Editorial
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The name "ShoppingScapes" tries to focus in a word the meeting of ideas related to presence and meaning of commercial superstructures that have been spreading throughout the territory, transforming and (re)building their landscape, as well as affecting the development of cities in general when set within them. Similarly, the description also applies to a variant of the already traditional shopping mall, which generally punctuates the suburban area, appearing as authentic commercial hubs with a retail nature, and which manifest themselves as satellite units, assuming their strange and contradictory condition of a non-city, providing through their presence and their supply, the emptying of activity which is characteristic of the traditional city centre and its consequent displacement away from it.
Thanks to such impacts, the presence and positioning of these superstructures is assuming a greater importance in the processes of territory organization and management, together with the questions put in place by the current economic and financial crisis scenario and the general lack of role models that may best suit these transformations to the new emerging societal paradigm.

However, today we see that urban life is easily confused with the experience of consumption, both being part of the same landscape. It is hard to dissociate the image of a shopping mall from an urban context with which it relates, or to consider the contemporary city without the marvellous world of consumption that this commercial typology provides.
Interestingly, it turns out that the areas provided by these shopping structures appear not to be merely dedicated to consumption. In the theatrical and dream world environment of its "streets" and "squares" - free recreations of the structuring elements of the historic city, dense and compact - one can wander, eat, drink, rest and consume symbols and goods. But, as a product of a process of globalization, symbol of a hyper-modernity, isn't the very "shopping centre" a sign?

Presently, the already mentioned current and transversal context of an economic and financial crisis has implied a clear shift in how we relate to these structures, not only by inducing changes in consumer habits, but also in terms of its urban presence and representativeness, affected by the questioning of the economic viability and sustainability of the model they represent. It is thus demonstrated that the shopping centre, despite presenting itself as a product of the typological evolution of a fundamental constituent of the landscape and urban activity, does not represent a permanent or unchanging formula, but rather a flexible piece of limited duration that,
much like the factories of older times, might become one of the future brownfield for urban expansions and retrofits of a city yet to come. Situations which have already found an echo in the dead mall example, on which we should reflect, particularly on the logic underlying their change processes.

The logic of this edition is the same of the Conference. We divided the sections by the three themes, “Typologies, History and Geography”, “Territory and Landscape” and the third theme “Architecture, Spaciality and Perception”. All papers have been peer reviewed by the Scientific Board of the Conference and by the Journal Scientic Board, so this number has two blind peer reviewed. The present double issue of the journal has fourteen papers for the first theme, thirteen for the second theme and thirteen for the third theme, totaling forty papers. We prefer not to split the proceedings of this conference even at the risk of making a bit excessive journal issue.