

Theme

Rail & City CODE-ATHENS

Greece is facing great challenges. The present crisis cuts a deep gash in the country's history, but also offers new opportunities. However, to achieve a sustainable path of development, investments in the national infrastructure are especially important. A prime example is improving the railway connections in the triangle of Thessaloniki, Athens and Patras.

TRIANGLE PATHE (Patras, Athens, Thessaloniki)

Direct, fast and reliable railway connections are strategic projects of the highest priority. It is not only vital for the cities involved, it carries both national and European importance. The Triangle is part of the core network of the trans-European network and will form a city network that connects the three most important Greek metropolitan regions of Thessaloniki, Athens and Patras. More than half of the 11 million inhabitants of Greece are living in its catchment area.

Ultimately, the Triangle connections will contribute to closing the East/West divide in the highperformance transport infrastructure that has existed in Greece for too long now and will also connect Patras, as Greece's western gate, with its hinterland. Travel time between Patras and Athens will be reduced to well under two hours and will offer attractive opportunities for commuter traffic in the catchment area of both metropolitan regions. In addition, travel times between Athens and Thessaloniki could be reduced from nearly six hours to less than four hours. Both improvements are suitable and sustainable alternatives to travelling by car, bus or plane.

STATHMOS LARISSIS, A Strategic Node

Athens' central railway station Stathmos Larissis is the main node of this railway network. It is also the southern gateway to the European Orient/East-Med Corridor, i.e. Hamburg-Athens. But, the station should be upgraded to more than an eight-track railway infrastructure with an electrified connection to SKA (the northern gateway of Athens) and the passenger harbour of Piraeus. The link from SKA via Stathmos Larissis to Piraeus forms a corridor that has strategic importance for the future development of Athens.

There are several reasons why the upgrade of the Athens' central station has been put on hold. Along the corridor, there are existing brownfield sites that have potential as opportunities for the transformation and renewal of important areas of the City of Athens. Thus, the urban fabric in the catchment area of Stathmos Larissis needs to be improved. Furthermore, current accessibility

to the main station area is insufficient for a railway network node of national and European importance.

The planning Chairs of ETH Zurich, the Technical University of Athens and the University of Patras have therefore started an initiative to gather new ideas for possible solutions, so to stimulate the integrated development of both city and railway in Athens in the longer perspective. As shown by some examples from other European metropolitan areas in Germany, Spain, Austria and Switzerland integrated railway and urban development can serve as an engine for strategic investments, often realized in public-private partnerships.

The presence of the international symposium Rail&City should stimulate public debate on the challenging situation in Athens. Participants from Berlin, Madrid, Vienna and Zurich who are involved in similar projects will share the challenges, possibilities and results of Rail&City projects and discuss their experiences with the responsible actors from Athens.

This exchange should provide a solid basis for a better understanding of the integrated planning approach, which could make a breakthrough for any innovative solutions accepted by the inhabitants, the politicians and the various institutions and actors that will have to be involved.

In June 2015, a joint seminar week of students from ETH Zurich and students from the National Technical University of Athens and the University of Patras will research new ideas for the further development of the railway corridor in Athens (CODE ATHENS). Professors and experts will accompany and support the student working groups.

Under the auspices of the City of Athens.



ETH zürich

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CODE-ATHENS

Joint Seminar Week Rail and City Development in Athens

15th - 20th
JUNE
2015
ATHENS



www.code-athens.ethz.ch

HUA (Harokopio University of Athens)

El. Venizelou 70, Kallithea 17676

2.4 km from Herodion Hotel

13 minutes with the Trolley bus Nr. 1 and Nr. 5 from Veikou street,

Exit in Station Karagianni

Print and Copy Center Kostouros (Κωστούρος)

El. Venizelou 62, Kallithea 17676, Tel. 210 9577378

Opening hours : Monday-Friday 08.30-18.00

Prices: for ca. 20 DINA1 - 3,30Euro/A1 plan

for ca. 20 DINA0 - 4,80Euro/A0 plan

(! students should mention that they are from HUA in order to get the mentioned prices)

Programme Joint Seminar Week

Sunday, 14 June 2015

Individual arrival of participants

- > 19.30 Festival Herodion Theater, joint walk from Lobby of Herodion Hotel (optional)

Monday, 15 June 2015 (HUA, fieldtrip, restaurant)

- > 08.15 Meeting at Lobby of Herodion Hotel, joint trip to HUA
- > 09.00 Welcome: Kostas Moraitis, Vassilis Pappas, Bernd Scholl
- > 09.15 Introductions: Kostas Moraitis, Ana Peric, Irini Frezadou
- > 10.30 Studio work in groups
- > 12.30 Lunch
- > 13.30 Studio work in groups
- > 15.30 Departure to field trip along the corridor 3 Gefires –Rouf (details to follow at HUA)
- > 19.00 End of field trip
- > 21.00 Dinner: restaurant Το Στέκι του Ηλία / To Steki tou Iliia Eptachalkou 7, Thisseio

Tuesday, 16 June 2015 (HUA, individual fieldtrip)

- > 09.00 Studio work
- > 12.30 Lunch
- > 14.00 Bilateral discussions with coaches (details to follow at HUA)
- > 18.00 End of studio work
- > 18.30 Individual field trip (details to follow at HUA)

Wednesday, 17 June 2015 (HUA)

- > 09.00 Studio work
- > 12.30 Lunch
- > 13.30 Interim presentations I (each team 15 min., 10 min. Q&A, 5 min. res.)
- > 15.30 Coffee break
- > 16.00 Interim presentations II
- > 18.00 Reserve
- > 18.30 Departure with bus to restaurant Akti, Leoforos Poseidonos 6, Vouliagmeni (staff only)

Thursday, 18 June 2015 (HUA)

- > 09.00 Bilateral discussions with coaches (details to follow at HUA)
- > 11.00 Studio work
- > 12.30 Lunch
- > 13.30 Studio work, preparation of final presentations
- > 18.00 Individual end of studio work

Friday, 19 June 2015 (Akropolis Museum)

- > 09.00 Inscription/coffee
- > 09.30 Welcome: Kostas Moraitis, Moderation: Irini Frezadou
- > 09.45 Final presentations of teams I (each team 15 min., 10 min. Q&A, 5 min. res.)
- > 11.45 Lunch
- > 13.00 Final presentations of teams II
- > 15.00 Closing remarks: Albert Speer, Bernd Scholl, Vassilis Pappas, Kostas Moraitis
- > 15.45 Apéro
- > 16.30 End

Saturday, 20 June 2015 (Excursion to Epidaurus-Nafplion)

- > 11.00 Departure from Herodion Hotel
- > 13.30 Guided visit to the archaeological site of Epidaurus: Ancient Theater & Museum
- > 16.30 Swimming at the Arvanitia beach in Nafplion
Possibility for individual snack, light lunch
- > 18.30 Walk along the Arvanitia coast to Nafplion historic part
- > 19.00 Farewell dinner restaurant Kanakarakis, Vassilissis Olgas 18, Nafplion
- > 23.00 Arrival at hotel

Sunday, 21 June 2015

Individual departure of participants