



WOMEN ARE NOT ENOUGH VALUED BY A WORLD IN CRISIS



Above from left: Prime Ministers from Denmark (Mette Frederiksen), Iceland (Katrín Jakobsdóttir), Taiwan (Tsai Ing-wen), Norway (Erna Solberg), Finland (Sanna Marin), and New Zealand (Jacinda Ardern) and German Chancellor *Ángela Merkel*. Page 4

USA RACISM: THE OTHER MORTAL PANDEMIC

Editorial

Astonishing as it is the first world power comfortably leads the ranking of countries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and there is no rational explanation for the wave of racial hatred that the self-defined 'leader of democracy' has been nurturing for centuries.

Right: **George Floyd** (1960-2020)

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Above pic: a majority of scientists, doctors, nurses, and health and social service workers are women. **Paradoxically, women are still a minority in politics.**

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Indian architect fights in favor of the discriminated



Shyama Sidana is a recently ARC • PEACE associate from India. A student of *Prof. Bijay Misra*, an emeritus member of the NGO, she tells us about her ongoing

fight on behalf of those discriminated against by the greed of world political power.

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2020MODULAR

Prof. Jaime Alzérreca Pérez explains what this design series consists of

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Prof. Dick Urban Vestbro 16/06/2019 – 16/06/2020

Our friend and valuable colleague left us a year ago. NL shares in his memory one of his many challenges to all professionals to assume the role of cooperators with those most in need in the construction of their first decent family home.



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ALSO IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

architectural class for students of the Universidad del Valle, in Bolivia, by the Secretary of ARC • PEACE; Art Gallery of artists close to the NGO, and more.

Join ARC • PEACE International or the closest national / regional group now!

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

ARC•PEACE XXI General Assembly International Seminar on 'Participation is a Right'

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COFFEE EYES, BLUE EYES

Title of an experience filmed in 1968 by Jane Elliott, American anti-racist educator and activist. Access to the documentary is this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ONolqabYp4>



"The United States burns and the flames have revived an issue that the country has kept unsolved for centuries: racism," says the London BBC in a report dated June 2, after the egregious murder of George Floyd by the state police, in broad daylight.

Although this is a truism, the aforementioned anti-racism educator and activist said flatly: **"You cannot abuse a group of intelligent people for 300 years and expect them to endure indefinitely."**

The Establishment always blames others for its own failings and inconsistencies; but, the statistics of American racism in no way can be ignored or considered as 'fake news'.

The Urban Institute of Washington DC has determined the following facts:

- For every \$ 6 whites have, blacks have only \$ 1.
- Blacks convicted are 20 times more in number than whites.
- Blacks received 3 times more suspensions and expulsions from school than whites.
- Police infringe on blacks worse treatment than on whites.
- Blacks have fewer homes than whites.

As **Dr. Usché Blackstock** explained by telephone, **"complete data is never known; this is due to centuries of 'structural and systemic racism' that permeates everything: from labour to economics; from social to environment and health."**

For her part, Princeton teacher **Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor** adapted an old proverb and shared it in 'The New Yorker':

"When white America gets the new coronavirus, black Americans die."

In counties where the population of colour predominates, the number of people hospitalized is three times the national average and the number of deaths is multiplied by six.

"Many are 'essential' workers (nurses, public transport, supermarket employees, or home caregivers ...). They cannot afford to telecommute or not go to work, in many cases they do not have health insurance for the job and in the end they are the most exposed," says Dr. Blackstock.

They were practically not tested at first, due to the guidelines that prioritized those who had travelled to China or affected countries, for being rich, famous or political.

"If we cannot see racist policies, we cannot eliminate or replace them," wrote the historian who directs the Center for Anti-Racist Research and Policy at American University, **Ibram Kendi**.

What is urgent now is that all governments, state, local and federal, begin to pay more attention to the reality and challenges of the racial impact of the coronavirus.

Blackstock does not trust the Trump Administration **"because if it prioritized helping these communities it would have pushed to show data or would have issued specific guidelines through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, which it has not done."**

Dr. Anthony Fauci, one of the leading scientists in the current Republican Administration's response group, has acknowledged that this crisis is **"lighting a bright spotlight on the unacceptability"** of these racial disparities. But, Washington still does not provide the data that an impatient society waits for in vain.

It is overwhelming to read, listen and see President Trump in his constant electoral bravado, leaning on the Bible and the armed forces. He has just done it again, in a scene typical of TV novel series with a lot of ostentation and lousy plot.



It is obvious that his advisers were not successful in reminding him that there were already populists who posed as religious long before him; for example, the ex-demagogue Chávez.



Meanwhile, in the Cinema Mecca, **"everything that shines (or not) is gold";** and the film industry does not stop billing millions, thanks to racism. Hypocrisy goes hand in hand with greed and together they now offer film or series promotions based on this cruel drama prevailing in American culture.

[The Editor](#)

What solutions do we architects and urban planners give to the problem of social housing?

ARC • PEACE had its XV GA in Barcelona on April 17, 2008. There were the then Secretary Dick Urban Vestbro, Prof. Bijay Misra (India - Japan) current member emeritus, and the international habitat expert Geoffrey Payne (UK). There was also Dr. Branislava Saveljic-Balac (Czechia), then representative of ARC • PEACE to the UN in New York.

The Editor has the honour of sharing this document, almost one year after Prof. Dick Urban Vestbro (*Photo right*), left us. During his lifetime, he defended the right of the poor to a decent home, and created successful examples of co-housing; quite a good challenge to colleagues these days.

Urbanization processes grow exponentially; whilst almost all the settlements arise in the periphery of the cities; they are slums where people live inhumanly.

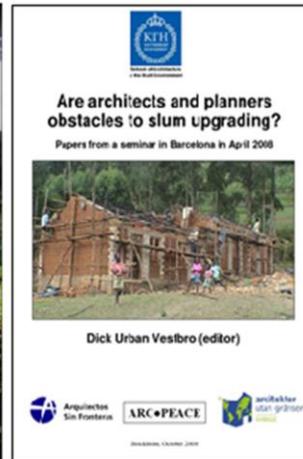
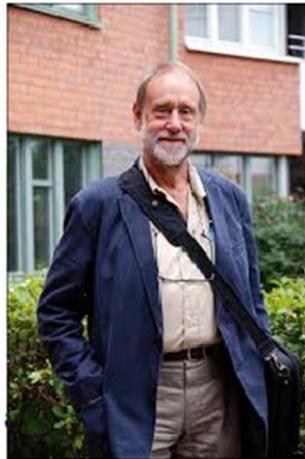
The seminar convened in Barcelona later served as the title for the book that Vestbro subsequently published: **"Are we architects and urban planners obstacles to the transformation of slums?"** (*Photo above*). For its part, the ARC • PEACE Board of Directors issued a Declaration, here in a brief version:

The UN HABITAT organization estimates that more than a billion people live in slums (favelas, or shanties), i.e. urban settlements without title security, infrastructure services: potable water network, sewage treatment, roads, or sanitary equipment.

This number is projected to increase to two billion by 2030. So far, efforts targeting slum problems have yielded only very limited results. This is especially true in low-income countries in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America.

One reason why efforts have been unsuccessful is the fact that decision-makers continue to apply methods that are no longer in use. They are policies based on the supposed availability of a good organization of the sector and public services, in a renewed construction industry, and on the existence of a good number of professionals committed to improving the urban condition of the most humble citizens.

This is still far from reality.



Often the approaches practiced on human settlements (slums) are quite cumbersome and bureaucratic; giving rise to intricate construction permit application procedures that, when having to be completed by the poor, become impossible for them.

Too often, unfortunately, the architects and urban planners instead of playing a renovation role that meets the needs of the poor, aggravate the problem by submitting to obsolete procedures.

It is necessary to replace the old regulations with others more conducive to the effort that can be made by citizens.

Rather than thinking of policies in terms of providing ready-to-use housing at any given time, habitat should be thought of as a continuous process where informally settled human communities are progressively improved, through a process that includes the active participation of same beneficiaries.

That will be accomplished when old preconceptions about concentration limits, land-use coefficients and street width are abandoned.

Public space, both semi-private and common, must be recognized as of multiple and inclusive use.

The idea of strategies that allow the development of housing is not a new thing.

Innovative strategies were put into action during the 1980s and 1990s. However, they are circumstantial efforts that, in fact, continue to be applied in isolation. Furthermore, they are not sensitive enough to the reality facing the poor.

While it is true that governments and international organizations often pay attention to the development of housing strategies, in practice very little has been done, and is being done, to implement them.

It is sad to see that architects and urban planners are - many times - the most reluctant to learn and adopt these development strategies. Consequently, the majority continues to defend old urban conditioning laws and unrealistic regulations regarding spaces.

The Editor fully agrees with this analysis which is already twelve years old; he calls on architects and urban planners to take seriously the need to create urban housing development strategies, taking into account the needs of the poor. Our profession can and should make a valuable contribution to reducing the world's slum problem.

Let's be part of the solution and stop being part of the problem.

The Editor

Book cited is available in pdf version:
<https://issuu.com/asffrance/docs/publications>

Do you want to know more about the activities of ARC • PEACE on these and many other topics?

Write to the Secretary to this email:
arcpeaceinternational@gmail.com

Also visit the Facebook page of
ARC • PEACE International

Confirmed: Also in politics there are women doing better than men

With the provocative title: "What do the countries that are best responding to the coronavirus have in common? That are governed by women" Forbes magazine published an article by Avivah Wittenberg-Cox, (right photo), consultant on equality and gender issues. It names German Chancellor Angela Merkel and the prime ministers of Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Taiwan and New Zealand (see cover photos) 7 of the 10 women who lead the same number of countries out of the 197 recognized by the UN. The rest of the countries are led by men. The article swiftly circulates on WhatsApp groups and social networks in different languages around the world.

These women are valued for their readiness to take the first steps in the face of the pandemic, the proximity of the message they addressed the population with and the ability to convey confidence.

Are women with political responsibilities showing different leadership than men? Is it true that they have what it takes? And if they do, what is it?

To answer these questions, the Spanish digital newspaper **Público** obtained the opinion of a sociologist, a political scientist and a philosopher with a gender perspective.

Do women do it better?

"I do not believe that there can be any direct cause-effect relationship between the fact that a woman is the head of government of a State and that the measures adopted by that government in the fight against Covid-19 are more effective" said **Arantxa Elizondo**¹ (right pic).

For the political scientist, due to "the possible outbreaks that might occur it will be difficult to know what medium and long-term strategies will result more effective when the confinements come to an end", she pondered.



The key to being successful in the fight against the pandemic is to have a social protection system with quality health services included.

Other social and cultural factors can influence the rate of infection. Just a few examples: "different forms of leisure, types of interpersonal and intergenerational relationships, units of coexistence, kinds of mobility and urban planning, social discipline in respect of measures", among others. For the political scientist, the Forbes article "shows that despite the increase of the presence of women in parliaments and even in executives," in "positions of institutional leadership that presence is still very low."

María Ángeles Abellán², (below pic) sociologist and social anthropologist, she reformulates the question:

Do female traits help in the management of the pandemic? "My answer is affirmative, since I positively value the capacities of female leadership;



which does not mean that being a woman gives you carte blanche and is a monolithic approach," she explains. "This is not only a health crisis; it is also one of confidence and, especially, of pacifying and containing citizens to avoid overflows and social chaos."

That is the challenge.

"Citizens wonder why Public risk prevention systems have failed. In this context, female leadership is committed to a less belligerent language, more direct (less canned), even more sincere and showing resilience", says Abellán.

Communication is the key.

"Precisely, this is one of the most relevant issues for a government at a time when numerous rights of citizens are to be restricted, including freedom of movement," says Elizondo.

"In this sense, women politicians achieve an accent closer to empathy in their way of communicating.

They move away from the epic tone that permeates some of the statements of their counterparts in many countries", reflects Elizondo.

"This is not a crisis and it is not a war either. It is a pandemic, a social phenomenon. And I think that unlike what we saw in the last economic crisis of 2009, female leadership comes out stronger. Women always had, and have, that central role as backbone, supporter of the home; possibly there is a kind of association between the health crisis, the message and female empowerment." says the sociologist.

"In this pandemic, the feminization of these tasks is evident when we see the images of those who directly carry out care, health personnel, caregivers of nursing homes, cleaners, cashiers at supermarkets ... And these leaders may represent symbolically for citizens a disposition in which years of socialization in gender roles crystallize" concludes Elizondo.

Alicia Miyares³, (below pic) is a philosopher; she acknowledges "It is possible that communication is a differentiating fact and women are probably less



bellicose, because our socialization has no indication of competitiveness. All the rest are comparisons that bare their own weight."

Adapted by The Editor

Source:

<https://www.publico.es/sociedad/responde-mejor-crisis-coronavirus-paise-gobernados-mujeres.html>

¹ Professor of Political Science at the University of the Basque Country.

² Sociologist and social anthropologist from the University of Valencia.

³ PhD in Philosophy, University of Oviedo.

Exemplary women busy saving lives

Among the principles and activities of ARC•PEACE International the justification or promotion of any social, political or religious ideology is not included. Similarly, the Official Newsletter does not publish articles in support of feminism or other gender ideology; this one is no exception.

So far, it has been well demonstrated that no 'ism' - be it from left, centre or right viewpoints - could in practice solve the historical inequality and iniquity between men and women, always to the detriment of the latter. For this reason, the Editor shares this article in which it is evident that the public health professions are highly feminized, globally.

Sustainable Development Goals 17 and 18 involve diverse studies and statistics; however, although they report differences by sex in the public health area, they do not necessarily show the impact of gender on the management of these differences.

Objective sources of information reveal that the first line in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic is largely made up of women. In China, in the region most affected by the virus, women were 90% of health personnel. In the Ebola crisis (2014-2016) in Africa, women suffered more infections due to their role as family caregivers and for constituting the bulk of health personnel. In the European Union, 76% of health workers are women.

Spain has 68% female doctors and 84% nurses; and women are the majority in the groups of auxiliaries, cleaners, kitchen sinks, etc.

The staff of nursing homes, a population also predominantly female (70%, and almost 80% older than 78 years) are made up of women. 3 out of 4 health workers affected by COVID-19 are reported to be women.

This is a direct consequence of the fact that 61% of women, against 39% of men, have been closer to people at risk, or infected; those with mild symptoms, as well as the elderly, disabled and children confined at home due to the closing of schools.

Caretakers in domestic service should not be forgotten. In these jobs, women account for 88% of the total and more than 60% with irregular jobs.

When editing this article, 3,548,312 Spaniards are unemployed; of the total 2,019,370 are women. According to data from the International Monetary Fund, the Spanish economy will collapse 8% in 2020 and unemployment will skyrocket.

The hospitality and tourism sector is of particular concern, where the female presence is the majority (60%).

In addition, shopping and visits to health centers during the 'de-escalation process' are activities carried out by women on most occasions.



As the confinement is ending, the woman will be more exposed to the risks of contagion than the man. During that time medical visits will increase to make up all suspended and postponed appointments. In addition, it should be borne in mind that when traveling through the city, women use public transport more than their own vehicle, with the risks that this implies. Then, it will be necessary to evaluate the consequences that these valuable women will suffer after the crisis: fatigue, anxiety, acute stress, depression, among others.

If, as many claim, the pandemic has made us better as a society, we must be able to put in place effective, supportive and equitable strategies that end current inequalities.

We will achieve, among all of us, the long-awaited social and economic reconstruction, beginning by recognizing and thanking the invaluable contribution of women in all areas of daily life.

Adapted by The Editor

Source: "Pandemics do know about Gender." And the measures for recovery?

<https://www.easp.es/web/coronavirusysaludpublica/las-pandemias-si-saben-de-genero-y-las-medidas-para-la-recuperacion/>

Palestinians killed in Israel, 'by mistake'

Palestinian youth **Iyad Khairi Hallak**, 32, with autism, was shot dead by Israeli police on Saturday, May 30, for "suspecting that he was armed." Later it was demonstrated that the young man did not carry any weapons and was going to the historic center where he worked and received special attention; the boy lived in Wadi Joz neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, of Palestinian majority where he was highly appreciated.



Fadi Samara, 37, was shot to death by Israeli soldiers on May 29 in Ramallah. It was later confirmed that in a very confusing action he was shot when returning from his usual job in Jerusalem and was on his way to where his five children were waiting for him. These killings occur as normal in Israel, and the authorities only report the error.



This happens when the architect Netanyahu advances towards the annexation of the West Bank territories.

Saeb Erekat, Secretary General of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), called for "the world to stop treating Israel as a state that is above the law, and for the International Criminal Court to fulfil its mandate", as reports the Wafa press agency.

Sources:

<https://www.telesurtv.net/news/policias-israelies-asesinan-joven-palestino-20200530-0014.html>

<https://israelpalestinetimeline.org/fadi-adnan-samara/>

Adapted by The Editor

The fight in favour of the discriminated has no roof

Colleague **Shyama Sivadas** (right) is a restless Indian-born architect and urban planner. She confesses that has been working in the profession and as an activist for the right of the poor to a decent habitat for almost a quarter of a century.

Earlier this year, she began a fluid email exchange with the ARC • PEACE Secretary, which culminated in her joining the NGO. With proper authorization, the Newsletter Editor now shares aspects of the colleague's work that are related to the content of this issue.

Deeply inspired by Gandhi's work and cooperative action, she finally moved from home to Atlanta, Georgia, USA, where racism continues to be the source of very bad news. She perceives that this country's construction industry is monopolized by the real estate business; what challenges to work for racial and social equality. For this reason, she works from a global network of people who share principles of social responsibility, coinciding with those of ARC • PEACE.

Shyama comes from a family of workers with a history linked to **Gandhi** and his successor **Acharya Vinoba Bhave** (below) and his Bhoodan (Land-gift) Movement, in favor of the rights of the poor to the land, in rural areas and towns of India.



That work inspired many people of good will and strong moral principles. **Dr. Martin Luther King** (below) led a tough but non-violent fight against racism; which meant for him suffering persecution, prison and even losing his own life.



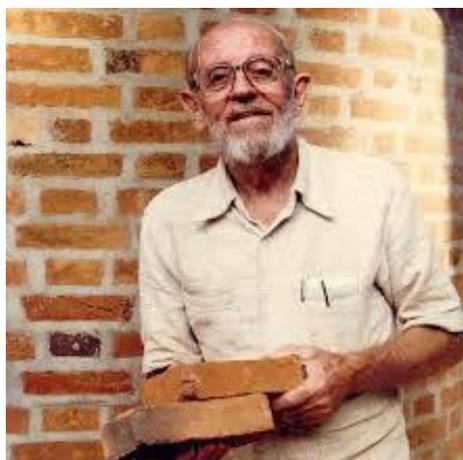
Immersed in the task of educating women and children where public education for various reasons does not reach, **Shyama** uses pedagogical tools developed by the famous Italian doctor and educator, **Dr. Maria Montessori** (below).

Thanks to the doctrinal influence of such mentors, she constantly contacts lawyers, activists and organizations that defend human and environmental rights.



For a time, she did it with our member emeritus, **Professor Bijay Misra**, in a project of the construction workers cooperative called Uralungal Labor Contract Cooperative Society (below).

The vision and example of the worthy British-Indian architect **Laurie Baker**, (below) in life considered the 'Gandhi of Architecture' prompted her to use sustainable construction technology and resources.



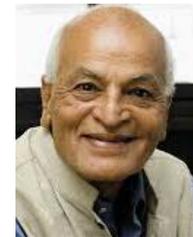
Baker worked on projects to help the poor in India, exclusively.

Baker was inspired by the philosophy of **Professor Ernst F. Schumacher** (below); founder of the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG) and author of 'Small is Beautiful'; who asked the architect **Oscar Margenet** to write the Spanish version of the book, which finally came out as 'Lo Pequeño es Hermoso' (1978).



Shyama investigated urban habitat and conservation law in inner cities at the **Mackintosh School of Architecture** (1998-2001) in Scotland. Now she is planning to go to the **Schumacher College**, in Devon, England, whose founder and director is the renowned pacifist and ecologist **Satish Kumar** (below).

He hopes **Shyama** will cross the Atlantic to work towards sustainable construction once the pandemic is over; also to achieve her idea of a cooperative of construction workers. In fact, she is already talking to organizations whose mission and aims are such as ARC • PEACE's.



Satish Kumar became known at the height of the Cold War, for his walk from Gandhi's grave to Kennedy's grave with no money and only one other companion; a journey that took over 2 years to complete, creating working groups for peace and ecology along the way. He met with the prime ministers of the nuclear states at the time: the US, the UK, France and Russia.

As a conclusion, people like this colleague, stimulate us to continue with ARC • PEACE mission and tasks both at global and local levels.

We encourage readers to contact Shyama through us, and join her crusade in favor of more and more discriminated people on earth.

More about **Laurie Baker's** legacy:

<https://www.architectural-review.com/essays/reputations/laurie-baker-1917-2007/10045413.article>

The Editor

The Newsletter Editor asked **Prof. Jaime Alzérreca Pérez** (right) for a definition of what **Modular 2020** is about.



The following is a summary of the generous collaboration of our colleague, a member ARC•PEACE International Board of Directors, who lives in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The full report is offered at the link cited at the bottom of this article.

"MODULAR 2020 is a compilation of integral design experiences that have as their main characteristic the saving of nature in a positive contribution to the ecological footprint in the context of Sustainable Architecture", defines the architect.

"Starting from the premise of strictly consuming what is necessary while avoiding waste generated in the project design stage, M2020 uses the methodological aspects of coordination in its 4 essential modules:

functional, constructive, structural and environmental.

The functional module is based on anthropometric dimensions in interaction with the ergonomics of the furniture and circulation, within the framework of the equipment and usable areas. It generates systematized contexts in digital layers that will give internal dimensions to environments, and will control the dimensioning of spaces based on the number of people who are part of the architectural work.

The construction module is part of a database of commercial dimensions of construction materials. They feed digitally parameterized matrices and then interact with the geometry of the project that is carried out with materials on the structure and the finishing.

Its modular characteristics are framed with both structural and closing bricks; with ceramic coatings; with concrete and glass block enclosures; and ceramic cover material; i.e. 0.50m side pieces that generate recurring modules of 1.00, 1.50, 2.00, etc."

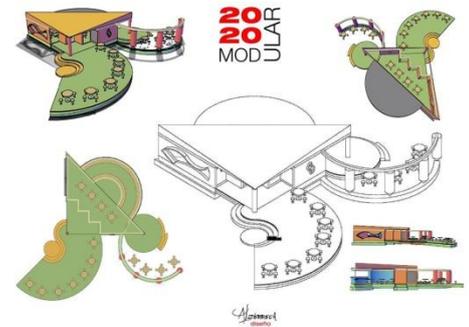
And he adds: "Arranged on site, they generate environments with that modular correlation that, if they escaped this premise, would produce waste of materials by the cuts generated to reach non-modular dimensions.

The structural module is generated from the use of Reinforced Concrete as an input for the punctual and continuous structural proposal. It is based on the positive and negative moments in beams with hyperstatic characteristics in both monolithic and arcaded structures. Where there are cantilevers, it will help reduce the size of moments that require more reinforcement due to the characteristic of the traction effort. Taking into account that iron bars are commonly marketed in a standard length (12m), the main idea is to distribute the bending moments so that the required reinforcement adds up to 12m; this avoids unnecessary cuts and waste.

The environmental module works according to the number of air renewals per hour in environments with different uses; interacts with the number of inhabitants in the geographical and climatological zone where the project is located. These data, which are made up of variables and constants, determine the size of the rooms, as well as the size of the openings."

Then Alzérreca Pérez clarifies the way in which the four modules interact: "They allow us to set both two-dimensional and three-dimensional parameters systematized in the M2020 project for the design of premises that will make up a database with parametric characteristics. These will serve as input to feed CAD and BIM software, on the AutoCAD and REVIT platforms of AutoDESK."

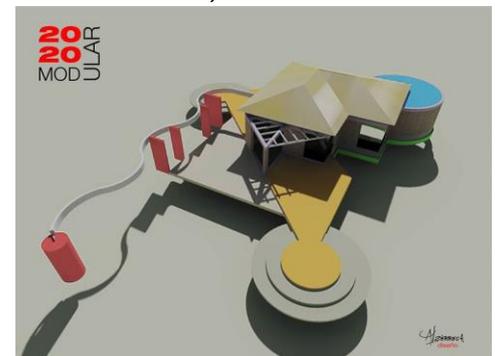
The project process is improved thanks to Informatics, because "it is generated attached to a rational consumption of nature; without falling into improvisations, since all the geometry of the project is based and controlled on anthropometric and ergonomic measures."



The colleague explains that, after the reflective analysis carried out in the initial stage, the design stage is reached thanks to the fact that "the semiotic signs of the meanings and signifiers of the context of the project's location guarantee the geometric basis for the posing of codes." According to him, these "will become a modular foundation for generating parametric design."

We could then ask about the advantage of M2020:

"It's the empowerment of the citizen that's planned within the use phase. The feasibility of the undertaking is assured if the users commit to a sustainable use", concludes the author.



The Editor informs the reader that **Prof. Jaime Alzérreca Pérez** is in charge of Construction Economics' field in which the architectural project is analysed in relation to the consumption of nature required. MODULAR 2020 allowed the formation of the academic constructive observatory promoted by the subject.

In addition, it gave rise to methodological guides that facilitated the inclusion of the sustainable project process in the curriculum of Architectural teaching at the **Universidad Mayor de San Simón**, in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

[The Editor](#)

PDF:

<file:///C:/Users/Oscar/Documents/ARC%20PEACE/Bolet%3ADn%2064/MODULAR-2020-Jaime-Alz%3A9rreca-P%3A9rez-1.pdf>

Postponed in Palma: XXI General Assembly and International Seminar

The sanitary measures taken in the face of the pandemic by the Balearic Islands government, meant having to postpone both important events in the institutional life of ARC•PEACE without a new date.

It's regrettable because a number of participants had already been invited (*photos below*), some of whom came from other countries; and reservations had already been made for air tickets and accommodation in Palma.

They had already confirmed to attend **Graeme Bristol**, ARC•PEACE Co-Chair, from Canada; **Marilou Sánchez Hurtado** of ARC•PEACE Peru; **Osman Elkheir** of ARC•PEACE Sudan; **Apollinaire Salumu Kitenge M'ba** of ARC•PEACE RD Congo; **Ivana Fischer-Margenet**, CEO of MANDUA, Germany.

This suspension comes when the Seminar program was being prepared together with municipal officials who have known ARC•PEACE since 2015.

The Secretary of ARC•PEACE, **Oscar Margenet Nadal** (*right*) will announce the new date for the XXI GA and the International Seminar "**Participation is a Right**" once the Executive Committee fix it.



What has been confirmed is that the program maintains its headquarters in the Balearic Islands.



Above, from left: Architect Graeme Bristol, Municipal Councilor Neus Truyol Caimari, Palma General Director of Urbanism Dr. Architect Gabriel Horrach Estarellas, Architect Luz María Sánchez Hurtado, Dr. Architect Osman Elkheir; Licensed Ivana Fischer-Margenet and Architect Apollinaire Salumu Kitenge M'ba. ¡Hopefully we can get them together to comply with the program!



PALMA URBANISM: THE GENERAL PLAN UNDER REVISION

At the close of this Newsletter, we have good news announced by the Mayor of Palma,

José Hila Vargas (*above*) and the Councilor for City Model, Housing and Sustainability, **Neus Truyol Caimari**.

On Monday, June 22, both presented the draft document of the **General Plan**, with the main measures proposed, and which is initially expected to be approved in the first four months of 2021.

The Mayor expressed: *"We incorporate the vision of sustainability and the fight against climate change, a commitment to affordable housing and a compact and close city, which drives new economic sectors."*

The Councilor (*right*) said: *"This General Plan responds to the environmental, social and urban challenges of the city of Palma now and for the next 20 years with an innovative strategy, based on sustainable development, social justice and the humanization of the city"*.

Valuing this wise municipal decision made at uncertain times, the **Newsletter Editor** decided to share the plates made for the urban area of Palma (*see below*), by colleagues who have been working for the Common Good for almost a decade.

There is great empathy with them, as we are united by the motto that ARC • PEACE is proclaiming since 1987: **"Let's think globally and act locally with social responsibility"**. [The Editor](#)



Revision of Palma General Urban Plan 06.2020

5 AXIS

Opening Palma to:

1. Sustainable mobility
2. The sea and Nature, a resilient city
3. Neighbourhoods and villages, a loved city
4. People, an inclusive and just city
5. Economical diversificatio, a city of encounter and exchange

Revision of Palma General Urban Plan 06.2020

10 MEASURES

1. We reduce the territory consumption in relation to Plans
2. We incese the protection of rustic land
3. Palma will multiply by 8 social housing
4. Towards a self sufficient and resilient city facing climate change
5. We created a public parks network of almost 2 million m more
6. Committed to preserving both heritage and urban landscape
7. New agrarian park: landscape protection and food sovereignty
8. Towards diversification of economical model
9. Committed to sustainable mobility
10. Humanization of public space: civic axes and superblocks

10.



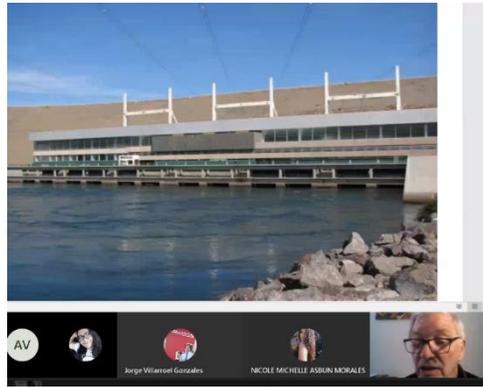
Fernando David Mendizábal Mendoza is a young man born and raised in Bolivia, where he completed primary and secondary studies. He graduated as an architect and has postgraduate studies in Environmental Management and Sustainable Design, in universities of the Argentine. He knew of ARC•PEACE in 2016, by **Rosa Nieves**, a friend and great collaborator of the NGO.

Currently teaching at the *Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, of del Valle University, Cochabamba, Bolivia*, he invited **Architect Oscar Margenet Nadal**, Secretary of ARC•PEACE, to participate in a class via Internet. Fernando and the teacher **Jorge Villarroel Gonzáles** are in charge of the Architecture Workshops 'A' and 'C'; and in these hard times of 'going to class without leaving home' they planned and achieved an excellent international connection between the Cochabamba valley and the island capital Palma de Mallorca. About a hundred students participated for more than three hours (photo below).



"Is there any limitation between communicator and receiver in order to transmit knowledge?" Mendizábal asks. And he himself replies: **"There are no barriers when parties are well predisposed to both communicate and listen."**

The development of the meeting awoke curiosity among the first semester students. And there were also many questions that the Architect Margenet was clarifying in the presentation of his projects with anecdotes and good humor, not without spells of laughter.



ARC•PEACE co-founder showed some of the works with which he was linked since the 70s when he worked and studied in the United Kingdom; i.e. *El Chocón-Cerros Colorados Complex Hydroelectric Power Plant*, in Neuquén, Argentina (photo above); the work of rehabilitation and change of use of a residential building in the typical Victorian style (19th century) to be transformed into offices, in front of the gardens of London Buckingham Palace; *complementary buildings for The Royal Mint* (Casa de la Moneda), in Llantrisant, Wales; *a tourist residential complex* in Ras al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates; the *Expansion to the Kuwait City Hall*, original work by the Greek architect **George Candilis** (1913-1995) and a member of the famous Team Ten.

He also carried out the *development of the town superblock* focusing on 'Traffic in Towns' (traffic in the cities) by the influential British urban planner born in India, **Sir Colin Buchanan** (1907-2001); a subject well known to Margenet since his graduation thesis was on *Rosario urban transformation* with the 'super block' approach, exactly 50 years before this talk! (March-April 1970).

At the end of the talk, with very specific questions from the students, everyone was grateful to the teachers for their practical initiative. Those who wish to have a look to the video, must enter at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XOPDB8RIU1E-IABvOy9mvyIkfjl7OrIP/view>

The meeting served to visualize the level of architectural education achieved by young people by virtue of the work of tutors **F. Mendizábal Mendoza** (right) and **Jorge Villarroel**. Some formal research works of the students which are part of the *Fair Pavilion Project* are also shown in the video.



The Design Proposal "addresses a series of design concepts, physical laws, rhythm and gestalt applied to architecture, aiming to show the form and the plastic. Likewise, it proposes to generate a public space for all types of users, with recreation and rest areas on the land adjacent to the pavilion" Mendizábal defined. (photos below)



"The audiovisual material reached the ears of teachers in charge of other subjects, friends from the university and architects abroad", reported the tutors; i.e. **"Architect Héctor Santojanni, from Argentina, expressed his amazement at 'the vocational aptitude-attitude of this young people and his exquisite handling of the formal'; and Architect Tito Lobo, saw from Brazil, 'a lot of dedication and appropriation of the theme achieved by the students, in just one semester'."**

The Editor

ARC•PEACE turns 33 on July 15, 2020: Let's celebrate it together in the Special Supplement
We'll also give a warm farewell to our collaborator **Marcelo Morales** who returns to Uruguay after 2 years in Mallorca.

ARC•PEACE ART GALLERY

Right:

"The Palma Scroll" Palma school children painted over hundreds of meters of strips of paper on a street of the Balearic capital on the European Mobility Day.

Below, from left to right:

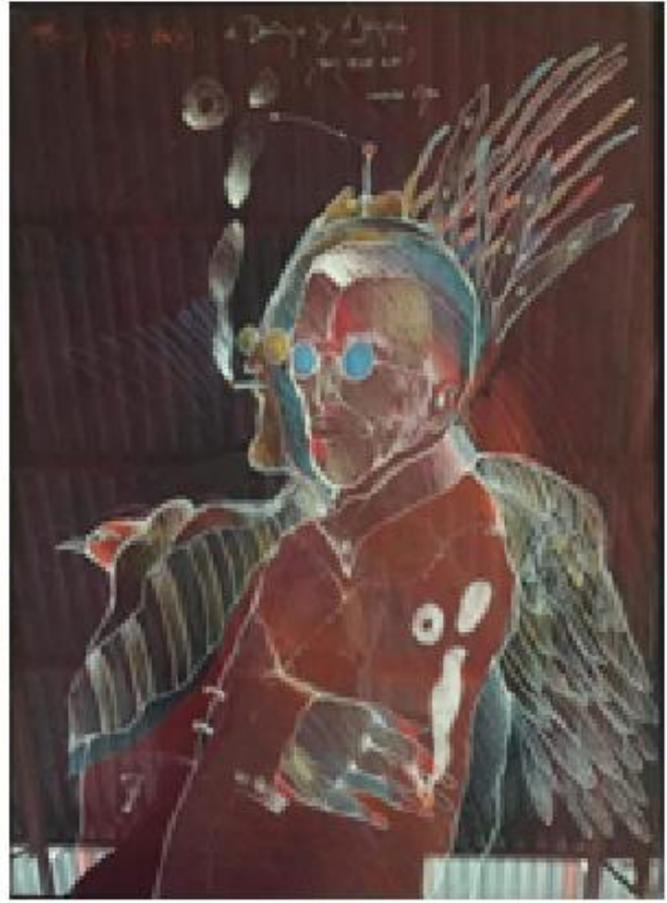
"Reflection", by Isabel Boticario

"Ancestral footprint", by Sibila Foong

Bottom, from left to right:

"I'm still an urban woman", by Marita Cort

"Self-portrait", by Ángel 'El Chino' Foong (1935 -2002), Sibila's father was a Uruguayan plastic artist, painter, sculptor, engraver, ceramist, who lived in Argentina, Venezuela, and Italy;and travelled in the United States and Europe.



The Editor in charge of this Newsletter is ARC•PEACE International Secretary, Architect-Urban Planner Oscar Margenet Nadal. He thanks the valuable collaboration of all the people who made this edition possible: **Architect Shyama Sidana**, from Atlanta, USA; **Professor Jaime Alzérreca Pérez**, from the School of Architecture of the Universidad Mayor San Simón, from Cochabamba, Bolivia; **Alejandra Cerutti Jacob**, secretary of ARC•PEACE Ibero America; **Marcelo Morales Macedo**, ARC•PEACE volunteer in Palma; **Architects Fernando David Mendizábal Mendoza** and **Jorge Villarroel Gonzáles** from the Faculty of Architecture of the Universidad del Valle, Bolivia; **Plastic Artists Isabel Boticario** and **Marita Cort**, from Palma and **Sibila Foong**, from Uruguay; all **the children and teachers** who collaborate with 'El Rollo de Palma'; **Ivana Fischer-Margenet**, CEO of Mandua, sponsor of ARC•PEACE, from Germany; **Authorities of the Municipality of Palma** for their valuable support to our activities in Camp Redó; ARC•PEACE colleagues: **Graeme Bristol, Co President**; **Osman Elkheir**; **Marilou Sánchez Hurtado** and **Apollinaire Salumu Kitenge M'ba** for their decision to participate in Palma.

Visit us on Facebook: ARC•PEACE International (English), ARC•PEACE Ibero-America (Spanish), ARC•PEACE Sudan (Arabic).
Contributions are welcome: articles, projects, ideas, constructive criticism, translations into French, German, Portuguese and Arabic.

If you want to cooperate, contact:

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