



AESOP 16th Young Academics Conference :
IN SEARCH OF WELL-BEING IN
LIMINALITY: NO LONGER
NOT YET

AESOP YA 2022
Book of Abstracts

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Istanbul



YTU



METU

AESOP YA 2022 - Book of Abstracts

AESOP 16th Young Academics Conference: In Search of Well-Being in Liminality: No Longer-Not Yet

Organized by Middle East Technical University (METU) and Yildiz Technical University (YTU)
Istanbul, Turkey, 5 – 8 April 2022

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The global situation influenced by the ongoing CoViD-19 pandemics and currently the aggression against Ukraine have significantly affected activities of AESOP Young Academics and nearly all traditional academic events. Implications have been either cancellation of numerous networking events or a drastic shift towards online and hybrid events. One could say that us, academics, have gotten used to it and it has become the 'new normal', however, it is clear that online participation can never fully supersede face-to-face contact. The YA Conference is one of the most important mediums of interaction for the network. This activity has been canceled in 2020, online in 2021 and will be a hybrid event this year, clearly showing the large difficulties we have been facing.

We are very proud to have the 16th Young Academics Conference with the theme "In Search of Well-Being in Liminality: No Longer-Not Yet" taking place in Istanbul with the majority of participants joining in situ.

It is an opportunity to meet new friends and old friends, discuss research and related topics and lead intellectually stimulating debates with peers as well as more senior colleagues from distinguished institutions. On the other hand, over the past two years, we have learned to utilize tools that accommodate online participation so that those who cannot join, can have a solid experience and advance their academic work.

The conference theme is raising an ever more significant issue of wellbeing from the broadest point of view, including mental well-being. This is, luckily, becoming a serious debate topic as young academics are often struggling to keep up with their fellows and mental health issues have been neglected for many. This issue, together with others, such as peer-reviewing, will be further discussed during the Conference's accompanying events.

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Introduction | In Search of Well-Being in Liminality: No Longer-Not Yet

Nowadays, cities are facing many situations such as climate change, technological transformations, population movements, economic crises, pandemics, and so on. It is an urgent necessity to cope with and adapt to these expected or unexpected situations. This process, in which traditional facts become dysfunctional and classical methods remain insufficient, brings the need to reconsider cities and planning discipline with creative and innovative approaches. Understanding cities and dealing with planning approaches with the interdisciplinary perspective of young researchers become essential in this context.

This conference aims to discuss how 'well-being' can be achieved for the whole society with a comprehensive and holistic perspective under the liminal and uncertain conditions that cities experience. In this regard, we welcome papers with a conceptual, constructive, empirical, experimental, or theoretical framework in all areas and different scales of city and regional planning and urban studies. These debates are handled in different urban contexts and in regions of various geographies around the world. Thus, young scholars are expected to investigate the concepts of cities not only for the Global North but also for the Global South.

Within the framework of the conference, five tracks covering a broad range of topics, perspectives and discussions on the main theme are sequenced as follows:

- 1. Contemporary Issues in Planning Approaches,**
- 2. Emerging Global Crises: Towards Sustainable and Resilient Cities,**
- 3. In Search of Inclusiveness for Socio-Spatial Justice,**
- 4. Bridging Past and Present to Future: Heritage and Beyond,**
- 5. Re-interpreting Publicness in Everyday Life.**

The 16th AESOP Young Academics Conference has been carried out with the theme "In Search of Well-Being in Liminality: No Longer-Not Yet". The conference has been organized in cooperation with Middle East Technical University & Yıldız Technical University and has taken place on April 5-8, 2022 in Istanbul, Turkey.

The conference includes 5 keynote talks where Ali Madanipour, Angela Colucci, Giancarlo Cotella, Jan Rath, Müge Akkar Ercan represent the chairs respectfully. Accordingly, there are 14 parallel sessions for young academics to present their research, 3 workshops, and a field trip in Istanbul.

As The Local Organizing Committee and the YA Coordination Team, we are grateful to all the conference participants, chairpersons and keynote speakers, and all who contributed to the AESOP YA 2022 Conference.

TRACK 5 | Re-interpreting Publicness in Everyday Life

Recently, meaning and perception of publicness has been transformed by the evolving dynamics in public space provision and management. The traditional meaning, perception and way of experiencing public spaces has been changing as a result of the emerging conditions such as digitalization, covid-19 pandemic, mass migrations and public-private dichotomy. Within the liminal conditions, many topics including human behavior, rituals in urban life, social interactions are subject to re-examination and re-interpretation in the pursuit of well-being. Likewise, the diminishing boundaries at the global scale requires the re-consideration of people-place/space-everyday life relationships with a particular focus on changing socio-spatial dynamics in urban context.

Urban researchers have the capacity to explore new approaches and perspectives for the well-being of society utilizing the possibilities that can be found in this transitory period by revisiting the public space and everyday life. In this sense, this track interrogates everyday life and emerging practices of publicness addressing the social interactions, production and reproduction of public space. The following list, among others, covers the topics to be presented within this track:

KEYWORDS

Human Behavior
Urban Form and Design
Urban Rituals and Cultures
Space, Place, and Place-lessness
Interaction and Communication
Meaning and Identity
Spaces of Transition
In-betweenness/Threshold
Heterotopia
Commonality
Neighborhood/Community Space
Appropriation and/or Production of Public Space

DAILY MOBILITY PATTERNS: PUBLICNESS AS A LIVED EXPERIENCE IN A HIDDEN PEDESTRIAN HUB

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Abstract

Publicness can be considered as a way of experiencing the contemporary city. In creating publicness, we often focus just on places. There is ambiguity about publicness in transport infrastructure point as place or non-place. In that space, groups of individuals are formed, all set on the goal of reaching a destination. That groups can be named momentary communities. This paper sets out to examine how momentary communities have formed, their needs and aspects of usage, and how they have brought publicness as a lived experience.

The study area is Mostar Interchange - an important transport point of Belgrade that connects the city and highway system. It is an intersection point of civic and transport infrastructure. At the same time, interchange connects and separates the city. Historically, by its forming, it erased this part of the city and made the radical cut in the urban tissue. Today, the important parts of the development of the city are urban tissue toward the center, as well as the riverfront, while the transport part remains neglected and witnesses radical urban changes in its environment. Therefore, this space can be considered as a liminal space that has potential.

The purpose of this paper is to open the questions and reconsider possibilities of inquiries values of liminal spaces treatment, especially in the context of planning practice. In that sense, the focus of methodology is on literature review, historic research, and walking interview as input data and observations as mapping (urban reading) through different frameworks, and also testing that combined approach in the pedestrian hub of Mostar Interchange as a case study of liminal space. The results should show that although interchange is a liminal space, it has its hidden values in the daily mobility patterns of users that reveal the life of a pedestrian hub with its rules and problems. It is necessary to work on new pedestrian mobility in the development of this space in the city which will include neglected needs of momentary communities.

Keywords: transport infrastructure, pedestrian behaviour, daily urban pattern, hidden publicness, momentary community

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