

CARE

Cities As creative, crises-Responsive Environments

Towards a common manifesto of
innovative solutions for the contemporary city

International Symposium
29th – 30th September 2022, Bologna

Organising Institutions:



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
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“Crisis” comes from the Greek *krinō* meaning ‘a decision made by a jury’. As a Latin word, ‘decision’ comes from *de-caedere*, to cut. In medical terms, this term is based on a practical concept: ‘to sift’, to choose the activity of the Greeks when they sifted the grain seeds. The crisis represents the moment of choice, it indicates the unexpected modification of a physiological state, sudden and unpredictable because it radically changes previous conditions. In all aspects in which ‘crisis’ is conjugated, it indicates a distinct bifurcation, a change in the previous condition (modification or disappearance).

Despite its original meaning, we are accustomed to thinking of the crisis as a sharp fracture, rather than as the opening of a new path. Is it possible to reverse this perspective and achieve new depth in our interpretation of (and response to) crises? Some authors have reflected on how crises are reached and what causes this sharp bifurcation, focusing on the current critical situations that generate the vulnerabilities we are dealing with, as the result of a slow evolutionary path of our species.

Zardini (Doglio and Zardini, 2021) traces today's crisis back to the 1970s, outlining what appears to be a long climatic-environmental, energy, health crisis, which also affects institutions, professions and the modern project itself. Similarly, Serres (2015) addresses the 2007 financial crisis, identifying major ‘critical’ events that have been on the way for a long time and relate to the slow pace of the relationship between mankind, the earth and technology. Latour (2017) does not speak of a crisis as a contingent and removable event, but of a perennial condition that humans have to continuously prepare for (and adapt to). This

challenges the idea of crisis as a decisive moment of upheaval of the political order, replaced by an understanding of crisis as a lasting condition from which there is no escape, and which requires us to “adopt tactics more than strategies” (Pasqui, 2012) in a permanently temporary way.

Crisis is a powerful engine of urban change. It allows us to perceive disruptions, without perhaps making us sufficiently aware of continuities, of the profound solidarity of everyday practices, its embeddedness in a work of care. Solidarity, continuity, care produce differences, in a perspective that tries to think of crises in a continuum of practices and in their articulations. Every time the weights and balances change, they deposit in the city, generating new imaginaries (Brisette 2016). The use of these imaginaries allows to recover theories and models well established in history, urban planning and architectural research: the flexibility and adaptability of consolidated urban systems and spaces, the territorial proximity of architectural systems, the stable involvement of citizens in government decisions.

Crises are also a lens to understand how people behave in their living environments. The COVID-19 pandemic crisis, for instance, showed how well designed open public spaces were able to meet the needs of communities during the lockdown phase, demonstrating their degree of resilience to the new way of experiencing social distance in everyday life (Gehl, 2021). At the same time, at the social level, many solutions originated from the bottom-up and staged new ways of inhabiting common spaces, producing new mutualistic, creative and collective practices in response to isolation and marginalization: a care-as-citizenship model (Tronto 2013) which redefines the meanings

and values of social action in the urban space – adding a layer to the framework in the history of solidarity of European cities (Cicchi et al. 2021).

Cities can also be considered as palimpsest through which to acknowledge the different stratifications - some more evident than others - built up and overlapped over time. They are indispensable to trace civic life, events or processes that generated their form, economy, history and culture, composing a common 'heritage' of solutions, treatments and strategies to learn from.

Starting from these manifold intersections between crisis and care in the urban environment, CARE: Cities As creative, crisis-Responsive Environments aims to collect reflections and contributions on how consolidated urban contexts/cities have demonstrated their creative ability to take new lasting paths or escapes and their degree of preparedness to unexpected changes and challenges, implementing and inspiring tactics that serve as lessons-learned to address long-term and future crises.

Topics of investigation include urban transformations, policies, innovative programs and tools, bottom-up initiatives, adaptive reuses, historical investigations, unconventional cartographies, etc.

References

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Program

> Day 1 | 29th September

Aula Magna

BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

13:00-13:30 | OPENING

13.00-13.20

Introduction

Danila Longo, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna; TRACE team coordinator

13.20-13.30

Welcome greetings

Mario Losasso, President of SitdA - the Italian Society of Technology of Architecture

13:30-15:00 | HERITAGE AND CRISES

Cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, as resource and field of application of risk mitigation initiatives, safeguarding, conservation and enhancement actions addressing crises matters.

Chair | **Rossella Roversi**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

13:40-14.00

Keynote speaker | **Roberto di Giulio**, Department of Architecture - University of Ferrara

Heritage and Crises in the Digital Age

14:00-14.15

Invited speaker | **Franco Niccolucci and Paola Ronzino**, VAST-LAB, PIN S.C.r.L.
Smart cities and digital twins

14:15-14.30

Invited speakers | **Marco Pretelli and Leila Signorelli**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

Getting through pandemic. Enhancing preservation and health in artistic and cultural sites.

14:30-14:45

Invited speaker | **Chiara Mariotti**, Department of Civil, Construction and Architecture Engineering - Università Politecnica delle Marche
Managing Crisis by managing heritage. Enhancement tactics for historic cities in transition

Coffee break

15:15-17:00 | URBAN CRISES IN HISTORY
Lessons learned from historical experiences, surveys, memories, sudden changes, unexpected events, and so forth, to draw up and experiment solutions and hints responsive to multiple and urban crises conditions.

Chair | **Martina Massari**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

15:25-15:45

Keynote speaker | **Valentina Orioli**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna; Counselor at the Municipality of Bologna, in charge of New mobility, infrastructure, liveability and care of public space, enhancement of cultural heritage and Unesco Porticoes, Green Footprint Project and urban parks.
Cities facing crises. Is Urban planning still a good tool for adaptation?

15:45-16:00

Invited speaker | **Laura Kolbe**, Department of History - University of Helsinki
In the aftermath of world war, revolutions, and civil wars in 1918-1939. The role of urban planning in shaping modern nations and capital cities in Eastern Europe

16:00-16:15

Invited speaker | **Mika Mäkelä**, Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies (Urbaria) - University of Helsinki
Urban renewal of the workers district Kallio 1933-1986

16:15-16:30

Invited speaker | **Ines Tolic**, Department of the Arts - University of Bologna
"Adorable Crisis". The city tested by the Great Depression and other economic disasters

16:30-16:50

Invited speaker | **Peter Clark**, Department of History - University of Helsinki
Cities and Crises: Patterns of Memorialisation

17:00-17:15 | CLOSURE

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> Day 2 | 30th September | 09.00 - 17.00

Aula Magna
BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

09:00-10:00 | OPENING

09.00-09.10

Opening remarks

Danila Longo, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna, TRACE team coordinator

09.10 - 09.20

Welcome greetings

Fabrizio Ivan Apollonio, Director Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

09.20 - 10.00 | OPENING SPEECHES

09.20 - 09:40

Invited speaker | **Sorcha Edwards**, Secretary-General of Housing Europe
The EU and Housing – How is the supra-national framework adapting to growing local problems

09:40-10:00

Invited speaker | **Massimo Iosa Ghini**, Iosa Ghini Associati
Garden City

Coffee break

10:30-13:00 | CRISES PREPAREDNESS OF CONTEMPORARY CITIES

Urban environments at different scale are intended as the main scenario with respect to which explore proactive tools, technologies, projects, initiatives and policies tackling a wide range of crises and challenges involving the environmental, climatic, social, political, economic, spatial, educational, migration, residential, etc. dimension.

Chair | **Serena Orlandi**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

10:40-11:00

Keynote speaker | **Annalisa Boni**, Deputy Mayor for EU/Recovery funds, ecological transition and international relations - Municipality of Bologna
Climate neutrality by 2030: mission (im)possible?

11:00-11:15

Invited speaker | **Carlo Alberto Nucci**,
Department of Electrical, Electronic, and
Information Engineering “Guglielmo Marconi” –
University of Bologna
Climate Neutral and Smart Cities: the EU view

11:15-11:30

Invited speaker | **Francesca Gotti**, Department
of Architecture and Urban Studies - Politecnico di
Milano
Critical spatial practices for empowerment

11:30-11:45

Invited speaker | **Camillo Boano**, Bartlett
Development Planning Unit - Bartlett University
of London; Inter-university Department of
Regional and Urban Studies and Planning -
Politecnico di Torino
*Care as adjacency. Thinking possibilities for the
urban project with care and repair at the urban
margins*

11:45-12:00

Invited speaker | **Saveria Olga
Boulanger**, Department of Architecture -
University of Bologna
*Energy communities as a strategy for the
contemporary energy crisis in Europe. A utopia
for the future or a viable answer? Reflections
from the GRETA project*

12:00-12:15

Invited speaker | **Gabriele Manella**, Department
of Sociology and Business Law - University of
Bologna
*Dealing with sprawl: ambitions and challenges.
Reflections from the cases of Portland, Denver
and Minneapolis*

12:15-12:30

Invited speaker | **Gisèle Gantois**, Faculty and
Department of Architecture - KU Leuven
*A post-industrial landscape as a future-oriented
(re-)generative driver for a sustainable living
environment*

Light lunch

**14.00-16.00 | RETHINKING URBAN
SPACES AND FORMATS OF CULTURE**
**Cultural formats, programmes, ecosystems
and networks, collaborative projects,
temporary interventions, etc. involving urban
public spaces, including unconventional
ones, represent additional and integrative
tools for responding to contemporary crises.**

Chair | **Francesca Sabatini**, Department of
Architecture, University of Bologna

14.10-14:30

Keynote speaker | **Raffaele Laudani**,
Department of History and Cultures - University
of Bologna; Deputy Mayor for Urban Planning,
Patrimony, University and Research - Municipality
of Bologna
*Urbs, Civitas, Domus, Foedus: new challenges in
the government of urban spaces in the example
of the Bologna “city of Knowledge” flagship
program*

14:30-14:45

Invited speaker | **Michele Trimarchi**,
Department of Law, Economics and Sociology -
University of Catanzaro Magna Graecia
*Unformatting the city: the challenge of emerging
complexities urban eco-systems and evolutionary
species*

14:45-15:00

Invited speaker | **Alissa Diesch**, Institute of Urban Design and Planning - Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH)

Bogotá - how culture is co-producing urban space to tackle multiple crisis

15:00-15:15

Invited speaker | **Alice Borch**, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures - University of Leeds

Waves of crisis in urban cultural policy and practices: a matter of value

15:15-15:30

Invited speaker | **Ioanni Delsante and Tabassum Ahmed**, Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Architecture and Territory Unit - University of Pavia

Department of Design & The Built Environment, School of Arts and Humanities - University of Huddersfield (UK)

Innovating tools towards mobilising creative and collective practices of commoning

15:30-15:45

Invited speaker | **Annalisa Trentin**, Department of Architecture, University of Bologna

Tbilisi – a new role for the architecture of soviet modernism

Coffee break

16:15-17:00 | WRAP-UP AND CLOSURE

Credits

Scientific committee

Andrea Boeri, Danila Longo, Beatrice Turillazzi, Peter Clark, Laura Kolbe, Mika Mäkelä, Martina Massari, Serena Orlandi, Rossella Roversi, Francesca Sabatini, Saveria Boulanger, Serena Pagliula, Giulia Turci, Carlotta Trippa.

Hosting Institution

TRACE - Technology and Resilience in Architecture, Construction and Environment

Organising Institutions

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Department of Architecture (MIUR Department of Excellence)

FAM Fondazione Alma Mater

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BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

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Association of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators of Bologna

Association of Engineers of the Province of Bologna

Municipality of Bologna

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<https://events.unibo.it/care-symposium-bologna-2022>