

Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Housing Agenda: Past-Present-Future

- **Format:**

3000 word written paper and verbal presentation

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- **Abstract (300 words):**

Housing issues have numerous social, economic, spatial and environmental aspects with many researchers looking into the future of housing research and agendas. The UN held three Habitat conferences and declared a housing agenda in each one of them. Although some aspects of these conferences were criticized, they presented an opportunity to have an agenda to discuss.

Habitat I was held in Vancouver in 1976 and the Vancouver Declaration was submitted in this conference. In the declaration, both human needs and environmental protection were emphasized. According to the declaration, the improvement of the quality of life of human beings was the first and most important objective of human settlement policies. 20 years after Habitat I, Habitat II was held in Istanbul. The major themes of the conference were adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements. "Adequate shelter for all" was a new discourse that differentiated it from the first

conference. In the Istanbul Declaration it was emphasized that social and economic development as well as the protection of the environment should have been addressed in an integrated approach. Habitat III was held in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016 during which a New Urban Agenda was adopted. It shared a vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements. As a result, these conferences emphasized sustainable urban development and livable human settlements. Many issues related to housing such as adequate and affordable housing; access to infrastructure, public spaces and services; sustainable development and social inclusion were also discussed. People-centered, age and gender responsive approaches to urban and territorial development were suggested.

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the past and present housing agendas of the Habitat conferences and discuss current social, economic, spatial and environmental issues related to housing from different perspectives and make some inferences for the future of housing researches.

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Dr Olcay graduated from Istanbul Technical University, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. She is an assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at Istanbul Arel University. She carries out projects on residential development in urban design studio. She gives lectures on urban history, urban development and urban design at undergraduate level. She also teaches research methods, urban and housing planning as well as housing policy at graduate level. In her doctorate thesis she studied industrial development, globalized production network and their effects on cities and regions. Her research approach was to analyse supply chain geography, the dynamics of changes in the chain and the effects of these changes on urban development. She has worked in some municipalities and gained experience in the urban and industrial development as well. She has also taken part in the implementation of urban master plans in different scales.