

A Place to Be: International Conference on Placemaking

ÉVORA, 14-15 MARCH 2024



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Évora Capital Europeia de Cultura 2027



A Place to Be is an international conference on Placemaking organized by the University of Évora within the scope of PLAY/ACT. In this conference, we aim to invite other perspectives, experiences and practices related to placemaking and its relation with young people, cities, local communities and the societal challenges of contemporaneity.

We invite scholars, young scholars, and independent researchers, urban agents, NGO's representatives that would like to share and present their projects, perspectives and studies on placemaking practices. The programme can be found at <https://playact.eu/international-conference/>

Scan que QR code to **register for participation or to submit a proposal.**

Call for Papers



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ExSiEq7NG53WW23qx6BvBX-ziZmVvd-yjE3OFWXWh3o/viewform?edit_requested=true

In 2021, the European Commission launched the **New European Bauhaus (NEB)** initiative, whose core values are sustainability, aesthetics and inclusiveness. The NEB is a creative initiative, breaking down boundaries between science and technology, art, culture and social inclusion, to allow design to find solutions for societal challenges.

PLAY/ACT - Placemaking as Youth Activism (playact.eu) is an ERASMUS + project that follows the principles of the NEB. Two of the main goals of PLAY/ACT were the implementation of a lifelong learning course on Placemaking aimed at university students and the development of Placemaking projects in four different cities in Europe: Évora (Portugal), Merida (Spain), Matera (Italy) and Budapest (Hungary).

Placemaking refers to processes by which people collaboratively shape and design public spaces to maximize shared values and promote community revitalization. This requires transdisciplinary and community-based approaches, a strong relationship with the place and a process of dialogue and negotiation with local stakeholders. The PLAY/ACT project aims to make young people aware of the fact that they are active agents of citizenship, and of urban and social transformation.



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IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of proposals: until February 7, 2024

Notification of acceptance: February 12, 2024

Conference: March 14 and 15, 2024, Évora, Portugal

Post-conference Placemaking event: March 16, 2024, Évora, Portugal

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Registration is free for all participants.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Leonel Alegre, UÉ-HERCULES / IN2PAST

Daniela Salazar IHA-NOVA/IN2PAST

Natália Melo UÉ-IHC

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Daniela Salazar (_ARTERIA_LAB - University of Évora)

David Ruah (Community Impact)

Angela Dibenedetto (MATERAHUB)

Blanca Monge (Junta de Extremadura)

Antonio Gordillo (Universidad de Extremadura)

Krisztina Kovács (KÉK)



INVITED SPEAKER



Professor Ali Madanipour is an architect and urbanist (MARCH and PhD) with a diverse background, having practiced, researched, and taught architecture, urban design and planning. Throughout his career, he has earned recognition for his work through design and research awards, collaborating with academic and municipal partners globally.

Madanipour has held prestigious visiting positions at renowned institutions worldwide. Notably, he served as the City of Vienna Senior Visiting Professor at the Technical University of Vienna in 2010, the Wits-Claude Leon Distinguished Scholar at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg in 2011, and as a Visiting Professor at the Polytechnic of Milan in 2015.

His research interests center around the design, development, and management of cities, particularly focusing on understanding urban spaces, their social and psychological significance, the influential processes shaping them, the agents responsible for urban change, and the implications of such transformations for marginalized social groups and the environment.

Among his numerous published works, some notable books include "Cities in Time: Temporary Urbanism and the Future of Cities" (2017, Bloomsbury), co-editing the "Handbook of Planning Theory" (2017, Routledge), co-editing "Reconsidering Localism" (2015, Routledge), "Urban Design, Space, and Society" (2014, Palgrave-Macmillan), co-editing "Public Space and the Challenges of Urban Transformation in Europe" (2014, Routledge) and Rethinking Public Space (2023, Edward Elgar).