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Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:

1. Paper / Proposal Title:

Bare lives in invisible cities: The example of a setting of A Stopover

2. Format: Written paper

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Environmental Design in Architecture (September 2015)

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6. Abstract (300 words):

This paper deals with, what we call, "Bare lives in invisible cities". Bare lives are defined as the subjects while invisible cities is the space in which they move, live temporarily or for a long time.

A) Who are those that have no permanent home, change settings, etc. not because of choice but because of conditions? The stage has been set, the roles are given and the dis-placed people become the central characters of the drama being unfolded lately. The specific groups of people being referred here are refugees, requiring asylum, immigrants or illegal immigrants; Bare lives, that left forcibly from their grounds, due to political, economic, geographic reasons etc.

B) This research, having defined its subjects, attempts to set them in the invisible cities' grounds. What is the definition of an invisible city? Where is it located? What kind of new spatial relations are formed; what is the role of the architect under these new conditions; which alternatives are recommended; these are some questions that require answering.

C) Our design proposal which will be presented in this paper, aims to facilitate those who are dis-placed, proposing an experimental design of a reception area, a meeting place; an open centre for accommodating asylum seekers IN the city. The main idea is to use a minimum - standard functional unit, which is a slightly modified container. Most of the materials that are going to be used are recycled, together with bricklayers, cast concrete, glass etc. in order to create volumes of a rhythmic diversity.

Our intention is not to stage a tearful drama of displacement but to lead one's 'view' in other visual sights of architecture, in theory and in practice, in which 'many will see, but a few will perceive.' Presenting an alternative architectural solution in 'extreme conditions', this paper aims to discuss a new type of co-habitation in the city.

Keywords: architecture, refugees, asylum seekers, recycled materials, green architecture, stopover, diversity, container, social support

7. Author(s) Biography (200 words maximum for all authors):

Fani Vavili-Tsinika

Professor Fani Vavili, MA, PhD, is teaching and practicing architecture. She is teaching architectural synthesis for over 40 years, School of Architecture AUTH, Greece and Supervised diploma, research thesis and PhD thesis. Member of many organizations in Greece and internationally (alternate member UIA council, executive member UIA-PHG (International Union of Architects / Public Health Group), chairwoman Greek UIA, co-founder of GUPHA (Global University Programs in Healthcare) etc., jury member of international and Greek architectural competitions, editor SMC magazine etc.

She has published articles, research results etc. books: Designing for the Elderly, Designing for Mental Health, Aspects of Healing Environments, Arts in Health Care Buildings, Teaching Architecture in Extreme Conditions, Planning & Designing Public Libraries etc.

Elina Triantafyllidou

Elina Triantafyllidou is an Architect (AUTH, Greece, September 2013), MSc Sustainable Environmental Design in Architecture (University of Liverpool, September 2015). Excelled in the Research Final Thesis and Design Dissertation. Her Diploma Design Dissertation was chosen to be part of the Student Exhibition of the Greek Pavilion in the 25th International Union of Architects World Congress of UIA, titled "Architecture Otherwhere" in Durban, August 2014. Her visits to various destinations in Europe and Asia were challenging to learn to "read" architecture. Seeks out those opportunities that will allow her, responsibly and wisely, to contribute in giving space in Architecture.