

an onsite+online international and interdisciplinary territorial, urban and architectural design workshop



| The Klis Case 2020: verticality | connectivity | lives |

12-20 September 2020

organised and coordinated by

co+re + Meiji University + Keio University, Tokyo + the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Geodesy, University of Split

A BRIEF OUTLINE

BACKGROUND

The Klis Case 2020 continues tradition of annual international urban and architectural design workshops which were regularly conducted in and around the city of Split over the last decade – from the inaugural *Split Case* in 2011, via *Anatomy of Islands Workshops* at islands of Vis and Lastovo (2012-18), to *Reopening the Split Case* (2019), where we have introduced the co+re “top-heavy” workshoping concept. That format ensures an efficient kick-off of intense exercises, involving a seasoned team of collaborating institutions, teams and individuals, keen to challenge boundaries between teaching and learning.

Along the organising institutions – University of Split (Prof. Neno Kezić et al.) and international co+re platform (Prof. Davisi Boontharm; dbStudio, Meiji University, Tokyo and Prof. Darko Radović, Keio University, Tokyo, **co+labo**) **this outline first invites academics, experts and institutions involved in our recent workshops** - University of Ljubljana (Prof. Glažar et al.), Universidad de las Américas, Quito (Prof. Medina), David Sim (Gehl, Copenhagen), and Keio Architecture Strategic partner Politecnico di Milano (Prof. Masera et al.). *The Klis Case 2020* will engage cca. 25 students from the participating universities (full list t.b.c.). The students will work in international and interdisciplinary groups of 3-5, in onsite (locals and those able come to Split/Klis) and online teams, working via WebEx, Zoom and other internet platforms, simulating the real-life, professional practice of today.

LOCATIONS

The location of the 2020 Workshop focuses at the town of Klis, part of the Croatian Split-Solin-Klis conurbation. Narrowly bypassed by modern highway, Klis stays close but still outside overwhelming excesses of Adriatic tourism, gradually becoming a desirable place to live – due to the combined unique environmental qualities, dramatic natural conditions, rich heritage and new programmes introduced by the government and local authorities. Municipality of Klis focuses at balancing aims for good local life with tourist demand around the attractive Fort. Workshop 2020 aims to contribute to those agendas.

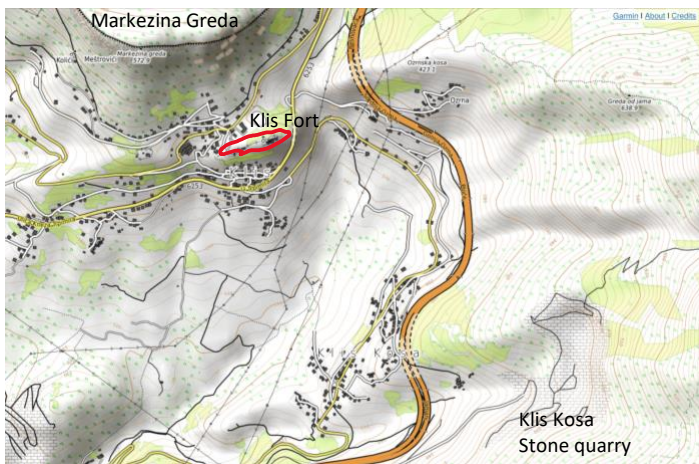
The Fort of Klis is located on the top of a steep cliff soaring above the deep gorge which separates Kozjak and Mosor mountains, on one side facing Adriatic Sea and on the other Southern hinterland of Dalmatia. The fort occupies an extraordinarily strategic location which, since the first Illyrian settlement (Salon, 7th century BCE) and, in particular, since the establishment of Salona, ancient capital of Roman Dalmatia, facilitated control of movement between the sea and continent. Throughout its long and rich history, Klis was the key to defence of Split and Dalmatia from various Northern aggressions, most notably that by Ottoman Empire, when it mediated between the cultural spheres of Christianity and Islam. Over that long period, the town of Klis has developed at the foot of the fortress, gradually expanding to the surrounding hills and valleys.

The Klis Case Workshop 2020 is supported by Municipality of Klis, which suggested the preliminary list of sites that will trigger the Workshop, making sure that it provides not only educational and research benefits, but also contributes to development to the visions for better future of this energetic and aspirational community. These two strategic areas are:

Markezina Greda (the Marquez's Beam), located in the Northwestern section of the Klis area (with archeological remnants from to 5-7 century CE) which towers over the 339 m high Fort by 234 m. It became a popular challenge for experienced rock climbers, rewarding them with majestic views over the Fort, Klis, Solin, Split, Adriatic Sea and its many islands. The starting, intuitive response to Markezina Greda is to enhance current activities while, with strategic, elegant, minimal design touches preserving its precious environmental condition. The challenge for the participants of the Workshop may be to do that – or to discover and do something different, even more exciting, appealing and environmentally and culturally sensitive instead.

Kamenolom Klis Kosa (the Klis Kosa Stone Quarry), located on the slopes of the Southeastern hill, covers a vast area 350m above the sea level. Controversial due to invasive mining which affected geological situation of the spring of Jadro River, the Quarry is likely to cease its operations in near future. That opens this huge and brutally scared site to planning and design imagination, to fine critical and creative, programmatic and formal investigations – from territorial to architectural scales.

And ... while themselves important, these two sites will also facilitate discussions about the Klis region as a whole, feed interdisciplinary explorations, and help *the Klis Case* identify other places and practices to be considered within the project. Topographically demanding, the sites of Klis provide an arena for innovative coordination of planning, territorialism, urbanism, urban and architectural design, civil and other engineering, and their creative and inspirational synthesis.



THEMES

Seeking the right nature – culture, place – programme balance, Klis Workshop will localize themes of **(the quality of) life**, **connectivity (across scales and needs)** and **verticality (as dominant morphological feature of the site)**, and define necessary infrastructures that can enhance social, spatial and technical capacities of this place with amazing resources and potential.

		infrastructure		
		social	technical	spatial
verticality	→	+	+	+
connectivity	→	+	+	+
lives	→	+	+	+

lifestyles

PROCESS

The Coronavirus pandemic has taught us to be flexible. The preparations for *The Klis Case* were based on co+re principle not to give in, but to build in the mechanisms which will enable the delivery of contents that is best at the given moment. Consequently, the 2020 co+re Workshop aims to, besides by now well-established and known quality of its architectural and urban design educational and research outcomes, take positive attitude towards the new condition and advance ways of collaboration at an (enforced) distance, to bring in and advance international experiences and useful practices which all of the participants have acquired since the start of the pandemic. The 2020 Workshop also decidedly moves towards the explicit emphasis on interdisciplinarity, in response to the key strengths of its organising partners (Keio, Meiji and Split Universities).

ORGANISERS

| Neno Kezić, University of Split, Croatia | Davisi Boontharm, co+re, Meiji University, I-AUD, Japan | Darko Radović, co+re, Keio University, co+labo, Japan

SCHEDULE (tentative)

Date/time	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Saturday 12 September		Introduction at Klis town				Site visit		GW				
Sunday 13		L1		L2		P1 : Site Report						
Monday 14		L3		L4		CR1						
Tuesday 15		L5		L6		P2						
Wednesday 16		GW				CR2						
Thursday 17		GW				P3 (interim)						
Friday 18		GW				CR3						
Saturday 19		GW				CR4						
Sunday 20		GW				Final Presentation @ Klis municipality						

L = Lecture Series (20 minutes talk/presenter, all lectures will be recorded)

P = Plenary Presentations (all participants attend)

CR = Crit Room Session (students work in group, professors+ guests visit the crit rooms)

GW= Group Work (self organised group/individual work)