

# CARE

## Cities As creative, crises-Responsive Environments

Towards a common manifesto of  
innovative solutions for the contemporary city

International Symposium  
29th – 30th September 2022, Bologna

Organising Institutions:



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI ECCELLENZA MIUR  
(L.232 DEL 1/12/2016)



Hosting Institution:



In collaboration with:



UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI  
POWER OF THOUGHT  
1640-2015



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
BIBLIOTECA UNIVERSITARIA DI BOLOGNA

Under the patronage of:



## **CARE: Cities As creative, crises-Responsive Environments**

### **Towards a common manifesto of innovative solutions for the contemporary city**

International Symposium  
29th –30th September 2022, Bologna

“Crisis” comes from the Greek *krinō* meaning ‘a decision made by a jury’. As a Latin word, ‘decision’ comes from *de-caedere*, to cut. In medical terms, this term is based on a practical concept: ‘to sift’, to choose the activity of the Greeks when they sifted the grain seeds. The crisis represents the moment of choice, it indicates the unexpected modification of a physiological state, sudden and unpredictable because it radically changes previous conditions. In all aspects in which ‘crisis’ is conjugated, it indicates a distinct bifurcation, a change in the previous condition (modification or disappearance).

Despite its original meaning, we are accustomed to thinking of the crisis as a sharp fracture, rather than as the opening of a new path. Is it possible to reverse this perspective and achieve new depth in our interpretation of (and response to) crises? Some authors have reflected on how crises are reached and what causes this sharp bifurcation, focusing on the current critical situations that generate the vulnerabilities we are dealing with, as the result of a slow evolutionary path of our species.

Zardini (Doglio and Zardini, 2021) traces today's crisis back to the 1970s, outlining what appears to be a long climatic-environmental, energy, health crisis, which also affects institutions, professions and the modern project itself. Similarly, Serres (2015) addresses the 2007 financial crisis, identifying major ‘critical’ events that have been on the way for a long time and relate to the slow pace of the relationship between mankind, the earth and technology. Latour (2017) does not speak of a crisis as a contingent and removable event, but of a perennial condition that humans have to continuously prepare for (and adapt to). This

challenges the idea of crisis as a decisive moment of upheaval of the political order, replaced by an understanding of crisis as a lasting condition from which there is no escape, and which requires us to “adopt tactics more than strategies” (Pasqui, 2012) in a permanently temporary way.

Crisis is a powerful engine of urban change. It allows us to perceive disruptions, without perhaps making us sufficiently aware of continuities, of the profound solidarity of everyday practices, its embeddedness in a work of care. Solidarity, continuity, care produce differences, in a perspective that tries to think of crises in a continuum of practices and in their articulations. Every time the weights and balances change, they deposit in the city, generating new imaginaries (Brissette 2016). The use of these imaginaries allows to recover theories and models well established in history, urban planning and architectural research: the flexibility and adaptability of consolidated urban systems and spaces, the territorial proximity of architectural systems, the stable involvement of citizens in government decisions.

Crises are also a lens to understand how people behave in their living environments. The COVID-19 pandemic crisis, for instance, showed how well designed open public spaces were able to meet the needs of communities during the lockdown phase, demonstrating their degree of resilience to the new way of experiencing social distance in everyday life (Gehl, 2021). At the same time, at the social level, many solutions originated from the bottom-up and staged new ways of inhabiting common spaces, producing new mutualistic, creative and collective practices in response to isolation and marginalization: a care-as-citizenship model (Tronto 2013) which redefines the meanings

and values of social action in the urban space – adding a layer to the framework in the history of solidarity of European cities (Cicchi et al. 2021).

Cities can also be considered as palimpsest through which to acknowledge the different stratifications - some more evident than others - built up and overlapped over time. They are indispensable to trace civic life, events or processes that generated their form, economy, history and culture, composing a common 'heritage' of solutions, treatments and strategies to learn from.

Starting from these manifold intersections between crisis and care in the urban environment, CARE: Cities As creative, crisis-Responsive Environments aims to collect reflections and contributions on how consolidated urban contexts/cities have demonstrated their creative ability to take new lasting paths or escapes and their degree of preparedness to unexpected changes and challenges, implementing and inspiring tactics that serve as lessons-learned to address long-term and future crises.

Topics of investigation include urban transformations, policies, innovative programs and tools, bottom-up initiatives, adaptive reuses, historical investigations, unconventional cartographies, etc.

## References

- Brissette, E. (2016). The Prefigurative Is Political: On Politics Beyond 'The State'. In A. C. Dinerstein (ed.), *Social sciences for another politics. Women theorizing without parachutes*, pp. 109-120. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Cicchi, L., Genschel, P., Hemerijck, A., & Nasr, M. (2020). *EU solidarity in times of Covid-19*. European University Institute.
- Doglio, F., & Zardini, M. (2021). *Dopo le crisi. 1973, 2001, 2008, 2020* (Vol. 1). LetteraVentidue Edizioni.
- Driessen, J. (1995). «Crisis architecture»? Some Observations on Architectural Adaptations as Immediate Responses to Changing Socio-Cultural Conditions. *Topoi. Orient-Occident*, 5(1), 63-88.
- Kaika, M. (2010). Architecture and crisis: re-inventing the icon, re-imag(in)ing London and re-branding the City. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 35(4), 453-474.
- Latour, B. (2017). *Facing Gaia: Eight lectures on the new climatic regime*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Pasqui, G. (2012). *Tra repubblica e democrazia. Alcune riflessioni sulle prospettive delle pratiche urbanistiche*. *Crios*, 2(1), 59-70.
- Serres, M. (2015). *Temps des crises*. Le Pommier.
- Tronto, J. C. (2013), *Caring democracy: Markets, equality, and justice*. NYU Press
- Gehl - Making Cities for People (2021). Public Space & Public Life during COVID 19. <https://covid19.gehlpeople.com/>

## Program

### > Day 1 | 29th September

Aula Magna

BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

#### 13:00-13:30 | OPENING

13.00-13.20

*Introduction*

**Danila Longo**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna; TRACE team coordinator

13.20-13.30

*Welcome greetings*

**Mario Losasso**, President of SitdA - the Italian Society of Technology of Architecture

#### 13:30-15:00 | HERITAGE AND CRISES

**Cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, as resource and field of application of risk mitigation initiatives, safeguarding, conservation and enhancement actions addressing crises matters.**

Chair | **Rossella Roversi**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

13:40-14.00

Keynote speaker | **Roberto di Giulio**, Department of Architecture - University of Ferrara

*Heritage and Crises in the Digital Age*

14:00-14.15

Invited speaker | **Franco Niccolucci and Paola Ronzino**, VAST-LAB, PIN S.C.r.L.  
*Smart cities and digital twins*

14:15-14.30

Invited speakers | **Marco Pretelli and Leila Signorelli**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

*Getting through pandemic. Enhancing preservation and health in artistic and cultural sites.*

14:30-14:45

Invited speaker | **Chiara Mariotti**, Department of Civil, Construction and Architecture Engineering - Università Politecnica delle Marche  
*Managing Crisis by managing heritage. Enhancement tactics for historic cities in transition*

Coffee break

#### 15:15-17:00 | URBAN CRISES IN HISTORY

**Lessons learned from historical experiences, surveys, memories, sudden changes, unexpected events, and so forth, to draw up and experiment solutions and hints responsive to multiple and urban crises conditions.**

Chair | **Martina Massari**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

15:25-15:45

Keynote speaker | **Valentina Orioli**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna; Counselor at the Municipality of Bologna, in charge of New mobility, infrastructure, liveability and care of public space, enhancement of cultural heritage and Unesco Porticoes, Green Footprint Project and urban parks.

*Cities facing crises. Is Urban planning still a good tool for adaptation?*

15:45-16:00

Invited speaker | **Laura Kolbe**, Department of History - University of Helsinki  
*In the aftermath of world war, revolutions, and civil wars in 1918-1939. The role of urban planning in shaping modern nations and capital cities in Eastern Europe*

16:00-16:15

Invited speaker | **Mika Mäkelä**, Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies (Urbaria) - University of Helsinki  
*Urban renewal of the workers district Kallio 1933-1986*

16:15-16:30

Invited speaker | **Ines Tolic**, Department of the Arts - University of Bologna  
*"Adorable Crisis". The city tested by the Great Depression and other economic disasters*

16:30-16:50

Invited speaker | **Peter Clark**, Department of History - University of Helsinki  
*Cities and Crises: Patterns of Memorialisation*

### **17:00-17:15 | CLOSURE**

\*

### **> Day 2 | 30th September | 09.00 - 17.00**

Aula Magna  
BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

### **09:00-10:00 | OPENING**

09.00-09.10

*Opening remarks*

**Danila Longo**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna, TRACE team coordinator

09.10 - 09.20

*Welcome greetings*

**Fabrizio Ivan Apollonio**, Director Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

### **09.20 - 10.00 | OPENING SPEECHES**

09.20 - 09:40

Invited speaker | **Sorcha Edwards**, Secretary-General of Housing Europe

*The EU and Housing – How is the supra-national framework adapting to growing local problems*

09:40-10:00

Invited speaker | **Massimo Iosa Ghini**, Iosa Ghini Associati  
*Garden City*

Coffee break

### **10:30-13:00 | CRISES PREPAREDNESS OF CONTEMPORARY CITIES**

**Urban environments at different scale are intended as the main scenario with respect to which explore proactive tools, technologies, projects, initiatives and policies tackling a wide range of crises and challenges involving the environmental, climatic, social, political, economic, spatial, educational, migration, residential, etc. dimension.**

Chair | **Serena Orlandi**, Department of Architecture - University of Bologna

10:40-11:00

Keynote speaker | **Annalisa Boni**, Deputy Mayor for EU/Recovery funds, ecological transition and international relations - Municipality of Bologna

*Climate neutrality by 2030: mission (im)possible?*

11:00-11:15

Invited speaker | **Carlo Alberto Nucci**,  
Department of Electrical, Electronic, and  
Information Engineering “Guglielmo Marconi” –  
University of Bologna  
*Climate Neutral and Smart Cities: the EU view*

11:15-11:30

Invited speaker | **Francesca Gotti**, Department  
of Architecture and Urban Studies - Politecnico di  
Milano  
*Critical spatial practices for empowerment*

11:30-11:45

Invited speaker | **Camillo Boano**, Bartlett  
Development Planning Unit - Bartlett University  
of London; Inter-university Department of  
Regional and Urban Studies and Planning -  
Politecnico di Torino  
*Care as adjacency. Thinking possibilities for the  
urban project with care and repair at the urban  
margins*

11:45-12:00

Invited speaker | **Saveria Olga  
Boulanger**, Department of Architecture -  
University of Bologna  
*Energy communities as a strategy for the  
contemporary energy crisis in Europe. A utopia  
for the future or a viable answer? Reflections  
from the GRETA project*

12:00-12:15

Invited speaker | **Gabriele Manella**, Department  
of Sociology and Business Law - University of  
Bologna  
*Dealing with sprawl: ambitions and challenges.  
Reflections from the cases of Portland, Denver  
and Minneapolis*

12:15-12:30

Invited speaker | **Gisèle Gantois**, Faculty and  
Department of Architecture - KU Leuven  
*A post-industrial landscape as a future-oriented  
(re-)generative driver for a sustainable living  
environment*

Light lunch

**14.00-16.00 | RETHINKING URBAN  
SPACES AND FORMATS OF CULTURE**  
**Cultural formats, programmes, ecosystems  
and networks, collaborative projects,  
temporary interventions, etc. involving urban  
public spaces, including unconventional  
ones, represent additional and integrative  
tools for responding to contemporary crises.**

Chair | **Francesca Sabatini**, Department of  
Architecture, University of Bologna

14.10-14:30

Keynote speaker | **Raffaele Laudani**,  
Department of History and Cultures - University  
of Bologna; Deputy Mayor for Urban Planning,  
Patrimony, University and Research - Municipality  
of Bologna  
*Urbs, Civitas, Domus, Foedus: new challenges in  
the government of urban spaces in the example  
of the Bologna “city of Knowledge” flagship  
program*

14:30-14:45

Invited speaker | **Michele Trimarchi**,  
Department of Law, Economics and Sociology -  
University of Catanzaro Magna Graecia  
*Unformatting the city: the challenge of emerging  
complexities urban eco-systems and evolutionary  
species*

14:45-15:00

Invited speaker | **Alissa Diesch**, Institute of Urban Design and Planning - Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH)

*Bogotá - how culture is co-producing urban space to tackle multiple crisis*

15:00-15:15

Invited speaker | **Alice Borch**, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures - University of Leeds

*Waves of crisis in urban cultural policy and practices: a matter of value*

15:15-15:30

Invited speaker | **Ioanni Delsante and Tabassum Ahmed**, Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Architecture and Territory Unit - University of Pavia

Department of Design & The Built Environment, School of Arts and Humanities - University of Huddersfield (UK)

*Innovating tools towards mobilising creative and collective practices of commoning*

15:30-15:45

Invited speaker | **Annalisa Trentin**, Department of Architecture, University of Bologna

*Tbilisi – a new role for the architecture of soviet modernism*

Coffee break

## **16:15-17:00 | WRAP-UP AND CLOSURE**

## **Credits**

### **Scientific committee**

Andrea Boeri, Danila Longo, Beatrice Turillazzi, Peter Clark, Laura Kolbe, Mika Mäkelä, Martina Massari, Serena Orlandi, Rossella Roversi, Francesca Sabatini, Saveria Boulanger, Serena Pagliula, Giulia Turci, Carlotta Trippa.

### **Hosting Institution**

TRACE - Technology and Resilience in Architecture, Construction and Environment

### **Organising Institutions**

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Department of Architecture (MIUR Department of Excellence)

FAM Fondazione Alma Mater

In collaboration with:

URBARIA - Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies, University of Helsinki

BUB - Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna

Under the patronage of:

SITdA - the Italian Society of Technology of Architecture

Association of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators of Bologna

Association of Engineers of the Province of Bologna

Municipality of Bologna

### **Symposium Office**

Martina Massari, Serena Orlandi, Rossella Roversi, Francesca Sabatini, Carlotta Trippa.

### **Contact**

caresymposium2022@gmail.com

### **Official website**

<https://events.unibo.it/care-symposium-bologna-2022>