COST

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Subject: Full proposal for a new COST Action:
European Architecture beyond Europe: Sharing Research and Knowledge on
Dissemination Processes, Historical Data and Material Legacy (19th-20th centuries)

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Domain Committee: Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health

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DRAFT
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
For the implementation of a European Concerted Research Action
designated as

COST Action

European Architecture beyond Europe: Sharing Research and Knowledge on Dissemination Processes, Historical Data and Material Legacy (19th-20th centuries)

The signatories to this "Memorandum of Understanding", declaring their common intention to participate in the concerted Action referred to above and described in the "Technical Annex to the Memorandum", have reached the following understanding:

1. The Action will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of document COST 299/06 "Rules and Procedures for Implementing COST Actions", or in any new document amending or replacing it, the contents of which the Signatories are fully aware of.

2. The main objective of the Action is [*]

3. The economic dimension of the activities carried out under the Action has been estimated, on the basis of information available during the planning of the Action, at [*] Euro [*] million in [*] prices.

4. The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect on being signed by at least five Signatories.

5. The Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force for a period of years, calculated from the date of the first meeting of the Management Committee, unless the duration of the Action is modified according to the provisions of Chapter V of the document referred to in Point 1 above.

[*] Will be completed by the COST Office

A. ABSTRACT & KEYWORDS

A.1 ABSTRACT

This Action aims to produce a broader understanding of the worldwide spread of European architecture across empires during the 19th and 20th c. by focusing on its vectors, connections, semantics and materiality in a large range of geographic and linguistic contexts engaging both Western and non-Western environments. It posits that the bilateral colonial channel (e.g. French architecture in Algeria or British architecture in India), represented but one aspect of a larger multifaceted history. By combining architectural history with area studies' knowledge, the intention is to map and analyze more complex dissemination patterns and border-crossing relationships. Beyond architecture, the challenge is to contribute to the writing of a global history of modern European culture, including overseas expansions and transnational dynamics in its scope. To that end, this Action proposes joining efforts at the European level in collaboration with non-European researchers. By disseminating new information technologies, the Action will stimulate the sharing and cross-searching of the available, but dispersed and poorly indexed, documentation. A major outcome will be the development of accurate digital resources on the topic, as a first step towards the building of a research infrastructure. It will contribute new working methodologies in Humanities research.

A.2 Keywords

European Architectural History, Area Studies, World History, Cultural Heritage, Digital Humanities

B. BACKGROUND

B.1 General background

European 19th and 20th c. architectural historiography has long focused almost exclusively on developments in the so-called 'center', thereby ignoring designs for, and buildings in, overseas territories, considered to be the 'periphery'. When it started including colonial architecture, it mainly did so by considering exporting practices from the "center" to the "periphery" through bilateral channels. In recent international conferences, pleas have been made for the expansion and blurring of the (spatial) boundaries of the discipline in order to explore "neglected geographies" and move "beyond the trope of East vs. West" and other binary dichotomies. While a first step in this direction involves enlarging the documentation on the architecture of these regions, scholars are also beginning to argue that it is time to make room in the historiography for the "intertwined histories of seemingly distant locales" (*Repenser les limites : l'architecture à travers l'espace, le temps et les disciplines*, 2009). There is a new consciousness that the development of architecture and planning in 19th and 20th c. Europe cannot be understood without taking into account what occurred overseas, and similarly that these extra-European modernities are intimately linked to local processes of Europeanisation and responded to

changing needs and socio-cultural change at the local level. Re-examining the history of European architecture from such a perspective, which meets the concerns of historians interested in transnational phenomena, challenges established methodologies and conventional narratives. It requires working beyond national frameworks and documentations, and asks for more comparative analysis both on an empirical and theoretical level. The creation of an international network could provide the necessary platform for innovative research and discussion, breaking the isolation in which the emerging scholarly community involved in such research is currently working.

In many respects, the international dissemination of European architecture and modernity in non-Western settings appears as a research topic with marked potential. As one of the emerging research fields that allows a critical rewriting of architectural historiography, it possesses an attractiveness for doctoral candidates and young scholars. Since it transgresses the boundaries of established academic fields, it has to be innovative. Earlier related experiences (see Annex part II), within the Euromed Heritage II program and the 6th Framework Program, which have helped to map the state of the art for one specific region (the Mediterranean) and contributed to the conception of shared tools in order to foster further collaborative research, have revealed the importance of institutional support for improving the structuring of such fields of knowledge.

Building on these previous initiatives, the Action aims to widen the geographic scope as well as deepen the understanding of the dissemination of European architecture beyond Europe. The establishment of such a European-based network has indeed relevance outside academia, as the development of knowledge and resources on the topic can equally serve a number of stakeholders in the cultural sector (from librarians, museum curators and architects, to policy-makers and the general public interested in cultural heritage).

A COST Action has been considered at this preliminary stage of an emerging scientific community, as the best funding scheme to pursue the strengthening of scholarship on the topic at COST-countries' level. The COST framework presents the adequate time span (4-year) and adequate means (funding for mobility) to better integrate research work currently carried out by European teams and their international partners and to work at improving its visibility and outreach.

Several reasons further explain this choice. Firstly, the COST scheme is suitable for fostering comparative work in an open and flexible way which corresponds to the current state of (limited) organization of the research community concerned. Moreover, teams do have funding for research at the national level, but often lack international and transnational arenas and a structural framework at the European level within which to discuss and confront hypotheses, methodologies and results stemming from an array of geographical case studies and scientific cultures. Furthermore, existing international forums are highly dominated by American-based international learned societies' initiatives. There is a need to continue building European alternates and provide space for European voices. Finally, the development of networking on the research topic is highly desirable considering both the abundance of relevant archive material across Europe and also the extreme dispersion of the documentation.

B.2 Current state of knowledge

Fueled by French theory and led by American academia, significant attention has been given in the past two decades to the architectural dimension of European colonialism, within the perspective proposed by postcolonial theory. Following early assessments by King (1975), colonial architecture in the 19th and 20th c. has been scrutinized as an efficient political tool meant to assert European power, through the production of monumental architecture and the practice of "urban apartheid" (Abu-Lughod, 1980). Its forms and norms have been analyzed as experiments in social engineering addressing colonial problems, that were indeed used back home after being tested overseas (Rabinow, 1989). Innovative and subtler "forms of dominance" (AlSayyad, 1992) have been detected in the adaptive strategies to local environments pioneered by British and French imperial architecture (Metcalf, 1989; Wright, 1991). After sociology, anthropology, political sciences and geography, historical research has entered the field, approaching the topic as extraterritorial by-products of national histories.

If the bibliography is still dominated by works on British and French colonial architecture, bilateral enquiries have progressively expanded the available knowledge, with studies on the Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Belgian or Dutch experience. Since the late 1990s, new analytical frameworks have been proposed by shifting the focus to specific locales (e.g. Casablanca, Cairo, New Delhi, Buenos Aires) and by approaching the colonial built environment "not as a direct and passive application of principles of governance and power, but as "common place", a material and spatial reality that has persisted in anti-colonial and post-colonial eras – in original, modified or altered forms" (Berlin exhibition, 2008). Emphasis has been put on the importing dimension of the dissemination process in colonial, as well as in non- or semi-colonial settings (Nasr & Volait, 2003). The active agency played by "westernizing" or "modernizing" local subjects has been highlighted (*Repenser les limites : l'architecture à travers l'espace, le temps et les disciplines*, 2009) and the adaptive use of "European" architectural forms by "non-Western" powers for their own modernizing or imperial agendas – as in the Ottoman case – has equally found increasing attention (Hanssen, Philipp & Weber, 2002). As a result, the very notions of "periphery" and "centre" have been shown to be relative categories and non-colonial actors have emerged as significant patrons and builders of architectural forms that could be categorized as "colonial" in pure morphological terms.

The progress of research through European, Ottoman or African archives has confirmed that a larger range of agencies and situations than initially envisioned were involved in the production of seemingly "colonial space", be it Italian entrepreneurs in pre-colonial Tunisia or Belgian Congo, Armenian and Greek architects in Ottoman Istanbul or British Cairo, European-trained local engineers in Egypt or Turkey, etc. All point to the importance of local and regional cosmopolitan diasporas and of autochthonous actors in the formation of architectural modernity in non-Western settings. A similar role was played by the concessions offered to international companies or specific European groups in distant lands, through a process that may not have involved a direct colonial presence.

These situations question the very relevance of "colonial architecture" to encapsulate the large array of built forms produced by the more or less brutal, direct and mediated encounters of European aesthetics and techniques with non-European geographies and societies in the contemporary era. New concepts such as "indigenous modernities", "entangled worlds" or "shared legacies" are being discussed to describe and

analyze more adequately the material culture resulting from such cultural contacts and interactions. They encourage researching colonial, non-colonial and westernizing modernities as connected, rather than isolated, phenomena. A need to better comprehend and model the dissemination flows and the patterns of local adaptation of European architecture worldwide in the imperial age is in fact shared by many researchers, as is the necessity to renew the lexical and analytical categories used to qualify and discuss "colonial" architecture.

B.3 Reasons for the Action

The central hypothesis lying behind the Action is that, due to a number of reasons, European scholarship has a specific contribution to make to this expanding field of research at international level. Of note are the geographical proximity with part of the ex-colonized territories (e.g. the Western and Eastern Mediterranean), and a tradition of international cooperation with such countries, which can help build an efficient multilateral and mutual reflection on the issues at stake. Another major factor is the multiplicity of colonial experiences within the framework of contemporary Europe, from the grand cases of British and French imperialism to the more modest Belgian or Portuguese share in the colonial enterprise. This plurality offers a unique opportunity to apprehend the dissemination and materiality of European architecture abroad from a large range of voices and points of view. The strong presence of postcolonial diasporas and the role of migration in Europe nowadays adds a contemporary relevance to the issues at stake, and offers a further framework to reflect upon the long lasting interactions between European and non-European cultures. The richness of archive holdings in Europe on the matter represents indeed a crucial asset for European scholarship, and needs to be better developed and promoted. While the Action is mainly aimed at scientific and technological advance, it will also serve in this sense European societal and cultural needs.

A second hypothesis is that a decisive impulse is required in order for this emerging field of research to expand and attain a significant critical mass, and that the context to do so is timely. Although European academia, particularly in France, Italy or Spain, had shown reluctance to invest the field of colonial history, the situation is changing. New theoretical frameworks are being elaborated to renew and expand the knowledge on colonial situations, by weaving firmly colonial history with area studies' research and knowledge (Schaub, 2008). Beyond academia, European museums and libraries are initiating projects addressing postcolonial realities and intercultural dialog, while also producing tools and methodologies for opening up their collection of visual and written sources related to the topic. Some of these institutions have expressed interest in participating in the Action.

Expected results of the Action include the strengthening and empowerment of a specialized community, the building of a common scientific and technological culture among its members and the production of digital information, offering new resources for research but also outreach to both European scholarship and European historical holdings.

B.4 Complementarity with other research programmes

This Action builds upon two previous European projects, managed by the present proposal coordinator, that focused on the study of Modern Architecture in the Mediterranean. The first was funded through the Euromed Heritage II program (EuropAid Office of DG Relex). The second project, developed within the 6th Framework Program (2006-2009), studied the feasibility of a new research infrastructure in open source, meant to acquire, store and cross-search heterogeneous and dispersed data regarding the topic.

The setting up of a digital platform that will stem the exchange of information among participants in the Action, will also benefit from developments related to the European infrastructure DRIVER (Networking European scientific repositories) in which the institution of one of the Action's partners is actively involved and that is directed towards an open access policy of research results. It will furthermore take advantage of the experiences developed in the field of digital architectural archives within the European-funded GAUDI-initiative (Culture 2000 / 2001-2008), as well as from a multiplicity of national-based projects in the cultural sector that aim at developing digital repositories of images, printed sources or museum collections.

C. OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS

C.1 Main/primary objectives

The main objective is to produce a new and broader understanding of the worldwide spread and appropriation of European architecture across empires during the 19th and 20th c. The Action will set the base for a specialized research infrastructure, through the empowerment of a European network for the study of European and westernized architecture in the Mediterranean, Middle East, Africa, Latin America and Asia, in dialog with researchers based in non-COST countries. Concrete outcomes of the Action will be the launching and implementation of a collaborative website, the setting up of digital tools to ensure continuous communication among participants of the Action (such as a research blog), and the organization of adequate training initiatives in new information technologies. Experience has revealed that Humanities research can make a better use of these technologies if proper training is provided. These initiatives will help build a collaborative online bibliography on the topic, as well as produce and release relevant digital data and resources (biographies of actors, inventories of appropriate archives, collections of period and contemporary visual data properly labelled, sets of adequate keywords and geographical designations). Multilingual vocabularies adapted to the description of the architecture under study are crucial for the adequate indexing of the digital information collected. Other outcomes include papers in peer-reviewed journals, the organisation of sessions at international conferences and the publication of a book. Finally, an expected outcome will be the development of expertise in the field of digital humanities for participating researchers, via technological and methodological training initiatives carried out throughout the Action.

C.2 Secondary objectives

Other secondary benefits include:

- adding value to European documentary resources (visual repositories kept in museums, rare periodical literature in libraries, written archive material, etc.) by working out and sharing digital tools that improve access to and can help searching the available multilingual information. One such much-wanted tool concerns geographical gazetteers for non-European toponyms (in their various transliteration forms). In many instances, European collections documenting architecture overseas are not yet systematically inventoried, let alone indexed or described, for lack of specialized knowledge on non-European areas within museums, libraries or archive centres. The Action will offer resources to this end.

- maintaining international cooperation with scholarship in non-COST countries concerned with the Action topic (e.g. with African or Mediterranean scholars, as well as with North and South American researchers). Expectations are that a dozen non-COST-country scholars will participate in the Action (as paper presenters, keynote speakers or discussants at the scientific events organized by the Action).

- linking Science to Society by associating curators, librarians and IT engineers to the research activity and supporting the preservation of the 19th and 20th c. architectural heritage in non-European countries through better accessibility of up-to-date historical research.

C.3 How will the objectives be achieved?

The objectives will be achieved by bringing together groups of young researchers having complementary agendas. One is the international research network on "Modern architecture in the Mediterranean", associating eight research teams from Europe and neighbouring countries. French-led, the group maintains two dynamic websites besides editing a new series on the topic. The second network is the "colonial group" recently established within a new learned society launched at the European level. Its members belong to various universities mainly based in Europe, while also having extensive contacts with non-European scholars working on the topic. Its purpose is to stimulate comparative research and define new research venues in the field. The third network is represented by an international advocacy NGO, with chapters in 54 countries, that has developed a concern for "Other modernisms" in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Asia within the milieu of architectural historians and the heritage community.

These groups are complementary in terms of the scope of their initiatives, the expertise developed, and the international networks they have respectively built. They do possess the necessary manpower and equipment needed to carry out collaborative research. Some are linked to higher education institutions and do include staff, doctoral candidates and students engaged in research on the topic. Others include in particular engineers and technicians that can manage the website of the Action and help produce and release digital information. Administrative manpower that can carry out management tasks for the Action is also available. All teams that have expressed interest in participating in the Action are provided through their institutional affiliations with

the necessary office space and equipment (including installations for video conferencing).

C.4 Benefits of the Action

The benefits of this Action are two-fold. One is the strengthening of European research on the topic, in dialog with non-European researchers, with the ambition of turning the Action into the most important forum for comparative and interdisciplinary research in the field; the other is the preparation for the establishment of a specialized collaborative research infrastructure. In this sense, expected results may include technological advance and feedback on the (still limited) uses of digital tools in the Humanities.

C.5 Target groups/end users

In academia, anticipated users of the expected results include: architectural historians, urban historians, cultural historians, scholars in colonial and/or postcolonial history. The methodological issues that will be discussed within the Action are likely to interest any researcher working on transnational issues and sources in the Humanities (such as historians of European migration and diasporas, scholars of "histoire croisée", etc.). Curators and librarians holding historical material linked to the topic represent a second group of end users, in particular with respect to the bibliographical or methodological resources that will be elaborated. The achievements of the Action will serve higher level educational purposes as well. Its outcomes are expected to be used as teaching and research resources for faculty and students in schools of architecture, in particular for those involved in international programs or field work abroad. Professionals involved in the sector of architectural restoration and in the management of cultural heritage at large will find of use the new digital resources that will be created in the course of the Action.

D. SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

D.1 Scientific focus

The scientific focus will be on the development of a model for documenting and analyzing the transregional and transnational transfers of European architecture outside of Europe as well as its appropriation. To that end, the Action will research the mechanisms and vectors at play in such transfers during the modern imperial era (education, mediation through publications and conferences, migration...) and map connections based on notions such as territory (and thus, geographical proximity), network and trajectory. This should allow gaining a better understanding of how European knowledge, expertise and practices have disseminated outside Europe in sometimes sinuous and surprising ways that cross national, colonial and linguistic boundaries. During the preparation of the Action, three distinct themes have been identified as research priorities to understand the mechanisms of dissemination of European architecture abroad during the 19th and 20th c. Although interrelated, each of these themes will be explored in detail within a separate research track that is briefly

described below. A fourth theme that concerns all mentioned research tracks but requires specific expertise, will be devoted to the digital challenges offered by the scope of the Action.

1. Actors and networks of expertise

The objective of this research track is to look at the multiplicity of actors that shaped the transfer of European architecture overseas. Research in architectural history traditionally focuses primarily, if not exclusively, on the activity of architects. While a central place will be given to this particular actor of the designing and building process, the Action will also look at other actors involved in the dissemination of European architecture outside Europe, such as engineers, contractors and patrons. This shift of focus will extend the range of architecture under scrutiny, by allowing in particular to consider, besides schemes and projects produced by well known figures, more mainstream productions, and even the most modest constructions made without professional designers that often make up the bulk of the built environment.

Particular attention will be given to European-trained designers of non-Western origin, who played an important role in the transplantation of European aesthetics and techniques overseas in the period considered. Typical examples include French-educated Armenian architects in the late Ottoman Empire or the Levantine architects trained in France or Lebanon that were active in British Cairo. European schools of engineering and architecture represented in fact a major dissemination channel of European architecture abroad – and one that is still alive today. Major public works performed by European companies outside of Europe were indeed instrumental in the international circulation of European architectural expertise. Other non-colonial channels include the Christian missionary organizations and their building activities, or the political, military and technical cooperation, developed by Prussia (later Germany) and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Even less studied, but of great importance, is migration, through the Greek, Italian or Jewish diasporas active in the Eastern Mediterranean or throughout Africa for instance.

The Action will endeavor to map these distinct networks based on education, socio-religious identity or corporate activity, and their possible intersections. It will make full use of the wealth of data already collected at national or case-study level (biographical dictionaries, alumni gazetteers, etc.) and will cross their findings in order to define a theoretical and methodological framework for studying such circulation flows. An outcome of this research track will be a digital biographical dictionary of actors, highlighting connections and networks of expertise based on a variety of vectors. It is expected that such a dictionary will stimulate transnational and comparative research.

2. The printed media and the construction of a canon

European architecture outside of Europe has been mediated and circulated via publications and public events (gazettes, magazines, journals, exhibitions, conferences). Systematic analysis of a range of these media should help identify canonical designs. Research across a number of European titles can contribute to reveal and question national specificities, or conversely similarities across national contexts. The attention paid to the architectural production in Africa or Latin America by the French journal *L'Architecture d'aujourd'hui* is worth comparing to what appeared in the Anglo-Saxon *Architectural Review* or *Architectural Record*. This

research track also ambitions to investigate the often overlooked local publications, either in European or non-European languages. Turkey, Egypt and Lebanon experienced an active architectural press from the 1930s onward partaking in the outreach of European architecture in the Middle East, while the architectural debate in Latin America to a large extent was fueled by local magazines in which ideas of the European avant-garde were reviewed and, at times, critically assessed. Content analysis of such publications will offer indications on the reception of European architecture outside of Europe. Local periodicals, such as the French press in Maghreb or Italian journals in the Eastern Mediterranean, also represent important sources to be considered. Exploratory surveys of local newspapers, as well as of missionary magazines and colonial propaganda sources for particular territories such as Central Africa, show that only a very limited part of what was actually built overseas made it to the metropolitan architectural press. By identifying these gaps, together with much mediated designs, the expectation is to retrieve a clearer picture of the circulation of architectural images and the making of the "colonial" and modernist canon(s).

In order to do so, a list of significant media will be established. The range of periodicals to be studied, as well as the significant time frames to be considered in priority, will be jointly selected. Methods will be proposed for efficient comparative research, in collaboration with librarians and curators willing to participate in the Action. A web-based shared bibliography will be implemented.

3. Documenting transnational architecture

This third research track focuses on the mapping of the built environment itself as a key to document and study the coming into being of European architecture outside of Europe and the transnational issues at stake. In comparison with the second research track, which starts from printed media, the focus here is on assembling data that does not privilege the highly mediated individual design or building, but rather seeks to highlight more large scale significant entities or ensembles. Architectural histories are generally built either on periodical literature or on field surveys; this research track posits that both sources represent complementary data that need to be studied in conjunction rather than in isolation, as evidence to be cross-checked and further confronted with local archive material.

Experimental attempts at carrying such crossings and analyzing their empirical and theoretical results will be implemented for selected and significant cases. The cases to be further studied, based on current research carried out by willing participants to the Action (e.g. in Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia or the Democratic Republic of Congo), will be chosen according to a typology of commissioning circumstances (by public authorities, corporate agencies, private developers, etc.) and political contexts (direct and indirect colonial rule). Besides empirical findings, methodological benefits are expected from the research that will be carried out in parallel with the Action, through the means available at national level, by each researcher or team involved in the Action. In particular questions of associating researchers from non-Western countries in the research and of identifying and using unpublished material kept outside of Europe (such as building permits, land registration archives, etc.) will be discussed within this research track.

4. Conceptualizing an infrastructure for collaborative research

This research track is transversal and interdisciplinary. It will offer support to the researchers involved in the three above-mentioned tracks and will pursue the following activities:

1)   It will implement the digital means to be used in order to ensure a continuous and interactive communication among participants in the Action throughout its duration. A collaborative website with two distinct areas will be set up. The first will be devoted to the Action (general presentation, calls for papers, partners, events...). The second will aggregate the content published through social networking, for example blog, of each member of the Action.

2)   It will discuss methods to collect and to ensure the sustainability and interoperability of online publishing. The aim is to set up an open source infrastructure by making use of the wealth of information already available in digital format, despite their heterogeneous structuring or their little-structured nature. This option is based on the assumption that the usual procedure in database making is data standardization, but represents a time-consuming and high-cost endeavor, that generally falls out of academic means. A previous project, developed within the 6th Framework Program, showed that a relatively low-cost and more appropriate step to the state of the art in the field will be to adapt search engines to relevant data, rather than adapting data to search engines. Other research projects, in which some of the potential participants of the Action were involved, reached similar conclusions. A preliminary move towards the collaborative building of a specialized digital infrastructure allowing to cross search little structured data is to establish a repository with restricted access where willing researchers could store and share primary information and semi-structured free-copyrighted material. The Action will explore further this option, by using the content management system on open source that is being installed on the servers of the proposal coordinator's institution.

3)   It will evaluate the level of use of IT and then help conceive the proper training needed, taking into account feedback from participants in the Action.

D.2 Scientific work plan methods and means

The scientific work plan of the Action articulates three main activities:

1. Reflection within Working Groups:

Activity in each of the four research tracks previously described will be implemented by a specific Working Group. Each group will discuss methods, coordinate research carried out at national level and discuss preliminary results. For each WG meeting, contributions from invited experts will be required. It is at the WG level that researchers will define the range of data that they need to collect and are willing to share. In the course of the preparation of the Action, it appeared that a wealth of data already exists but is of uneasy access.

As mentioned, the 4th WG, tackling the building of a research infrastructure, will be transversal and will as a consequence involve representatives of the other Working Groups, as well as IT engineers belonging to the teams of the participants in the Action. It will bring together researchers willing to share input on appropriate

know-how and required tools. It will organize continuous training for students and junior researchers, as well as advanced training in the methodological issues raised by the collecting and cross-searching of multilingual and heterogeneous data.

2. Fostering exchanges among partners:

The Action plans to develop as much as possible STSMs during its course. Fostering mobility between the different research centres, teaching institutions and archive centres involved, at the level of doctoral and post-doctoral students as well as at the level of information engineers, is regarded as one of the best means for integrating research done at national level, and for sharing knowledge and findings. The focus set on developing digital tools (dictionary, bibliography...) also results in part from the will to involve young researchers as much as possible in the Action and to offer them significant opportunities to deepen their knowledge of the field and participate in its development.

3. Annual workshops:

Besides the research tasks carried on by each WG and their periodical meetings, the Action will organize three workshops which will take into account the results of the WG meetings and discuss them in an enlarged perspective (historically, as well as geographically). They will permit confrontation and innovative discussions and will allow reflecting upon possible intersections with other relevant themes of European research in cultural and World history. These annual workshops will offer opportunities to benefit from international expertise in the field, through the invitation of keynote speakers and contributors from non-COST countries. They will be organised through calls for papers and peer-reviewed selection of contributions. Possible subjects (tentative titles) for these events (to be settled in the first year of the Action) are:

- "Colonial, imperial or corporate architecture?" (Architectural diversity or uniformity across time, agency or geography).

- Cosmopolitanism, diasporas and the transnational dissemination of European architecture (on the impact of extra-colonial agency in the making of "colonial" architecture).

- Dissonant architectural heritage in the postcolonial age (on the changing perceptions of "colonial" architecture in the last decades).

The Action will be concluded by a final conference: "European Architecture beyond Europe: Findings & Prospects". The final conference is to be held at an international venue and will be opened to a wide audience. It will present the results of the Action, through highlighting the network it enabled to establish, reviewing the new empirical and methodological findings of the various working groups, and discussing the opportunities for future research created among others by the digital tools developed in its course.

E. ORGANISATION

E.1 Coordination and organisation

Besides the Management Committee organized at the COST level, a Core group will be formed. It will be composed of the Chair, the vice-Chair and the Working Group coordinators. This structure will ensure a proper coordination of activities within the Action, stimulate a continuous working rhythm and maximize integration of the various groups participating to the Action. Responsibilities for the performing of each of these tasks will be split among the members of the Core group in order to share workloads. The Core group will meet on demand through videoconferencing (and through face-to-face meeting once every trimester).

The Core group, which will report to the Management Committee, will supervise the following tasks:

1. Scientific events (workshops and training initiatives):
- writing and posting of the calls for papers or for applications,
- organization of the peer-reviewed selection process for papers or applications
- material organization of the events (venue, travel, meals and lodging)

2. Management of STSMs and of Working groups (and MG) meetings:
- financial and institutional management of corresponding expenses (invitation letters, travel and per diems)

3. Launching and management of a collaborative website :
- providing restricted access with passwords
- editing information provided by members of the Action
- performing bibliographic watch on the topic

4. Production and release of digital data and resources (bibliography, gazetteers, authorities, dictionary of actors, repertory of buildings…):
- establishing priorities regarding data digitizing or editing of existing raw digitized data,
- validating digitized data submitted by the WG,
- editing existing digitized data for online release.

5. Dissemination of results:
- publications in peer-reviewed journals and series,
- preparation for sessions and panels at International Conferences,
- editing the concluding publication,
- online exhibition.

E.2 Working Groups

Four Working Groups will be organized, each being in charge of the research themes delineated above:

WG 1: **Actors and networks of expertise**

WG 2: **The printed media and the construction of a canon**

WG 3: **Documenting transnational architecture**

WG 4: **Conceptualizing an infrastructure for collaborative research**

Each Working Group will be composed by one coordinator, one assistant-coordinator, and five members as a minimum, preferably belonging to different COST-countries in order to stimulate comparative research within each group. Each Working Group will be represented within the Core group by its coordinator. Its activities will include a minimum of one annual meeting related to its topic and the presentation of contributions at the annual workshop of the Action. Continuous activity between its members will be facilitated through email, video conferencing and the constant work on the shared digital tools (biographical dictionary, bibliography and inventory) that will be developed in an early stage of the Action by the members of the 4th Working Group.

Each of the three thematic Working Groups reports to the Core Group on a regular basis, but holds a certain degree of autonomy in setting its agenda, defining the themes of its annual meeting, as well as their organization (including practicalities as well as choosing keynote speakers).The WG concerned with building the research infrastructure will host workshops with potential stakeholders (museum curators, archivists, librarians,...) and will centralize the data collected by the other groups.

Milestones of the Action

The first two years will be devoted to the assessment and the integration of tools and data produced by the members of the Action and already available. Training sessions will also be organized during this first phase of the Action to give researchers ways and means to integrate their content on the collaborative tools. One advanced training school will focus on the development of digital tools adapted to the production of collaborative knowledge on global forms of architecture and the methodological questions raised by recording data produced by field work, collecting dispersed and heterogeneous resources and modelling complex dissemination flows.

At the end of the third year, the scientific community involved in the Action will share: the bibliographical online database and the core of a biographical digital dictionary of (European and non-European) actors in the production of the built environment (architects, contractors, craftsmen, patrons, etc.) that were active outside of Europe during the period considered (1850-1950). The online bibliography, built throughout the Action, will provide working tools for the workshops.

The fourth year will be devoted to the organization of the final conference and the edition of the concluding

publication based on the results of the three workshops.

E.3 Liaison and interaction with other research programmes

During the Action, liaisons will be created with other research programs by inviting researchers of such other programs as keynote speakers or discussants for the particular WG meetings or the Annual workshops of the Action. Each Working Group will have the possibility to develop such liaisons and interactions, related to the particular topic under scrutiny. Potential interactions at a more general level will be developed, with organizations such as Docomomo International, the European Architectural History Network or the Society of Architectural Historians. Others will be developed at the level of the Core Group. The Action complements on-going collaborative research at the European level on the history and cultures of Empires. It touches for instance upon issues related to the COST-funded Action 'Tributary empires compared: Romans, Mughals and Ottomans in the pre-industrial world from Antiquity till the transition to modernity', although through a different time frame. It also adds to European research being carried out on Imperial Cultures in the contemporary era, by considering specifically its architectural dimension. At the technological level, contacts will be developed with the MACE project (Metadata for architectural contents in Europe).

E.4 Gender balance and involvement of early-stage researchers

Because the topic of the Action represents an emerging field of research, participants to the Action are likely to include a good share of early-stage researchers, and indeed, for the same reason, a significant number of female scholars. The confirmed researchers having contributed to the preparation of the Action already represent an important number of female scholars, and all have committed to favor an appropriate gender, but also generational balance in all the activities of the Action. The STMSs will be open in priority to early-stage researchers, and these missions will allow them to enter in contact with senior researchers. Early-stage researchers will be associated to the management of the Working Groups and will get access to data produced by senior scholars through the digital information offered with restricted access to the members of the Action.

F. TIMETABLE

The first year will be devoted to finetuning the goals and activities of the different Working groups, to developing an effective program of integration of young researchers (by planning STMSs) and extending the network that was at the core of the preparation of this Action.

From the second year onwards, Annual Workshops will be organized. They will extend the scope of the Action's topic, mutually integrate results of the WGs and participants of the Action, assess progress made, determinate further needs and finetune research.

In the final year, a concluding conference will be held.

The Management Committee will meet once a year.

It will be proposed that the Core group of the Action meets 4-time a year (one in conjunction with the Management Committee of the Action and others through video conferencing).

Working groups are expected to meet twice a year (the use of the collaborative website will allow open and flexible exchanges), one time following their own agenda and another time in conjunction with the annual workshop which will gather all working groups.

Annual workshop and Management Committee will be combined to minimize time-consuming administrative and organisational overheads.

An average of 100 days per year of STSM will be used in the course of the Action. They will mainly be available to the young scientists of the Institutions involved.
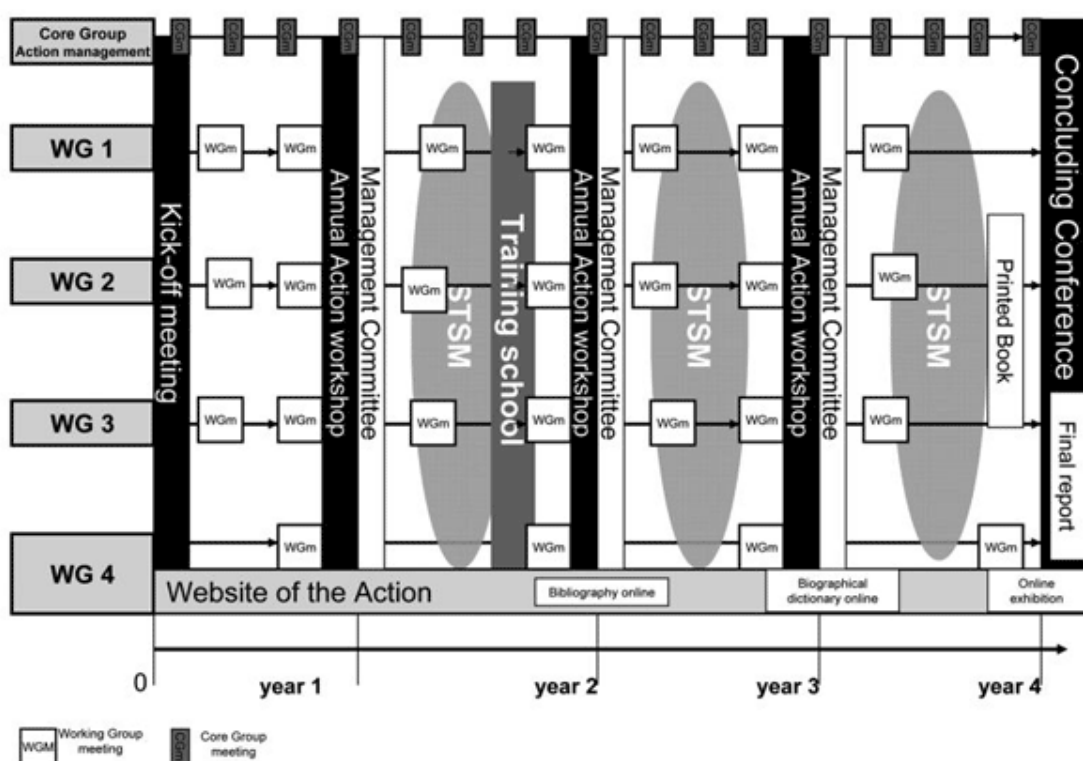
G. ECONOMIC DIMENSION

The following COST countries have actively participated in the preparation of the Action or otherwise

indicated their interest: BE,FR,DE,GR,IT,MT,NL,PT,ES,CH,TR,UK. On the basis of national estimates, the economic dimension of the activities to be carried out under the Action has been estimated at 9 Million € for the total duration of the Action. This estimate is valid under the assumption that all the countries mentioned above but no other countries will participate in the Action. Any departure from this will change the total cost accordingly.

Based on the estimates provided by participants who have helped draft the proposal, it is expected that the Action will involve seventeen senior researchers, twelve early stage researchers, ten doctoral candidates, and five Information Technology Engineers.

H. DISSEMINATION PLAN

H.1 Who?

The main targets are :

- University and Academic bodies: architectural and urban historians, cultural historians, scholars in colonial and/or postcolonial history

- Schools and faculties of Architecture interested in developing international programs, or field work abroad

- Heritage management : Archivists, Librarians, Curators, Institutional policy-makers

- Heritage advocacy groups

- Policy-makers regarding international cooperation

- General public

H.2 What?

Different levels of dissemination of the results of the Action will be implemented.

For the scientific community, the Action will promote the spread of the digital content produced through online tools. The public part of the website will be maintained to attract potential contributors to the events organized by the Action as well as to increase the outreach of the Action into the wider academia and interested public. The private part of the website with restricted access will allow a continuous communication

among the members of the Action.

The Digital resources produced by the Working Groups during the Action will be progressively released on line. The Working Groups will also produce a final report summarizing their achievements and findings to be published on line. Individual and collective contributions to peer-reviewed journals will be favored over the production of reports.
 A concluding book to be published by an academic publisher will gather the most significant contributions to the Action's workshops.

The website will offer to curators and librarians all the bibliographic data and multilingual authorities stored in the collaborative platform as well as guidelines to identify and index their archives documenting architecture abroad.

Finally, an online exhibition will make the Action's findings available beyond specialized circles. It will in particular display the new visual material discovered or studied in the course of the Action. Because of their, often spectacular, visual nature, the documents used in architectural history (period photographs, drawings, models), are especially adapted to such kind of publication online; it is also a good way to promote such documents, while protecting originals from too frequent use. The carefully-thought display of such material is likely to contribute to counter prejudices and conventional ideas on the research topic. It will also allow to make formal analogies and links across different examples. The very existence of such online exhibition will also ensure, through weblinking, the visibility and dissemination of the results of the Action.

H.3 How?

Information on the project will be provided through a website with periodical updates. The calls for papers will be posted moreover on a number of specialized list-servers, such as Philibert, H-Islamart, EAHN, H-Urban, etc. The pages presenting the activity of the COST Action will be hosted on the website maintained by the proposal coordinator of the Action.

The results of the Action will be also disseminated through the participation to, and organization of, panels and sessions at the major annual or bi-annual conferences of learned societies active in the field. The group of researchers having prepared the draft of the Action has already 2 round-tables accepted at the First Conference of the European Architectural History Network to be held in June 2010 in Portugal. Other similar events will be targeted as the Action progresses, according to the results achieved.

Part II - Additional Information (This part will not be element of the MoU)

Part II-A . LIST OF EXPERTS

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Part II-B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

History of the Proposal

This Action has been prepared by 3 specific research groups, having distinct although complementary agendas, and the will to better integrate their activities. The initiative comes from the Groupe de recherche international 71 (International Research Group, thereafter GDRI) "Modern architecture in the Mediterranean", a collaborative research network composed of eight research teams belonging to European (France, Spain, Italy and Greece) and Mediterranean (Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt) countries. The network is funded by

the French Centre national de la Recherche scientifique and is coordinated by Prof. Mercedes Volait, at the Invisu research unit from CNRS, based at the Institut national d'histoire de l'art in Paris. Two webmasters at Invisu maintain two websites on the topic of the network (www.anamm.org; http://invisu.inha.fr), with more than one hundred articles posted since 2008. The unit has been lately developing a collaborative online bibliography of about 2500 references within a nationally-funded project (ANR 2008-2010) on the history of cities in the Suez Canal zone (1859-1956) (see http://biblio.inha.fr)**.**

The second group gathers members of Docomomo (International Committee for documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement), that have developed a sensitivity and interest on "Other modernisms" in Africa and the Middle East within the framework of an international advocacy NGO (www.docomomo.com).

The third group is composed by members of the "colonial" group set up within the European Architectural History Network. It includes a Belgian team based at Ghent University, with doctoral candidates starting research on Belgian and Italian architecture in Africa (Ethiopia and Congo). They are actively involved in the European infrastructure DRIVER (http://www.driver-repository.eu/).

All milieus have been active for almost a decade and have developed a marked experience in collaborative research at European and international level. The GDRI 71 is a sequel to a previous European project funded through the Euromed Heritage II program (EuropAid Office of DG Relex) and its French leader, based at Invisu, is currently finalizing a second European project, again as project coordinator, within FP6 ("Musomed: Mutual Sources on Modern Mediterranean Architecture: towards an open and shared system") (http://invisu.inha.fr/spip.php?article37). 12 publications (8 books and 4 CDs) resulted from the Euromed Heritage project ("Patrimoines partagés", 2002-2005, 15 teams involved); 2 exhibitions and 4 books have already been achieved by the Italian and Spanish members of the GDRI 71 since 2006. The designing of a new research infrastructure in open source, meant to acquire, store and cross-search heterogeneous and dispersed data regarding Modern architecture in the Mediterranean, is underway within the Musomed project. It is expected to be operative by the end of 2009.

All above mentioned participants share a common approach to the topic of the Action, by considering European architecture abroad as both works of art and polysemic semantic spheres that conveyed and captured "transnational experiences". They understand architecture as tangible and intangible legacies characterized by multiple meanings and materiality. They represent willing contributors to the Action, provided with some infrastructure and human resources. They have participated in the three meetings organised in Paris in May and June 2009 to prepare for the Action, and have contributed to the writing of this draft.

As the Action aims to link science to society, a list of curators and librarians potentially interested in participating in the Action's activity has been added to the lists of experts.

Selected List of Publications

- Janet L. ABU-LUGHOD, *Rabat: Urban Apartheid in Morocco*, Princeton : Princeton University Press, c.1980
- Neza ALSAYYAD (dir.), *Forms of Dominance: On the Architecture and Urbanism of the Colonial Enterprise*, Aldershot ; Brookfield, USA : Avebury, c1992
- Mohamed AWAD, *Italy in Alexandria. Influences on the Built Environment*, Alexandria : Alexandria Preservation Trust, 2008
- Diana BARILLARI, Ezio GODOLI, *Istanbul 1900*, Paris : Le Seuil, 1997
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- Jean-Louis COHEN, Monique ELEB, *Casablanca, Mythes et figures d'une aventure urbaine*, Paris : Hazan, 1998
- Vassilis COLONAS, *Greek Architects in the Ottoman Empire - 19th-20th centuries*, Athens : Olikos, 2005
- Vassilis COLONAS, *Italian Architecture in the Dodecanese Islands (1912 - 1943)*, Athens : Olikos, 2002
- Mark CRINSON, *Empire Building : Orientalism and Victorian Architecture*, London : Routledge, 1996
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- Mia FULLER, *Moderns abroad, Architecture, cities and Italian imperialism*, London : Routledge, 2007
- Maria Adriana GIUSTI, Ezio GODOLI (dir.), *L'orientalismo nell'architettura italiana tra Ottocento e Novecento*, Siena : Maschietto & Musolino, 1999
- Ezio GODOLI, Milva GIACOMELLI, *Architetti e ingegneri italiani dal Levante al Magreb*, 1848-1945, Firenze : Maschietto Editore, 2005
- Ezio GODOLI, Milva GIACOMELLI, *Architetti e ingegneri italiani in Egitto dal Diciannovesimo al Ventunesimo secolo / Italian Architects and Engineers in Egypt from the Nineteenth to Twentyfirst Century*, Firenze : Maschietto, 2008
- Ezio GODOLI, Anna NUZZACI, *L'Associazione Nazionale per soccorrere i Missionari Italiani (ANSMI) e i suoi Ingegneri*, Firenze : Maschietto, 2009
- Giuliano GRESLERI, Pier Giorgio MASSARETTI, Stefano ZAGNONI (Dir.), *Architettura italiana d'oltremare : 1870 - 1940,* Venezia : Marsilio, 1993
- Jens HANSSEN, Thomas PHILIPP, Stefan WEBER (dir.), *The Empire in the City : Arab Provincial Capitals in the Late Ottoman Empire*, Beyrouth : ERGON Verlag, 2002
- Renata HOLOD, Ahmet EVIN (dir.), *Modern Turkish Architecture,* Philadelphia : University of Pennsylvania Press, 1984
- *In the Desert of Modernity. Colonial Planning and After*, Exhibition (House of World Cultures, Berlin, 29 August-2 November 2008), http://www.hkw.de/media/texte/pdf/2008/projekte/wueste/desert_bibliography.pdf
- Helen JESSUP, "Dutch Architectural Visions of the Indonesian Tradition" in *Muqarnas : An Annual on Islamic Art and Architecture*, vol. 3, 1985
- Anthony D. KING, "Writing transnational planning histories" in *Urbanism : Imported or Exported ? Native Aspirations and Foreign Plans*, Joe Nasr, Mercedes Volait (dir.), Chichester : Wiley-Academy, 2003
- Johan LAGAE, "Colonial encounters and conflicting memories. Shared colonial heritage in the Belgian Congo", in *Journal of Architecture*, vol. 9, Summer 2004, pp. 173-197
- Johan LAGAE, Denise LAURENS, *Claude Laurens. Architecture. Projets et Réalisations* [catalogue d'oeuvre], nrs. 53-54 in the series *Vlees & Beton*, Ghent University, 2001

- Thomas R. METCALF, *An Imperial Vision : Indian Architecture and Britain's Raj*, Berkeley : University of California Press, 1989

- Bruno DE MEULDER, *Kuvuande mbote : een eeuw koloniale architectuur en stedenbouw in Kongo : veertien plannen en projecten*, Anvers : deSingel, 2000

- Joe NASR, Mercedes VOLAIT (dir.), *Urbanism - Imported or Exported ? Native Aspirations and Foreign Plans*, Chichester : Wiley, 2003

- Antonio BRAVO NIETO, *Arquitectura y urbanismo español en el norte de Marruecos*, Sevilla : Consejería de Obras Públicas y Transportes, 2000

- Antonio BRAVO NIETO (ed.), *Arquitecturas Art Déco en el Mediterráneo*, Barcelona : Bellaterra, 2008

- Nabila OULEBSIR, "Les ambiguïtés du régionalisme : le style néomauresque" in *Alger, paysage urbain et architectures, 1800-2000*, Youcef Kanoun (dir.), Besançon : Les éditions de l'Imprimeur, 2003, p. 104-125

- Nabila OULEBSIR, Mercedes VOLAIT (dir.), *L'Orientalisme architectural entre imaginaires et savoirs*, Paris : Picard, 2009

- David PEYCERE, Mercedes VOLAIT (dir.), ""Patrimoines partagés " : Architectes français au sud et à l'est de la Méditerranée : Guide de recherches dans les archives déposées à l'Institut français d'architecture", in *Colonnes* n° 21, 2003

- *The Presence of Italian Architects in Mediterranean countries. Proceedings of the First International Conference.* Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Chatby, Alexandria, November 15th - 16th 2007, Firenze : Maschietto, 2008 (Archivi dell'architettura italiana d'Oltremare ; 2)

- Paul RABINOW, *French Modern : Norms and Forms of the Social Environment*, Chicago : University of Chicago Press, 1989

- *Repenser les limites : l'architecture à travers l'espace, le temps et les disciplines*, Actes du colloque (Paris, INHA, 31 août-3 sept 2005), http://www.inha.fr/colloques/sommaire.php?id=31

- Pauline Van ROOSMALEN, *Ontwerpen aan de stad. Stedenbouw in Nederlands-Indië en Indonesia (1905-1950)*, Delft : Technische Universiteit, 2008

- Mohamed SCHARABI, *Kairo. Stadt und Architektur in Zeitalter des europäischen Kolonialismus*, Tübingen : Wasmuth, 1989

- Jean-Frédéric SCHAUB, "La catégorie 'études coloniales' est-elle indispensable?" in *Annales. Histoires, Sciences Sociales* n° spécial Empires, 3, 2008, p. 625-646

- Coenraad Liebrecht TEMMINCK GROLL, *The Dutch overseas : architectural survey : mutual heritage of four centuries in three continents*, Zwolle : Waanders, 2002

- Hélène VACHER (dir.), *Villes coloniales aux XIXe XXe siècles. D'un sujet d'action à un objet d'histoire (Algérie, Maroc, Libye et Iran). Essai et guide bibliographique*, Paris : Maisonneuve & Larose, 2005

- Mercedes VOLAIT, *Architectes et architectures de l'Egypte moderne (1830-1950) : genèse et essor d'une expertise locale*, Paris : Maisonneuve et Larose, 2005

- Mercedes VOLAIT, "Patrimoines partagés : un regard décentré et élargi sur l'architecture et la ville des XIXe et XXe siècles en Méditerranée" in *Architecture coloniale et patrimoine, l'expérience française*, Institut national du Patrimoine (dir.), Paris : Somogy, 2005, p. 115-124

- Mercedes VOLAIT (dir.), *Le Caire-Alexandrie, architectures européennes, 1850-1950*, Le Caire : Institut français d'archéologie orientale/CEDEJ, 2001 (Etudes urbaines ; 5)

- Stephen WARD, "Re-examining the international diffusion of planning" in *Urban Planning in a Changing World : the Twentieth Century Experience,* Robert Freestone (dir.), London : Spon, 2000, p. 40-60

- Gwen WRIGHT, *The Politics of Design in French Colonial Urbanism*, Chicago : University of Chicago Press, 1991