

**10th AISU Congress
6-10 September 2022**

**ADAPTIVE CITIES THROUGH THE POST PANDEMIC LENS. Ripensare
tempi e sfide della città flessibile nella storia urbana/Times and Challenges in
Urban History**

CALL FOR SESSIONS Deadline: 30 January 2022

List of Macrosessions

Macrosession 1. Adaptiveness and Change. Crisis and new beginnings.

Committee: Marta Bottero (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Carla Di Francesco (Fondazione Scuola dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali), Marco Folin (University of Genova), Heleni Porfyriou (CNR –ISPC - Roma), Guido Zucconi (Iuav University of Venice)

Reporting: Guido Zucconi (Iuav University of Venice)

Great changes represent important watersheds to investigate the degree of urban adaptiveness. Big politico-economic and technological changes have deeply influenced the development of cities, peoples' perception of them and urban historiography. The aim of this macrosession is to deal with similar disruptive changes throughout history (both in theoretical terms and through case studies) to the present from a comparative perspective and through a multidisciplinary understanding of urban studies. How have cities reacted to changes of different kinds? We call for a comprehensive understanding of sudden changes of status due to dramatic events such as revolutions, wars, political transformations, natural or human provoked catastrophes. We especially suggest dealing with comparative perspectives but in a heterogeneous historical and geographical context (e.g. Mediterranean after the discovery of America, eastern Europe after the Soviet Union collapse, pandemics in specific regions and periods), see whether big crisis has given place to a new starting point and condition. Could it be a matter of crisis, standstill, or, on the contrary, of new beginnings, in a general framework of recovery. How has such a new condition manifested in several aspects, such as physical socio-economic, associated to the collective memory and controversial legacy of the recent past or on the heritage perception.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **Politics, decision-making, multidimensional indicators and change of values. Stakeholders and “stake-needer.”** Crisis and rebirth. Policies, decision making, multidimensional indicators, stakeholders and “stake-needer”. Decision processes in the context of urban transformations are driven by different objectives that reflect multi-faceted systems of values and stakeholders. The aim is to reflect on how this

complexity has been addressed in real-world problems through diverse approaches such as evaluation, urban sociology, economic history, urban planning.

- b) **Big changes in a crosscutting comparative perspective. Processes of adaptation after strong political events.** Big political and commercial changes need strong adaptations in order to create new beginnings with modified hierarchical systems. A specific focus include the post-Cold War period.
- c) **The two Mediterraneans.** The aim is to broaden and challenge our Eurocentric research by investigating and comparing “East Asian Mediterranean”– also known as China Seas, as a geographical macroregion – with “European Mediterranean” in reference to topics, such as maritime networking, migration, modernization, institutions, infrastructural works, urbanization movements, public space building, traditional-versus-industrial construction techniques and materials, building models, in all historic periods, including colonial and post-colonial one.
- d) **Cultural heritage and changes.** Cultural Heritage discussed in sustainable goals’ perspective.
- e) **Traumatic memories and grieving processes in the adaptive history of urban communities.** Collective memories are no less elastic than individual ones: in them, past events coexist with – and are conditioned by – present experiences and future projections. It is precisely in this adaptability that lies the role of memory – so sensitive to breaks and losses, but at the same time so protean to overcome them - as a tool for identity building.
- f) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 2. Cities’ adaptviness in the long term and in ordinary circumstances.

Committee: Chiara Devoti (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Filippo De Pieri (Polytechnic University of Turin – DAD), Marco Pretelli (University of Bologna)

Reporting: Luca Mocarrelli (University of Milan, Bicocca)

The issue of adaptiveness of cities looks really promising if tackled from a long-term perspective and, most of all, releasing it from the category of crisis or catastrophe. What seems worth investigating is the adaptability of cities to structural changes, that is, the way in which cities face "normal" circumstances. In other words, how cities experience, manage and cope with large-scale processes that can last for decades. The question might be addressed for any historical period on different aspects, through case studies or comparative approaches, but also by re-interpreting of phenomena. More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **Sequential processes.** Many of these processes have a sequential character, as in the case of industrialization and the following de-industrialization. What is important should be to understand if a city is able to manage successfully. If it is successful, is it an individual or a shared process? In such cases, what are the reasons that may be attributed to such success?

- b) **Rules. Adaptation vs restriction.** Forms of common and collective living in cities imposes the respect of rules, established by administrations and powers (civil, religious, military, ...). In the long historical perspective, such rules have been perpetuated, varied, abolished or on the contrary even restricted, originating processes of adaptation or fluctuation among adaptiveness and inflexibility that can be observed in an investigation of the *longue durée*.
- c) **Palaces in the form of a city as models of resistance and crisis response.** This topic looks at architectures that host a community life. “Palazzo in forma di città” retrieves Baldassarre Castiglione's well-known definition of the ducal palace of Urbino, but the chronology of reference is very broad: from the Cistercian monasteries to Le Corbusier. The theme is therefore universal, it also involves political strategies and a series of protagonists, from communities to architects and clients: therefore, not only cities and territories but also people and society.
- d) **Housing.** How can housing organization and social uses of housing spaces adapt (or resist, or fail to adapt) to slow or sudden changes affecting the broader social, economical or cultural context? The question might be addressed for any historical period and by focusing not only on domestic environments but also on their immediate surroundings, investigating the changing boundaries between the spheres of the private, the public, and the collective.
- e) **Historic city and the uses of heritage.** The Faro Convention has imposed a profound revision in the relationship between citizenship and architectural heritage; to this a further substantial change has been added by COVID-19 prevention measures. The culture of preservation is already experiencing changes in the ways of using heritage (the introduction of Green Pass for access to museums, the need to maintain a distance, since last August, is one such change). This section aims to take stock of these changes.
- f) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 3. Non-adaptiveness and Immobility

Committee: Cristina Cuneo (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Sergio Onger (University of Brescia), Caterina Giannattasio (SIRA, Italian Society for Architectural Restoration, University of Cagliari), Simon Gunn (Centre for Urban History (CUH), University of Leicester), David Graham Shane (Columbia University GSAAP)

Reporting: Sergio Onger (University of Brescia)

In urban history there have always been cases of cities in which their inability or impossibility to adapt has led to their decline, if not to their death. Crises have not always been challenges won or opportunities seized. They can produce immobility and conflicts. Sometimes a city's government has responded inadequately, leading to its irreversible decline. In parallel, urban crises of all kinds have often required limits on mobility, states of sequestration, isolation and enclosure. Immobility, isolation, non-adaptiveness in physical, social and urban terms are the key-issues this session addresses.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **Non-adaptiveness of cities.** Understanding the cases of failure could be useful in defining the mechanisms that govern the life of cities. In the history of urban areas there have always been cases of failure, that is, cases in which the inability or impossibility to adapt has led to the decline, if not the death, of a city. Crises have not always been challenges won or opportunities seized; sometimes a city's government has responded inadequately, leading to its irreversible decline. How and on what mechanisms of urban life have ecological, demographic, health, or military crises had a negative and lasting impact? How have they led to irreversible economic and political changes that they have been unable to manage?
- b) **Immobility, regulatory framework and social control.** Plagues have historically required constraints on movement - 'lockdowns' of various kinds. More generally, urban crises of all kinds have often required limits on mobility, states of sequestration, isolation and enclosure. How was 'lockdown' enforced by urban authorities in the past and with what societal effects? What longer-term changes to urban societies, if any, did states of immobility bring in their wake? In sum, what place does immobility have in our understanding of what makes cities adaptable or, conversely, resistant to change?
- c) **Buildings for social control and their reuse.** Beyond the purposes that inspired the construction of prisons, hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, asylums, they have unexpectedly appeared in the context of the health emergency as buildings attempt to reconcile—through their form, type, urban relationships— isolation in the community, distance in the vicinity, closure in the opening. Purged of their abominable original intentions, today they might provide new learning opportunities
- d) **Conflicts between utopia and reality: the crisis of the ideal city.** Many theoretical and literary representations shaped ideal urban spatiality (e.g. Luigi Pirandello, Italo Calvino, for whom "the ideal city is one over which hovers a dust of writing that neither settles nor calcifies"). Which are the relationships with the adaptive compromises of real spaces? The topic calls for a reflection on the contrasts among flexibility and inflexibility through case studies.
- e) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 4. Resilience and/or Adaptiveness.

Committee: Donatella Calabi (Iuav University of Venice), Andrea Longhi (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Gabor Sonkoly (Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, Hungary), Elena Svalduz (University of Padova), Angioletta Voghera (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST).

Reporting: Andrea Longhi (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST)

Adaptivity is the ability to change and adapt to changing circumstances. It can stimulate the resilience of particular cities and urban systems, but resilience can also be achieved by not

adapting to change and by returning to ‘business as usual’, once the change or shock is absorbed. The aim of this macrosession is to deal with the polysemous nature of the two paths.

In spatial terms, the urban and regional scale of the phenomena of resilience and/or adaptability will be considered; in temporal terms, the resilience processes will be investigated on a broad chronological spectrum. The concrete historical declinations of processes will provide a wealth of experience on which further comparative research can be based.

We call for research that, in different disciplinary fields, highlights above all the relationship between the capacity of a community to respond to traumatic stresses (political, climatic, health), and the possibility of structures and forms (urban, territorial, infrastructural, museal) to absorb, withstand or foresee changes in response to such stresses, both in terms of resilience and adaptation.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will be limited to):

- a) **After the crises: urban systems and buildings as drivers of change in land uses.** In a comparative perspective we are going to analyze the different processes of adaptation and reaction activated by urban governments after crises such as pandemics and wars. Particular attention will be paid to urban reorganization and special districts or buildings during the Early Modern period.
- b) **Urban history and political regimes** Approaches based on resilience and adaptiveness offer new models of temporality for urban history. This new temporality is characterized by cyclical development determined by impact/response and by the succession of integrating regimes, in which a new regime is not necessarily the denial of the previous, but its adaptive modification. The overall question is how urban history can profit from these approaches.
- c) **Territorial resilience from an environmental historical perspective.** Scholars are invited to present research that investigates the resilient responses of urban and rural communities highlighting their relationships between environmental pressures (e.g. climatic variations, catastrophic events, exploitation of natural resources) and transformations of social organizations.
- d) **Trasformative resilience of cities and territories.** Renewed interactions between human-nature, to build a recreational and economic alliance of the natural and cultural system, and of the landscape. To overcome social, environmental, climate, and economic vulnerabilities, new interactions need to be developed through a diverse food production, and for the enhancement of ecosystem services via "educational" alliance. Policies for ecological functionality of territories, for the enhancement of the landscape, and for the construction of an alliance among natural, rural and urban territories are strategic. Urban areas in IUCN Protected are a key “engine” and promoters of innovative practices, such as co-management and co-design, integrating policies and developing collaborative actions.
- e) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 5. Whose narrative voices? Reconsidering data, narratives and perspectives.

Committee: Sara Abram (Conservation and Restoration Center (CCR) “La Venaria Reale”), Swati Chattopadhyay (University of California, Santa Barbara, USA), Ermanno Malaspina (University of Turin, DISH - Interdepartmental research center in Digital Humanities), Cristina

Martelli (University of Florence, UNIFI), Ines Tolic (University of Bologna), Cristina Trincherò (University of Turin, DISH - Interdepartmental research center in Digital Humanities), Maurizio Vivarelli (University of Turin, DISH - Interdepartmental research center in Digital Humanities)

Reporting: Swati Chattopadhyay (University of California, Santa Barbara, USA)

Which crisis are we really talking about? Any crisis affects population groups differentially. We therefore cannot discuss the adaptability of cities without specifically addressing relations of race, class, gender and sexuality. If we are committed to thinking about marginalized groups who have had scant representation in urban history, we need a methodological shift. This would require addressing the challenges of incorporating/adopting narrative voices of the marginalized, and a new scale of analysis for investigating crisis. The latter might mean abandoning the big scale of urban analysis in favor of the small scale of time and space. Which narratives do we include in the investigation of urban adaptability and what kind of impact that might have on our understanding of urban processes, archives, and methods? How do we incorporate parameters and criteria from a postcolonial, critical race theory and gender/sexuality perspective?

This macrosession aims to critically survey urban history narratives and their impact. The goal is to reconsider the parameters and criteria of evidence and analytic method from new perspectives. The macrosession also calls for reflections on the adaptation of research approaches and methodologies to changes required by new theoretical, social, and technological developments. Presentations may use the case study approach or delve into methodological questions.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **New research methods that address intersectional concerns of class, racism, gender and sexual inequities.** For long urban historians have attempted to introduce voices of the marginalized through techniques of micro history and feminist theory, but with limited success. This session asks presenters to rethink the units of urban analysis as a way of unlocking the potential of narrative voices that disrupt the grammar of authority. For example, how would our concerns with urban form, process and experience change if we attended to small units of time and space rather than the long arc of urban history and totality of urbanism that use tools such as the masterplan and planning policies formulated by dominant groups and end up ignoring or eliding the experience of the marginalized? Presenters are invited to consider small-scale durational and spatial parameters—short-lived sensations, episodic events, and interstitial and found spaces—that might enable other points of view to emerge in terms of what constitutes adaptability in a city.
- b) **Methodology on new knowledge requirements.** This topic will focus on multidisciplinary research approaches and research products as output of novel cultural goals. It also will consider traditional individual research methodology versus new modes of collaborative research.
- c) **How knowledge structures adapt to new research and technological developments.** Data, metadata, data sources, digital humanities. The topic calls for contributions that consider heterogeneous sources related to the city as a complex informative ecosystem; on the evolution of criteria and systems for selecting, organizing and communicating data including

- big data. The contributions are especially expected to use various digital tools and methodologies for representing and/or spatialising the research framework.
- d) **Collections and museum narratives.** Museums' narratives adaptiveness and relationships with collections and urban history. The theme deals with the different degrees of flexibility / transformation of museum collections and their spaces in relation to the social and cultural physiognomy of the cities. In particular, urban museums' collections (civic museums, city history museums) are mirror and memory of the life of cities. How do the birth and evolution of these museums reflect the social, political and cultural history of cities? Guided by institutions and communities, they take on a variable physiognomy over time, both in terms of their assets and in terms of their language and choices of representation. Their resilience, or on the contrary their resistance to change, becomes a context for analysing the dynamics of urban history.
 - e) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 6. Human-environment interactions in the *longue durée*

Committee: Daniela Ciaffi (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Maria Adriana Giusti (Polytechnic University of Turin – DAD), Rosa Tamborrino (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Willeke Wendrich (University of California, Los Angeles, USA)

Reporting: Willeke Wendrich (University of California, Los Angeles, USA)

In this Macrosession with a multi-disciplinary endeavour, we consider the interaction between humanity and its environment in the *longue durée*. The term Anthropocene has been coined as a geological era to indicate the measurable influence of human activity in the geological record. It does not, however, consider the human perspective. Archaeology provides the possibility to understand not just what this measurable influence is, but also how and why it came into being. Our environment is a palimpsest of human activity, of which part is characterized as "damage or destruction", while other elements are considered "cultural heritage" and are preserved for posterity. The built and natural environment are closely linked to memory and oral history, both at present and in the past.

This macrosession includes presentations on the current, rural, urban and peri-urban landscape to explore this complexity, for instance as a number of disconnections between environment and community; or between community and its cultural heritage. In the perspective of the urban environment in relation to landscape, archaeology has a unique role to perform. It allows for a *longue durée* perspective, gives a voice and place in history to communities from the past and reconnects natural and cultural heritage to local communities in the present.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **Cultural heritage assessment and the selective process of preservation.** The assessment of what constitutes cultural heritage is in constant flux. An example is the shift in attention at Monticello, from the stately home of Thomas Jefferson to the slave quarters and their

subsistence gardens. Both environmental and cultural changes continuously create the need to adapt and to re-interpret heritage and landscapes and re-address preservation.

- b) **Memory and archaeology.** Archaeology provides us with access to the lives of populations who did not leave written records, either before the invention of writing, or as part of a segment of society that did not have access to writing. Farmers, workers, women and other groups whose voices are rarely heard, can be considered through the material traces they have left behind. Archaeology also enables the comparison of written concepts and ideals with the practical situation on the ground. It provides an entry in the long lasting human-nature interactions that have shaped the diversity of our landscape as the effects of slow adaptations over time. This topic calls for considerations of how memory is expressed and curated in material culture and/or landscape manipulation.
- c) **Subsidiarity and participation as a new frontier.** What are we talking about when we talk about cultural heritage as a common? Beyond the ownership approach, we need to consider the non exclusive use of the cultural heritage. This topic call for experiences of co-managed processes for fostering participatory processes paying particular attention to people without voice and power.
- d) **The role of urban and periurban landscapes.** The focus is on the role of gardens and greenery in the urban landscape in the face of a mature acquisition of issues related to ecology, sustainability, circular economy, and new patterns of behavior. Today, one of the major challenges of the international community is the renewal of urban and social restructuring strategies (think only of the American Research Resilient or the UN-Habitat working group of the United Nations) in the face of calamitous events, those accidents of difficult prediction and generalization, a central aspect, is to recreate the ecosystemic connective that hold together areas used as parks and gardens with the surrounding fabric.
- e) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 7. Interaction between adaptiveness and uncertainty

Committee: Claudia Cassatella (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Teresa Colletta (University of Naples Federico II), Anat Falbel (EAHN Urban Representation Working Group, University of Rio de Janeiro), David Graham Shane (Columbia University GSAAP, USA), Mauro Volpiano (Polytechnic University of Turin – DAD)

Reporting: Francesca Governa (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST)

Adapting to change seems to have become a necessity that affects everyone. However, this necessity has always pervaded the unfolding of urban life, especially in situations of marginality, precariousness and uncertainty. Beyond the effects of specific global events and macro-scale structures, precarity and uncertainty always inhabit urban life both in the Global North and in the Global South. Being precarious is a continuous search of normality, unfolding the adaptation of people to urban life and, at the same time, the adaptation of the city to people's life through the continuous infrastructural making and remaking and the continuous redefinition and re-meaning of

urban spaces. Demographic fluctuations also produce uncertainty. They have shaped the history of cities and regions and fostered some crisis. Both urbanisation and decrease of population create a sense of precarity. Nowadays, along with the growth of population at global scale, an increasing number of OECD Countries is facing population decline. Shrinkage is expected to affect not only marginal areas, but even city regions.

The macrosession will deal with both these issues and will include, but it will not be limited to:

- a) **Unfolding urban uncertainty** Overcoming the tendencies that bind precarity and uncertainty in particular time periods and regions of the world, and asking for a specific attention to the issue of positionality (both theoretical and political), this session aims to discuss an expansive and open view of precarity and uncertainty dealing in theoretical and empirical terms the conceptual relationships between precarity/ uncertainty and adaptiveness (Governance)
- b) **The adaptiveness of slums.** Cities' adaptiveness to migratory flows and slums' huge flexibility.
- c) **Moving to/from cities.** This topic deals with the spontaneous decentralization, in the last few years, of larger cities towards neighbouring small centers, all over the Mediterranean region, which became extremely evident during the pandemic period, and was to a large extent related to the search for a "better quality of life" (green areas, large open spaces, larger houses, natural and rural environment, old festive traditions, etc.). Thus follows the need for renewal and enhancement of small cities, villages and "borghi" with their rich cultural heritage, both material and immaterial; for the safeguard of rural environment and landscapes; for the active involvement of the resident community; for a suitable tourism promotion
- d) **Demographic decline and aging population: shrinking cities and regions.** Demographic decline and urban shrinkage have impacts on urbanization processes, on the upkeep of existing urban areas (including heritage assets) and welfare systems, on the emergence of design issues (such as regeneration, rural-urban linkages). What can we learn from the past in terms of adaptation to demographic shrinkage? Which explanations, trajectories, strategies would suffice? How did cities and territories cope with demographic decline by re-organizing their processes and spaces? If urban planning was born to manage growth, which theories, concepts and models may be mobilized for an era of de-growth?
- e) **Accelerating metacity.** Informational revolutions expand urbanization into new territories, new scale and scope. Macro and micro. Satellite and handheld. Pushes automation, AI, robots and electrification. In parallel, information acceleration expands territory of global supply chains and logistics systems that are not prepared for black swan events, have no redundancy in system (containers ships and bar codes, etc.), Covid feedback rehome industry for local redundancy, new warehouses industry expansion in periurban territory. New opportunities for bottom-up associations and organizations, local initiatives, ecological commercial systems informational dimension, consumer choice, localisms food chains new forms of cities, agourban hybrids, etc.
- f) **Issues on urbanisation and its representation.** Today the questions raised as a consequence of the unprecedented pace of population growth in cities are evoked in terms of sustainability. Nevertheless, the crisis of the large number and the needs for basic services, infrastructures and housing are part of our cities' histories. This topic calls for contributions on how those issues and their developments were represented in different media throughout history since the industrial revolution.
- g) **More topics:** interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.

Macrosession 8. The impact of the crisis

Committee: Anat Falbel (EAHN Urban Representation Working Group, University of Rio de Janeiro), Andrea Maglio (University of Naples Federico II), Tatiana Mazali (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Sara Monaci (Polytechnic University of Turin – DIST), Peter Stabel (European Association for Urban History, EAUH, University of Antwerp), Donatella Strangio (University of Rome La Sapienza)

Reporting: Donatella Strangio (University of Rome La Sapienza)

The crisis affecting the physical and social space immediately provokes various kinds of effects, needs and reactions and disclose human and spatial vulnerabilities. Crisis can be provoked by health, economic, natural disasters, wars or terror. However, in all these situations they create urgency in society, groups, buildings, and modify lifestyles. During times of crisis cities, we are forced to adapt as well as some buildings and infrastructures and temporary services are implemented. This need generates a stress in society following the reactions, the forms of adaptations or oppositions to the forms of social control. Furthermore, during the crisis and beyond, perceptions and representations of the impact of the crisis on social and physical space generate imagery and narratives that constitute important keys for different kinds of analysis of urban vulnerability and interpretations at different period from various disciplinary perspectives. They also allow us to investigate some effects of disease and how different forms of adaptation or non-adaptation impact cities.

More specifically the macrosession will include (but it will not be limited to):

- a) **Reactions to social control.** Both, resilience achieved by adapting or not adapting to change are reactions that create stress in society and require higher levels of social control to be organised by the civic authorities or by other stakeholders in urban society (e.g. epidemics require measures of sanitary regulation; natural disasters require new building codes and/or the relocation of particular activities; economic crisis by the changing grasp of particular groups on economic decision making processes etc.). The way in which these measures are accepted or opposed is defined by different variables. This strand of contributions will try to define how the acceptance of or opposition to the heightened social control by city and state governments or by other political, social, religious or cultural actors in the urban fabric interfered in periods of crisis with reactions of adaptivity or of the refusal of adapting of the social organisation of city life.
- b) **Impact on lifestyles, vulnerabilities, inequalities,** categories and groups with difficulties in adapting to change. Policymakers and public health experts unanimously recognize the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable persons: even in countries with well-developed responses, the outbreak and its repercussions imperil the basic well-being of social groups whose livelihoods are already precarious. The goal is to deepen this theme with the help of intersectionality and the analysis of complex systems in an interdisciplinary critique of the responses at the national government level and how this affects cities and its

community, public health but above all information and communication, not forgetting what is happening in migratory flows and their directions within the cities.

Promising practices are evaluated in target urban communities through case studies spanning diverse disciplines and vulnerable populations.

- c) **Representations of the effects of disease on the urban environment**, as well as the representations of their response to medical issues (e.g. 14th-century Black Death; 19th-century Cholera; 20th century Spanish Flu; Tuberculosis; 1980s AIDS; 2020 COVID). Confronting contemporaneous (or future) representations that throw interpretive light on the responses to each of those crises, namely the infrastructure administered by the public and private sectors (city circulation, water and sewage systems, electrification, new building materials and design programs), we would like to invite our participants to analyse how those representations were produced and circulated within and among continents provoking new urban strategies, as well as new visual representations.
- d) **COVID imagery and narratives**. How the last couple of years have shaped our views on the relationship between the city and disease, and ultimately how this relationship has been represented. How have strategies of representation changed during or after critical health conditions? Has the contemporary pandemic produced a new visuality?
- e) **Buildings and infrastructure in/for emergency conditions**. This topic specifically calls for contributions on buildings in war periods when cities are forced to adapt and change their structure both at the architectural and urban scales. Fortifications, supply infrastructures and - in the wars of the twentieth century - anti-aircraft shelters are just a few examples. Even the current 'technological' wars bring about a series of changes whose extent is still to be evaluated.
- f) **Narratives about post-crisis urban scenario**. The topic investigates the post-crisis narratives and the forms of inequalities related to the conditions of marginalized workers (e.g. women, immigrants, riders etc.) to the new reconfiguration of housing and urban spaces and to the conflictual narratives, with a focus also on digital narratives.
- g) **More topics**: interested persons applying can add more topics and interpretations.