

CIAM's ninth congress was held in Aix-en-Provence in the summer of 1953. Organized by the French group ASCORAL, it was the largest congress to date, with 500 members making the trip to the south of France from all over the world. It culminated in a nocturnal fête on the rooftop of Le Corbusier's recently completed Unité d'Habitation in Marseilles, "lit up like a beacon," as *L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui* put it, "to show to the young of CIAM the way to a true modern architecture."

The task of the congress was the preparation of a charter of habitation, envisaged as a sequel to the charter of urbanism written in Athens in 1933. Participating as members of the MARS Group in their first CIAM congress, the young English architects Alison and Peter Smithson contributed a "study grille"—the form of standardized presentation required by CIAM following its seventh meeting in Bergamo—entitled "Urban Reidentification," prepared in conjunction with William and Gillian Howell and John Voelker. It was intended "in direct opposition to the arbitrary isolation of the so-called communities of the Unité." Organizing their scheme according to a "hierarchy of human association" instead of the four-function hierarchy promulgated at Athens—dwelling, work, recreation, circulation—and proposing a reciprocal relationship between height and population density, the Smithsons put forward four new categories: house, street, district, and city. At the scale of the large city, they offered a scheme for a multilevel residential complex, Golden Lane, which they had recently designed as a competition project for a bombed site in London. It featured above-grade pedestrian "street decks" and flexible connections to the ground and to places of work. The motivating idea was the creation of a vital sense of communal life. Especially effective in the Smithsons' grille was the use of Nigel Henderson's photographs of children playing happily in the streets of London's East End slums. The nitty-gritty of "reality" was meant to counteract the diagrammatic and static purism of *Athens Charter* urbanism: "hygienic, correctly spaced, with excellent wide roads. What was missing was man," as Peter Smithson later said.

100-2 At the congress the Smithsons formed alliances with a number of like-minded colleagues among the younger members of CIAM. These included Aldo van Eyck and Jacob Bakema from Holland, whose concerns were closely akin to their own. All were strongly impressed by the work of the Moroccan group ATBAT—a team composed of Vladimir Bodiansky, Georges Candilis, and Shadrach Woods—which had been designing Muslim housing in Casablanca. With its "golden suns on wands," their grille conveyed a "new language of architecture generated by patterns of inhabitation." Jointly concluding that "life falls through the net of the four functions," the younger generation of architects meeting in the coffee klatches at Aix agreed that the "primary contact" occurs "at the doorstep between man and men."

This shared philosophy led to a meeting in late January of the following year in Doorn, Holland, attended by Peter **Smithson** and John **Voelker** from England, Jacob **Bakema**, Aldo **van Eyck**, and H. P. Daniel **van Ginkel** from Holland, and—reflecting the current interest in sociology and ecology—Hans **Hovens-Greve**, a social economist working in the municipal planning office in Rotterdam (who ceased to be involved with the group after this date). Bakema showed his recently completed Lijnbaan shopping center for Rotterdam. Out of the discussions came the "Doorn Manifesto," calling once again for a subordination of the four functions to what the participants considered more fundamental questions relating to the specific scale and type of human collectivity. Peter Smithson inserted a simplified diagram showing the "valley plan of civilization" into the manifesto; it was taken from an article of 1925 by Sir Patrick Geddes, a figure who had recently aroused interest in CIAM circles.

The meeting at Doorn initiated a more lasting association among the members of the CIAM "phoenix group," self-consciously constituted along generational lines and shortly to be joined by Candilis and Woods as well as Rolf Gutmann of Switzerland. Their aggressive challenge to the older organization was directed at an establishment not only clinging nostalgically to the program of La Sarraz and Athens even as it strove to make it more humanistic, but by now more or less enervated from earlier battles. To the "youngers" thus fell the charge to prepare the brief for the congress's tenth meeting. With this task in view they designated themselves "Team 10."

CIAM 10 was ultimately held in Dubrovnik, and the theme, as prepared by Team 10, was "problems of the human habitat." At the congress an exacerbation of the generational schism (which Le Corbusier anticipated in choosing not to attend) together with a series of arguments over administrative issues (the congress's unwieldy size, for one) brought to a head the crisis of confidence in CIAM's viability. Largely through the Smithsons' uncompromising stance, the outcome was the organization's dissolution. The actual disbanding dragged out over the next couple years. A "reunion" meeting in 1959, held in Henry van de Velde's Kröller-Müller Museum in Otterlo, Holland, was sponsored by Team 10. Forty invited participants whose average age was "about forty" attended, including special guest Louis Kahn, an *eminence grise* at fifty-eight. At the end of the sessions a resolution was passed in which the participants agreed to drop the name CIAM from their activities. This was the congress's final gathering.

The members of Team 10 continued to collaborate as a self-styled "family," publishing a couple versions of the *Team 10 Primer* in the 1960s—a compilation of their individual and joint writings and projects—and meeting periodically. Their extended ranks included Polish emigré Jerzy Soltan, José Coderch de Sentmenat of Spain, Giancarlo de Carlo of Italy, and Ralph Erskine of Sweden. For documentation and some subjective commentary on the history of Team 10 by one of its protagonists, see, besides the *Primer*, two other books edited by Alison Smithson: *The Emergence of Team 10 out of C.I.A.M.* (1982) and *Team 10 Meetings: 1953–1984* (1991). See also Aldo van Eyck's summary of CIAM's history and ideas in a special issue of the Dutch journal *Forum* (1959), entitled "The Story of an *Other Idea*," prepared for the Otterlo meeting.

*Facsimile of manuscript published in Alison Smithson, ed., The Emergence of Team 10 out of C.I.A.M. (London: Architectural Association, 1982), pp. 33–34. Also published in "The Story of an Other Idea," Forum 7 (1959), p. 231. Courtesy of Alison and Peter Smithson.*

**Doorn Manifesto—CIAM Meeting 29–30–31 January 1954, Doorn  
Bakema, van Eyck, van Ginkel, Hovens-Greve, Smithson, Voelker**

**Statement on Habitat**

1. La Charte d'Athènes proposed a technique which would counteract the chaos of the 19th century and restore principles of order within our cities.
2. Through this technique the overwhelming variety of city activities was classified into four distinct functions which were believed to be fundamental.
3. Each function was realized as a totality within itself. Urbanists could comprehend more clearly the potential of the 20th century.
4. Our statement tries to provide a method which will liberate still further this potential.

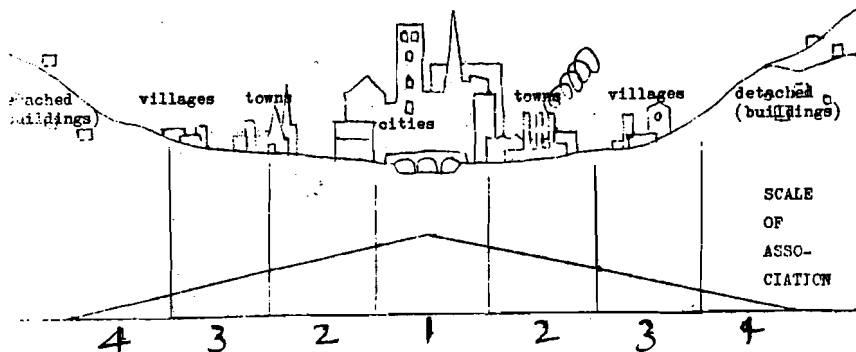
As a direct result of the 9th Congress at Aix, we have come to the conclusion that if we are to create a Charte de l'Habitat, we must redefine the aims of urbanism, and at the same time create a new tool to make this aim possible.

Urbanism considered and developed in the terms of the Charte d'Athènes tends to produce "towns" in which vital human associations are inadequately expressed.

To comprehend these human associations we must consider every community as a particular *total* complex.

In order to make this *comprehension* possible, we propose to study urbanism as communities of varying degrees of complexity.

These can be shown on a Scale of Association as shown below:



We suggest that the working parties [~~crossed out: "commissions"~~] operate each in a *field* (not a point) on the Scale of Association, for example: isolated buildings, villages, towns, cities. This will enable us to study particular functions in their appropriate ecological field.

Thus a housing sector or satellite of a city will be considered at the top of the scale (under City, 1), and can in this way be compared with development in other cities, or contrasted with numerically similar developments in different fields of the Scale of Association.

This method of work will induce a study of human association as a *first principle*, and of the four functions as *aspects* of each total problem.