



HERITAGE, IDENTITY, PLACE, NATURE, TRANSFORMATION
**SEMINAR: A CHANGE OF MINDSET?
PERSPECTIVES ON PLACE AND
ARCHITECTURE AS A COLLECTIVE ART**

MONDAY 31 AUGUST, 15:00–18:00
ROSENKRANTZ GATE 7, OSLO

Cities and places around the world are becoming increasingly similar. Are we losing sight of the importance of the unmeasurable qualities of place? If so, how can we reclaim the lost understanding of place amongst property developers and politicians – and in society at large? What we build in the western world reflects a globalized economy, and issues questions connected to durability, sustainability, safety and inequality.

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Habitat Norway (HN) has the pleasure of hosting the seminar **A Change of Mindset? Perspectives on Place and Architecture as a Collective Art**, a follow up to a two-day conference which took place in Trondheim in collaboration with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in 2018.

The Oslo seminar will focus on bridging the global mission of Habitat Norway's work with the local challenges related to architectural and urban praxis. The point of departure is the approach to place and architecture presented in the *theory of place* by the architectural thinker Christian Norberg-Schulz. Only by exploring the significance of the unmeasurable qualities of place, we can preserve the architecture of history and find a new inclusive architecture for all – an architecture that opens for our experience of belonging.

With SDG 11, UN member states have pledged to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable,” where target 11.4 seeks to “strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.” Yet, to fulfill this goal, we must turn to how architecture as art is both a concrete and a symbolic mode of expression that exist within local communities in the different geographical contexts.

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The seminar is the first "Urban Thinkers Campus" ever held in Norway. A direct result of the cooperation between Habitat Norway and UN Habitat's World Urban Campaign. The webinar will be made available to individuals and organisations in UN member states all over the world.

A UTC is an open space for critical exchange between urban actors who believe urbanisation is an opportunity and can lead to positive urban transformations.

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About HABITAT NORWAY: A Norwegian NGO established in 1988 advocating urban sustainability at the global level, with a particular focus on the social dimensions such as the right to the city and affordable housing for all.

SEMINAR PROGRAMME (FINAL INVITATION)

- 1. WELCOME**
Chair of the Board, Habitat Norway, Erik Berg (5 minutes)
Maimunah M. Sharif, Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN Habitat (5 minutes)
Board member, Habitat Norway, Kjersti Grut (moderator, 5 minutes)
- 2. THE CHALLENGE: ARCHITECTURE VERSUS MERE BUILDING?**
Gro Lauvland, Architect and Associate professor NTNU (15 minutes)
- 3. THE HELLESYLT PROJECT: NEW STORIES**
Anna Victoria van der Zwaag and Tora Vollset, Architects NTNU (20 minutes)
Q&A (5 minutes)
- 4. PAUSE**
Musical performance by Pöbel
- 5. ARCHITECTS WITHOUT BORDERS & SDG 11: ON THE GROUND-EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES**
Alfonso Rengifo, Director, Architects without Borders (15 minutes)
Q&A (5 minutes)
- 6. ARCHITECTURE AS PLACE MAKING**
Alfredo Brillembourg, Architect Urban-Think Tank (U-TT) (15 minutes)
Q&A (5 minutes)
- 7. YES, WE CAN: BALANCING INTEREST GROUPS IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES**
Ellen de Vibe, former Chief Town Planner in The City of Oslo (15 minutes)
- 8. PANEL DISCUSSION & SUMMING UP (30 minutes)**

Please register at www.habitat-norge.org/seminar-change-of-mindset/

*Due to restrictions, the event is **limited to 30 people**. However, it will be **streamed online**. After registration and shortly before the event, you will receive a link to the live stream on your email you have registered with. Let us know if you have any questions.*

We reserve the right to make any necessary changes to the program.