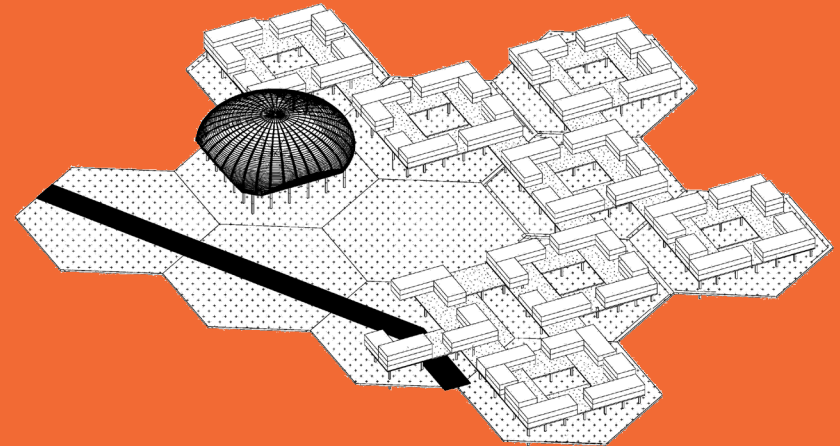


The Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT (AKPIA@MIT) is a graduate academic program dedicated to the study of architecture, urbanism, architectural history, Landscape, and conservation in the Islamic World. The program offers a concentration in Islamic architecture and urbanism as part of the two-year Master of Science in Architectural Studies (SMArchS) degree and the Ph.D. Program in the History, Theory and Criticism (HTC) section in the Department of Architecture. The program also sponsors various outreach activities: a lecture series, a travel grant program, and a post-doctoral program. AKPIA@MIT regularly organizes conferences and pursues collaborative projects across MIT, with its sisters programs at Harvard University, and with academic and research institutions around the world. Established in 1979 through a generous endowment of His Highness the Aga Khan, AKPIA@MIT is recognized today as a world leader in the fields of Islamic architecture and urbanism.



WORKSHOP

THE ARCHITECTURE OF REFUGEES

THE QUESTION OF ETHICS



Significant transformations in the world's political landscape are signaling the emergence of a new world order that undermines the certitudes established at the end of World War II. At the core of such discussions, the concept of human rights is significantly challenged, calling for a discussion at the core of ethics for the revisions of the principles and mechanisms of intervention. In reaction to these new transformations some have called for a World Parliament representing the people and not governments to replace the UN General Assembly.

The workshop addresses the agency of architecture and design in a context where the disrespect of human rights is aggravated by the incapacity of global institutions to react efficiently. What are the ethical questions regarding the architecture of refugees? What timescales, short or long terms, represent a priority for architecture and through which agenda – refugee relief, historical preservation, camp upgrades and daily life, or rebuilding and resettlement? What is the role of design in front of the degradation and destruction of cultural artifacts? How can design be channeled towards peace building objectives and possible resettlement projects? What are the material, technological, systemic responses to address emergency needs in the context of refugee camps?

4/27/17

PROGRAM

3:00 to 5:30 pm - MIT Room 4-231

- 3:00** *Introduction*
Nasser Rabbat
- 3:15** *Ethics of International Law as a Framework for Displacees and Refugees*
Balakrishnan Rajagopal
- 3:30** *Ethics and Politics of Post-Conflict Repair*
Delia Wendel
- 3:45** *Material Culture and Historical Conservation*
Admir Masic
- 4:00** *After Belonging*
Carlos Minguez Carrasco
- 4:15** *Architecture of Exile:
The Permanent Temporariness of Refugee Camps*
Alessandro Petti
- 4:30** **Coffee Break**
- 4:45** *Panel Discussion*
Masic, Minguez-Carrasco Petti, Rajagopal and Wendel
Moderated by El Hadi Jazairy

El Hadi Jazairy is Assistant Professor of Architecture at the University of Michigan and currently Research Scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Center for Advanced Urbanism where his research focuses on Urbanism and Energy Systems. He is also founding partner of the award winning practice DESIGN EARTH. His work has been widely recognized with several honors, including the Young Architects Prize from Architectural League of New York, ACSA Faculty Design Award, the European 6 award, and the Regle d'Or de l'Urbanisme. He is co-author of *Geographies of Trash* (Actar, 2015) and *Two Cosmograms* (SA+P Press, 2016) as well as editor-in-chief of *New Geographies 4: Scales of the Earth* (Harvard GSD, 2010). His recent writings have been published in the *Journal of Cultural Geography*, the *Journal of Architectural Education*, the *Avery Review*, *Kerb Journal*, *Topos*, *MONU*, and *San Rocco*. El Hadi holds a Doctorate of Design from Harvard University, a Master of Architecture from Cornell University, and a Bachelor of Architecture from La Cambre in Brussels.

Admir Masic is the Esther and Harold E. Edgerton Career Development Professor. His research interests include multi-scale chemical imaging; structural and mechanical characterization of biological and synthetic materials; degradation and preservation of building materials and cultural artifacts. His research group at MIT focuses on the characterization of complex biomineralized and archaeological structural materials with the objective to inspire the design of more sustainable and durable building materials. As a former Bosnian refugee, Admir is actively working on supporting displaced youth around the world. He is the challenge leader in the Learn pillar of SOLVE at MIT where he is working with Solvers on how to improve learning outcomes for refugee and displaced people.

Carlos Mínguez Carrasco is a New York based architect and curator. He is Associate Curator at Storefront for Art and Architecture, and Chief Curator of the Oslo Architecture Triennale 2016 with the After Belonging Agency. In 2014 he was Assistant Curator of OfficeUS, the US Pavilion at the 2014 Venice Biennale. Mínguez has organized a wide range of exhibitions, events and competitions with a particular focus on how social, cultural, and political pressing issues influence contemporary architecture, including *Interpretations* (2010), *BEING* (2013), *Letters to the Mayor* (2014-17), and the platform *World Wide Storefront* (2014). His texts have been published in different magazines and catalogues as *Domus*, *Código*, or *Migrant Journal*. He is coeditor of the publication *After Belonging, The Objects, Spaces, and Territories of the Ways We Stay in Transit*, and the forthcoming publication *OfficeUS Manual*. Mínguez has taught at Columbia University GSAPP and lectured in different universities and cultural centers in Europe, the US, and Latin America.

Alessandro Petti is an architect who combines theoretical research with an architectural, artistic, and pedagogical practice engaged in the struggle for justice and equality. In 2012 with Sandi Hilal he founded "Campus in Camps," an experimental educational program in the Dheisheh refugee camp in Bethlehem. Five years earlier with Sandi Hilal and Eyal Weizman, Petti created DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Residency) in Beit Sahour, Palestine, an architectural studio and residency program that has gathered architects, artists, activists, urbanists, filmmakers, and curators to work collectively on politics and architecture. In 2014 they published *Architecture After Revolution*, revisiting today's struggles for justice and equality not only from the historical perspective of revolution, but also as a continued struggle for decolonization. Alessandro Petti is 2016-2017 Loeb Fellow at Harvard University

Graduate School of Design, and he will be holding the next year the Professorship in Architecture and Social Justice at the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm.

Nasser Rabbat is the Aga Khan Professor and the Director of the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT. An architect and a historian, his scholarly interests include the history and historiography of Islamic architecture, art, and cultures, urban history, modern Arab history, contemporary Arab art, and post-colonial criticism. He teaches lecture courses on various facets of Islamic architecture and urbanism and seminars on the history of Islamic urbanism and its various interpreters, on several contemporary cities such as Cairo, Beirut, Dubai, and Doha, on orientalism, historiography, and the issue of meaning in architecture, as well as design studios focused on historic cities in the Islamic world. In his research and teaching he presents architecture in ways that illuminate its interaction with culture and society and stress the role of human agency in shaping that interplay.

Balakrishnan Rajagopal is currently a Professor of Law and Development and Head of the International Development Group at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. He is also the founding Director of the Program on Human Rights and Justice, and the founder of the Displacement Research and Action Network at MIT. He served for many years with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Cambodia and has consulted with leading UN agencies, and was human rights advisor to the World Commission on Dams. He has published numerous scholarly articles and is the author of two books - International Law from Below: Development, Social Movements and Third World Resistance, and Reshaping Justice: International Law and the Third World.

His work has been translated into Chinese, Spanish, and French. He also publishes widely in the media on human rights, development and international law issues, as they pertain to the global south.

Delia Duong Ba Wendel is an interdisciplinary scholar who works between Urban Planning, Cultural Geography, Architectural History, and Anthropology. Her research engages three main areas: spatial politics, conflict and disaster recovery, and African urbanism. Current writing explores how state peacebuilding objectives are implemented and challenged in the design of homes, settlements, and civic space in post-genocide Rwanda. This project, *The Ethics of Stability*, has been recognized by grants from the Social Science Research Council, the Harvard Center for Ethics, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, and the American Council of Learned Societies. Delia received a PhD in Urban Planning from Harvard University, where she has been lecturing since 2014. Publications include her co-edited volume, *Spatializing Politics: Essays on Power and Place*, and essays in the *Journal of Urban Design*, *New Orleans and the Design Moment*, and *The Handbook of Architectural Theory*. Delia will be joining MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning faculty in 2018.