

manifesto

**emergency architecture
& human rights**

***Architecture
is a human right***

Emergency Architecture & Human Rights

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MANIFESTO

ARCHITECTURE IS A HUMAN RIGHT

Historical background

Several processes in the history of architecture make us claim that "Architecture is a Human Right":

The Industrial revolution produced one of the biggest impacts on urban development and an increasing interest of our profession with social housing in mind (Ancoats, Manchester, 1870s).

The Scandinavian Welfare States created the most equal social system in the world with a clear architectural expression (Hornbaekhaus, Copenhagen, 1923).

The prefabricated Soviet social housing gave shelter to 34 million inhabitants after WW2 (Mikrorayon, Eastern Europe, 1950s and 60s)

The Latin American approach from the 50s with a strong focus in social demands (COPAN, Sao Paulo, 1952-1966)

However, the evolution of our profession, from the social perspective, slowed down immensely during the 80s and 90s with the triumph of neo-liberal politics. Nevertheless, an architecture of resistance did appear around the world expressed in hundreds of anonymous

professionals, who kept the ideals of architecture being involved in social matters (Friedman in France, Carola in Africa, Lawner and Rojas in Chile).

Today

During the beginning of the 2000s architecture theory showed a rainbow of different theories and professional concepts coexisting in the same territory, maybe for the first time in human history. One of these visions is empathic architecture with citizens' demand in order to face the urgent challenges of our planet: climate change, humanitarian emergencies (natural disasters or manmade crisis like war or social conflicts), social inequality and global migration as a consequence of all the other matters.

Accumulated knowledge of humanity

Each thought and each action of human evolution depend on and belong to the collective experience, although it may crystallize in a single human being.

Despite this fact, that knowledge can flourish in specific individuals, we must accept that this form of knowledge is part of our accumulated, collective intelligence and therefore belongs to every human being on the planet. Architecture is an intrinsic part of this accumulated knowledge and should therefore be available to all human beings in our world society, the world society being the very nest of this formidable knowledge. From this perspective, architecture is a human right.

100 years ago, BAUHAUS (Weimar April 1st 1919) was built with a multidisciplinary and social reformatory aim "Architecture is science, art and crafts at the service of society".

70 years ago, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Paris, December 10th 1948) established the basic principles of coexisting for every human being.

Today, 2019, we are in the position to join these two key human declarations in a Manifesto which sings out loud **ARCHITECTURE IS A HUMAN RIGHT**.

BIOGRAPHY

Emergency Architecture & Human Rights (EAHR) is a Danish nonprofit organization established in 2010 in Copenhagen, Santiago de Chile and Venice with architects, social scientists and artists from different countries and cultural backgrounds.

EAHR's goal is to merge architecture and Human Rights through projects, research and academic matters. Our current projects and constructions are in Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Denmark, Italy, Chile, Colombia, Nepal, Mozambique, etc.

In 2015 together with the University of Venice IUAV, EAHR created the postgraduate master "Emergency & Resilience".

EAHR work has received several recognitions, among others:

The Biennale of Chile 2017 (Valparaiso)

Building of the year 2018 (archdaily.com)

Aga Khan Nomination 2018

Global Award for Sustainable Architecture 2019 (Paris)

In this **MANIFESTO** have participated:
Escola da cidade, Brazil
Aarhus University, Denmark
University of Sassari, Italy
University of Venice IUAV, Italy
Würzburg University, Germany
Copenhagen Architecture festival, Denmark
Isthmus University, Panama
Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay
word-architects.com, Switzerland
Architecture for Refugees, Switzerland
Emergency Architecture & Human Rights

EAHR team thanks the **1.370** persons who participated to the creation of this **MANIFESTO**.

PARIS, 13th of May 2019



