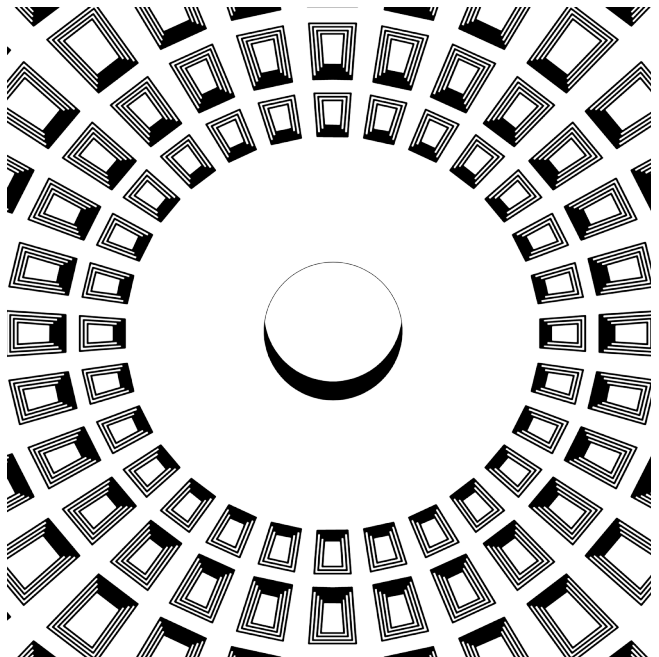


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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

city as organism
new visions for urban life



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The Twenty-Second International Seminar on Urban Form (ISUF Rome 2015) will be held for the first time in the Faculty of Architecture of Rome 'Sapienza' University, from the 22nd to 26th September 2015. The Conference examines the theme "City as organism. New visions for urban life" and discusses changes and continuity in urban form, within the current global debate on the possibility of restoring the organicity of urban form to be found in historical cities.

This volume contains the abstracts submitted to the Conference.

The Conference opens with two introductory plenary sessions: 1: Rome as organism, 2: Urban morphology: state of the art; then 32 parallel sessions follow, organized around four main themes: Heritage and Historical Fabric (34 papers), Landscape and Territory (23 papers), Sustainable Design and Urban Regeneration (35 papers), Urban Form Reading and Design (42 papers); Urban Morphology Theories and Methods (46 papers). A special session is also dedicated to New Researchers' Forum. The other two plenary sessions are in the second and third day programme, 3: Architectural approaches in designing urban form, 4: ISUF local networks forum.

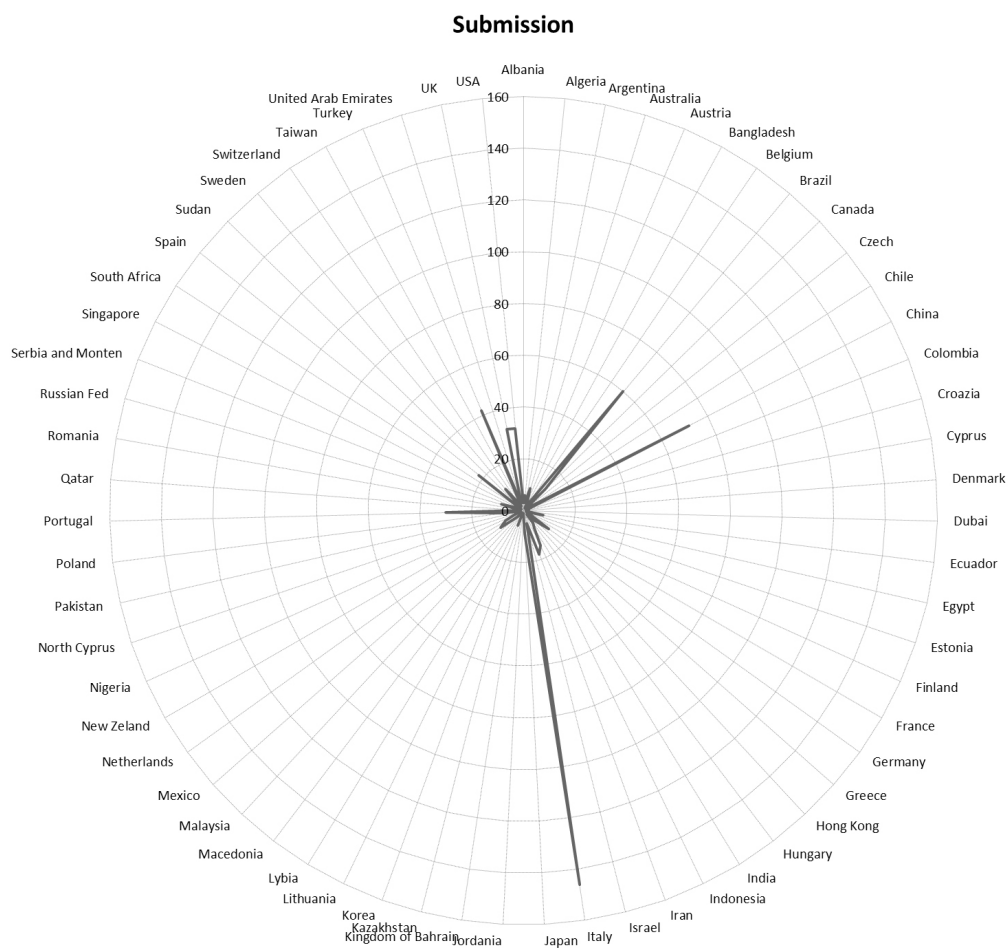
Internationally regarded as the major reference point for studies and debate on urban form, ISUF, alongside its affiliated national networks, has witnessed the recent founding of local journals. In 2014 ISUFITALY was "refunded" and launched by an annual conference together with a new journal, U+D Urbanform and Design (www.urbanform.it) which has already reached its third issue.

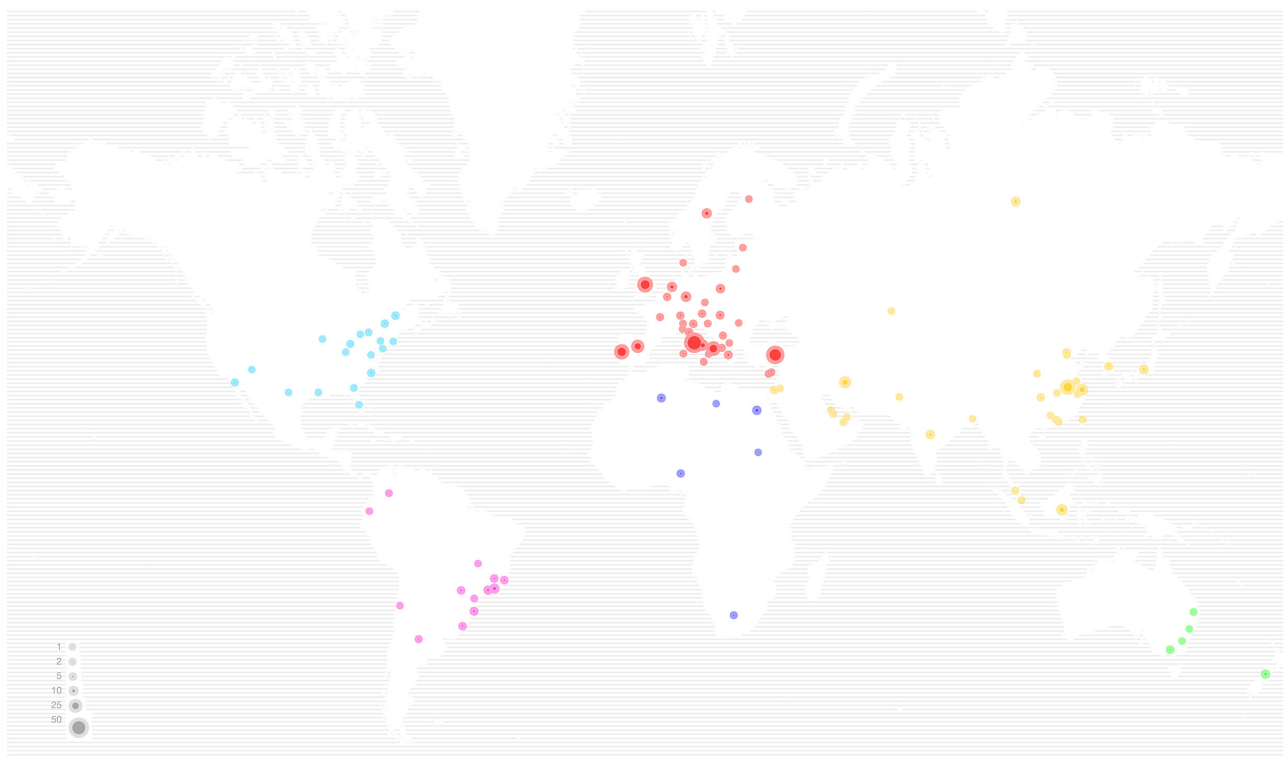
A significant number of abstracts were submitted to ISUF Rome 2015, around 700 from 250 different university institutions and more than 750 registrations on the web site. The abstracts submitted were sent from Italy (168), China (93), Brazil (72), Turkey (49), UK (43), Portugal (36), USA (34), Spain (28), Iran (23), Sweden (18), Indonesia (15), Cyprus (14), Australia (13), Canada (12), Germany (11), India (10), Japan (10), Netherlands (10), Poland (9), Russian Federation (9), Belgium (8), Egypt (8), New Zealand (8), Algeria (6), Greece (6), Serbia and Montenegro (6), Hungary (5), Korea (5), Mexico (5), Austria (4), Nigeria (4), Albania (3), Argentina (3), France (3), Malaysia (3), North Cyprus (3), and South Africa (3). The 245 abstracts were selected from the 677 submitted; 180 participants were chosen from the 245 officially registered for the Conference. The large number of participants from interesting and emerging countries such as China, Brazil, Turkey, South Africa and Iran is particularly significant.

Among the Conference themes there are a number of theoretical and methodological contributions based on the traditional and historical schools of urban morphology: the Conzenian school, the Muratorian school and the German morphogenetic school. There is significant participation on such themes as the legacy of Modern architecture, Public Space, Modern and Contemporary Design in Historical Cities, Historical Urban Fabric, Architectural Heritage, Conflicts and Contested Areas, Informal Settlements, Urban Regeneration, Urban Landscape and Metropolitan Infrastructure. There are also contributions on more recent ICT applications in urban contexts and their theoretical framework, such as space syntax, spatial analysis and digital devices. Several relevant and consistent case-studies and theories are collected in a group of sessions discussing Urban form, Urban Design, Urban Knots, Urban Form and Meanings, Urban Morphology Methods, Landscapes and Territories, Reading Contemporary Landscape, Sustainable Design Technology, Sustainable Design, Typological Process, Urban Growth and Fringe Belt Analysis.

The Conference discussions therefore deal with a variety of topics that are cross-scale and cross-

disciplinary oriented: from the city to the individual building, from territory to sustainable design. Both in the abstracts submitted and in those selected, the specific problems related to different urban contexts are of prime importance. In China, for example, we have keywords like eco-city, evolution, clusters, city life and heritage are recurrent; in Brazil, keywords such as court-yard houses, city life, informal settlements, housing, sustainability, utopia; in Turkey keywords include urban morphology, heritage, historical city, housing; in Sweden, density, urban form, landscape and space syntax. All these data help us to diagnose the state of the art in Urban Morphology research and practice within different global urban and cultural contexts. We fully expect that the ISUF Rome 2015 Conference will greatly enrich our knowledge on cities.





Participant Institutions:

Albania

Epoka University (3)

Algeria

Université des Sciences de la Technologie Mohamed Boudiaf d'Oran, USTO-MB (4)

Université Saad Dahleb Bllida (1)

Argentina

Universidad Nacional de Lanus, Buenos Aires, Argentina (1)

Australia

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, RMIT (3)

The University of Melbourne (1)

Griffith University (1)

University of New Castles (1)

University of Canberra (1)

Queensland University of Technology (1)

Monash University, Melbourne (1)

Austria

University of Vienna (4)

Bangladesh

The University of Asia Pacific (1)

Belgium

KU Leuven (1)

Université de Liège (2)

Brazil

Universidade de Brasília (1)

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (4)

Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (6)

Universidade Federal Fluminense (4)

Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo (4)

Federal University of Paraná (5)

University of Contestado (2)

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Universidade Estadual de Campinas (1)

Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis (2)

Universidade de São Paulo (4)

Universidade Estadual de Maringá (2)

Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie - São Paulo (2)

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (3)

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École d'architecture de l'Université Laval (4)

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University of Montréal (1)

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Southeast University, Nanjing (31)

Tongji University, Shanghai (16)

Chongqing University, Chongqing (3)

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai (1)

Zhejiang University, Hangzhou (1)

Jiangsu Institute of Urban Planning and Design (1)

National Natural Science Foundation of China (1)

Peking University, Beijing (3)

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Guilin University of Technology (1)

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University of Josip Juraj Strossmayer Osijek (1)

Cyprus

University of Cyprus (1)
Frederick University (1)
University of Nicosia (1)

Czech

Czech Technical University in Prague

Denmark

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Helwan University (3)
Cairo University (1)
Alazhar University (1)

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Finland

University of Helsinki (1)

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École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Paris-Val de Seine (1)

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Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science & Technology (1)
International Institute of Information Technology (2)
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Holon Institute of Technology (1)

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Politecnico di Bari (27)
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 FLUPS (2)
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 University of Cincinnati (1)
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 Georgia Institute of Technology (1)
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 Mount Mercy University (1)
 California State University
 The University of Toledo Ohio (1)
 University of Utah (1)
 Bowling Green State University (1)
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The crisis of the “common rationality” in the contemporary city

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Beyond a certain threshold, any crisis suddenly collapses from a temporary state into a permanent condition. While the former situation turns out to be physiological of every existing urban form development, the latter expresses a pathological situation affecting the city overall organic quality (Caniggia, Maffei, 1979). In fact, the crisis of the second kind identifies with an irreversible loss of “common rationality”, which is evident in the civil reality as well as in its anthropic project. The crisis we have been witnessing over the last seven years on a worldwide scale belongs to this species. At such, it offers us the chance to think about the present condition, looking backward to the recent past experience, to reflect forwards on future possible perspectives. The paper assumes the current interval as the originating process of a stimulating new sensibility towards the architectural practice. At such, it identifies in the building vacancies and in the urban brownfields prompted by the crisis of the globalizing Network City a new generation potential of experimentation, mapping its consistency in the European context and offering a wide spectrum of the more interesting design initiatives in progress (Oswalt, 2013). The paper additionally aims at tracing back the dismissed building heritage unsuspected premises in the pre-modern age, taking the opportunity to deeply investigate the relation between spontaneous and critical consciousness. In conclusion, the two aspects seems to be more complementary to each other of what one could argue, playing a crucial role within any urban form transformation (Conzen, 1969).

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