

MANIFESTO

Our Vision

The Journal of Public Space is the first, international, interdisciplinary, academic, open access journal entirely dedicated to public space. It will speak different languages and will be open to embrace diversity, inconvenient dialogues and untold stories, from multidisciplinary fields and all countries, especially from those that usually do not have voice, overcoming the Western-oriented approach that is leading the current discourse.

As a proper public space, The Journal of Public Space will be free, accessible and inclusive, providing a platform for emerging and consolidated researchers; it will foster research, showcase best practices and inform discussion about the more and more important issues related to public spaces in our changing and evolving societies.

Why a new journal

Academic knowledge is often not easily accessible; most of the leading journals require a subscription fee to access contents. Universities, institutions or individual researchers have often to deal with the substantial cost of knowledge in the form of fees to publisher, not only to be able to read contents, but in some cases even to have one's research reviewed and published.

Publish or perish, they say, but how? A recent online petition "The Cost of Knowledge", signed by more than 15.000 researchers, is discussing the way knowledge is produced and disseminate in academia. Some illegal actions - like Sci-Hub, the first pirate website in the world to provide mass and public access to tens of millions of research papers - are standing against commercial enterprises. We promote a different approach to academic knowledge. We want a journal different from most of the leading journals that are currently available. Knowledge is a common good, in the same way public space in cities is a common good, a right for everybody that belongs to everybody.

How we will pursue our vision

We are a well-consolidated group of academic scholars from leading Universities in the world. We share the same vision about public space, we already worked together and we want to expand the current scholarship on a global perspective, providing peer reviewed academic contents, fully available to scholars, professionals, students and citizens, publishing them on an open access platform. We will publish 4 issues every year, together with one or more special issues focused on specific topics. A double blind peer review process for every submitted paper will ensure the quality of research contents. We will open the publishing platform to the discussion for registered – not anonymous – users, whose activities are related to public space, from different points of view. We will enrich our perspective hosting papers on design projects, art performances and social practices, fostering civic engagement and non-expert knowledge.

The Journal of Public Space is a joint research project developed by City Space Architecture, a non-profit organization based in Italy, and the Queensland University of Technology, based in Australia, in partnership with UN Habitat, the United Nations programme for human settlements, based in Kenya.

Last review on June 17, 2016

The Journal of Public Space

<http://www.journalpublicspace.org>

Overview

Established on a well-consolidated network of scholars and professionals from USA, Canada, South America, Europe, Middle East, Hong Kong, Thailand, Japan and Australia, The Journal of Public Space is committed to expand current scholarship on a global perspective, giving the possibility to unheard countries to speak up and to discuss neglected as well as emerging topics that are usually set aside in the mainstream knowledge.

The journal is addressing social sciences and humanities as a major field, but it is interested to attract scholars also from several disciplines. It will perform as a scholarly journal but also as an interdisciplinary platform of discussion and exchange for scholars, professionals, organizations, artists, activists and citizens, whose activities are related to public space.

Peer review process

A double blind peer review process, based on a distinguished board of editors and editorial advisors, will ensure the quality and high standards of research papers. Each paper will be assessed by two reviewers and any identifying information in relation to the author will be removed during the review process. Reviewers follow an evaluation framework and recommendation guidelines to ensure objectivity and fairness. Submitted articles should not have been previously published. If publication or dissemination through presentation has occurred, then the article should acknowledge this and pay due credit to the original source.

Topics

Authors are welcome to submit original research articles dealing with themes relating to the vision of The Journal of Public Space, which may include, but are not confined to:

<i>SPACE</i>	<i>SOCIETY</i>	<i>SYSTEMS</i>
Architecture	Gender	Economy
Urban Planning	Human scale	Political power
Urban Design	People	Governance
Urban Morphology	Everyday life	Law and regulations
Urban Resilience	Social engagement	Public policies
Landscape architecture	Health and safety	Private sector/interest
Interior design	Perception and senses	Developing countries
Interactive and visual design	Human rights	Management and maintenance
Art	Social justice	Digital/Virtual world
City transformation	Education	Technology
Infrastructure	Heritage	Media
Environment	History	Third sector
Ecology	Culture	Decision-making process
Climate change	Geography	
	Anthropology	
	Ethnography	
	Community empowerment	
	Migrations	
	Conflicts	
	Inclusion/Exclusion	
	Informality	
	Sub and fringe cultures	

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Publication Ethics Statement

The Journal of Public Space aligns itself with the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) best practice guidelines for dealing with ethical issues in journal publishing.



<http://publicationethics.org/>

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