**Paper / Proposal Title:**

Enquiring the Innocence of Practice: Re-visiting an Alternative Project for Homeless Earthquake Victims in Duzce, Turkey

**Format:**

Written paper / verbal presentation

**Author(s) Name:**

Ezgi Balkanay

**University or Company Affiliation:**

North Carolina State University, College of Design

**Abstract (300 words):**

Urban renewal projects create different responses to various catastrophes affecting the built environment. While the process of these renewal projects has been emerged by the politics of/after catastrophes, various agencies across the disciplines take inevitable responsibilities. Responsible agencies, including architects, landscape architects, urban planners and public policy makers try to meet the necessities of new practices in urban context within extreme environments. These agencies try to generate “alternative” procedures that can be affected in a time of a crisis.

One of the “alternative” ways for design has been developed and criticized after the 1999 Earthquake in Golcuk and Duzce in Turkey. The effort, called as “Duzce Umut Atolyesi (Duzce Hope Atelier)”, a recent 2017 finalist for World Habitat Awards in cooperation with United Nations programme, has raised questions in terms of a design process and law of implementations. The collective, including architects, urban planners,
civil engineers, sociologists, lawyers, academicians and students has asked the same main question: How can we, as professionals, support and produce an alternative design and implementation process for “the right of shelter” of “previous-landowners and newly homeless population in Duzce, Turkey”?

This multilayered question has been positioned within the boundaries of different disciplines with relation to the status quo in Turkey’s drastically changing political climate. For last 18 years, it has developed and supported a resistance of earthquake victims in Duzce while questioning the innocence of the practice. Within this climate, the paper will discuss the social responsibility and capacity of an architect-subject or a designer-subject after a catastrophe. Specifically, the design initiative for homeless earthquake victims in Duzce, Turkey after 1999 will be critically analyzed through the representation of it in two polar of discourse: the mainstream Turkish media as a reflection of status quo and the alternative resources of Duzce Hope Atelier as a search for an alternative of the profession.

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

  Ezgi Balkanay is an architect, Research Assistant, and Ph.D. in Design Student at North Carolina State University with a Provost Doctoral Fellowship. She holds M.Arch degree (2011-2014, with the Graduate Courses Performance Award with the highest GPA) and B.Arch degree (2005-2010) from the Department of Architecture, Middle East Technical University, in Ankara, Turkey.

  She worked as an architect in various architectural projects in both private companies and governmental agencies. As well as, she worked as a Teaching Assistant with various design studios (Basic Design, Architectural Design, Landscape Design, Urban Design) in Middle East Technical University.

  Her fields of interest are informal urbanism/architecture, politics of space, praxis, space/form analysis, design methodology; time-image and movement-image; cinematography; and montage theory.

  Beside her published articles, she has participated and/or presented papers in national and international workshops, conferences and panels such as; Urban and ExtraUrban Studies; ARCC-2017: Architecture of Complexity; International Symposium on Urban Design: Towards a Holistic Perspective, METU; Cinema & Audiovisual Arts Institute, “Utopia of the Montage”; Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation’s Summer Design Workshop; 7th International Cultural Studies Conference: “Memory & Culture”; 9th Annual METU Sociology Days; and “Media”, 5T International Conference: “Design and Resistance”. 