Introduction

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This reference book is neither a single perspective of the idea of creative possibilities of conditions nor a unified narrative; it is made of architectural investigations on different scales, locations, with different intensities and speeds. By extracting a selection of theoretical research and spatial experience of the context, it attempts to elaborate on several key concepts informing the overall architectural intervention scenarios and investigation of disjunction between utopia and dystopia to uptake delivery of decision-making criteria in the residential sector. The explored concepts in this research should be understood as a set of architectural fables, speculating about the seemingly impossible to articulate architectural narratives, the actual transformation of the existing contested urban conditions of limiting the use of space. It is thus also, and fundamentally so, an invitation to rethink the problem of political subjectivity not from the point of view of the notion of conflict but rather from the point of view of architectural discourse. This book could be an exemplar exploratory case study for other scholars in order to widen their knowledge on investigating more multidisciplinary case studies in the conflicted territories across the globe.

This research was conducted on the practice as a combination of architectural elements and a theoretical study on several key concepts on the case study locations in Cyprus, Nicosia – the last divided capital in Europe; United Kingdom – in the metropolitan city of London; and Germany – in the multicultural capital of Berlin. The mapping of both visible and invisible architectural elements was aimed to use spatial practice as a form of visionary urban development strategy in order to implement transgressive design strategies for policy making decisions in urban planning globally. This reference book is aimed to offer a new reading and narration of mapped reality beyond invisibility throughout the explorations of architectural fables and visionary documentation of utopian urban design scenarios. It seeks to activate the space around and between the collective memories and to create, through a renegotiation of the memories, a new topography of perceptual possibilities to unite communities.

This book illustrates emancipatory moments which project visions of a better life that question the organisation and structure of urban design

scenarios as we know them. The philosophical underpinning of this study could fit in the scope of investigating the architecture of transgression that is bound to a particular core module in architecture and urbanism. It also brings significant contribution to the postgraduate taught students' or early career researchers' projects in this field in order to provide effective guidance on adopting the state-of-the-art graphical illustrations into their own design projects while considering contradictions between architectural discourse and the philosophy of transgression. This book could bring significant contribution to the practitioners' professional works in architecture and urban design within the scope of exploring versatile social, political and cultural conditions.

Understanding the notion of transgression and its impact on urban development represents a crucial role in the discourse of architecture and the potential opportunities to improve the existing urban conditions or create new architectural design proposals which are considered beneficial in the decision-making process of urban redevelopment schemes. It is indispensable reading for practitioners and students in the field of architecture, architectural theory, architectural design and urban design. An inspiration to government agencies and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) dealing with the conflicted territories. This book has great potential to contribute to professional or academic research projects in parallel with their course modules in order to guide them on understanding the significance of novel graphical illustrations' impact on their research projects.

The exemplar projects described in this book represent stages in that research programme, showing a commitment to the innovative design achieved in a commercially competitive context. The book also presents the theoretical base for a pilot scheme of urban regeneration projects in London – King's Cross and Elephant Castle – where these district-scale planning schemes have transformed the cultural identity of the city of London radically. The study looks to the future to explore correlations between architectural discourse and the notion of transgression. It could bring significant contribution to the other scholars who are working in the field of spatial practice in contested spaces in Europe and across the globe.

The overarching objective of this reference book is to help postgraduate taught students, early career researchers, academics, architects and urban planners to think critically on any STEM subject area by conserving the notion of transgression. This objective could be achieved by promoting design as the primary method for investigations into the dynamic relationship between architecture and urbanism. In this reference book, both theoretical and practice-based design projects are located in multicultural urban neighbourhoods, so it is deemed to demonstrate that culture is one of the important decision-making criteria while developing architectural fables in contested urban spaces. The study aims to explore themes such as social integration and exclusion, luxury, cultural transgression and architectural discourse. International sites were explored through a field trip to Cyprus,

London and Berlin, where a range of urban regeneration projects were analysed to explore the notion of collective memory and coexistence in architecture and urbanism. Throughout the development of architectural fables, on-site observations were conducted. These extensive photographic documentation and field diaries enable the authors of this book to explore these multicultural and fragile cities by involving socio-spatial mapping exercises, as well as engagement with local citizens. Additionally, this reference book could bring significant contribution to student's design-led dissertation projects and other scholars' work. The case study projects mentioned in this reference book differ in nature but are all represented by a critical enquiry into the ways in which architecture and cities reflect, activate and circulate cultural meaning at various scales globally.

The exploratory case studies included in this reference book contain the utopian urban vision of contested spaces as a speculative architectural and urban project. It seeks to explore the radically evolved architectural transcripts and manifestos within the geopolitically shaped context of the city. It should be noted that this book is not just for the postgraduate taught students or early career researchers, as it also provides a general grounding in how to entail narrative stories into undergraduate students' design studio projects by using several methods of graphical illustrations such as rhizome mapping techniques. It provides guidance to students' design studio projects alongside the theoretical information explicitly discussed in architectural theory, transgression and urban design. At the same time, Part 2 (Learning from the Globe: Urban Regeneration, Brand Identity and City Making) of this book represents graphical illustrations relating to a pilot urban regeneration project in London and Berlin.

The notion of cultural identity has been shaped across a spectrum of languages and transcultural relations which may range from confrontation, indifference or mutual exclusion, to create an engagement depending on the social and cultural process and historical moments. The impetus for this design-led research is a curiosity about the term transgression and its application in today's globalised and fragmented world. This reference book has been informed by several complex sociocultural paradoxes into account, and through a redevelopment of exemplar contested urban conditions in order to provide effective delivery of visionary utopian urban design scenarios. This could bring significant contribution to the researchers who are working in the field of urban sociology to bring win-win situations to this extent.

In this reference book, the design superimposes a grid which is an iconic element in the history of architectural discourse throughout the fragmented urban territories. It was devised to respond to specific local conditions, particularly in the field of architecture and urbanism. This research concept began to restructure the city at an urban scale, creating new utopian urban design scenarios by using graphical illustrations in line with architectural fables and narratives. The graphical illustrations presented in this book

could fit in the scope of the transgression as a way of delivering a utopia. It must be stressed that the philosophical scope of this book would be beneficial to adapt the methodology in contested urban territories.

This book predominantly is aimed at three constituencies – undergraduate and postgraduate taught students and researchers: For those students whose environment requires them to produce architectural design proposals, manifestos or design-led studio projects – or could play an increasingly important role in the achievement of academic qualifications in the field of architecture and urbanism. This reference book could be used as an exemplar pilot project relating to the regeneration of conflicted cities with taking into account the case study locations namely, the fenced-off Varosha territory in the coastal city of Famagusta and the United Nations Buffer Zone in Nicosia, Cyprus. These case study locations will be supported by extensive photographic documentation and field survey into this reference book to inform readers about the history of research context and how utopian urban design proposals could interact within the subjectivity of architectural discourse.

In this reference book, the last divided capital of Europe, the city of Nicosia, was selected to inform a utopian urban visionary model. As a divided capital, Nicosia is 'cut' across its centre by a no-man's land, referred to as the 'buffer zone'. Rather than seeing the buffer zone as a transitional space, the proposed utopian vision informs the readers to transgress novel methodological urban design scenarios. Simultaneously, rather than a utopia based on a narrative of architectural design elements, the research aims to create a utopia based on multiple narratives, coexistence and openness. According to conceptual design scenarios developed through understanding the principles of architectural discourse and the term of transgression, this reference book could be used to guide the urban think-tankers towards understanding the translations between history and culture.

This reference book combines ways of using practice to provoke politics to reveal itself and act upon it, instigating the creative possibilities of conditions in architecture that the study seeks to explore in critical proximity with the local citizens. It also aims to transform the subject of 'Transgression and Power' to enter the third space, so to speak, into the respective idea of developing utopian urban visionary design guidelines to become part of the invisible forces that shape the built environment. Notably, this book could be an exemplary reference source for students' course modules and dissertation projects well beyond the European context. It also enables students to understand European architectural history and its interaction with the development of design-led research projects in urban design.

One of the unique features of the approach developed in this reference book is that it demonstrates novel graphical illustrations to inform the reader about visionary utopian urban design strategies. It is founded on the grounds of photographic survey, archival documentation and interviews with subject respondents to develop a novel methodological flow for the

decision-making process of urban planning while taking into account the notion of transgression and its impact on architectural discourse, which is not well pronounced in architectural design education. It tackles the dilemma that understanding of transgression is complex and its interaction to devise urban design scenarios even more so. This is the reason that the research topic presented in this book could have great potential to fill the knowledge gap in architectural theory, and it enables the enrichment of graphical illustrations to the students, academics, professionals and practitioners in architecture and urban design.

As noted, the case study locations are predominantly located in Europe and the United Kingdom in order to inform the readers about different visionary urban design strategies that are taking place to interact with local communities in their everyday lives and changing the physical characteristics of these cities' under investigation. Although the study is limited to continental Europe and the United Kingdom, it could be generalised for other countries which have similar research agendas, such as investigating the significance of architectural discourse in contested spaces and designing visionary utopian urban design scenarios. The decision-making process of urban regeneration development projects, including cases studies dealing with the underlying phenomena of gentrification, is also discussed. This process can resonate with many readers from many cities around the world where these sustainable development goals are emerging.

With regards to the fulfilling the knowledge gap in the field of architectural design and theory, this study objective could fit the aims of potential readers in Europe, United Kingdom, North America, Australia and the Middle East, where students, academics, professionals and practitioners are unable to conduct on-field surveys in conflicted countries and understanding the planning process of urban regeneration projects may be hampered. Both the graphical illustrations and photographic survey presented in this reference book inform the readers on the research methodology undertaken for these projects and the conceptual design developed for visionary urban planning proposals. It must be stressed that this book presents novel graphical illustrations to inform the readers about visionary utopian urban design proposals. This is the reason that the contextual elements are investigated through the process of devising architectural buildings into the project, and the various aspects of European history are also considered as part of the development progress. This enables other scholars to read more about European architectural history without distorting their focus predominantly on the literature review and informing them by using novel graphical illustrations in architecture and urbanism.

The book consists of three major types of material: the philosophical investigation, a spectrum of design manifestos, which offers comparison domestically and globally, and in-depth context analysis of contested spaces and fragile urban territories. The combination of the three would potentially have a long-lasting shelf life. The content related to the physical context is

currently the strongest. The design projects, methods and pilot case study locations demonstrated throughout the chapters may not be the timeliest material. There are rising trends of new technological and representational investigation in fictional architecture and urban design projects that students and practitioners are favouring more for the core learning in architectural and urban design studios.