• Paper / Proposal Title:
The Origin of the Sustainable City: Garden Cities of the Past, Present and Future

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• Abstract (300 words):

Why analyze the history of the garden city? Because despite its conceptual failure in its materializations, its ideological and morphological conceptual success is undeniable. In a world with problems of overpopulation, access to housing, mobility and ecological collapse, the garden city continues to represent a possible sustainable solution to all these problems.

From the proposal of the garden city by Ebenezer Howard in 1898, to the project of The Orbit presented in 2019 by the Canadian architecture studio Partisans, more than a century has passed, during which time the concept of the garden city has been developed, analyzed and criticized ad nauseam, both in its morphological dimension and in the multiple theoretical aspects that make it up, encompassing historical, economic, ecological, ideological and sociological aspects, but that despite its patent failures to materialize the original idea, continues to exert a collective fascination that allows it to continue in force today.
Using a comparative methodology, we can check with the naked eye the impact on the morphology of Howard’s diagrams, whose preference for the circular layout can be seen reflected both in later examples and in historical prototypes of concentric cities, both built and imaginary. But beyond the appearance of its streets, we can find references in conceptual aspects in the projects recently presented in ideas such as the union of the country and the city, reflected in Howard’s work in the diagram of the third magnet, whose antecedent can be found in recognized authors such as Kropotkin, and which is reflected in the project presentation brochure of the Canadian study mentioned at the beginning, which says: “The Orbit is our vision for a complete, cutting-edge community where our small town and rural lifestyles are enhanced by the benefits and attributes of urban living.”

This time, the garden city of the past will be the sustainable city of the future.

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

**EDUCATION**

2019 - 2023  
PhD in Art History / University Complutense of Madrid

2010 - 2017  
Art History Degree / UNED

2006 - 2007  
Master’s Degree in Communication / University Carlos III

2001 - 2006  
Journalism Degree / University Rey Juan Carlos I

**EXPERIENCE**

After studying a degree in journalism and getting my master’s degree in communication, I worked in different international media companies like Prisa, Hearst and Condé Nast. In this field, I had the chance to try several jobs such as editor, graphic editor, layout editor and producer. I also worked for a few years in textile companies such as Inditex and Tendam as a Marketing and Communications Manager.

But while doing all this, I got my second degree, this time in Art History. Now I have a research contract at the University Complutense of Madrid. Thanks to the four-year-grant given by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation, I can write my thesis on the history of sustainable architecture and urbanism. As part of the doctorate program, I’m encouraged to teach different classes every term, such as Museology, Modern Architecture or Contemporary Art. At the moment, I’m doing a short-term research visit at the Università Iuav di Venezia and preparing a couple of articles that I hope to publish this year.