

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Urban and Territorial Design)
Honors theses

Actors and territorial resources in the urban transformation. The “Variante 200” of Turin PRGC (City planning scheme)

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This thesis has for object the so-called “Variante 200”, which is the 200th variation of Turin 1995 PRG (city planning scheme), that provides for the physical, environmental, functional and social requalification of the Northeast quadrant of the city, aiming above all at an improvement of the accessibility of the area thanks to the realization of the Line 2 of the subway.

The anticipated transformation project from Variante 200, placed in the quadrant Northeast in Turin, in particular it consists in the realization of the first distance of the Line 2 of the subway and parallelly in a more general requalification of Barriera di Milano and Regio Parco districts.

The aim of this thesis is twofold: on the one hand we want to locate which idea of a city emerges from the urban transformation project, on the other hand we tried to identify which actors were been involved in the transformation process and which of them were been excluded, which territorial resources were exploited and which of them were been neglected.

In the first part the theoretical framework is synthetized for understanding the different types of relationships between projects and territoriality and then for locating the methodology of analysis needed to seize those relationships for the proposed case study. This methodology consists in finding the guide idea, an original hypothesis about the possible paths of urban development; in defining the resources, through the three stages: recognition, understanding and activation; in analysing of the actors, through the method of "network analysis".

In the second part the theoretical knowledge and the methodology of analysis are applied to the case of “Variante 200” and, thanks to the support of a series of interviews made with some privileged actors, a critical reading of the territory affected by the transformation, of the involved actors and of exploited territorial resources has been done.

The performed analysis, although on a project still in phase of completion, shows that:

- With regard to the resources. This territory, mostly of working-class origin, has some important potentiality (its strategic location infrastructurally, the environmental system in which it is inserted and all those activities of quality located in around “via Regaldi”) that seem to be exploited in the transformation project.
- With regard to the actors. In the process several actors were been included, both public and private, that have interacted in a dialogical way and in many cases they have worked together. Citizens were constantly informed and involved through a communication plan drawn up by “Urban Center”, but despite this, it seems that the project doesn't meet their needs.
- With regard to the ideas of city. The ideas of city that emerge from this project are three and they correspond to the three areas of intervention: the area of “Spina 4” can be seen as the north gate of entrance to the city, the area “Gottardo-Sempione” becomes a returned place to the city where two sides of the city, now divided, are patched together, finally the area of “Scalo Vanchiglia” becomes an innovative part of the city, characterized by new architecture in close relationship with the green.

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