Verso una nuova qualità dell’abitare: la riqualificazione dell’Edilizia Residenziale Pubblica

Abstract

The house conceived as a commodity to reproduce in series is the characteristic element that has shaped new public housing areas built in Italy and in Europe at the beginning of the Sixties of last century as a response to a strong demand of housing in what seemed to be an unstoppable industrial and economic growth.

The new form of living that at the time was taking shape in Italy was certainly a response, in terms of numbers, corresponding to the demand, but however even with some significant exceptions, which include some interventions of significant architectural quality, most settlements made in that period showed progressively all the limits resulting from an approach centered on housing project that has often neglected the presence of those services (schools, adequate public transport, public open spaces and public facilities) that constitutes the quality of living. If we add to these poor conditions the lack of strategies and resources that has contributed to the slow and inexorable degradation of the physical and social areas and the rapidly changing social structure that in recent decades has profoundly undermined the traditional types of family structures, we obtain a scenario in which we can trace all the contradictions of the current housing issue. The research entitled “Verso una nuova qualità dell’abitare: la riqualificazione dell’Edilizia Residenziale Pubblica” question the possibility to intervene in these "places" in order to rebalance them soliciting the strings of urban, architectural, economic, social, energetic, environmental, cultural and landscaping quality so that all these components could be able to drive the necessary reform of public housing and its settlement patterns as types and construction quality.

The research consists of three sections:

The first aimed at the description of the overall programmatic framework and guiding policies of the European Community, the national government and regional government, with particular attention to the Campania region.

The second aimed at the production of architectural and urban repertoires, reported to the mode of action adopted in the United Kingdom and Spain, through a systematic study of the most significant projects. This study has been enriched by the direct experience of study and research conducted at the Cambridge City Council and at the Greenwich City Council in 2009 and at the Escuela Técnica de Arquitectura of the city of Valladolid, Spain in 2010.

The third section deepened the investigation and establishment of models of project ideas, tested on ERP districts managed by the Institute Independent Houses of the Province of Avellino.