

# HOW

boundaries between workspaces  
and hospitality spaces are blurring?



## HOW HOSPITALITY & WORKSPACE

LIVING, WORKING, TRAVELLING

INTERIOR DESIGN FOR NEW SCENARIOS BETWEEN HOSPITALITY AND WORK FIELD

*Vivere, lavorare e viaggiare:*

*l'interior design per la definizione di nuovi scenari tra lavoro e ospitalità*

### TALK+ROUND TABLE

**24th May 2017**

Milano - Aula F.lli Castiglioni Campus Bovisa

“Living, working, travelling: Interior design for new scenarios between hospitality and work field” is a basic research project (FARB Fondo Ateneo Ricerca di Base – School of Design, Politecnico di Milano) will be focused on the study of the relationship and the hybridization processes between hospitality spaces (mainly hotels and hostels) and workspaces for knowledge worker (office, smart-office, co-working, hub). Starting from the consideration that in the contemporary society we witness both physical and virtual “mobile lives” (as said by the sociologists A. Elliot A. Urry *Mobile Lives*) we have noticed that people are involved in process of moving because of their job but also for pleasure and holidays. This implies new concepts related to the spaces of living, working, travelling: the “mobile” dimension of working, specifically of “smart working”, goes over the classical concept of the office as the space where to spend most of the working time and opens towards a versatile system of spaces/services which favours the feel of community and/or the use of new technologies.

On the other hand the “mobile” dimension related to hospitality considers new ways of travelling and staying, that transform the hosting structure from a mere service to a destination of the contemporary tourist, being it a meaningful link with the contest (i.e. city hotels). Hotels and hostels acquire also new function (like co-working spaces, or workspaces). We intend to explore and describe these new spatial typologies with the specific approach of the interior design, focused on the space but also on the processes and systems of relationships between spaces-furniture-services and communication methods. We believe that the discipline of Design (with particular reference to the design of interior spaces, furnishings and services) can play a significant role to understand the complexity of contemporary society but also to find tools and methods (also with cross fertilization process from the other fields) for project new spaces, able to answer human needs and useful for the interpretation of social values that underlie a built environment.

The research and the project on the spaces in relation to their interior design is in comparison more and more with the process of hybridization where the sectors of spaces of “leisure” interact with the “business”

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field. In connection with this process we are developing the FARB research, funded by the Design Department of the Politecnico di Milano.

On May 24th several professors, experts, designers, consultants and companies will discuss this strategic thematic area: the increasingly significant relationship between space-products and services in the field of the office strictly connected to the hospitality industry.

The topic is suitable for an understanding of the relations between the office and the different type of hospitality. It also opens up a new way of thinking about the inclusion of work activities within very different spaces and services, with the aim of implementing the welfare of individuals, but also their “happiness”. So all of this is in relation to the issues of “smart working” and the work “agile and widespread”, and to those trends that since few years connote the office sector and more.

The day of the conference is divided into two parts: in the morning some professors and researchers from Politecnico di Milano and international schools involved in the research (Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Middlesex University - London, HEAD - Haute école d’art et de design – Genève, Hochschule fuer Gestaltung - Schwaebisch Gmuend - Germany) will report their reflections, research and teaching experiences on the field; in the afternoon representatives of cultural, academic and scientific fields will meet with consultants, professional services and companies at a round table, afterwards the conference concludes with a critical-operative reflection. The talk is supported by an exhibition with the projects designed by students from Politecnico di Milano - School of Design, HEAD - Haute école d’art et de design – Genève, Hochschule fuer Gestaltung - Schwaebisch Gmuend - Germany.

## Scientific committee

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## For information

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