



Abstract of Research Project
XXXVI Cycle (A.Y. 2020-2021)

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RESEARCH PROJECT (max 3 pages):

Introduction and state of the art

The emergency dictated by the pandemic crisis has made the critical issues and vulnerability of current urban conditions explicit, forcing us to think of a different city because different will have to be the way of relating, living sociality and events among people, the way of working, studying, moving and traveling.

In other words, this is the opportunity to rethink the post-covid city: now more than ever it is necessary to design micro-centered and resilient cities, able to face climate change challenges, the digital transition, future and potential health crises, and at the same time promote - in safety and health protection conditions - the development of various sociality forms, social inclusion and community cohesion.

In this problematic framework, fits the theme of the research, focusing primarily on the role of "proximity collective spaces" within innovative physical, social and economic regeneration policies for the existing city.

The reconsideration of these collective spaces, interdicted during the lockdown but in many cases rediscovered in their micro-scale dimension, will have to bring into play - in a strongly integrated way - design themes already present for a long time in the urban planning debate.

These themes should be proposed again in innovative terms, acquiring today a renewed centrality, complexity and urgency: settlement densification themes, highly deficient area functional endowment and "on the doorstep" commerce enhancement, urban ecology strengthening and soft mobility, until touching on the one hand, aspects related to the most recent cohousing management methods, on the other hand, a more flexible and hybrid domestic space architectural design.

Therefore the research intends to examine design practices aimed at a collective space morpho-typological redefinition, in order to submit carefully contextualized, resilient and sustainable housing solutions - both environmentally and socially - having health emergency exposed the society to a sudden housing condition fragilization, showing actual deficiencies especially for the weakest and most disadvantaged classes of the population.

Research objectives

- Identifying and/or evaluating the role of proximity collective spaces - both open and closed spaces - and their multi-scalar articulation in an urban form, within the variety of relations that take place in the "post-covid city", in the light of the problematic tensions that are established between the needs of health protection, health safety and social sustainability principles concerning inclusion, conviviality, participation and cooperation.
- Evaluating the relationship between collective, semi-collective, semi-private spaces and design topics of settlement density, functional mixité, reticularity and accessibility.



- Empirically implementing the interpretative hypotheses in a case study of an existing urban fabric requalification, assuming a perspective centred on the contextuality of an urban project.
- Submitting any design projects, in a dialogic and participatory way, through aggregative, typological, distributive, functional and managerial solutions, aimed at promoting new models of coexistence, even if centred on social housing management projects.

Methodology

Phase 1:

Analysis of scientific and cultural debate on the research topic

- Identifying key issues and innovative trends

Critical recognition of best practices in Italy and abroad

- Identifying success and failure factors

Identification and preliminary analysis of the case study

- Identifying spatial, functional and social components and emerging design themes

Phase 2:

Development of dialogic communication and participatory design methods

- Experimenting with the interactive dialogic and bottom-up approach of tactical urbanism

Phase 3:

Project development and ex-ante evaluation of outputs and outcomes of the intervention

Expected results

- Defining a reproducible, but open and flexible analysis/project methodology
- Defining qualitative and quantitative evaluation indicators of expected results
- Producing ad hoc guidelines

Bibliography

To be defined