The Department of Architecture at Epoka University welcomes participants to the Fourth International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design (ICAUD), to be held on 24 - 26 November, 2021 in Tirana, Albania.Building upon the success of the previous three editions of ICAUD, the conference promises a wide range of topics on architecture and urban design and an international audience of academics and practitioners from around the world. The 3-ICAUD provided an international forum for knowledge exchange where 57 scientific papers and posters were presented by academics from 12 different countries. All contributions were reviewed from a scientific committee consisting of internationally acclaimed scholars. The keynote speakers comprised internationally renowned academics and local policy makers. The Global Event that affected the world in early 2020 has had some huge reflections in many of the design fields, forcing architects and engineers, urban planners, and designers to rethink many of the consolidate knowledge in the designing approaches. Some of that changes will be temporary and destined to going-back in a short time; meanwhile other seem fated to become permanent and able to challenge our personal and social mindset, as designers as well as end-users. Those ongoing changes also stress the importance of a rising trans-disciplinary interaction among diverse field of knowledge, having affected the whole people real-life realm at the global scale.

The 4th International Conference on Architecture and Urban Design (4ICAUD2021) aims to animate a deep “think-tank” moment on how we have been challenged and on what we are gaining in the switch between NEW & OLD NORMALITY POST 2020. Taking advantage from the time experienced and ripened in one year later than the beginning of the pandemic era, to draft what it will be the after-pandemic era in the fields of design, and not only in that.

The 4th ICAUD is structured into two parallel tracks.

a) the Old-Normal track, which will be conducted conventionally through abstract submission, its acceptance/not-acceptance, full article submission, final review and acceptance and conference presentation in one of the arranged parallel sessions.

b) the New-Normal track, which will be conducted differently through Extended Abstract submission, its review and acceptance, presentation in one of the conference’s “Research workshops” under the driving of a Discussant, co-building of the common frame for a scientific article (articulated into some paragraphs according to the numbers of authors involved in the hotspot), final co-article submission (one month and half after the conference), its review and acceptance. You are invited to submit an abstract and / or poster proposal to one of the conference sections listed below:

1 GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND LOCAL ANSWERS
- Scenarios and transformation of cities in post-pandemic age.
- Environmental psychology and users’ behaviour in post-pandemic time.
- Permanent adaptations in the urban societies.
- Contamination with the local designing languages.
- Architectural post-developments in Albania.

2 TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT AND ESTABLISHED LIFESTYLE
- 1 year of accelerated innovations in designing
- Smart cities challenges and digital world
- Digital technologies within the contextual experiences
- Innovative technologies in support of the current challenges of next design

3 CLASSICAL DESIGN AND FANCY TRENDS
- Present discourses on Design Theory
- Trajectories in design Distant-Education and remote working
- Updating the concept of sustainable design post 2020
- Learning from urban resilience and adaptive self-designing
- Permanencies and temporariness in design styles and languages post 2020

Both the Old and the New Tracks’ articles & co-articles might benefit from publication on Springer Nature book series (The Urban Book Series) if selected from the Publisher. The articles & co-articles that will be not selected will be anyways published in a Book edited from the Epoka University with ISBN number.