

Massimo Santanicchia

Becoming Citizens: reporting from the north. System thinking and ethics in architectural education

The Nordic Region (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden) is a territory that is currently subject of extraordinary transformations: climate change, enormous fluxes of people, tourists-boom in Iceland, refugee crisis in Sweden, problems of integration, fast urbanisation, and growing social and spatial inequality. These grand challenges are re-shaping not only our territories and its built environment but our educational methods.

But how do the Nordic schools of architecture address these grand challenges? What are the priorities, the agendas, and learning outcomes that each school aim to achieve? How do we learn architecture in the Nordic region? This research starts by asking whether a regional unitary pedagogy of the North exists. This question is answered by mapping the architectural pedagogies of the different schools. What are the ambitions and visions of the schools and how are these are developed and implemented?

This research offers an enquiry into the state of architectural education, pedagogic and practical ideas for architectural educators and students of architecture in the Nordic Region and beyond.