

Title: Architectural education for Conflict Transformation (ACT)

Program duration: 2019-2021

Coordinator: Nadia Charalambous

Funding: UCY internal programs (€51000)

Researchers: Andreas Papallas, Paisios Skitini, Michalis Psaras, Eleni Pasia

Description: ACT combines architectural education, urban conflict theory, peace education principles and social psychology's contact hypothesis to examine whether thinking about space and the city can mitigate conflict-induced biases between adversarial groups and create the basis for policies involving shared spaces, infrastructures and the public realm within a divided city. Consequently, ACT explores the act of design and urban planning as a conflict transformational process; it is a pedagogic research project which aims at the integration of different approaches to urban conflict issues, from both the social and the spatial sciences, through pedagogic innovation and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). It aims at establishing a platform of collaboration to address conflict challenges faced by contemporary cities from a multidisciplinary perspective. The key objective of the project is to develop an innovative system of teaching urban conflict transformation, bridging across research and institutional boundaries in educational cultures, through the act of design and the development and use of digital resources.