

**INTERSYMP 2018**  
**30th International Conference on**  
**Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics**  
**July 30 - August 3, 2018**  
**Markgraf-Ludwig Gymnasium, Hardstrasse 2**  
**Baden-Baden, Germany**

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**Announcing**  
**11th International Symposium on**  
**Architecture of 21st Century: In Search of New**  
**Paradigms**

**WITH AN AUGMENTED FOCUS ON**  
**Addressing Crisis: Integrated Research and Action**

**August 1, 2018**

Chair: Prof. Greg Andonian, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

Co-chair: Prof. Taha A. Al-Douri, NYIT, USA & Abu Dhabi, UAE

Co-chair: Prof. Craig Anz, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar

**Preamble**

War and shifting economic priorities, along with varying states of environmental degradation and subsequent crises, have disabled many places and forced massive shifting of territories and peoples. This new age of progressed migration, diaspora, and displacement, brought by multiple factors (wars, conflicts, climate, catastrophes, market industries, etc.) has advanced our mandates to design viable communities and urban places and to maintain critical participatory action and cultural solidarity in many places. These include the places of which have been abandoned, as well as host countries, primarily localized communities of Western Europe and North America. The globalization of outsourcing work in the guest countries, such as India and China, is adding suspense regarding our future. The recent excessive growth of development within the Middle Eastern countries has also added a dynamic that is wrought with irony between a society which builds too fast in a Western modeled format, while at the same time promulgating an overt nationalized agenda, which in turn is effecting many places through an unaccountable transfer and exploitation of resources and workforce. The long-term effects are seen in the reallocation of control from local inhabitants to those with proxy, with indifference, and unaccountable agendas of domination. Now we also face what many call an age of terror (another dark age of sorts), which compounds issues of security at multiple levels, promulgating a state of constant fear, bewilderment and disability, along with the persistent redirection of social and environmental resources toward defense and even combat (which in-turn perpetuates the cycle) that could otherwise be oriented toward overall well-being and the pursuit of beautiful forms of life.

Communities have been progressively pecked away, no longer having a strong sense of personal place, identity or symbolic 'center'. Forced movements of people leave weakened cultural traces only to reseed themselves anew in otherly places. Natural disasters imposed upon urban areas, many of which reflect economic impoverishment and neglect, force Diasporas that decrease the critical mass to physically sustain urban well-being. Increased density and amplified cultural instability has created undue stress on surrogate urban places. The modern agenda depicts tenuous identities for various places in the world, fundamentally brought on by reductivist and disabling modes of globalization, with little evidence of mediation or rapprochement between entities. The consequences of such dramatic change brought on by varying forms of this disparity are both intellectually dynamic and potentially acrimonious.

If the flow of migration further accelerates due to international conflicts in the former Soviet Republics, the Levant, Indian Sub-continent, Indo-Chinese Peninsula, Central Africa and South America, it will have tremendous consequences on world's host cities and neighborhoods, as well as the places where they have left behind. They will eventually be accommodating the ethnic-social, religious- cultural, and political-economic multiplicities. Then, as the question has always been, how could the dwellers coexist – with the array of guest-host differences – in these increasingly transnational cities? And what should the mission in articulating public policy pertaining to architectural design and urban planning to produce cities of well-being?

The global intercultural exchange of the educated first generation has accentuated careful and critical collaboration. The exchange of views on joint projects of mutual concern has not necessarily reciprocated integrating with the general public. Even sharing a political agenda for a multicultural community is isolationist in action-oriented thinking. Transforming the focus from the national state to community and neighborhood scales, where a transnational society is in the making, has had many challenges. The emerging society has been raising issues pertaining to architectural design and urban renewal by revitalizing urban planning, social policy governance, and sustainability. Democratic governments, independent private institutions, and universities representing all levels of civil society have long been struggling to make the integration issue less painful for the newcomers, since the host and guest divide has remained acrimonious in the accommodation of multicultural community.

### **Symposium Intention**

The intention of this symposium is to articulate debate in search of new paradigms for the architecture of the 21st century, as they relate to issues of *designing for urban revitalization and social sustainability* from the transnational or transcultural perspective. This reflection will promote debate beyond protecting the genuine character of the architectural content for host dwellers and ethno-cultural identities for the newcomers, while revealing mutually co-enabling modes of being.

At present, the inquiry of city core transformation is the foundation of world's integration project. It aspires to be the collective endeavor of a host society, where newcomers, transnational politicians and multicultural policy analysts convene. To develop a common ground for an attitudinal shift toward host and guest cultures for critical understanding – is paramount. However, a transcultural dimension must be added to the inquiry to make the complementarity integration a mutually enriching experience. This can yield a new model of identity for the individual within a transcultural city- setting. It will enhance, promote and signify the personal and the spiritual, beyond the cultural, where the invisible divide will be a mark of distinction.

## Focus of the Symposium

This symposium will provide a forum for quality discussion of recent advances in architecture and urbanity pertaining to the design for urban revitalization and social sustainability. Of particular interest are papers referring to case studies that investigate new pedagogical models, innovative application methods, and integrative design processes of the city and community transformation to produce indicators and parameters for the selection and management of urban revitalization projects. Papers are invited combining novel approaches to historic district sustainability, functionality and adaptivity to provide creative solutions to important and complex challenges of gentrification, globalization, and urbanization.

## Topics include (but not limited to):

- Stabilization of communities (urban, suburban, and rural scales)
- Fostering Peaceful Places, Architecture, and Urban Design in the Age of Terror
- Promoting Beauty in the Age of Information, Facts and Factlessness, and Numerical Statistics
- Countering Dromos and Pure War (with Respect to Virilio) through Built Environments
- Fostering Identity and Syncretistic Creativity within the Forces of Change
- Sense of Community and Permanence versus Temporal Parcel/Unit oriented Architectures
- Strategies for Community Revitalization, Recovery, and Resilient Development
- Axiological, Care-based, and Amenity-driven Design Strategies
- Viable Long-term Solutions for 'Displaced' Refugees from War, Conflict, and Catastrophes
- Long-term Re-building Solutions and Planning for War, Crisis, Catastrophe, and Disaster
- Addressing Homeless, Low-income, Marginal, Vulnerable, or Transient settings
- Globalization & Urbanization of City-core Architecture
- Agent-oriented, Stakeholder, Knowledge Integration, and Participatory/Cooperative Design
- Critical Approaches toward Gentrification and Cultural Dysnomia
- Transnational Urbanity in Community Context and Place
- Artificial Intelligence & Social Infrastructure Projects
- Interactivity & Inclusivity in Systems Design of Social Survivability
- Ethics & Morality of Sustainable Architecture, Heritage Development & Urban Conservation
- Integrative Conservation & Social Sustainability,
- Ecological Service-system Resources and Green Architecture in Urban Environments
- Life-place and Critical 'lived-systems' Approaches
- Addressing Environmental Degradation and Social Equity in Correspondence
- Mediating Place and Identity within Global Urbanity
- Critical Environmental, Socio-cultural, and Systems Strategies

## Who should be interested?

Architects and architecture educators, urbanists and urban designers, environmentalists and city planners, sociologists and public policy specialists, trans-nationalists and multiculturalists, systems design theorists and neighborhood survivalists, politicians and technocrats and others should be interested. This includes those who realize that democratic inclusivity of stakeholders in the integrative process of urban revitalization of city core historic sites is *the* modernizing factor and that, to fully understand the transnational issues in historic settings, we must develop *comprehensive criticality* based on advanced scientific and literary knowledge.

## Call for Papers

Papers within the scope of the focus symposium are welcome. Abstracts of approximately 200 words should be submitted for evaluation. All proposals will be judged based on scholarly quality, originality and potential for further discourse. Papers must be written in English. Abstracts may be submitted electronically (Microsoft Word preferred), by mail, or by fax by March 30, 2018 to:

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### **Review Process and Conference Proceedings:**

All submitted papers and abstracts will be peer-reviewed. Final papers should not exceed 5 single-spaced typed pages. Conference Proceedings will be published and selected papers may be published in book format.

### **Important Dates**

- March 30, 2018      Abstract due
- April 9, 2018      Notice of Acceptance
- May 9, 2018      Final Paper due

#### **General Chair**

Professor George E. Lasker  
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