

1st International Conference on Built Environment

ICBE 2026

POLIS University
Faculty of Architecture and Design

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, 08 MAY 2026	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration & Welcome (POLIS Hall)
	Venue: POLIS University, Tirana, Albania
09:00-09:35	Opening Ceremony – Room C1 (Moderator Dr. Klodjan Xhexhi)
	Dr. Ledian Bregasi, Dean of Faculty of Architecture and Design, POLIS University (5')
	Prof. Dr. Stefan Çapaliku, Center of Arts Study, Academy of Sciences of Albania (5')
	Prof. Dr. Rrapo Ormeni, Academy of Sciences of Albania (5')
	Prof. Dr. Aleksandër Meksi (10')
	Prof. Dr. Pirro Thomo (10')
KEYNOTE 1	Prof. Dr. Svetlana BRZEV
09:35-10:05	<i>Adjunct Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of British Columbia, Canada</i>
	Improving seismic resilience of reinforced concrete frame buildings with masonry infills
KEYNOTE 2	Prof. Dr. Markel BABALLËKU
10:05-10:35	<i>Associate Professor, Department of Structural Mechanics, Polytechnic University of Albania Member of Research Unit of Geosciences and Geoengineering, Academy of Sciences of Albania</i>
	Seismic Risk of Tirana
10:35-10:50 Coffee Break	
KEYNOTE 3	Eng. Daniel NATEROP
10:50-11:20	<i>DNGeo Consulting (Sisgeo), Switzerland</i>
	Geotechnical and Structural Monitoring for Safe Structures, Risk mitigation, and Extended Service Life
KEYNOTE 4	Eng. Skënder ALLKJA
11:20-11:50	<i>A.L.T.E.A. & Geostudio 2000, Albania</i>
	Shared experience on Geology and Monitoring
KEYNOTE 5	Dr. Stefano ROMANO
11:50-12:20	<i>Artist, curator and researcher. Researcher at the Academy of Sciences, in the Center for Arts Studies, Tirana PhD in Architecture and Urban Planning, Department of Art and Design, POLIS University, Albania</i>
	From the singular point of view to infinite multiplication, or from perspective to the rhizome. Approaches to the idea of city and of art in public space.
KEYNOTE 6	Prof. Dr. Alessandro MASSARENTE
12:20-12:50	<i>Associate Professor, Department of Architecture, University of Ferrara, Italy</i>
	Intertwining living networks How to learn from reading infrastructural, ecological and energetic potentials
12:50-13:45 Group Photo and Break	

13:45-15:00	Sustainable Materials, Resilient Construction & Smart Design Session Chair: Dr. Endri DURO	
Parallel Scientific Session No.1		
Room: A4	Human Centered Design in Civil Engineering <i>Ilda RUSI, Albi ALLIAJ (15')</i>	
	The courtyard as a climate-responsive and resilient design strategy: a case study of Novi Pazar <i>Elma MAHMUTOVIC, Dragana KONSTANDINOVIC (15')</i>	
	Numerical assessment of the thermal performance of a heated and cooled floor containing upgraded phase change materials <i>Oumayma BABAHARRA, Choukairy KHADIJA (15')</i>	
	Rethinking Lightweight RC Panel Systems: A structural and constructional comparative analysis of innovative materials <i>Erjon ÇOBANI, Ornella ŞEN, Flogerta KROSI (15')</i>	
	Eco-friendly Building Envelopes: Thermal and Energy Performance of prefabricated Lightweight RC Panels <i>Flogerta KROSI, Erjon ÇOBANI, Ornella ŞEN (15')</i>	
	<i>Questions and Answers 15:00 - 15:15</i>	
	13:45-15:00 Technological Advancements and Seismic Design for Resilient Places Session Chair: Dr. Seyyed Behrad EMADI & Dr. Ornella ŞEN	
	Parallel Scientific Session No.2	
	Room: A6	Digital Stereotomy as Paradigm Shift: Revisiting Theory, Geometry and Construction <i>Kejsi VESELAGU, Klea MAÇI, Natali TAKO, Paola HYSO, Llazar KUMARAKU (15')</i>
		Identification and assessment of resident-driven façade interventions in prefabricated large panel buildings: the case of Tirana <i>Flogerta KROSI, Alma GJONAJ, Merita GURI, Ornella ŞEN, Endri DURO (15')</i>
Tirana_ toward a (non) resilient city of the future: Re-shaping movement and bring back “La raison d’être of the city” <i>Ina MUSAI (15')</i>		
A Seismic Hazard Model of Albania, Case study: Kukes, Berat and Himarë <i>Anila XHAHYSA, Neki KUKA (15')</i>		
Phenomeno-Parametrisation: Translating Place Experience into Parametric <i>Markeljan LLESHI (15')</i>		
<i>Questions and Answers 15:00 - 15:15</i>		
13:45-15:00 Urban Planning and Societal Impact - Session Chair: Dr. Genti AVDIJA		
Parallel Scientific Session No.3		
Room: A3		Urban Construction Through Destruction <i>Sotir DHAMO (15')</i>
		The Fading Public Realm: From Expansive Open Spaces to Morphological Compression in Durres’ Rapid Urban Growth <i>Arjola SAVA (15')</i>
	Spontaneous Architecture as Adaptive Metabolism in Post-Socialist Cities <i>Renis BATALLI (15')</i>	
	The ground floor as an urban interface: the human-building relationship and the Loss of Urban Contact <i>Avrili MESHİ (15')</i>	
	Urban DNA and Compatible Growth: A Fractal-Based Method for Sustainable Transformation in Erseke, Albania <i>Mario DINE (15')</i>	
	<i>Questions and Answers 15:00 - 15:15</i>	
	15:15-15:30 Coffee Break	

15:30-16:45	Cultural Heritage - Session Chair: Dr. Nikolla VESHO & Dr. Marsela DEMAJ	
Parallel Scientific Session No.4		
Room: A4	Preserving and Adapting Sacred Architecture: A Case Study of the Jazak Monastery <i>Una RADIVOJEVIC (15')</i>	
	Monumentality Reconsidered: Heritage Preservation and Adaptive Reuse through the Theories of Robert Venturi and Aldo Rossi <i>Harika SHEHABI (15')</i>	
	Seismic Performance Assessment of Historic Stone Masonry Buildings: The Case of the Angonate Residence, Gjirokastër <i>Alma GJONAJ, Merita GURI, Endri DURO (15')</i>	
	Urban Renewal and the Demolition of Heritage in Tirana: Planning Practices, Gentrification, and Social Fragmentation <i>Doriana MUSAJ, Ervin GOCI (15')</i>	
	Future heritage by Design: New Design Approaches to Heritage Reuse <i>Gregor ANDONI, Kristiana MEÇO (15')</i>	
	<i>Questions and Answers 16:45 - 17:00</i>	
	15:30-17:00	Spaces of Connection: Art and Design for an Interspecies and Interdisciplinary Environment - Session Chair: Dr. Francesco Scasciamacchia
	Parallel Scientific Session No.5	
	Room: A6	Heritage as Narrative: Building City Image through Adaptive Reuse in Durrës <i>Vjola ZIU, Remijon PRONJA (15')</i>
		Fragments of the Metropolis, Photographic Perception in Urban Space <i>Sonia JOJIC (15')</i>
The Extraordinary Everyday: Children's Spatial Agency as Anti-Monumental Practice <i>Xhoi MUSLIAKA (15')</i>		
'Liminal Architectural Bodies' in Post-Industrial Kuçova: From an Ecological Perspective to an Aesthetic realm <i>Dorina XHERIMEJA, Aishe BITRI (15')</i>		
IN Illyria, Episode I "Apollonia" _A Pixel based Game Framework for Archaeological Interpretation and Mobile Heritage Learning <i>David KRYEMADHI, Nikolla VESHO, Skervi BAUSHI, Remijon PRONJA, Kujtim HALILI (15')</i>		
In the Age of Material Transformation: Textile Design and Upcycling <i>Armela LAMAJ (15')</i>		
<i>Questions and Answers 16:45 - 17:00</i>		
15:30-16:30		Next-Generation Pioneers of the Built Environment - Session Chair: Dr. Flogerta KROSI
Parallel Scientific Session No.6		
Room: A3		Bioclimatic Design of a Kindergarten in Tirana, Albania: Passive Systems and Solar Analysis Using Design Builder <i>Erald MEÇE, Afërdita MUHAMETI, Verona HYSI, Klodjan XHEXHI (10')</i>
	Integrated Flood Risk Management in Albania: Human drivers, Basin dynamics and Policy gaps <i>Zejd BUSHATI, Esad MALAJ, Erjon ÇOBANI, Merita GURI (10')</i>	
	Steel Frame Technology for Residential Buildings: A comparative thesis-antithesis study versus Reinforced Concrete Systems <i>Elton AHMETAJ, Erjon ÇOBANI, Merita GURI (10')</i>	
	DOUBLE SKIN: How does the "Double Skin" concept interact with our body in the field of fashion design? <i>Desara LLESHI (10')</i>	
	Chairs as instruments in the construction of social roles and human bodies <i>Aurora BALLA (10')</i>	
	Autonomy as a Value: Design and Branding in the Post-Fordist Era <i>Irena ALIAJ, Erson RAMAJ (10')</i>	
	<i>Questions and Answers 16:30 - 16:45</i>	
	17:00-17:30 Closing Ceremony and Certification	



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SATURDAY, 09 MAY 2026

09:00 - 15:00 | "Walking the city"