



## Impact of Human Activities and Behavioural Patterns on the Shape, Organisation and Meaning of the Built Environment

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The built environment as seen today is the product of a long evolution and a concrete expression of a unique combination between sociocultural patterns, physical conditions and the economic systems of resources, as well as the elaboration of these resources. Some of these factors are determinants in giving shape and meaning to the built environment, while others are only modifiers. The identify of a 'place' is generated from a complex interaction between the physical environment, social systems, behaviours and interactions, as well as economic systems. The examination of the built environment in terms of activities and behavioural patterns helps to understand the shape and meaning of places. Cultures have different values, leading to unwritten rules, reflected in the selective enforcement of physical devices to reach the desired need. This has far-reaching consequences upon the shape, structure and space organisation of the built environment.

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