







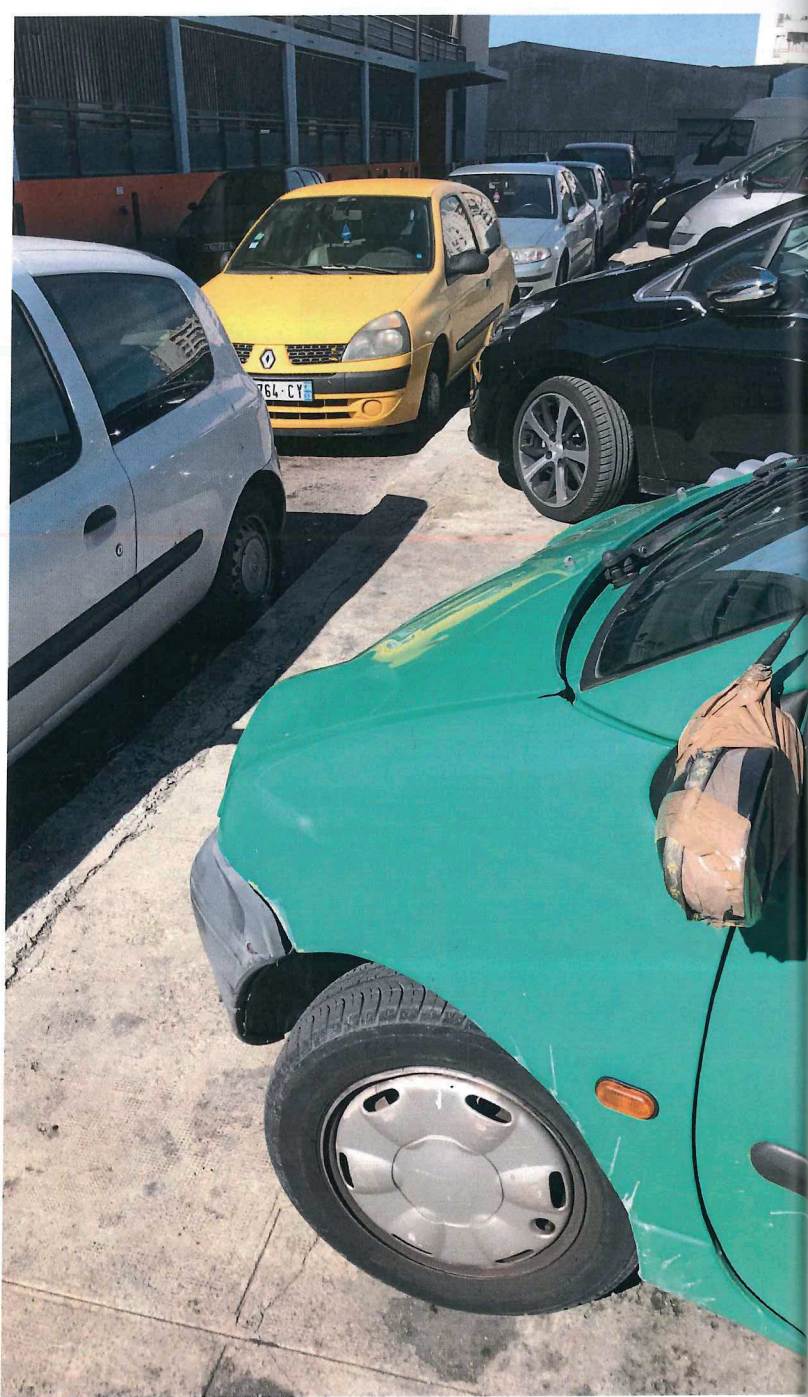
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INCLUSIVE URBANISM

(Tangier – Marseille, Edition 1)



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WHY INCLUSIVE URBANISM?

How do cities cope with newcomers, and why planners should contribute?

**Inclusivity (noun) \ in.klu'siv.i.ti **
The quality of trying to include many different types of people and treat them all fairly and equally.¹ The fact or policy of not excluding members or participants on the grounds of gender, race, class, sexuality, disability...² An inclusive environment creates an atmosphere in which all people feel valued and respected and have access to the same opportunities.³

Urbanism may be considered as a discipline chiefly occupied with the planning of urban areas. Contemporary urban agendas reinforce this epistemology of urbanism solely focused on human agglomerations.⁴ In that sense, perhaps the very first gesture of inclusion is to embrace what is left out of this equation: the un-urbanized land. The second move consists in including functions that have been subtracted from the city since the industrialization by the planning of mono-functional areas (i.e., business districts, gated communities, shopping malls) towards a better coexistence of people, usages, and goods. A third effort would integrate material and non-material factors (i.e., culture, gender, accessibility, religion, resources, ecology, mobility, tenure, construction methods and materials, heritage, vegetation) in a comprehensive concept of inclusivity. This inclusive urbanism is one that consistently comprises what has been purged, one that aims for spatial justice, and for a sustainable development of the built environment as a response to the current devastating urbanization process. With Tangier and Marseille as operational sites, this publication explores how urban design could encourage all actors involved in the production of the built environment to reassess their role towards an inclusive practice of urbanism.

It is perhaps an understatement to enounce that recent urban development is not aiming for the creation of an inclusive city that integrates people, places, and goods while respecting natural ecosystems and resources. This model is far from being heralded by the current neoliberal economical system. In fact, it is rather the opposite that happens as social and spatial inequalities increases in cities worldwide. Spatially, market-oriented land policies, deregulation of master planning, the disengagement of states in housing development, and the aggressive capitalization of land intensifies discrimination and environmental destruction.⁵ Paradoxically, it is also social and economic inequalities, ecological crisis, and enduring violent conflicts that propel further movements of people into cities. Those flows, dramatically manipulated by media and politicians, have become a pressing topic in the last years. However, migration streams have existed since ever and inspecting the spatial conditions attached to both departure and arrival sites reveals that the phenomenon has contributed to shape rather than to destroy cities of today. In fact, cities have proven able to absorb new comers and to foster creativity, prosperity and social well-being.

New comers deploy impressive adaptation skills, establishing communities, social networks and creating informal economic frameworks.⁶ Those activities find no more fertile ground than a city, where heterogeneous neighbourhoods can develop, offering a variety of housing and employment options. Illustrated in the first section of this publication, Tangier and Marseille—our operational sites—show types of urban fabric that accommodate new comers. Both harbour cities of the Mediterranean Sea have a common feature: migration flows have been shaping them all over their history. A survey of housing types in Tangier show how this affects architecture, producing a diverse and evolving migration landscape, whereas an examination of the housing estates in Marseille point at a vivid diverse community contrasted by problematic state responses to migration.

Going on to scrutinize how neighbourhoods, public spaces or buildings elsewhere already contain inclusive qualities, “Migration Makes Cities” is a collection of urban patterns from different locations. This shows how districts emerged out of migration, shaping inclusive areas today. “Buildings Types That Foster Inclusivity” inspects constructions that offer some form of spatial flexibility. The following

section of “Principles and Ideas” presents distilled illustrated thoughts that could help to planning and design in a more inclusive way. Finally, with “9 projects for a more inclusive Marseille,” applied alternative trajectories deploy inclusive urbanism strategies and tactics on three specific sites.

Undertaken by the students of the Master of Advanced Studies in Urban Design at the Chair of Marc Angélil, (D-ARCH, ETHZ) under the direction of Charlotte Malterre-Barthes and Something Fantastic, this publication encourages architects and planners to take into account all social, spatial and ecological factors while pondering and challenging the complicity of design in the destruction of the planet via urbanization. Presenting alternatives to conventional planning methods and concerns, inclusive urban planning holds a multidimensional character that integrates a broad spectrum of actors—from politicians and decision-makers to experts and inhabitants—and argues that urban design as a discipline aware of constructions materials and methods, tenure mechanisms, land occupation, and natural resources, holds the key to new visions toward a more just, planet-conscious and heterogeneous built environment.

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4 Neil Brenner, “Urban theory without an outside, implosions explosions”, Jovis Verlag GmbH, 2014.

5 Neil Brenner, “Neoliberalization”, Real States, Bedford Press, 2015.