

Republic of North Macedonia Ss Cyril And Methodius University in Skopje

HANS EM FACULTY OF FOREST SCIENCES, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

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Regenerative Urban Circularity in Skopje



Symposium on Regenerative Urban Circularity Held in Skopje

Brief Summary:

The symposium "Regenerative Urban Circularity in Skopje" took place from January 7th to 11th, 2025, at the Hans Em Faculty of Forest Sciences, Landscape Architecture, and Environmental Engineering. This event brought together experts from Macedonia and Germany, academics, and students to delve into sustainable urban planning and timber-based architecture.

The opening day featured welcome speeches by Prof. Nikola Nikolov, PhD, Dean of the Hans Em Faculty, Prof. Ljupco Nestorovski, PhD, Vice Dean, and Dr. Henning Wits, setting the stage for a week of insightful presentations and discussions.

The first two days were moderated by Ass. Kjiprovski Jakob MSc, with a series of engaging presentations by the respected speakers, followed by facilitated Q&A sessions, encouraging meaningful dialogue and exchange of ideas. A dedicated site visit on the third day allowed participants to explore key points of interest in Skopje, deepening their understanding of the city's approach to regenerative urban circularity. Throughout the week, students gathered valuable data and insights by conducting interviews with experts and professors in their respective fields, contributing to their ongoing research and development. The symposium concluded with the student's poster and presentation session, moderated by Prof. Jakub Glauszka, who provided constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement.





 $Figure\ 1\ -Welcoming\ participants\ by\ the\ Dean\ of\ the\ Hans\ Em\ Faculty,\ Prof.\ Nikolov\ Nikola,\ PhD$



Figure 2 -Welcoming participants by the vice-dean of the Hans Em Faculty, Prof. Ljupco Nestorovski, PhD

The day concluded with a site visit in Skopje, offering participants a firsthand view of local urban development projects.

Highlights from the Symposium:

Day 1 (January 8th) -

Speakers:

- **Prof. D. Papastereski**: Delivered a thought-provoking presentation on *Sustainable Timber Architecture*, emphasizing its role in eco-friendly urban development (<u>presentation link</u>)
- **Prof. T. Arangjelovski**: Explored the *Design of Timber Structures*, highlighting innovative approaches to modern construction, discussing the thorough process review of planning, building, maintenance, finding and defining the safety margins and more (presentation link).
- **Prof. M. Cvetkovska**: Presented two impactful topics, *Fire Resistance of Timber Structures* and *Timber Structures in Circular Economy*, shedding light on the dual challenges of safety and sustainability (presentation I; presentation II).







Figure 4 - prof. D. Papastereski on Sustainable Timber Architecture



Figure 5 - prof. T.Arangjelovski on Design of Timber Structures



Figure 6 - Prof. M.Cvetkovska on 1. Fire Resistance of Timber Structures and 2. Timber Structures in Circular Economy



Figure 7 – Q&A sessions



Figure 8 -Q&A sessions

Day 2 (January 9th)

Speakers:

- **Prof. V. Jakimovska Popovska**: Discussed the applications of *Wood-Based Panels in Construction*, such as types of panels (particle board panels, fiber board panels, OSB, Plywood, etc.) and of their mechanical properties, end uses and service classes (presentation link).
- **Dr. B. Temelkovski**: Presented insights into *Spatial Qualities in Traditional Macedonian Architecture*, with wood as a foundational element, bridging together the relation of functionality and Aesthetics in traditional Macedonian Architecture (presentation link).
- **Prof. B. Simovski**: Examined *Various Aspects of Woody Species in Urban Environments*, discussing the manyfold aspects of woody species in urban environment planning and architecture (presentation link).
- **Prof. L. Nestorovski**: Led a session on the *Mechanical and Structural Quality of Wooden Materials and Products*, featuring live demonstrations for the students in the laboratories of the Faculty of Furniture & Interior Design & Technologies, where they were welcomed by prof. Dimitar, which explained all of the processes of certifying and tests that are done in production of various materials, doors, windows and other furniture.



Figure 9 - Prof. V. Jakimovska Popovska on Wood-based panels for use in construction



Figure 10 - D-r. B. Temelkovski on Spatial Qualities in Traditional Macedonian Architecture: Wood as a Structural Element



Figure 11 - Prof. B. Simovski on Various Aspects of Woody Species in Urban Environment



Figure 12 – Q&A Sessions



Figure 13 -Q&A Sessions



Figure 14 -Q&A Sessions



Figure 15 - Q&A Sessions

Day 3 (January 10th)

Participants embarked on a field visit to the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS), followed by site visits to Vodno, City Park, and Hot I Hot.



Figure 16 – Site visits (IZIIS)



Figure 17 - Site visits (IZIIS)

Day 4 (January 11th)

The symposium concluded with student presentations of their research findings, facilitated by Prof. Jakub Glauszka offering constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement and a wrap-up session summarizing key takeaways.



Figure 18 – Student's poster session



Figure 19 – Student's poster session



Figure 20 – Student's poster session



Figure 21 – Student's poster session feedback from Prof. Jakub Glauszka

The event provided a platform for collaborative learning, fostering innovative solutions for regenerative urban circularity. For pictures of the Symposium, please access this link: https://bit.ly/4adVU01