

# NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2018

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

## TS-07

### INFLUENCE OF REFUGEES ON SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE

*Keywords: Tangible Heritage; Intangible Heritage; Urban/Rural Areas; Spatial Development; Refugees.*

In history of Europe refugees play particular role. Throughout the ages, refugees coming from outside Europe, including Jews and Armenians, took a part in development of urban life and architecture in many European cities. Refugees from other European countries, especially – but not only - Italians, Germans and Poles contributed in past to their new places of living bringing different knowledge or at least labour power as well as building tradition.

Nowadays, we have in Europe an increasing number of refugees from diverse countries in terms of culture. Inner areas and municipalities in border regions face challenges of providing services to welcome a large inflow of migrants in relation to the local population. In urban areas and metropolitan cities, concerns are more related to housing and ethnic segregation.

The question is, if we are able to adopt them and create an “added value” on the basis of their culture? Intangible culture consists of knowledge, skills, customs and tradition, and religion. These elements are usually visible for us in the first moment just partially, especially in the field of customs and religion. However, taking into consideration knowledge and skills, we may get a different view of certain cultures. It is important to use these elements of other cultures in development of our European building environment.

On the base of our historic experience we know that it is better to give the refugees possibility of widely understood development than keep them under umbrella of continuous financial and organizational help. Migrants and refugees may contribute to the local market and reducing demographic imbalances, especially in inner European regions. Thanks to participation of refugees in “normal” daily life they may become members of the European society, sharing our rights and obligations, as well as enriching development of the building environment both in aesthetic, productive and technical field; thus, we are talking about profit with principles.

Considering contemporary “problem” of refugees in interdisciplinary way, we have the next possibility to involve people coming from other parts of the world into development of our European culture and architecture, which remains its important, tangible part.

The main question is, how to make it? And, can we use our historic experience in this new situation? Last but not least, is it possible at all?

#### CHAIR

**Tomasz Malec** - Istanbul Kemerburgaz University

**Giuseppe Fera** - Dept. of Architecture and Territory - DARTE, University „Mediterranea” of Reggio Calabria.

