

Ekistics and the New Habitat: the problems and science of human settlements

The International Journal of *Ekistics and the New Habitat* is an online double-blind, internationally peer reviewed research journal. The journal publishes scholarly insights and reflective practice of studies and critical writing concerning the problems and science of human settlements. The field of Ekistics is mapped against a classification of settlement scale, from the remote village and rural township to global systems of dense smart cities, and increasingly the challenges of on-and-off world sustainable habitats.

In broad terms, papers in *Ekistics and the New Habitat* contribute to the scholarly discourse about the systemic nature of how humans design, build, link-up and transform their world. Articles examine empirical and non-empirical research and ideas that critique the necessary relationship between people, our human settlement designs and technological systems, and our natural and designed habitat. Models, case studies, rigorous conceptual work, design interpretation, smart-citizen education for smart cities, resource flows, network behaviour, and reflective practice are published in order to continually improve and advance the application of integrated knowledge that defines the epistemic telos of Ekistics.

Reference to the history of the journal:

International Journal of *Ekistics and the New Habitat: The Problems and Science of Human Settlements* is rooted in the renowned Ekistics journal (1957-2006), which has evolved into a new online journal in 2019. The sequential numbering of the volumes has been maintained in honour of the legacy of the preceding journal. Back issues of the previous journal are lodged with our archive partners at JSTOR in addition to the issues of *Ekistics and the New Habitat*.

Standard Call for Papers

The journal seeks papers from students, post-graduate candidates, academics and practitioners. We seek papers, typically of a cross-disciplinary nature that:

- Target any aspect of the [United Nations New Urban Agenda, in Habitat III](#), including reference to the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).
- Critiques *local, regional and global policy* of human settlement development, design and planning, and urban transformation
- Offers a critical description of the *core elements that define the liveability of human settlements* such as:

NATURE: Habitat foundations. How settlements rely upon, interact with, alter, or produce living ecologies, biodiversity, and climate.

PEOPLE: Physiological/biological and social-psychological needs and constraints. How settlements rely upon, interact with, or affect people's livelihood, safety, embodied and shared knowledge and skills, security and well-being – whether they are transiting visitors, settlers (citizens), or neighbours of settlements.

SOCIETY: Social, economic, educational systems, fiscal and political organisation. How settlements rely upon, interact with, or are affected by governance and leadership, vicarious or present communities, groups, markets, cultures, beliefs and values.

SHELLS: The envelopes that contain settlement functions. How the design, technologies and places created, altered or removed in settlements affect the functions and amenity of the settlement from the scale of personal shelter to the home, to urban business districts and precincts, to towns, cities or regions.

NETWORKS: Node-to-node systems and flows of resources, waste, data, people and information and communication systems. How the design, technologies and transport of goods, waste, energy, resources, water, food, people and information affect a settlement's functionality, amenity and viability.

SYNTHESIS: Combined, coherent design and knowledge. Physical design and planning; Ekistics theory expressed through evolving models and principles of habitat. How systems of systems may differ from small and remote, to large and urban- dense settlements and linked-up settlements in regions.

This journal invites and accepts four types of submissions, all double-blind and internationally peer-reviewed for their type:

1. **Scholarly articles/reviews (full papers, double-blind review):** typically, with title, authors, institutional affiliations, abstract, keywords, body text (4500-7000 words), and [APA 7th References](#) at the end of the article. Body text typically includes:
 - an introduction to a problem or topic outlining the need for or goals of the research,
 - the key prior papers in Ekistics archives and other sources that best relate to the topic,
 - the methodological or conceptual framework and methods used,
 - a summary of key results or findings,
 - a critical concluding discussionThe Editor assigns papers to their best-fit classifications in the Ekistics grid index.
2. **Viewpoint articles:** typically proposed by an academic or professional with considerable experience, with title, author, institutional affiliation, body text (1500-3000 words), and APA 7th References at the end of the article. They may focus on a timely issue that aligns with the journal's areas of interest.
3. **Scholarly essays/extended abstracts (double-blind review):** typically, with title, authors, institutional affiliations, keywords, body text (1000-2500 words), and [APA 7th References](#) at the end of the article. These shorter submissions are well placed for academics and practitioners seeking to share a critical reflection of an issue, or for first-time students seeking to publish an academic submission (often co-authored with a mentor/supervisor). They may focus on a think piece style of critique, or a project in process, or a topic of interest for a geo-location or generic issue. Short *Essays/Extended-Abstracts may be tested in Ekistics* before a full paper version is submitted elsewhere.
4. **Practitioner, industry or citizen think-piece (short article only, peer review):** typically, with title, authors, regional/organisational affiliations, keywords, body text (500-1000 words). A *Citizen Think-piece* may be up to 3000 words. Where appropriate, [APA 7th References](#) at the end of the article may be included. These shorter submissions are well placed for practitioners, industry or citizens to raise provocative ideas to which we invite the research community to respond in subsequent issues.

We welcome book reviews. Submissions are copy-edited, normally 1200-1500 words, designed to share with the readership community interesting or provocative volumes, monographs, or edited books that may be of interest to scholars, practitioners and students of human settlements, Habitat III New Urban Agenda, and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

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ARRIBAS

