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**Constantinos Doxiadis and Adriano Olivetti's urban politics and democracy: Ekistics as condisciplinary science and communities as concrete utopias**

The paper is developed around the following axes: firstly, it focuses on the examination of Constantinos A. Doxiadis and Adriano Olivetti's respective understanding of democracy; secondly, it presents their respective reconstruction models; thirdly, it analyses their respective stance vis-à-vis centralised and decentralised models of governing; finally, it examines their respective involvement in the European Recovery Program (ERP). The objective of the paper is to shed light on how Doxiadis and Olivetti contributed to societal transformation, on the one hand, and the formation of national identity within the Greek and Italian post-war context respectively, on the other hand. Important for grasping ERP's impact on Greece is Doxiadis's role as undersecretary and director-general of the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction between 1945 and 1948, as coordinator of the Greek Recovery Programme and as undersecretary of the Ministry of Coordination between 1948 and 1950. Pivotal for understanding the Marshall Plan's impact on Italy is Olivetti's role within the study centre of the UNRRA-CASAS housing committee, which was responsible for the development settlement schemes based on the model of the communitarian aggregation. In many cases, renowned architects, who worked outside the agency's technical staff, were invited to design these settlement schemes.

The main objective of this paper is to provide a terrain of investigation situated at their intersection with architectural design and urban planning, taking into account the interaction between social history, political history, economic history and transnational studies. Despite the fact that it mainly examines Doxiadis and Olivetti's agendas, the way it is developed aims to provide an understanding of the dominant models of urban planning, during the post-war years, both in Greece and in Italy. The paper places particular emphasis on the role of holism and interdisciplinarity in Doxiadis's approach, on the concepts of "Ekistics" and "condisciplinary science" in Doxiadis's thought and practice. Moreover, it pays special attention to Olivetti's thesis supporting that the establishment of conditions that would provide the citizens with the sense of community. For Olivetti, the communitarian dimension was the antidote against problems between citizens and governmental institutions. Olivetti's utopian vision could be characterised as "concrete utopia" in the sense that his understanding of communities as concrete goes hand in hand with his conviction that communities are determined by geography and history. At the centre of the paper is the hypothesis that Doxiadis and Olivetti's vision of politics is related to their agendas regarding urban planning strategies within the context of the post-war reconstruction. Of great significance for understanding their political agendas is the way they conceived the relationship between democracy and community, and interdisciplinarity.