

RESEARCH THEME

XXXVIII cycle – a.y. 2022/2023

Title of the doctoral research

SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY LIVING SYSTEMS IN THE POST PANDEMIC ERA:
Design strategies based on spaces-furniture ecosystems for living and working in Europe

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Abstract

The European Green Deal initiative (2019) aims to strengthen democratic social values, with inclusive, efficient, and competitive economies, while protecting the health, happiness, and well-being of citizens. Inspired by this initiative, and looking beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, this study will focus on sustainable solutions and strategies for residential furnishings and equipment, seeking innovative spatial-furniture solutions for living and working that contribute to the European Green Deal initiative. The research will focus on contemporary space-furniture relationships, identifying creative solutions and systems for innovation, mass-customization, spatial design solutions, quality of production, and societal links. The research will investigate and analyze data and well-designed space-product solutions, addressing intentional aspirations for residential living and working in the European scenario. Aligned with the New European Bauhaus initiative, we seek to identify new models that can be adopted by regional and international communities worldwide.

Research Questions:

RQ1) What multi-functional, sustainable, design-for-all strategies are being developed in the contract furniture industry with reference to a new social responsibility (Avril Accolla, 2015) in terms of suitable living conditions.

RQ2) How are the design fields responding to new and wider users, addressing post-pandemic needs for living and working in small, open residential spaces?

RQ3) What innovative strategies are being explored in the furniture industry and use of new systems of furniture that contribute to socially democratic and sustainable economies?

Keywords

Sustainability, Furniture, Design