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URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MUR DM 117/Inmatica - Digital History and Narratives of Contemporary Construction Site and Interactive Multimedia Solutions to make and Share History of Sites in Transition

Funded By	MINISTERO DELL'UNIVERSITA' E DELLA RICERCA [Piva/CF:97429780584] Politecnico di TORINO [Piva/CF:00518460019] - INMATICA S.p.A. [P.Iva/03710631007]				
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	Title: "Digital History and Narratives of Contemporary Construction Site and Interactive Multimedia Solutions to Make and Share History of Sites in Transition"				
Context of the research activity	The research field entails Digital Humanities methodologies with Digital History approach. It focuses on an urban history study of the contemporary architectural construction site of a large-scale infrastructure in its cultural and spatial relationships. It includes creation of an interactive multimedia solution aimed to narrate architectural and urban historical developments of cultural-physical dynamics. The Municipio Station construction site in Naples Metro is chosen as the pilot case study.				
	Progetto finanziato nell'ambito del PNRR - DM 117/2023 - CUP				

The research aligns with the objectives of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) aimed at promoting the transfer of research to the enterprise sector, fostering fruitful synergies for interdisciplinary research in the field of Digital Transition and the societal impact of research. By leveraging digital tools and methodologies, the project aims to enhance accessibility, transparency, and the sharing of construction site information and processes. It seeks to enable a deeper understanding of the historical, cultural, and spatial dimensions of the urban transformation and development associated with large-scale construction projects.

Data, tools, and information of construction site are complex and challenging to access and communicate. However, they represent relevant information that are part of history of architecture and its relationships with cultural, social and technological development in the dynamics of cities with their changes.

They also embody inventive capabilities, innovations, and decision-making processes. Moreover, this framework poses challenges and opportunities for better understanding sites in transitions within a historic city. All these aspects can become more transparent and grasping with a digital history approach to create articulated, understandable, and shareable histories. As an output, new digital history solutions could improve how all citizens can be aware of the change meanwhile promoting digital transition and its impact on society.

Objectives

This research will entail Digital Humanities methodologies with a Digital History approach to build an historical-critical study of a contemporary architecture construction site by considering large-scale urban infrastructure in their making as well as cultural and spatial relationships. It will be undertaken and accomplished through the creation of an interactive multimedia product aimed to build this history and communicate consistent rich narratives. To this aim, digital methods are expected to be explored and customized and new solutions developed to be consistent with a historical and critical approach. More particularly their purpose is expected to reconstruct, make visible, map and narrate complex processes of a large-scale contemporary construction site as a spatial and conceptual node of the historic city at the crossroad among its past and new layers and needs and significance throughout its sustainable development.

The demonstrator for this research project is identified in the Municipio Station construction site of the Naples Metro. Digital History research will be undertaken to identify and investigate and process related data and information and procedures of it as a significant architectural work in its physical and cultural relations with the historic city and regional area. The research will consider all various aspects linkable to the construction site including the architectural design and its phases, its developments within the construction site, the documentation and archives, the interactions among expertise and stakeholders, the decision process, the significance of the new architectural work within the historic city, the square, the monuments, the landscape framework, the archaeological findings. It will develop critical readings, digital narratives and digital solutions as it has been specified above.

Digital methods and device are expected to provide an analytical framework together with a synthesis of the history of this site in transition. The device will seek to effectively access data and communicate architecture and urban history focusing on the multifaceted dynamics and intricacies of the construction site and its transformative processes and will incorporate customized interactive navigation methods, specifically designed for diverse users Narratives are asked to improve understandings by reconstructing, mapping, making visible, and narrating the construction site as a node of connections where other potential nodes of the city converge. Nodes will encompass temporal and spatial dimensions with emerged and submerged features.

Skills and competencies for the development of the activity

Master degree in Architecture

Proficiency in Digital History, Digital Urban History, Urban History, and Architectural History.

Experience in primary and secondary sources and in archival research in the field of architectural and urban history.

Experience in interdisciplinary research, particularly focused on the development of interactive digital tools for mapping, visualising and narrating cultural processes related with the history of cities and architecture.