Problem field
The war in former Yugoslavia has been over since 15 years, but in a lot of cities and communities the consequences of this time are still remarkable; not only by observing the condition of buildings or spaces, but also in the way the society has developed in these cities.

One of them is Mostar. The city is also known by the post-war situation that is facing a socio-spatial segregation. Its damaged urban fabric and more interesting divided society is still recognizable as consequences of the war during the nineties. Several places in this city are used as frontlines and division zones during the war. One of them is the Bulevar, that runs through the heart of the city and functionalities as a border between west and east Mostar. The four lane carriageway was constructed in the 1960s and whilst it was a barrier to the movement of people pre-war, it is now even more of a barrier post-war as it acts as division in the city — creating two territories on either side and a bleak landscape.

Research questions

How to create a new layer of public space in the city, by upgrading the existing socio-spatial patterns, to create new conditions to bridge the Bulevar?

RQ 1 What causes the division in the city?
RQ 2 What are the use patterns in the city?
RQ 3 What does public space mean in the city and which design patterns are essential to create these public spaces?
RQ 4 How can these patterns been translated into a design to bridge the division line?

Aim
The main aim is to activate the divided halves of the city and use the Bulevar as a catalyst by improving the existing public space. In other words, the goal is to give the Bulevar back to the city and unite both parts of the city.

By searching for successful places in the city that is been used by everyone, and determine the meaning of public space in this context there is been aimed to create a new layer of public space to enhance these qualities.

The Bulevar is not only a barrier in a physical sense but also in a psychological sense. This is where the sociological and spatial task cross each other.

Secondly, regeneration of post-war cities have a tendency to be reconstructed as quickly as possible. This goes together without thinking about current and future trends. So, it is important to react on the current needs that will influence these trends.

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to create new conditions to bridge the Bulevar?

Transforming the former frontline in Mostar (Bosnia & Herzegovina),
by using the existing network of public space in the city.