

NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2018

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

TS-11

DESIGNING URBAN SAFETY AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A NEW QUALITY OF COMMON SPACES

Keywords: Urban Safety; Safe Places; Heritage; Soft Mobility; Urban Ecological Network.

Urban safety is a precondition for development that requires continuous efforts to achieve and maintain satisfactory and ever-increasing quality standards. To improve urban security, it is possible to use the most innovative technologies and methodologies that are increasingly refined to allow comparison of effects in different realities.

The urban safety project can be seen as an opportunity to increase the urban quality of the common spaces lived in the daily life and in areas of high seismic and environmental risk (natural and cultural); then it must aim at the creation of the secure network of urban sites. It is important to transform the „safe islands“, too often „sheltered“ places for emergencies, into areas of sociality that raise livability and urban quality. The theme is not limited to the safety of the single building that has to respond to the anti-seismic approaches but mainly concerns its inclusion in the urban area which must ensure adequate places safely reached in case of disaster. Flood, landslide, dredging phenomena accentuate the overall risk and must be taken into account by the seasonal and annual maintenance plans that are an integral part of security projects.

Designing urban safety also means strengthening the community's cultural level to create awareness and commitment on the concept of common good and respect for asset allocation in terms of urban civilization and living together. Educating safety means transmitting the perception that places are easy to reach and enjoyable to live. Educating safety means transmitting the perception that places are easy to reach and enjoyable to live. It also means networking and facilitating the accessibility of areas and places where it's possible to play cultural activities to facilitate individual and collective growth and the exchange of experiences. An investment in human capital and on the sense of citizenship requires a redesign of public mobility towards soft mobility and a rethinking of the times and the ways of access and enjoyment of the city's core places. Working in a network logic means connecting significant places for urban identity and security, also drawing from the methodologies experienced in the projects of the urban ecological network; more so because they are often the same places or because they belong to intersecting and sometimes superimposed networks.

It invites us to reflect on the urban heritage safety project that requires a subtle balance (and a wise discernment of the main points to maintain) between the activities of protection of historical and architectural values and the process of renewal and regeneration that is indispensable to the continuous creative evolve of city and its parts.

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