

Towards an inclusive living environment in which people can grow old (Abstract)

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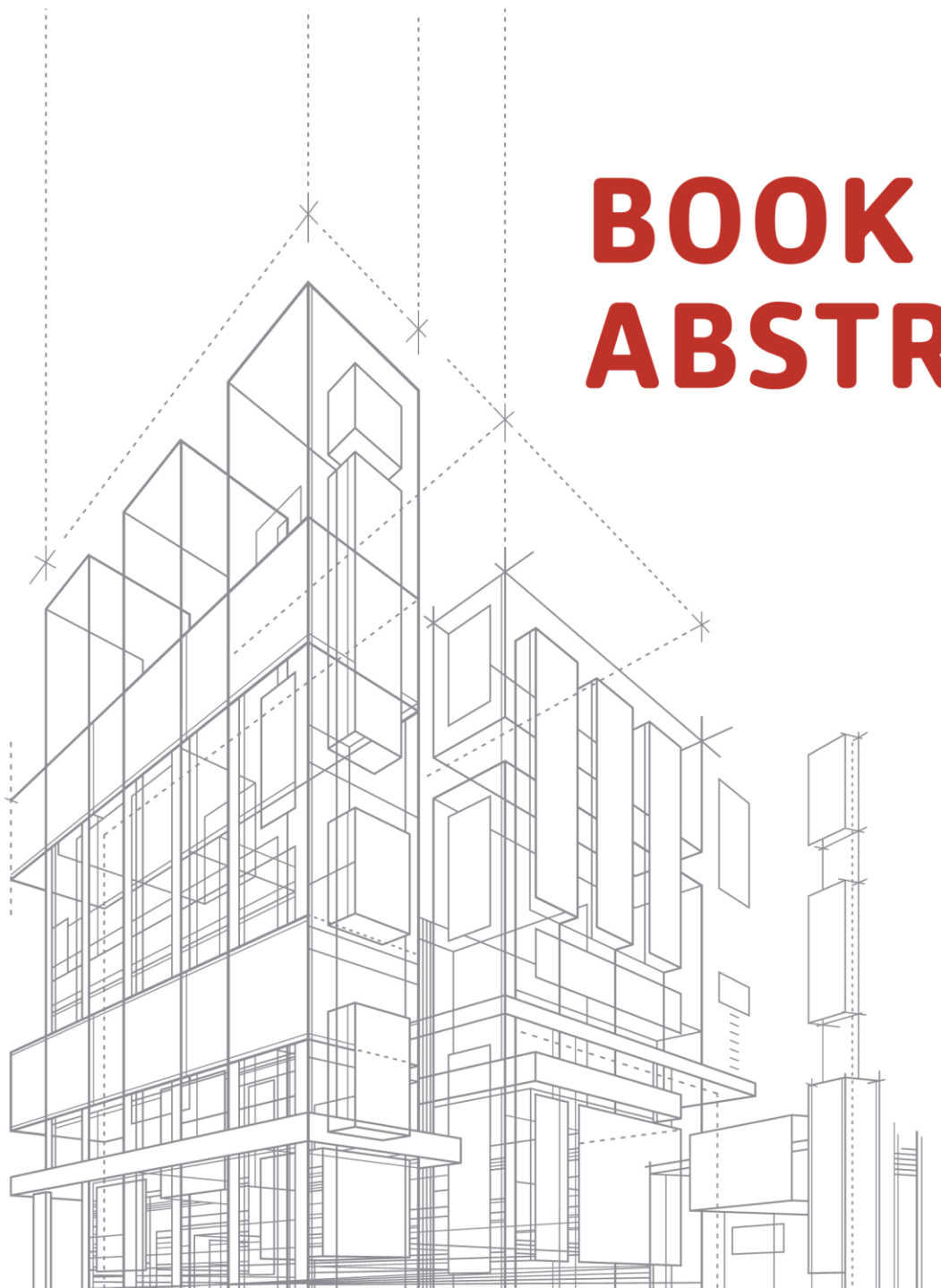
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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



Urban regeneration – shines and shadows
June 28-30, 2023 Lodz, Poland

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(Against) displacement for co-living in Venice

Laura Fregolent (IUAV- University of Venice, Italy), **Laura Colini** (IUAV- University of Venice, Italy)

Abstract

In response to the housing crisis in major European cities, collaborative housing models such as co-housing, co-living, and co-sharing have gained interest as a potential solution (Hagbert, et al,2019; Brandsen et al 2020; Lang, et al 2020). While these models are often intended to be non-market and non-speculative, the genuine meaning of collaborative housing might be co-opted by real estate developers who use the rhetoric to justify profit-driven urban renewal projects. This paper presents a case study of an ex-military barracks in Venice, which was initially occupied and restored by families for residential purposes due to the State's disinterest in refurbishing the asset for public social housing. This led to a contractual agreement for tenancy between the inhabitants and the State renewed regularly for over 50 years. Recently, a French real estate investor offered the purchase of the property for a culture & arts and energy-efficient co-habitation and co-working space, resulting in the eviction of the inhabitants. This paper argues that the combination of State inaction and real estate speculation using the rhetoric of co-living has led to the displacement and dispossession of inhabitants. It also examines how the inhabitants organised themselves against the State's policy of waiting for the best buyers to exploit prime development sites in Venice, as well as strategies for addressing State waiting and inaction in selling off these sites.

Keywords: housing, renewal, regeneration, displacement, financialization, culture & art, State inaction

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Towards an Inclusive Living Environment in which people can grow old

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Abstract

The ageing society asks for architectural designs in which people can grow old. However, our living environments are not well-equipped for this. Isolation, loneliness or neglect of the elderly are often seen results. What if we could create living environments for mixed communities, co-housing or other forms of living in which the elderly live among others and can be informally supported and empowered to keep a purpose in life? In 2022, 12 students studied a neighbourhood in The Hague in the

Netherlands to find answers to these questions. The integration of ethnographic research methods provided a unique opportunity for the student to meet their target population. Models and design solutions for new concepts of co-habitation were developed, answers on the level of transformation of existing houses, new houses and ideas for a co-neighbourhood with new amenities. The paper will explain the method, the process and show some interesting results.

Keywords: ageing society, ethnographic research methods , co-housing, co-neighbourhood

Housing cooperativism as a historically embedded process: A case study from Hungary

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Abstract

Housing cooperatives – as a specific form of collaborative housing – are once again widely discussed among different stakeholders in the field of housing, since at least the global financial crisis of 2008-2009. However, historical lessons learnt from the previous cycles of experimenting with this specific institutional form are rarely part of these discussions. Within this paper my main aim will be to demonstrate the contemporary importance of these past experiences through an analytical innovation. I argue that instead of focusing solely on the institutions of housing cooperatives, there is a need to apply a more processual and relational approach, which can be grasped with the notion of “housing cooperativism”. Through the case study of Hungary, I will show how different versions of housing cooperativism unfolded in different historical periods in the last 150 years, under different structural constraints. Building on the analysis of Coudroy de Lille (2015) focusing on Poland, the paper will analyze how these different versions ended up in deadlocks. In the conclusion I will argue that we might increase the sustainability of contemporary cooperative models if we take seriously the lessons learnt from analyzing housing cooperativism as a historically embedded process.

Housing cooperativism in Finland from 1920 to 2020. A century of co-opted experiments?

Daisy Charlesworth (Department of Human Geography, Lund University, Sweden), **Mika Hyötyläinen** (Institute for Housing and Urban Research, Uppsala University, Sweden)

Abstract

Despite a century of experimentation with housing cooperatives, it has never become an established tenure form in Finland. However, in light of rising housing unaffordability and insecurity in the private housing sector, and a retrenching social housing sector, we are seeing a resurgence of practical and political interest. The national government has expressed support, new housing initiatives are being established, and the state housing finance organization is investigating different financing options. Given this renewed interest and active role of the state, we consider it a pertinent moment to take