

EUROPAN 15 - SITE VISIT - KARLOVAC

The site visit started on 13th of April 2019 at 3PM by gathering at the parking lot of the Croatian Army House (Marina Držića No 4). Three team members, all from Croatia, responded. The tour was conducted by Irena Kajfeš-Pavlović, architect. (Department of Physical Planning and Environmental Protection of the City of Karlovac). The location of the former barracks is open to the public, and the visit took place through existing paths within the site.

During the preparation of the competition brief, the Republic of Croatia donated to the City of Karlovac part of the project site land, with the obligation to develop it tin the defined period (public use - public transport infrastructure, playgrounds, schools, parks and promenades, housing for young families in energy-efficient multi-storey buildings, entrepreneurial incubators, etc.).

Existing buildings were used for military purposes, exact time of construction is not known, however, considering the materials and design, it is assumed to be older than 50 years. Warehouses, hangars and similar objects are of simple design, built from reinforced concrete and brick, wooden or metal roof structure, and the roofs are covered is a wavy salonite. All buildings have been neglected for years and are therefore devastated by the effects of atmospheric conditions, irresponsible human destruction and theft, and the consequences of war destruction are also visible. The city obtained a demolition project for 13 buildings on land owned by the Republic of Croatia, for safety reasons. The future of other buildings will be known after the adoption of the Urban Planning Plan Luščić -centar. The environment inside the barracks consists of asphalted roads and pistes, army polygons and green areas. Asphalted roads are in poor condition.

Karlovac expects entries that will ensure sustainable use and vitality of the area, in particular by avoiding uniform and single-purpose solutions and by providing high-quality public facilities and open public spaces, in line with the overall Europan topic of productive city. Therefore, the existing monouse and derelict fabric of the former barracks needs to be integrated to the city as a whole with smart and enduring interventions.

The site visit lasted for 90 minutes, and the questions posed by the competitors have been posted at the Q&A section.