

## **Reflection for P4**

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### **Aspect 1: Relationship between research and design**

Research has greatly impacted the tendency and methodology during the design process despite certain deviations that seem to adapt to the design position and topic on hand over time. It occurs in two ways – the topic of interest, specifically the content of the research involving the site undergoes more specific connections to architectural strategies, and also the method of mapping, which has deviated from an interest in a mapping tool to a design tool. In the former (content-wise) the design is a reaction of the already acquired knowledge upon the site visit and processes of mappings and research; while the latter is a realisation that mapping or research does not amount to a design, and inputs to the design may be influenced, but not directly applicable from research – due to presence of site conditions, programs, or realisations from research deficiencies. Research brings much depth to what is initially perceived by the researcher at least, and design of the same calibre needs to tap into the same depth, in another way that may not be directly applicable using a research tool developed earlier. While it may be ideal that both research and design develops seamlessly, may not be possible afterall.

### **Aspect 2: relationship between theme of studio and subject chosen**

The topic on civil resistances and space is still very much related to Studio Border Condition's interest in the conflict of spaces and spaces of conflict. The 'urban revolution' is an urban condition that occurs almost anywhere where power relation is present - it reacts spatially and socially to the conditions given, and acts upon the environment again, in everyday and momentous events.

### **Aspect 3: the relationship between the methodical line of approach of the studio and the method chosen by the student in this framework**

Mapping uncovers the hidden potential of the territory. One of the objectives of the studio method is to use mapping as an integral tool during the design process of the project. The project departs from the insights gained from the research mapping, namely from its tools of representation and the social-spatial aspects of the site. The video mapping of the selected civil resistances along Tirana's axis is extended into the accumulation of virtual and real resistances with the Train Station as a territory of culmination.

### **Aspect 4: • the relationship between the project and the wider social context'**

The project addresses the role of architects in the participation of triggering social changes using spatial strategies. Bernard Tschumi contended the independent but interdependent relationship between space and events, actively acknowledging the potential of architects in accelerating the process of social and political change. Anybody with will and agenda can be capable of being part of the creation of the action of resistance and contribute to the urban revolution. But, having the means of hypothesising, representing or creating urban space endows architects with the role of addressing both action and space, and that should not be avoided in the endeavour towards urban change. Architectural thought can potentially relate architecture to the outcome of revolution, and this will prove much stronger than evaluating the role of spaces as being symbolic and objects of possession.

