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SYLLABUS

resilience and future heritage

Central Market Area
Thessaloniki

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Enhancing of Heritage Awareness and Sustainability of
Built Environment in Architectural and Urban Design
Higher Education



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TITLE

SYLLABUS: resilience and future heritage

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SYLLABUS: resilience and future heritage

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Location and Context

The City of Thessaloniki

Location and Context:

The city of Thessaloniki

The centre of Thessaloniki, the second largest city of Greece, is home to the 3rd International HerSus Workshop, themed: **Resilience and Future Heritage**. The Mediterranean coastal city is located at the north of Greece, built amphitheatrically, around the gulf of Thermaikos and has a rich history that attracts the interest of historians, archaeologists and ethnologists.

Founded during the Hellenistic era, (estimated around 315 B.C.) the city became one of the capitals of the Roman Empire during the Tetrarchy period, constituting an important trade centre connecting Europe with Asia through Via Egnatia. The importance of the city as the major commercial and trade centre of the Balkans was further enforced during the Byzantine era (becoming the second most important city after Constantinople) and the subsequent Ottoman era. The contemporary cityscape bears testament to the multi-layered nature of the city, presenting itself as a trans-historic patchwork of Hellenistic/Roman archaeological sites, Byzantine churches, Ottoman mosques/baths, and contemporary architectural heritage that make up its unique character. Thessaloniki boasts no fewer than fifteen UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

After a fire destroying almost three quarters of the city's centre in 1917, Ernest Hebrard was commissioned to plan the new city centre. His plan utilised the most important monuments of the city, interconnecting them through major thoroughfares. The urban centre was marked by the development of the major axis of Aristotelous - now a pedestrianized street linking the seafront to the biggest public space of the city, the Law Courts Square. To this day, the Aristotelous axis along with Egnatia Str. and the highly commercial Tsimiski Street, delineate the major commercial area of the city.

Hebrard's plan was instrumental for the westernisation of the city but was nevertheless informed by tradition; the bazaars (meaning market but also negotiation) of the city were maintained in their prominent location, off the main Aristotelous axis. The open Market of Vlali, also known, to this day, by the name used for the bazaars during the Ottoman era, "Kapani" (Turkish UnKapani - meaning flour market) accommodates small-scale two-storey buildings where small food traders are situated, referring directly to the oriental origins of the city. Hebrard's planning for the market area also allowed the construction of covered markets, an important architectural specimen of which is the "Modiano Market" (the central food lodge). Modiano Market opened in 1925, constructed in accordance with European standards, marking the gradual transition from the bazaars of the East to the modern shopping centres of the West.



Figure 01 | The Market Area of Thessaloniki
Graphical elaboration from Thessaloniki GIS by Natalia Chryssikou



Theme

Resilience and future heritage

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Resilience and future heritage

The central market area constitutes an exemplary continuation of use in the diachrony of the city. Hebrard's plan, envisioned the future built heritage that the workshop will deal with. Shaped by the pressures of private and public economic agendas, the original plan has evolved, after gradual transformations of the area, in the shape of two superblocks - off the main Aristotelous Axis, delineated on their periphery by large building blocks while maintaining an internal reference to a human scale, whereby the perceived foreground is dominated by listed single or two-storey volumes and narrow pedestrianized passageways. The reality of occupancy in the greater area, shaped by economic, political and societal stress during the last 20 years, is gradually evolving into a mixed use paradigm whereby restaurants and tavernas coexist with creative spaces, butchers, grocers, retail and craftsmen. Most building stock is in need of restoration but has nonetheless been in constant use. The area has a rich and colourful soundscape dominated by anthropogenic sounds and a smellscape that is varied between fresh produce, raw and cured meat, food odours, the smell of garbage or the smell of others, constituting a harsh contrast to the usual urban soundscape of traffic noise and the smellscape of artificial odours and exhaust fumes.

The workshop views the area as a useful resource in achieving social, economic, cultural and environmental sustainability and resilience for the city of Thessaloniki (part of the Resilient Cities Network). The case study employs sustainability and resilience indicators to build upon /evaluate the most recent major urban design interventions in the area, which took place in the context of Thessaloniki's role as the Cultural Capital of Europe (1997), but also on bottom-up approaches that have emerged recently, which aim to regenerate the area through cultural events and actions (Kapani project).

Issues of occupancy and land use, the environmental performance of the urban fabric surrounding the markets, the future restoration and upgrade of the market building stock and the redesign of public open areas within the two superblocks will challenge attendees and focus the international team's proposals.



I phase

Oct. 6th, 2022 (online) • 10:00 - 14:00

Workshop introduction

Oct 7th, 2022 (online) • 10:00 - 18:00

Lectures on resilience and future heritage

II phase

Oct. 17th, 2022 (Thessaloniki) • 10:00 - 17:00

Site visit

Oct. 18th-20th, 2022 (Thessaloniki) • 9:00 - 19:00

Students' workshop activities at AUTh

Oct. 21st, 2022 (Thessaloniki) • 9:00 - 16:00

Students' workshop activities &
Students' Presentations at AUTh

III phase

Oct. 27th, 2022 (Online)

Critics with professors and tutors

Nov 3rd, 2022 (Online)

Critics with professors and tutors

Nov. 10th, 2022 (Online)

Final exhibition of the works