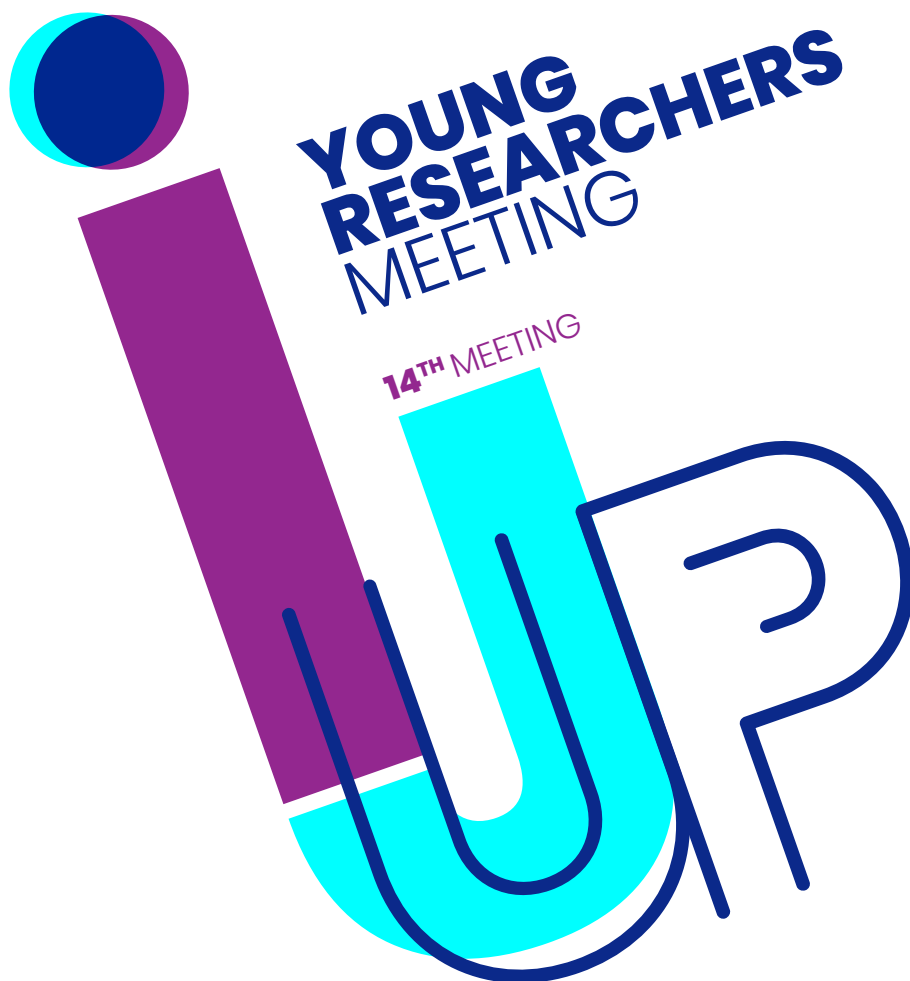




# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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## Common Place: inhabiting the city of Porto. Guidelines for an intervention in a designated area for public housing

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### Abstract

The design competition for affordable housing and urban regeneration of a designated area for public housing in Lordelo do Ouro, firstly announced in April 2020, sets the ground for reflection over the issues concerning public-commissioned housing settlements as articulators of urban and social [dis]continuities.

The ongoing discussion concerning public housing deal with calls for regeneration and further densification as key-interventions to consolidate and 'stitch' together the vast and detached settlements with the surrounding urban tissue. Our research features the city of Porto - with the widest percentage of public housing in the Portuguese context - in which some of the large public housing settlements have partially preserved their initial peripheral condition, i.e. while being assimilated by the surrounding urban tissue despite never truly experiencing integration. Therefore, we question how to intervene in apparently detached territories without enhancing urban discrepancy, leading a comprehensive approach vis-à-vis the existing 'ecosystem', and towards a successful urban re-integration.

We purpose to study the possibilities of place-representation while exploring the area entailing Pinheiro Torres and Lordelo housing settlements. We undertake an exercise of ideographic description both in intermediate and urban scales, gradually revealing the place's potential and 'frailties', as well as the pre-existing urban structure, aiming at the possibilities of strengthening and integration so as to retrieve the balance to this 'ecosystem'. Via an operative approach, we proceed to apprehend the existing system; the research-by-drawing modus operandi produces a base for prospective - proje[ta]ção - of futures. [Viganò, P., 2010]

Nevertheless, the aim is not to produce a solution but rather to propose a solid base to ground possible interventions - alternatively to the rather contentious Preliminary Program and Reference Solution adopted by the Municipality of Porto.

