

Seminar 4-5 February 2016

# SEEKING SANCTUARY

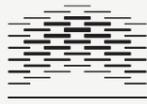
How does the media cover migration, and how does it frame our perception?  
What are possible design solutions and strategies for refugees and their host communities,  
in order to offer a sense of normality and (the feeling of) safety in extreme situations?

Free of charge

Open to public



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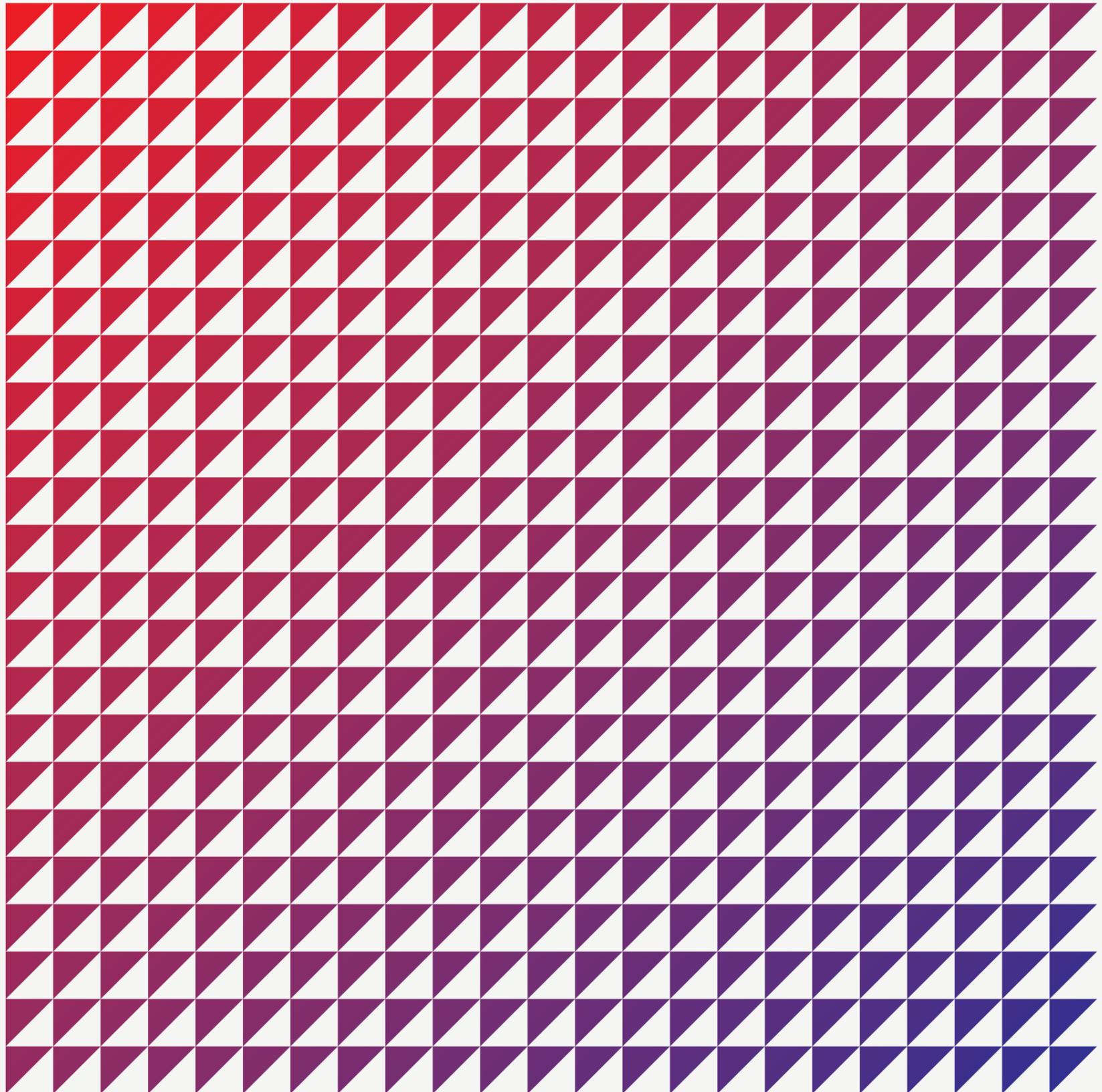
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**“It is not just a lack of humanity on the news agenda or a matter of luck or a matter of caring more about some people at the expense of others. We need a broader lens to see what really is going on”.**

**Jan Egeland**

Secretary General of the Norwegian Refugee Council

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## BACKGROUND ARCHITECTURE

Nearly 60 million people are displaced by war and conflict worldwide. The number has increased sharply as a result of the war in Syria, which has forced 12 million people to flee their homes. The crisis in Syria is the largest humanitarian crisis of our generation. Every day, men, women and children cross the Mediterranean in search of safety. Host countries, and European ones in particular, are mostly not providing dignified living arrangements for the new arrivals.

While these challenges need to be worked on from many different angles and levels, there is an acute need for architects and planners to take a proactive role in the crisis response and offer their expertise on how to improve the physical conditions for people seeking sanctuary in unfamiliar environments.

Both the professions constituting the built environment (architects, urban planners, landscape architects and engineers and international humanitarian community (the United Nations, NGOs, the EU, and others) and) urgently need to adapt their capacity and response to the shifting nature of this refugee crisis.

## BACKGROUND JOURNALISM

The challenge for journalists is to provide accurate and reliable information about who the refugees are, why they are on the move and how they are received. The manner in which these questions are addressed plays a vital role in constructing the conceptual space offered to displaced people by their new host countries. It matters if displaced people are portrayed as individuals rather than a "flood", it matters if they are seen as worthy victims rather than a threat to their host society.

The media are not the sole contributors to the, often polarized, conceptualizations that frame the debate in most European countries, including Norway. The media do, however, have a special obligation to contextualize and investigate the full circle of events. This calls for a greater transnational awareness among journalists, as well as access to relevant fields.

## PROGRAM THURSDAY 4TH

The Oslo School of Architecture and Design  
Maridalsveien 29.

10:00

Welcome and introduction  
Marianne Skjulhaug (AHO)

10:15 – 10:45

Housing temporality within urban migrant communities, China.

Cecilie Anderson (Director of The Bergen School of Architecture (BAS))

10:45 – 11:15

The Fragmented City / Gran Horizonte  
Alfredo Brillembourg (ETH/U-TT)

11:15 – 11:30

Break

11:30 – 12:00

Urban displacement and crisis response in Lebanon  
Synne Bergby (NORCAP/UN Habitat)

12:00 – 12:30

Entering Europe (In Transit )  
– Stories from Greece and the Balkans  
Håvard Breivik & Tommy Sandløkk (NORCAP/AHO)

12:30 – 13:00

Siem Pilot – Stories from the boat rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea  
Kripos

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

Panel discussion

Seeking Sanctuary in Norway – A cross-sectorial and consolidated response?

5 minutes presentations by each panelist followed by a panel discussion

Panelists: Cecilie Anderson (BAS), Pål Nesse (NRC Flyktninghjelpen), Jan Liesegang (Raumlabor, Berlin) Ann Kristin Brunborg (Beredskapsstaten Oslo Kommune), Eli Støa (NTNU), Kaja Misvær Kistorp (AHO) Knut Henrik Berntsen (UDI), Bala Venkatasamy HERO), Geir Skari (Skari Eiendom), Tor Inge Hjemdal (NAL)

Moderator: Stig Arild Pettersen

## PROGRAM FRIDAY 5TH

The Oslo School of Architecture and Design  
Maridalsveien 29.

10:00 - 12:00

Media and migration

Moving Stories – Presentation of the International Review of How Media Covers Migration  
Oona Solberg (Ethical Journalism Network)

Reflections on Field Experiences

Oda L. Skjetne (Dagbladet) and Kadafi Zaman (TV2)  
Moderator: Anne Hege Simonsen (associate professor, HiOA)

12:00 – 13:00

Lunch

13:00

What buildings do – Impacts of housing quality in Norwegian reception centers  
Eli Støa (NTNU)

14:00

Into the Norwegian – Regional opportunities and barriers for immigrants' inclusion in the labor market  
Susanne Sørholt (NIBR, Oslo)

15:00

Die Gärtnererei  
Jan Liesegang (Raumlabor, Berlin)

16:00

Hotel Cosmopolis  
Michael Adamczyk (Augsburg, Germany)



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