

User, take over!

(inspired by „Nutzer – Übernehmen Sie“ Bauwelt 35.13)

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From “smart price house” to “smart price city”

The role of architects and urban planner is to try to perceive how human life evolves and to make sure that the buildings and cities that we design create the framework that fits the way people/citizens want to live.

The city is a site where we make our lives public through accumulated interactions. The notions of this spatial concept as well as social habitat has to be negotiated, articulated and distributed. As architects we have a chance to turn the invisible structure of social, economical, political and cultural conditions that are permanent changing, into a physical form. This process demands a lot of interest and respect for the framework of user.

Changing modes of communication and participation in our society open up new opportunities to reinvent urban citizenship and creative democracy.

According to the generic theme of E13-Adaptable city and strategic concept consists on resilience, adaptability, economy I would like to lay the focus on the user as a connecting link between public and private sector.

-If adaptability is a goal, which new instruments and tools we need in order to control and make productive the process of conversion?

Centrally-planned urbanism doesn't address anything but a big-picture view, often expressed in non-adaptive solutions.

- Can we transform, adapt and reuse the strategy behind “smart price house” to new one that becomes driving force behind “smart price city”?

The fact, that the planner or architect today can't have complete control at the urban scale, doesn't mean that we should underplay the role of urban planning, but rather promote and establish different level of planning and urban design that includes participation of user communities and enable informal and individual action.

Cooperative urbanism can make us feel at home in many places.