

Editorial

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Spring has arrived with full of colours. Unfortunately, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is also spreading around the world. We hope that good news will arrive soon.

Starting from December 17, 2019 I have the honour to be the Editor of A|Z ITU Journal of The Faculty of Architecture.

A|Z is the pride of our Faculty. The previous Editor Yasin Çağatay Seçkin, the Editorial Board and the Secretariat has had a great role on this. So, I am aware that my duty will be hard. Luckily, Dr. Seçkin will continue with us as a member of the Editorial Board along with Murat Gül, Yegan Kahya, Murat Günaydın, Mine Özkar, Şevkiye Şence Türk, Leman Figen Gül, Gülten Manioğlu, Seda Kundak, Emine Görgül, Eda Beyazıt İnce and Deniz Leblebici Başar. I would like to thank also Koray Gelmez and Ece Yurtacan and I want to welcome our new members of the secretariat, Burcu Yaşlak, Meriç Altıntaş Kaptan and Onur Yılmaz. They will be working with Ebru Şevkin, Sinem Becerik Altındiş and Pelin Efiltili.

Our journal covers studies on design, planning, history and art focusing on technological advancement as well as educational and research perspectives. We provide an international scientific platform to the researches to share new knowledge in the field with in-depth analyses and their results.

Our referees' work quite hard to shorten the evaluation time and strengthen the scientific quality of our journal, we appreciate their effort. Our authors' contributions are very valuable to extend our platform. To accelerate our authors' and our referees' contributions, we re-optimized the evaluation time. You can find details on our website www.azitujournal.com.

In this issue, we offer a great spectrum of topics on architectural studies, urban design, housing, building materials and art.

The importance of drawing in other words line-making practices is the starting point in architectural outcomes. In today's media technologically dominated environment, Çetin and

Yüksel determine how the drawing is affected by proposing possible alternatives on line-making practices by their article "Tracing the hidden dimension of line in architectural representation".

Not only line-making but the whole designed by architects and planners depends on local data, information and knowledge, Ünal and Demir with their article "Local data: A new approach to data in architecture" clarify the use of local data in architectural studies on the basis of the results of their project supported by TÜBİTAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey).

Moreover, as might be understood from the title of the article "The role of the architect in the formulation of urban design", Garip is discussing the role of architects as urban designers in shaping spaces for people. Ayataç and her colleagues in their article titled "Evaluating visitors' perceptions of squares: Evidence from Istanbul" offer the results of their research project supported by ITU Research Projects Section (ITU BAP). They determine the perception of visitors to urban squares of Istanbul. Both articles complement each other while discussing how spaces are shaped by architects and how people perceive urban squares.

The spatial characteristics of urban spaces through the perception of users lead to regular uses and behavioural patterns. Alpak, in her article "Occupants creating their own spaces without thinking as a real designer: A revolt and a routine", provides the differences between the regular uses and unusual and innovative uses in terms of the spatial and behavioural characteristics created by users.

Fard, in her article "Santralistanbul Campus, Bilgi University: A transformation of an industrial site to a liveable campus", exploits the power of universities in the transformation of urban areas and its socio-economic environment. Through the case of Santralistanbul Campus of Bilgi University, Fard focuses on the adaptive reuse and campus urban space as a successful example of a concerted run-down industrial site to a vibrant university campus.

Besides urban spaces, house is also important to fulfil cultural needs as

well as to express the characteristics of the community. Therefore, in the article “The intangible characteristics of the two indigenous traditional dwellings in West Kalimantan”, depending on the traditions, Zain and Andi analyse comparatively the layout and functions of the rooms and houses of two relatively closed communities: the Malays and Dayaks.

On the other hand, in attractive cities, housing stock is transforming depending on the demands of the society. Bican, in his article “Comparative analysis of three innovative housing models in Copenhagen for social mix” offers the result of his post-doctoral studies in Danish Building Research Institute (SBI). He evaluates comparatively three innovative housing models by their dwelling design approaches for social diversity.

Although society plays an important role both in terms of design and uses of buildings (housing), global challenges like climate change underlined the sustainable building design and construction. In the article “A research on straw bale and traditional external wall systems: Energy and cost-efficiency analysis”, Diker and Yazicioğlu offers insights about building envelope (wall systems) to improve their energy efficiency. They emphasize the importance of straw bale construction in terms of energy efficiency and discuss the applicability of straw bale buildings for Turkey.

In addition, with their article “A model for the development of a build-

ing material information system”, Tas and Irlayıcı propose a web-based model on building material information. Their model supported by ITU Research Projects Section (ITU BAP) provides access to accurate building material information at each phase of the building production process.

Recording what you have as an inventory facilitate and make you realize where do you stand. Our only article about art in this issue “Istanbul Technical University Art Collection Inventory: Analysis and recommendations for its development” provides such an inventory. Atlıg and Erkmén, following the guidelines of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) recorded all the artworks of ITU’s in several campuses of the university. ITU has a modest art collection and continue to offer an innovative environment to build a strong relationship with artists and academics with ITU’s Rectorate Art Gallery in the fields of contemporary art. The findings show that ITU’s art collection reflects the strong relationship between art, science and technology.

Our first issue of 2020 explores the different perspectives of the transformation of urban space, the impact of society’s culture on housing, the effect and use of technological advancements in the design and construction process of built environment and the strong bounds of the reflection of science and art.

*Enjoy our March 2020 issue!
Stay home, stay healthy!*