

An urban redevelopment proposal for Istanbul's Galata district

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Abstract

This is a research project in the field of urban regeneration in a small region of the old historical region of Istanbul named Galata. Galata is an historical site of Istanbul, deteriorated although located between the areas where commercial, banking land uses take place and very close to the Karakoy port, waterfront area. Although the surrounding and neighbouring regions are lively, the project site is disjointed and rigidly separated according to land use. The site is also dangerous for pedestrians.

One of the main aim of the Municipality is to renovate this area and revitalize it with new functions. It is also important to give a touristic function, such as hotel or motel, as well as residential uses to one of the main streets, which is lined with beautiful historical facades. This street, namely Hendek Street is opening to a piazza where Galata tower is located. A design proposal is developed for that beautiful historical square.

Space Syntax offers new, robust techniques for regenerating urban areas through urban design. These techniques focus specifically on making physical connections to integrate people and places. Their use in projects such as our research in central Istanbul will explain that the process of creating the socially inclusive urban areas can be led by objective, strategic design.

Keywords

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