



Inhabiting extended transiency

Migration, urban transformation,
and overlapping displaceability

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Politecnico di Milano
Campus Leonardo
Edificio 12 - Aula Riunioni

[+ Online Teams](#)

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Didem Danış | Galatasaray University

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This seminar is organized within the PhD programme in Urban Planning, Policy and Design at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, Politecnico di Milano. It is based on the ongoing PhD research carried out by PhD candidate Francesco Pasta, with the supervision of prof. Gabriele Pasqui.

The everyday experience of inhabitation for more and more dwellers in globalizing cities is framed by impermanence, provisionality, and uncertainty: a complex condition of *extended transiency*, continuously stretched out over time and taking in broader sectors of the population than those usually categorized as ‘temporary’, ‘in transit’, or ‘on the move’. As an often overlooked by-product of urban development policies, bordering mechanisms, and spatial restructuring processes in their drawn-out timespan, extended transiency exposes the overlaps among different causes and effects of displacement. It also problematizes the binary between ‘host local communities’ and ‘displaced incoming groups’, drawing attention to the situated interactions among heterogeneous transient populations who inhabit the city in differing conditions of informality, vulnerability, and temporariness. The seminar discusses the theme of inhabitation under circumstances of extended transiency as an open question to the planning discipline, with its long-term outlook and intrinsic focus on permanency. In doing so, it aims at bridging debates on displacement, transit migration, transient dwelling, urban informality, and the geopolitics of urban change.

Presentation

Francesco Pasta
(Politecnico di Milano / DASTU)

Discussion

Camillo Boano (The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, UCL / Politecnico di Torino) is an architect and planner, whose research has centered on the interfaces between critical theory, radical philosophy, and urban design processes. He is working on a series of interconnected research projects in Latin America, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East on urban infrastructures, habitability, and the urban project.

Didem Danis (Galatasaray University) is a sociologist, working mainly on state-migrant relationships, migration politics, migrants’ social networks, transnationalism, interactions between the cities and the migrants and mechanisms of hospitality. She is also the founder and director of the Association for Migration Research based in Istanbul.

Irit Katz (Cambridge University) is an architect, whose research focuses on the dynamic relations between the built environment and the changing human condition. She is particularly interested in the processes through which human environments are formed and reshaped in extreme situations such as forced displacement, conflicts and spatial inequalities, as well as in the role of spaces of everyday life in mediating social, ethnic and cultural diversity.

Giovanna Marconi (IUAV – Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia) has a background in architecture and planning. Her research focuses on cities and diversity, urban inclusion of international migrants, south-south migration and transit migration. She worked in and on Istanbul as fellow at Mirekoç (Migration Research Centre at Koç University).