not only as strategic spatial tools for shaping and controlling architectural typology and urban morphology of different cities but also as systematic flexible instruments for planning and managing integrated and/or sustainable urban regeneration processes in diverse urban planning systems (Gürler, 2013). For the next 15 years, urban design is at the core of the new urban agenda in order to establish policy frameworks and urban processes that facilitate sustainable development (UN, 2015) with reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities (UN, 2017) as well as the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (EC, 2017). The new urban agenda highlights a need for a 'value-based performance model in which the relationship between instrument and mechanism operates through the multi-scalar interconnectivity at meso scale/regional level' (Gürler, 2017). This study discusses the challenging praxis of urban design guidelines by focusing on the relationship between urban design instrument and urban planning mechanism, in which the multi-scalar interconnectivity in urban planning systems released a great opportunity to function UDGs as either code-based operative and regulatory tools or quality-based strategic and flexible instruments for sustainable urban development. The purpose of this study is to formulate an experimental model framework on the value-based performance, and to resolve the value function at meso scale/regional level. Therefore, the objective of this study is threefold: (1) to explore systems' capacity for regulating the instrument as relational strategy, (2) to highlight integrative power of urban design in functioning of the mechanism as relational system, and (3) to reveal the transformative value of model framework for programming multiscale performance as relational approach. Consequently, the experimental model is characterised with reference to the Sustainable Development Index and the applied Cases from the urban planning/design praxis by means of qualitative-quantitative mixed.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

Conflict urbanism in ethno-national divided cities and the paving of their gentrification through the arts

Evanthia Tselika

This paper examines ethno-nationally divided cities and how the arts are used in such divided city contexts for purposes of conflict transformation and urban regeneration. Three ethno-nationally divided cities at different stages of conflict resolution --Jerusalem, Nicosia, Belfast-- are juxtaposed and explored through an inter- disciplinary framework. Ethno-nationally divided cities, which have become defined by their separation, are increasingly being studied and examined, compared and contrasted, not only in efforts to understand a common urban experience but also so as to better understand how partition politics develop and how they can best be avoided. In all three cases the arts have played a major role in efforts to resist segregation and examples from each city will be presented. The use of art as a tool for cultivating dialogue in such divided spaces is considered and a shift observed from a peace-building practice aimed at developing relationships across the border divide and breaking down ethno-national stereotypes to a cultural 'conflict' product, which enters into a conversation with the social and political trends of contemporary art practices.

Parallel practices are noted in these three urban milieus, in the use of art to assist the conflict resolution processes and to create contact zones which facilitate social transformation and lead to a process of de-segregation. This juxtaposition demonstrates how art is been used in regeneration projects, at different stages of the de-segregation process of ethno-nationally divided cities, and how these de-segregation processes can potentially give rise to new patterns of divisions and patterns of gentrification. The paper will touch upon issues of soft power and gentrification processes, the conflict resolution market as an industry and the play of identity politics in ethno-nationally divided city contexts.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 6_URBAN DESIGN - REVITALISATION

The Varying Degrees of Informality

Karolina Moretti

Urbanization has been one of the most striking developments of the 20th century. Large-scale movements of refugees and migrants affect decisively the configuration of contemporary cities, especially during times of political crisis and economic depression. Highlighting a clear distinction between the cities of the North and the cities of the South, informal urbanism indicates the historical and geographical diversity of the places in question. While the postcolonial cities of the south seek to redefine themselves in the face of the emerging global metropolis, the city planners of the north are engaged into a mutual dialogue that attempts to decipher the hidden dynamics that generate the informal city. As it turns out, informal space seems to exhibit degrees of informality defining a variety of concepts. It either represents the invisible barriers created within the city's environment in terms of social behavior and cultural difference, or even seems to point out specific types of space development. At the same time, the varying degrees of space "informality" relate directly to the varying degrees of "formality" as demonstrated in the existing planning system of a certain city. Bottom up procedures initiated by formal structures, underline the importance to the collective right for equal participation of larger parts of the community on the decision making. In some cases though, "informality" seems to develop a systemic character of its own. Therefore, informal procedures become almost formalized, as they systematically provide designers with modified knowledge on urban matters, enabling thus the formal design to acquire a more efficient control over phenomena of unpredicted change.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

Rolling Shutters: a neglected element of urban morphology

Walter Matznetter

Techniques of closing your shop at night have changed in urban history. In pre-industrial times, wooden or iron doors would be shut and locked after working hours. Later, the emerging steel industry provided a variety of shutters as an efficient means of protecting your premises. Today, cutting-edge glass constructions are taking over, replacing shutters or combining shutters and glass.

Revolving steel shutters are a special kind of shutters, with a specific timing and pattern of diffusion - a geographical pattern that is persisting to the present day, both across Europe, as well as within cities, where rolling shutters survived best at the margins of former retail and workshop areas.

In Vienna, rolling shutters arrived with the World Exhibition of 1873, when Alexander Clark & Co., London, had 200 shutters mounted in the main exhibition hall, all being shut simultaneously, creating substantial noise. The patent was acquired by a local steel manufacturer, expanding his business when the Expo was over. Both within Vienna, but soon also in other cities of the Habsburg Empire, then beyond, E.S.Rosenthal and his heirs installed thousands of corrugated steel shutters. Until the 1950s, dozens of other local manufacturers followed.

Outside Vienna, the introduction of rolling shutters seems to have followed a pattern of hierarchical diffusion, with first installations coming from the capital, but then new manufacturers arising in the regional capitals of Austria- Hungary. From the 1920s, these companies continue to serve their new nation-states, Yugoslavia being a good example.

Casual observation in Southern and Eastern Europe points to the fact that rolling shutters have also been widespread in these countries, and beyond these countries. This paper will be an invitation to join in a more international exploration of a neglected aspect of urban morphology.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

Reading the sociability of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) campus through twitter feeds

Aminreza Iranmanesh, Nevter Zafer Cömert, Şebnem Önal Hoşkara

The socio-spatial complexity of urban spaces is increasing with the broad reach of mobile devices and digital communication. People's interaction with space and with the social context happens in a new hybrid space that has an undefinable tangibility. The rise of social media and mobile devices has allowed urban residents to take more control over their social interaction and spatial behaviour (Foth & Hearn, 2007). Successful urban spaces could be identified by the interaction of people with each other and with space itself. The production of space can be maximized when all members of society actively participate in the public realm of the city (Carmona, 2010). New communication technologies facilitate the process of public participation. Today mobile devices and accessible social networking have changed the face of interaction and participation in civic activities. The distance-less, and unlimited access to information have created a new socio-spatial reality of space. Accordingly, each space exists in a virtual form through the window of mobile devices, which record and share the experiences of real users in real time. This research aims to explore the virtual image of the social life of the Eastern Mediterranean University campus through twitter public data and compare it with the real physical space.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

A socio-spatial approach to a morphological analysis of educational buildings in Cyprus

Chrystala Psathiti

Over the last centuries the physical form of educational buildings evolved rather poorly. It was only in the closing of the 20th century that we saw remarkable deviations from the school type that has been established since the year dot. At the same time, current conceptions about knowledge and education point towards a reformed understanding of learning and teaching process, while pose fundamental questions in relation to the ability of schools' architectural morphology to cope with current dynamic educational processes.

Therefore, this paper aims to address the complexity of school's physical form by discovering certain structuring principals along with fundamental actors, processes and conceptions shaping its formal syntax with the main question being: to what extent recent secondary school buildings in Cyprus share a common morphological lexicon? Specifically, it examines whether there are common morphological patterns as a by-product of the shared guidelines provided, the shared beliefs about education as well as the shared location of intervention (Cyprus as a Mediterranean city).

All secondary schools built in Cyprus after 2000 will serve as case studies. The methodology implemented for this study combines formal and typological approaches with spatial analysis by means of space syntax analytical tools. Specifically, the morphological patterns of school buildings are compared and contrasted by considering formal structure, internal and external areas, building density, strategic location of school courtyards, formal and functional allocation as well as spatial metrics. Along with the formalistic exploration this study examines educational morphology in relation to decision making and social defined educational scenarios. Namely, it brings together spatial and morphological aspects along with socio-educational turning points.

The finding of this research highlight the main formal elements of secondary schools buildings built in Cyprus after 2000 by different architects but under the same educational philosophy. The contribution of this study lies on the introduction of a consistent way of approaching architectural morphology through a multi-layered methodological approach that combines analytical tools of space syntax with typological approaches, while it highlights the role of agency in morphological studies. Overall, the paper offers a starting point for incorporating a framework of analysis that can enhance our current understanding of the formal syntax of educational buildings.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

Building Facades Typology as an Expression of Urban Development Processes

Anat Goldman

Created by man, the city is a built reflection of its dwellers, who shape and re-shape it in a continuous and infinite process (Levi-Strauss, 1955). This process is a dynamic development in which the face of the city is created in practice and changes constantly through time (Conzen, 1981, 1990; Whitehand et al, 1999). It involves the simultaneous input of individuals, the connection between input of several individuals, and in fact- a network involving the entire society, in a collective and generative process of creation (Portugali, 2011). This process can be referred to as 'Collective Architecture'.

The process of creation of the city's landscape and its perpetual change stems out of a complex system of relationships associated with technological development, political, economical and ethical processes, in addition to cultural attitudes (Carmona, 2003). That said, the city evolves into a unique face, which separates it from other cities, and can also be distinguished in time (Norberg-Schultz, 1980).

This paper examines the process of the city's transition as captured in residential building's façades in the city center of Tel-Aviv throughout almost a century, (from the 1920's to present days).

The research findings indicate a distinct genealogy of the buildings' façades, i.e., the initial types of façades that were built in Tel-Aviv, and the way they developed: while some of the façades can still be found in current architecture, others have gone through several modifications or simply did not survive the technological changes and disappeared from the construction arena lexicon. Moreover, by tracking the changes each parcel went through individually since it was first built on, it is possible to trace a general yet sharp transition patterns in the face of the city.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

Shade maps for climatically-aware urban design in Tel Aviv-Yafo

Or Aleksandrowicz, Shachar Zur, Yonatan Lebendiger, Yoav Lerman

Tel Aviv is a coastal city of hot and humid climate, exposed to relatively high levels of solar radiation. Such climatic conditions make direct solar radiation a crucial element that negatively affects outdoor thermal comfort between April and October and thus the use of streets and public spaces for a variety of outdoor activities (Shashua-Bar et al., 2009; Shashua-Bar et al., 2011; Hiemstra et al., 2017). Our study, commissioned by Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, developed a new methodology for the evaluation of microclimatic conditions across the city, focusing on the provision of outdoor shade as a central component of urban design. Based on an urban-scale 2.5D GIS mapping of buildings, ground surfaces, and tree canopies, we employed a high-resolution calculation of solar exposure of streets and open spaces (public and private) covering the entire city. The calculation produced a comprehensive "shade map" for Tel Aviv-Yafo, showing the cumulative daily exposure to solar radiation at ground level during summer. Analysis of the shade maps enabled to relate building and tree morphologies to outdoor shading on both district and street levels, unfolding a "hierarchy of shade" across the city. For prioritizing the intervention of local planning authorities in improving poor shade conditions or conserving effectively-shaded locations, we then employed space syntax analysis techniques. The spatial analysis produced a classification of streets and urban hot spots according to their potential pedestrian attraction. By juxtaposing the climatic and spatial analyses, we were able to provide the Municipality with recommendations for targeted intensification of shade in locations where the discrepancy between pedestrian movement and lack of shade was the most pronounced. At the same time, we were also able to identify exemplary, well-shaded central streets and open spaces, thus enabling the municipality planners to initiate a "shade conservation" program for the entire city.

Abstracts

17 May 2018 | Thursday

SESSION 8_BUILDINGS-DESIGN

FORM FOLLOWS NECESSITY. The case of Athens

Alcestis Rodi

Ever since its designation as the capital of Modern Greece, Athens has been disorderly developing entrapped between intellectual aspirations and spatio-economic realities. Speculative urban formations outdid visions and public benefit resulting into a form of “do-it-yourself” urbanism rather than an urban form that could provide for its own future development. Where urban plans failed, Polykatoikia managed to escape. Generated by Modern Athens to adequately accommodate a variety of programs and people, eventually turned into the single uniform generator of the Athenian fabric through its interminable repetition. For a century, it has proved its resilience- related qualities such as flexibility and adaptability, that Athens fails to show particularly within the current crisis.

Similar urban processes, the response to spontaneous needs, that now haunt the Athenian cityscape with severe environmental impacts, can be also observed in other South-Eastern Mediterranean cities/capitals such as Nicosia, Beirut, Istanbul, Cairo etc. Moreover, when economic austerity intertwines with migration and climate change, initiating urban transitions from the present regime to a more sustainable and resilient future becomes an urgent and challenging necessity.

Aiming at establishing new urban forms in South-Eastern Mediterranean region through either regeneration or new development so as to meet urban resilience criteria at the neighborhood, city block and building scales, our research examines and comparatively analyses urban fabrics found in visionary plans and the built reality of Athens. It pursues an evaluation of these forms according to urban resilience criteria located in literature: social interaction, accessibility, connectivity, walkability, human comfort, efficiency and territorial economy.

Thereafter, urban design and policy guidelines as to the preference of specific urban forms are derived. Next to applicable deductions, our study alludes to the imperative for urban planning and design theory so as to further explore urban fabric in relation to urban resilience within a context of political, social, economic and environmental uncertainty.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

Spaces of war and peace: the spatiality of urban conflict in postwar cities

Ivan Gusic

The continuities of war in peace experienced by many postwar cities often take spatial forms. The antagonistic “other” is kept out with walls and fences, territorial claims are supported by securitising and homogenising city space, and in-group cohesiveness is upheld through segregation. Yet the postwar city's inherent spatiality is rarely recognised within peace research, where the role of space is either ignored or downplayed due to peace research's general understanding of space as pre-given to and passive vis-à-vis society – i.e., as merely an “arena” in which conflicts “play out” that needs no further attention.

This paper sets out to challenge this limited understanding of space in peace research. Using critical geographers – such as Massey (2005), Lefebvre (1991), and Soja (1989) – it is argued that rather than being pre-given and passive, space is both socially produced and highly active in the production of society. In other words, the argument is that there is an inherent and mutually interdependent relationality between space and society. This novel understanding of space – here termed “relational space” – is empirically illustrated using the highly divided postwar city of Mitrovica (Kosovo). Based on personal observations and interviews, the analysis first demonstrates that the spatial division of Mitrovica into an Albanian south and a Serb north is not pre-given or “just there” but in fact is continuously produced by society. The paper then demonstrates that this spatial division in turn has a highly active role in the production of Mitrovica's postwar realities. The paper thus theoretically challenges the limited understanding of space in peace research, introduces the concept of “relational space” into the analysis of postwar cities, and empirically generates novel insights on the sparsely researched postwar city of Mitrovica.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

On Urban Conflict: Strategies to Counter the Division of Cities

Kai Voeckler

Ethnic conflicts and battles to retain or appropriate urban spaces respectively their symbolic significance, have always left their mark on cities. The paper focuses on European cities today are divided into distinct zones as a direct result of an ethno-religious conflict or war (Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Mitrovica, Kosovo; Nicosia, Cyprus and Belfast, North Ireland). These cities ensued from a superordinate political controversy, an ethno-national conflict. Ethno-national conflicts are triggered by the belief that a particular ethnic group—which defines itself on the basis of its common culture, origins, language or religion—has a sovereign right to exercise power over a particular territory. Such claims to absolute sovereignty go hand in hand with intolerance of other ethnic groups and often serve to justify armed conflict. The question of who owns a certain space, who may lay claim to a specific territory and who rules it is pivotal to ethno-national conflicts. The division of cities is a direct result of such conflicts and can therefore be understood solely in the light of the respective city's broader political context. But cities simultaneously constitute a space for all residents as well as a testing ground for innovative strategies, for example, for looking at how conflicts may be resolved by non-violent means. Cities therefore have a leading role to play in conflict resolution. They comprise centers of communication and, potentially, of reconciliation. The paper will discuss the spatial implications of violent conflicts in cities but also strategies to counter the division of cities.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

The Southern Israeli City of Ashdod-The Backyard of Ethnicity

Nilly R. Harag

Having absorbed immigration waves since its establishment along the southern Mediterranean coastline, Ashdod, the modern nation-city, demonstrates a geography in crisis. Along with the Zionist paradigm, which presents it as a city that was constructed out of the dunes in three stages of development, as mentioned in The Israeli Project (TIP) research; from a port to an "electrical" city into an entrepreneur's city — to becoming a melting pot of the immigration waves from 1959 onward. There are physical and environmental indications of a vivid urban life before. Initially comprising twenty-two North-African families, the population has grown to 250,000 inhabitants from ninety-nine countries around the globe. In the wake of the immigration waves along the Mediterranean, a unique cultural and ethnic encounter may be observed: since its establishment on 1956, Ashdod has sought to bring about social integration for its variegated ethnic communities. Surprisingly enough, while struggling to sustain its diversity along with its rational architectural identity, based upon a global Israeli culture, a new artistic representation of the Andalusian Orchestra project was culturally re-born. While the city architecture reflects the vision of 'immigrant cities' established in Israel according to the national master-plan, known as the Sharon Plan—designed to provide homes to the new immigrants—the planning methods reflect the international architectural styles in vogue at the time.

If immigration entails a physical journey or a search for spiritual significance associated with a geographical route to a specific destination, the transformation of Andalusian music from Cordoba to the Maghreb countries and to the new State represents the wandering of an abstract art form along the Mediterranean. For centuries, Jews and Muslims have written their own texts to identical melodies, but in different languages— Hebrew and Arabic respectively. Over the years, poems have become the glorious liturgical tradition of North-African Jewry. I believe that the main role of the Andalusian Orchestra lies in the preservation and dissemination of the musical heritage from its Golden Age and its encounter with contemporary globalization as a means of reestablishing the lost cultural connection between Judaism and Islam.

This article aims to examine the exhausted geographies in the southern Israeli coastal line, territories which cannot extricate themselves out of the rational urban architectural environment and the authentic cultural assets of the local cultures. The refusal to provide planning tools to support what was demanded along the political conflict in Ashdod and along the coastline; from the Israeli-Lebanese border to the Gazan border has bred a subversive culture that has raised to become a common ground along the seventy years of the city's existence. I will argue that the concrete planning mechanism, as a parallel cultural mode, must engage the diverse migrantcultures which have existed and vanished into the dunes along the coastline.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

Enlivening the dead zone

ELENA KONSTANTINIDOU, NELLY MARDA, MARINA PASIA

Nicosia's dead zone influenced the city's development and played a key role in the future of its historical center, which, after a period of decline is now beginning to revive. Under this scope is now more important than ever to develop a discourse about dead zone's integration, showing that education can be involved and often provide viable solutions to urban conflict management issues. The presentation intends to explore the issue of dead zone in Nicosia region, revealing the current situation and formulating thoughts for its future integration in the development of the city. Material of the student's work in the framework of design studio courses, dissertation and diploma projects of the NTUA's School of Architecture are going to be presented. These projects formulate spatial proposals and "stitching" strategies for the transformation of a zone of discontinuity into a unifying space of a future Nicosia. Particular emphasis will be given to the approach of the issue over time, through the educational process, recording the different interpretations and strategies. Nicosia continues, after the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989), to be the only capital of Europe that remains divided. The presence of the buffer zone violates the urban landscape, spatially and functionally. It violently interrupts the urban fabric, creating an inactive region in a completely controversial relationship with the intense active city that grows outside the Zone. Reading of the area through mapping, emphasizing on perceptual sensorial data, revealing the layers of history and the state of the current abandonment will expose and reveal the special characteristics, the complex, invisible layers of information that exist. Also reveal the contemporary state and highlight the future identity of such highly contested area, in order to re-develop incorporate and integrate the site into the urban fabric and the life of the city.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

Charting the boundaries of the Dead Zone in Nicosia

Effie Nicolaou, Sophia Vyzoviti

Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, has been a divided city for more than half a century. The conflicts between Greek and Turkish Cypriots begun in 1963. At the time United Nations' peacekeeping forces were established on the island, separating the two communities and dividing Nicosia into northern and southern part with a Green Line. After the Turkish invasion in 1974, the division of Cyprus was established forming a zone outlined by two parallel lines along the island's east-west axis. Since then this area is prohibited for both communities. Nicosia's Dead Zone constitutes a unique urban landscape, an inner fringe belt of inviolate status, an urban territory that remains inactive. Over the years, the Dead Zone has become an emblematic landmark for the city's residents. This paper focuses on the documentation of Nicosia's Dead Zone boundaries, in terms of materiality, geometry, transparency and permeability. The result is a comparative taxonomy that presents all the qualitative characteristics and the various typologies of the architecture of these boundaries. This classification and categorization ultimately leads to an urban map describing the spatial conditions along the boundary line, mapping the different typologies. The aim of this study is to strengthen the importance of the Dead Zone as a ruin with a monument status for the city. Through this process, scenarios for the preservation, reactivation and incidental reintegration of the Dead Zone in the urban landscape of Nicosia future are also speculated.

Abstracts

18 May 2018 | Friday

SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

Reweaving stitches over the Buffer Zone Nicosia

Ariadni Vozani

The presentation will be based on the experience of dealing with the area of 'dead zone' in Nicosia during the urban design project of the 9th semester at the School of Architecture NTUA. (2015-2016) Our unit faced the area as a complex landscape bearing characteristics and contradictive elements that try to balance between total amnesia and excess of memory. We asked the students to investigate the new identity and the role that could potentially been given to this fragile landscape in the case of a reunification of the island's' south and north parts, the spatial strategies and the intervention mechanisms. The aim was to reconnect the distant and recent pasts into a future vision, to reweave stiches over this disrupted territory and allow life to flourish again.

The area of intervention comprised both the zone itself and the regions that define and determine it on both sides (the greekcypriot and the turkishcypriot) . Students after their analysis had to select a more specific area within as well as outside the walled city of Nicosia. The final proposals (scales 1/1000-1/200) could be categorised and evaluated in different ways. The presentation will attempt to decode the main design strategies that have been followed in a range of areas. The program comprised the design of housing (urban blocks) and of public spaces.

Abstracts

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SESSION 9_URBAN CONFLICTS

A Virtual Environments co-design practice for “community participation” in reactivating historic sites as public space.

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This paper presents a methodology for the cross-disciplinary study and analysis of complex urban realities, such as the historic city of Nicosia, Cyprus, the last divided capital of Europe. This methodology relies on the use of advanced digital tools for the creation and development of real-time virtual environments for research and collaboration that explore the capacity of analysing data of users' behaviour in space (Artopoulos and Bakirtzis 2016). This research envisions contributing a fresh understanding of cultural and functional pressures in Nicosia's contested urban environment through the analysis of observational data. The objective of this research is development of a digital platform, which through immersion, interactive design and crowd simulation will enable the evaluation of alternative planning scenarios and design interventions in the context of the management plan of built heritage in open public spaces that used to be popular within the urban fabric of European cities but are now forgotten or in limbo due to political, economic, or social pressures. The main objective of this research is to capture and visualise the historic palimpsest of urban environments in Mediterranean cities such as Nicosia and at the same time to engage users and local communities in the creative aspects of these patrimonies' management. In doing so this approach to urban space rehabilitation contributes to practices of cultural rights and inclusion by promoting social resilience and fostering cultural rights in the city, by means of co-design practices and citizen engagement. The motive that drives the development of this research is to enrich the agenda for the holistic development of contested areas and challenged sites by approaching heritage as a dynamic assemblage of events, activities, performances and identities that relates to space as well as people.

