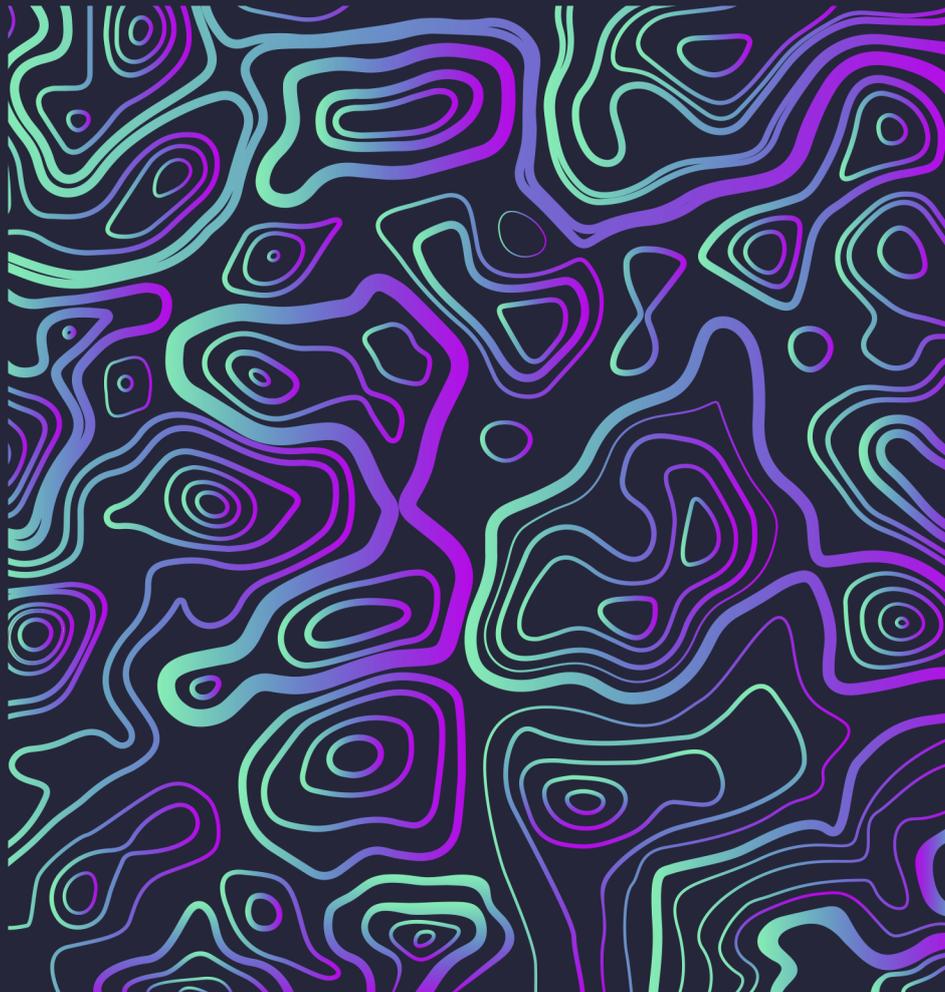


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**DESIGN &
TERRITORY**

EMERGENCIES AND CONFLICTS

Frontcover by Ana Milena Palacios Lozano

SDRJ SPECIAL ISSUE

DESIGN AND TERRITORY: EMERGENCIES AND CONFLICTS

With this special edition of the Strategic Design Research Journal (SDRJ) we want to contribute to the emerging debate on Design and Territory, presenting a selection of papers submitted on the occasion of the 7th International Forum of Design as a Process, organized by Latin Network for The Development of Design Processes and the Faculty of Engineering and Business Administration at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia - Campus of Palmira. The Latin Network has been founded in 2008 as a group of researchers, academics, students and businessmen of Latin language and culture and meets periodically in a Forum conceived as an international specialized conference, in order to debate and discuss their studies and experiences.

The topic has been developed through the concepts of emergencies and conflicts. The conflict is part of nature and life, it is the result of the relationship between single persons and the community; it is not a negative fact in itself that must be eliminated, but it is a different view which requires to be studied and analyzed. It is also a potential catalyst that boosts transformations that otherwise would take long time. At the same time, the interrelation between the multiple dimensions of conflict and design may highlight the great challenges existing in the diverse territories: the social and economic inequality, the dramatic environmental changes, the processes of identities and its populist ravings, the migrations (cross-national, rural to urban sectors, intercity, etc.), the aging of the population, the cultural transformations, the equity and gender identity, among many others.

These different perspectives are presented in the introductory paper “Design & Territories: Emergencies and Conflicts at the Time of the Anthropocene”, which invites also to take into consideration some of the following questions:

- What are the emerging processes applied to mediate conflicts that may happen in the territory?
- How can a dialogue be established between design, processes, projects, and society; which dialogue allows the understanding, intervention or construction of territory?
- What is the role of design in the different territories: mediator, catalyst, mitigator, driver, etc.?

- How can the link be established between design and the diversity of knowledge (humanistic, technological-productive, economic-administrative, artistic, cultural, political, etc.) across different territories?
- What are the areas of knowledge, practices or processes in design education or entrepreneurship in the different territories of Latin culture?

Within this scientific and cultural debate, the authors of the papers focus on the different dimensions of the territory, which have been investigated through four perspectives: City, citizenship and public policy; New rurality; Identity and culture; Activism and involvement.

**John Jairo Cardozo Vasquez, Flaviano Celaschi, Elena Formia,
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Guest Editors