

POLYTECHNIC OF TORINO
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE 2
Degree in Architecture
Honors theses

Integrated actions for the local environment: Turin (Italy) into local and global

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The aims of this thesis are various. The first goal is to verify how the new concepts and methodologies of Community policy have been taken into account in the integrated actions and projects of local development promoted at urban and micro-urban level by European cities.

Second, supposing that cities must co-operate to be more competitive at international level, this thesis tries to find the presence of a concrete confirmation of a collaborative attitude in projects and actions of local development at different territorial scales.

The starting hypothesis considers cities as local systems able to self-organizing themselves in order to respond to the global inputs to carry out their objectives. Besides, opportunities and obstacles coming by external systems could activate, within the local systems, processes of change of the endogenous resources from potential to real, so as to create new values.

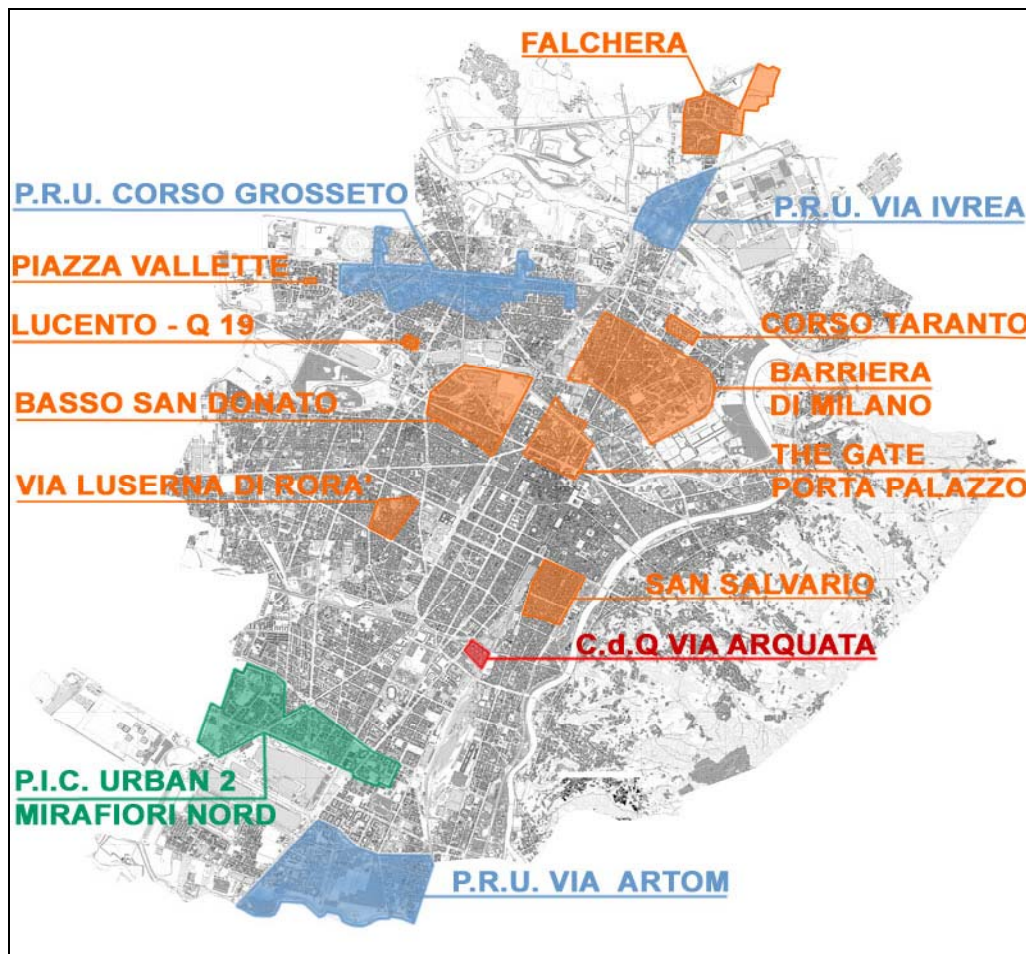
Throughout this thesis, particular attention is paid, at first on the global inputs of the European Union, then the focus is put on the analysis of the answers (opportunities, increasing of value, etc.) given by different local systems to the inputs of the global system. In other words the existence and the nature of relationships between the global and the local systems are analyzed at different scales, paying particular attention to good practices and their spreading. This because the "capitalisation" and the dissemination of experiences within the network represent the foundations of a collaborative attitude that the cities have on the international stage.

This thesis is a made of two parts.

The first identifies the key conceptual points that have originated the birth of a real urban policy in the Ue, from macro-phenomenon that invested the cities in the last decades, to the analysis of new spatial forms and developing strategies that cities had to adapt, with a new concept of territory, to the new methodologies and practices, that represent the basis of the recent European discovery: the "urban question".

Once these premises have been settled, the thesis analyses the urban European policy, defines the working tools and, above all, points out a series of key-concepts needful to study some specific cases in order to understand how local systems are able to use these new practices and theories for the development of urban areas.

The second part of the thesis analyses the local responses to the global inputs, mainly those created from the participation to urban networks. This study has been developed taking as example two projects carried out in Turin (*Progetto Periferie*, at urban level and the *Agenzia di Sviluppo per Porta Palazzo*, at micro-urban level) and the analysis of the Quartiers en Crise network.



Area of the project *Progetto Periferie*

This study has been organised to give, firstly the reasons why the case-studies have been identified and then problems encountered along the analysis to have a proper definition of the projects according to the key concepts that better represent and summarize the Community urban policy.

The same method has been employed to screen the European cities.

Once the presence of relationship between actions for local development at different levels has been identified, the conclusions present the outcomes of the study taking into account these relations, the stimuli that have set them off and the actions they are able to generate from global to local and reverse.

Finally, a series of questions, closely connected with the thesis, have been raised. However, due to the spatial and time limits of a thesis, these could not be closely analysed as they deserve.

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