

Workshop and Symposium “Belgrade in the Plural” / University of Belgrade, Faculty of Architecture / Belgrade, Serbia

# Belgrade in the plural



UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE



I-AUD

MEIJI UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Science and Technology  
International Program in Architecture and Urban Design



**Participants / Universities / Faculties:**

*Organizers:*

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Architecture / Belgrade, Serbia (organizer)

Sapienza University, Faculty of architecture / Rome, Italy (initiator and co-organizer)

University of Camerino, Faculty of architecture / Ascoli Piceno, Italy (initiator and co-organizer)

*Participants:*

Keio University / Tokyo, Japan (participant)

Meiji University / Tokyo, Japan (participant)

University of Sassari, Department for architecture, design and urbanism / Alghero, Italy (participant)



FACOLTÀ DI ARCHITETTURA



**What:**

WORKSHOP & SYMPOSIUM

**Where:**

Belgrade, Serbia / Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade

**When:**

31<sup>st</sup> of August - 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2017

**Format:**

11 days (with arrival and departure days)

**Students:**

40 approximately = 30 from abroad (max 6 students per each faculty) + 10 Serbian approximately

**Professors:**

One professor per each faculty

**Experts:**

Experts from various disciplines are invited to participate

**Contact:**

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*Associate professor*

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The Workshop and Symposium “Belgrade in the Plural” is oriented to urban research and urban design research of cultural and urban diversity in the contemporary city, inside the frame of the mainstream urban development tendencies: community responsible, sustainable, smart, creative and participatory based urban development and urban design.

### The Symposium:

- Lectures of each of the professors (keynotes) + presentations by external experts + debates
- *Lectures of professors are both: a) about the topic of the workshop in general, b) jump-start hints*

### The Workshop:

- The target area is large and complex / every particular student's team will be tasked with much smaller area to develop it by original and specific design proposals
- Tasks and requirements in general - very briefly:

<i>scale</i>	<i>tasks and requirements</i>	<i>outputs</i>	<i>presentation</i>
1:5000, 1:2500	contextualization, general approach, strategy...	illustrative metaphoric drawings, text, schemas, diagrams, maps...	PowerPoint (up to 10 slides) + B2 format (horizontal) + oral explanation
1:1000, 1:500	conceptual design, tactic...	maps, ambient drawings, schemas, algorithms...	PowerPoint (up to 10 slides) + B2 format (horizontal) + oral explanation
1:250, 1:100, ...	concrete urban design execution...	urban design project(s), ambient drawings, 3D simulations...	PowerPoint (up to 10 slides) + B1 format (vertical) + models + oral explanation



## Belgrade

Belgrade, as the case of 'plurality', is a remarkable example.

Belgrade is the old city nestled in an extraordinary place. This unique geographical position makes the area attractive for settlement and conquests all of the time. During the city's long history, different cultures from all the cardinal directions were inspired to build house at this place and to fight for it. In these historical fires, Belgrade was often destroyed, but also solidified. These historical fires have been heating the melting pot of Belgrade, in which different cultures have been melted and merged, until once this boiling mass was gushed out into a mold of the city, solidifying in the form of Belgrade. Thus, Belgrade become a specific amalgam, alloyed by many cultural characters, which can be recognize by a careful observer.

It seems that the future would be the same. As always, so today, Belgrade is still an open city for all. After some bad times, whilst staring towards the desirable future from the top of his hill, Belgrade accepts all offered hands. Both, the hands that give and those that take. This is a fair exchange. As much as Belgrade is conscious about what it does not want to be, that much others will respect what Belgrade actually is. According to this very sensitive balance, the city will step into its own future – into its own self.

But, the future must cost time and money. Even if Belgrade probably has time to spare, that is not the case with its finances. Then, what kind of future Belgrade can afford for itself.





## Rivers

Belgrade is the capital and the largest city of Serbia, located at the confluence of two international, navigable rivers: the Danube river and the Sava river. These rivers – two biggest water boulevards, define its unique structure by separating its territory into 3 territorial units while, at the same time, integrating the whole city structure with centrally located "Great War Island" - Belgrade's green, natural oasis. Two of these units have been built and nowadays entitled First and Second Belgrade while the third part is planned to be developed due to General Urban Plan of Belgrade 2021. But the rivers, by itself, and with the vivid urban life which is boiling in them, are the fourth, integral and integrative 'aquatic' part of the city.

Although the city structure is generally defined by the presence of the two rivers, it has never been fully integrated with them. Throughout the history, different parts of the city developed different relations with the rivers due to geographical, historical and cultural circumstances. These various relations are reflected in the differences of use and physical shaping of the various riverfront segments.

Historically, prevailing riverfront activities have been: defense, fishing, trade, and, due to Belgrade's unique position on the border of various empires (Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian) - custom services, quarantine etc.

It was only in late 19th century that the first planned public spaces have been developed for citizens' recreation: linear park on Danube riverfront in Zemun (small town, now part of Belgrade).

Throughout 20th century many different public recreation spaces have been developed on Sava and Danube riverfronts in different parts of Belgrade, with different qualities.

During 1990s, transformation of these riverbanks begins by some planned and unintended development. Due to such planning efforts, parts of the riverbanks were connected to some other city recreational areas.

At the same time conversion of some old industrial sites into commercial and cultural places and organization of some sport and cultural events, introduced new types of riverfront users.

The end of 20th and the beginning of the 21st century is marked by two, at the first glance, opposite phenomena: globalization and localization. Taking both of these two issues into consideration the development of the "Third" Belgrade's left bank of Danube river should be explored. Responding to global tendencies its development is a possibility to create a new image and unique presentation of the city aiming to attract tourists and developers. At the same time, local Belgrade residents should be attracted, responding to uniquely preserved character of this very location, while emphasizing ecological issues.

Today, the City of Belgrade is expanding. Existing residents and business/commercial initiatives are looking for a new comfort, so now the new space must be considered. Centre of Belgrade - Stari Grad is an exhausted category. New Belgrade is a space on the limits of its utilization, so that within two or three years there will be no room for new developments/constructions. Everybody is witnessing visible consequences of a decreasing number of sites for new developments.



## **The workshop target area:**

The river Sava left bank waterfront area which is chosen to be the target for the Workshop is the virtual oasis of oblivion of the city of Belgrade. Even it is in the core of the city, surrounded by very crowded commercial, business, traffic and market zones, bridged with almost all of overloaded bridges which crossing the river Sava, it is still hiding the forgotten peaceful villages, shadowed restful waterfront promenades and recreative areas, ruined and almost abandoned complexes of the former industry, flocks of small marinas and arrays of small raft-houses and famous nightlife floating clubs, bars and restaurants.

All over the world, cities are rediscovering their waterfronts' potentials for public use and enjoyment. If approached in such a way, waterfronts create a new city image which attracts visitors, tourists and investors alike. This cannot be done over night. It takes a long-term vision of mutually dependent development of a city and its waterfront. Large waterfront (re)development projects and port transformations are complex activities that depend on numerous planning and procedural steps. Being sensitive to political and economic fluctuations, those projects often end up waiting for a better future, particularly in developing countries. They tend to get stuck between seductive visions of new iconic architecture surrounded by vibrant public spaces – and the grey reality of abandoned warehouses and industrial garbage.

Looking forward to seeing those big projects realized, we argue that there are many small but important steps that can and should be taken in order to bring people back to the river to appreciate its gifts and understand its importance for the city life in general.

# Belgrade

in the plural



Danube river >

Sava river >

Third Belgrade  
Zemun

Great War Islad

Port of Belgrade

Belgrade fortress

Old Belgrade - the core of the city of Belgrade

Touristic port of the city of Belgrade

New Belgrade

Old railway station

Belgrade Waterfront - Abu Dhabi in Belgrade

**Target area**

Belgrade fair

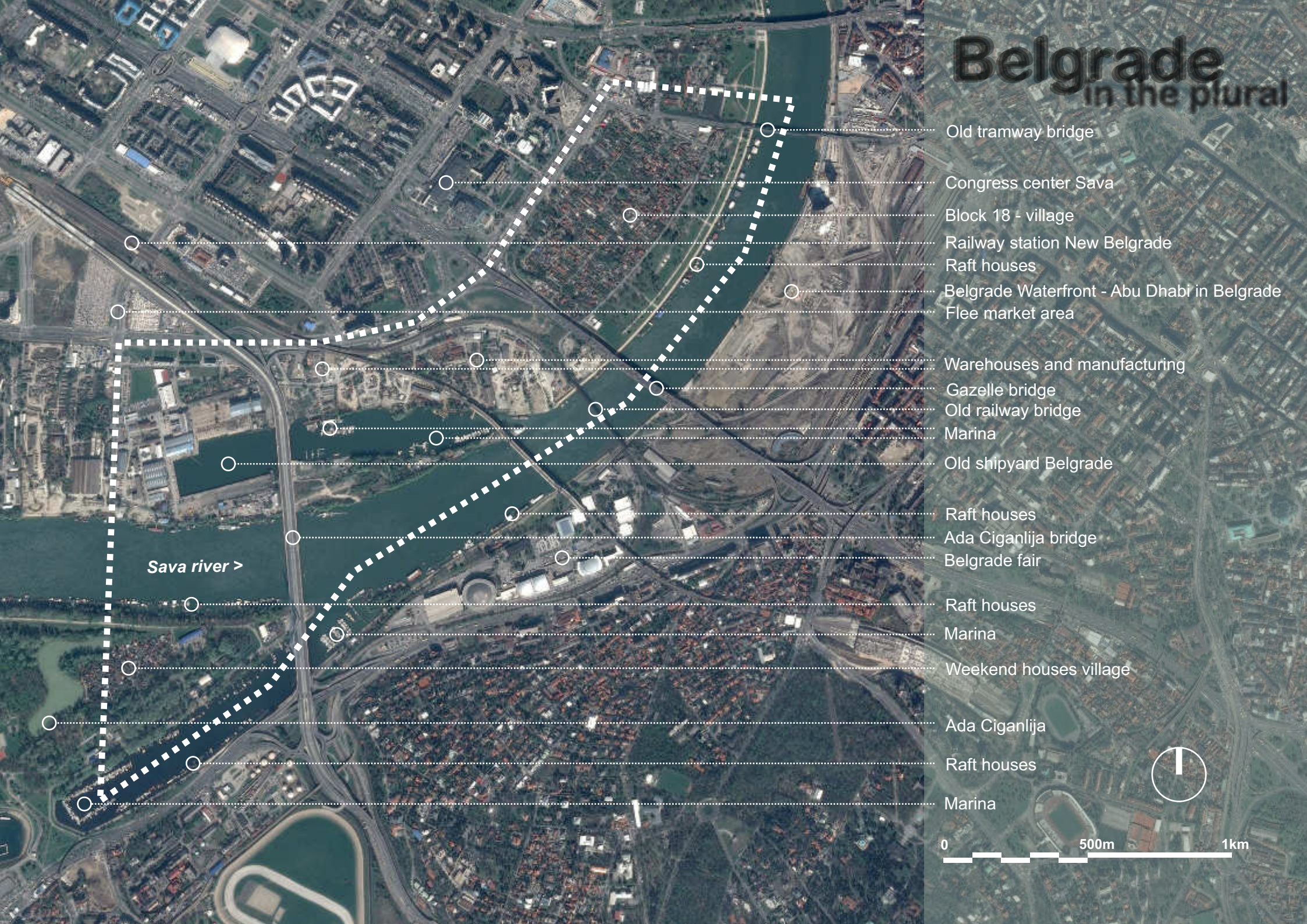
New railway station

Ada Ciganlija



# Belgrade

in the plural



Sava river >

- Old tramway bridge
- Congress center Sava
- Block 18 - village
- Railway station New Belgrade
- Raft houses
- Belgrade Waterfront - Abu Dhabi in Belgrade
- Flee market area
- Warehouses and manufacturing
- Gazelle bridge
- Old railway bridge
- Marina
- Old shipyard Belgrade
- Raft houses
- Ada Ciganlija bridge
- Belgrade fair
- Raft houses
- Marina
- Weekend houses village
- Ada Ciganlija
- Raft houses
- Marina

0 500m 1km



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## The Draft Schedule Proposal

### Symposium

<b>Arrival day</b>	<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of August</b>
during the day	arrival of the participants and accommodation
evening	welcome dinner for professors
<b>1<sup>st</sup> day</b>	<b>Friday – 1<sup>st</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:45	Opening ceremony
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 13:00	Symposium – key notes
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:45	Symposium – presentation
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 19:00	Symposium – presentation
19:00 – 20:00	Forming the students groups
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> day</b>	<b>Saturday – 2<sup>nd</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Sightseeing tour
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:45	Symposium – debate
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 19:00	Symposium – conclusions
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> day</b>	<b>Sunday – 3<sup>rd</sup> of September</b>
all the day	free time
all the day	optionally: volunteer works in groups on the "first impressions"

### Contact person:

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### Workshop

<b>4<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Monday – 4<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – first impressions
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:45	Presentations of the “first impressions”
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 19:00	Presentations of the “first impressions”
<b>5<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Tuesday – 5<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – proto concepts – design
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 19:00	Work in groups – proto concepts – design
<b>6<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Wednesday – 6<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – proto concepts – design
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:45	Presentations of the “proto concepts – design”
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 19:00	Presentations of the “proto concepts – design”
<b>7<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Thursday – 7<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – design proposals
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 19:00	Work in groups – design proposals
<b>8<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Friday – 8<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – design proposals
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 19:00	Work in groups – design proposals
<b>9<sup>th</sup> day</b>	<b>Saturday – 9<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
09:00 – 13:00	printing the exhibition
09:00 – 13:00	Work in groups – preparation of the presentations
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:45	Presentations of the “design proposals”
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 19:00	Presentations of the “design proposals”
19:00 – 19:30	Coffee break
19:30 – 20:00	Conclusions
20:00 – 20:30	Break
20:30 – 21:00	Closing ceremony
21:00 – ...	Goodbye party
<b>Departure day</b>	<b>Sunday – 10<sup>th</sup> of September</b>
during the day	departure of the participants

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