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Università Iuav di Venezia

DIPARTIMENTO DI
CULTURE DEL PROGETTO

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Centro nazionale di studi per le politiche urbane

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International conference “The regeneration of former military sites. Perspectives, debates and redevelopments in Italy, Spain and abroad”, Università IUAV di Venezia (Venice, Italy), 23-24 September 2021

The event (23-24 September 2021) offers an opportunity to open an in-depth debate and establish innovative collaborations among academics, public bodies and professionals on the issues of the former military sites in Italy, Spain and abroad (i.e., the Italian Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Development, State Property Agency, public and territorial bodies, and corresponding entities in Spain and abroad).

The multidisciplinary approach to the topic aims also to establish a constructive and virtuous dialogue on the issues regarding the reuse of former military sites. The proposed themes places special emphasis not only on legislation for the disposal of MoD assets, participatory approaches and urban-architectural projects. This dialogue encourages also less-analysed issues related to MoD assets in the field of urban studies, i.e. public debt, financial constraints, buildings with historical-artistic value, and so on.

This call for papers aims to bring together Italian, Spanish and international academic experts interested in the decommissioning and redevelopment of the Army, Navy and Air Force real estate-assets (airports, arsenals, barracks, depots and warehouses, lighthouses, firing ranges, etc.). The objective is to partially fill the gap in the field of urban studies, specifically in terms of territorial government.

The conference themes are the following:

1) Administrative, regulatory, and procedural aspects

- Regulatory and procedural aspects regarding the disposal of military real-estate assets; issues of public funding and public-private partnerships for the management of real estate operations; bureaucratic procedures, public tenders, and approval and/or modification of urban planning instruments;

programmes and procedures for the disposal and regeneration (in Italy see, for instance, federalism state property, *Valore Paese* and Federal Building; in Spain the so-called *convenios urbanísticos*; and other kind of initiatives taken abroad).

2) Inventory and knowledge of the current status

- Inventory of the military presence in a specific territory (at municipal, provincial, regional, and state level) and the current state of MoD assets (alienated, under working for the reuse, reused, abandoned, underused, etc.).

3) Urban management, spatial governance and urban regeneration

- Relationship between regulatory apparatus, urban policies and real estate market dynamics; issues of contamination and decontamination; military compounds with historical-artistic, landscape and/or environmental value; bottom-up and top-down decision-making approaches; sustainability and resilience in the redevelopment processes of abandoned military land; concept of public goods (i.e. urban commons) and construction of the “public city”; regeneration of former military areas in post-emergency territories, in particular in relation to the spread of the pandemic, its effects, and new territorial demands;

- Analysis of the successful cases of reuse of military land into civil functions. The period of study includes the disposal programmes/processes since the late 20th century, such as the Italian 1997 Financial Bill and the establishment of the Spanish *Gerencia de Infraestructuras de la Defensa* in 1984;

- Inclusion of the third sector and local population (and/or innovative professionals, start-ups and creative enterprises) in the redevelopment processes. Also, the demands of the citizens to create new functions according to their needs;

- Experimental actions linked to new governance tools for the reuse of decommissioned military assets (e.g. the Italian experience of “*Valore*

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Paese - Cammini e Percorsi” for the re-use of public buildings in services and authentic experiences for hikers, pilgrims and cyclists, in line with the slow travel philosophy).

4) City-making process

- Historical approaches to the significance of military presence in Italy, Spain and abroad from the 19th century onwards in terms of building, dismantling, and redevelopment. This aspect can be developed according to the building of the military settlements (in relation, for example, to the 19th-century Liberalism, the Italian Unification, the dictatorial periods in both Italy and Spain, and the Cold War) and the processes of abandonment and redevelopment;

- Analysis of military assets in their condition of high-consuming land. This conception encourages to broaden the perspectives of the Conference’s themes with two goals. First, to compare the management of military land to other types of high-consuming land, such as railways, industries, markets, hospitals, and so on. Second, to better understand the city-making process based on different types of high-consuming land.

5) International casuistry

- Studies on the cases of redevelopment of former military sites implemented in other European countries in comparison with the Italian and Spanish experience. The aim is to create a new research perspectives and learning processes;

- An in-depth look at the European projects and funding (i.e., Konver, Maps, etc.) for the reconversion of decommissioned military assets in Europe from the 1990s onwards, with a focus on the ex post effects;

- In-depth analysis and ex-post survey of both European projects (i.e. Konver, Maps, etc.) for the reuse of disused military assets in Europe from the 1990s and international cooperation programmes (i.e. INTERREG) for the preservation, protection and enhancement of cultural heritage;

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- Case studies from non-European territories related to the themes of the conference.

Then, the proposed themes will be divided into specific sessions for the Conference. The thematic sessions will support the public and cultural debate on the redevelopment of the Italian, Spanish and foreign cities and territories based on former military land, also to outline new theoretical and applied methodologies.

The conference is organised in the context of the research project “Former military sites as urban-territorial opportunities in Spain and in Italy: a qualitative classification as an indicator for sustainable and resilient regeneration in post emergency territories” (“GoforIT” programme of Fondazione CRUI – The Conference of Italian University Rectors; abroad partners: Instituto Universitario de Urbanística dell’Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura, Universidad UVA de Valladolid and Cylstat). The contributions presented will be published in a collective volume. In addition, the selection of a number of contributions will be proposed in a special issue of one or more national/international scientific journals.

SENDING THE ABSTRACT

To participate, please send the title of your proposal (maximum 150 characters), an abstract of 2,000 characters maximum, three keywords and a short CV (maximum 1,000 characters). Proposals must be sent in English, Italian or Spanish.

REGISTRATION

After the selection of the abstracts, it is compulsory to confirm the registration to the conference by e-mail to fcamerin@iuav.it in order to receive the certificate of participation and for the publication of the conference proceedings in a collective volume. **Participation is free of charge thanks to a contribution from the 2021 Research Funds of the Dipartimento Culture del Progetto–Università IUAV di Venezia.**

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PUBLICATION OF THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

All the papers presented at the Conference will be published in a collective volume in Italian, Spanish and English edited by Federico Camerin (subject to a double-peer review process). In addition, a selection of papers will be proposed for a special issue of one or more scientific journals with national/international circulation.

DEADLINE

xx/xx/xx: launching the call for papers

30/06/2021: sending the proposals to fcamerin@iuav.it

10/07/2021: communication of acceptance of proposals

01/09/2021: final conference programme

23/09/2021: send papers for the double-peer review

23-24/09/2021: online conference

15/10/2021: results of the double-peer review

31/10/2021: acceptance of papers

30/11/2021: contact for special issue in one or more national/international scientific journals

Xx/xx/xx/xx: publication of collective volume

Conference venue

The conference will take place online on a platform to define

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Federico Camerin

Francesco Gastaldi

Contact email: fcamerin@iuav.it

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Álvarez Mora Alfonso, Universidad UVA de Valladolid (Spain)

Balletto Ginevra, Università degli Studi di Cagliari (Italy)

Bonfantini Giuseppe Bertrando, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Camerin Federico, Università IUAV di Venezia (Italy)

de Ureña Francés José María, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha (Spain)

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Temes-Cordovez Rafael, Universitat Politècnica de València (Spain)
Valverde Díaz de León Carlos Francisco, Universidad Iberoamericana de Puebla (Mexico)

EDITORIAL RULES FOR THE FULL PAPER

Papers (written in Italian, Spanish or English) will be submitted to a double peer review procedure and should not exceed 20,000 characters (bibliography, notes and spaces included). Further information regarding the typesetting instructions will be announced soon. Contributions exceeding the allowed characters will not be accepted.

The Coordinators of the Conference,

Federico Camerin & Francesco Gastaldi
Valladolid (Spain)-Venice (Italy), late April 2021