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Glatz Zsófia  
DLA Tézisfüzet  
DLA Thesis booklet  
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ZSÓFIA GLATZ  
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DLA THESIS BOOKLET

# CO-HOUSING IN HUNGARY

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AS A NEW HOUSING INSTRUMENT TO SUPPORT SOCIAL  
INCUSION

MASTERWORK: HUNGARIAN CHARITY SERVICE OF THE  
ORDER OF MALTA - MOTHER'S HOME MODIFICATION

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## Abstract

Ensuring proper housing conditions is one of the most important instruments in the process of avoiding social exclusion.

Housing inequalities, generated by the dynamically changing housing needs and rigid housing systems, can lead to social inequalities, and thus to social exclusion. It is partly the responsibility of the housing system to compensate the housing related indicators of social exclusion. However, the current housing system in Hungary functions against its expected role: out-dated housing typologies, the lack of rental housing, housing poverty and -segregation and the low rate of social responsibility are very critical factors of marginalization and of social tension.<sup>1</sup>

In Western Europe, well-developed social policies, the support of social responsibility and the significant amount of rental housing and community oriented housing co-operatives are important attributes of the well-functioning housing systems. The bottom-up initiated and maintained co-housing projects counterpoint the state- and profit oriented housing, they give solution for special housing needs, serve as an instrument of social responsibility, thereby reduce the housing related social tension. Special co-housing projects set up goals like the social integration

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<sup>1</sup> Hegedüs, József; Horváth, Vera; Somogyi, Eszter. 2016

of people in need by providing lodging, community and social support for them.

In Hungary, co-housing projects are not yet among the well-known and desired housing possibilities. Although, the current state of community oriented initiatives, as well as the activity of the Community Living initiative, projects a positive future for the Hungarian co-housing movement.

My goal is to reveal the potentials of co-housing projects in Hungary and to provide an alternative tool for the housing aspects of social integration, that can be adapted to the Hungarian needs and possibilities.

*Keywords: housing system, social inclusion, housing co-operative, co-housing, social responsibility, community, conscious integration, Hungary*

# Theses

## Thesis 1.

One of the possible tools of bringing balance to the Hungarian housing system is to put the community oriented housing co-operative model in practice among the already existing pool of tools. As a result, new ownership-structure, affordable housing and diverse typologies will appear, as well as a new tool to support social responsibility.

## Thesis 2.

The role of architects in the co-housing planning process is to help the realisation of sustainable and resilient buildings by using their own professional knowledge, the individual and collective knowledge, needs and experience of the residents, and by following the goals set by them. This activity requires architects to acquire the know-how of co-housing planning methods.

## Thesis 3.

The goals set at the start of co-housing projects are the fundamentals of the realisation process and they support and facilitate the work of all the stakeholders involved. Therefore, critically discussing and accurately setting the common goals at the very beginning of the realisation process is essential in order to create long-term, sustainable and efficient co-housing projects.

#### Thesis 4.

The positive evolution of the Hungarian community oriented initiatives provides a good opportunity for co-housing to become the next step in the field of community oriented initiatives in Hungary.

#### Thesis 5.

Eliminating the blocking factors of the co-housing movement requires the right amount of available and adequate information, the continuous flow of information among all the stakeholders, the introduction of participative- and community planning-knowledge to the architecture curricula, and the continuous knowledge-transfer among the ongoing and new projects.

#### Thesis 6.

The work of the Community Living initiative is an important milestone in the start-up process of the Hungarian co-housing movement. The existence and activities of the initiative facilitate the elimination of the blocking factors, therefore support the development of the Hungarian community oriented housing and of conscious communities.

# Masterwork

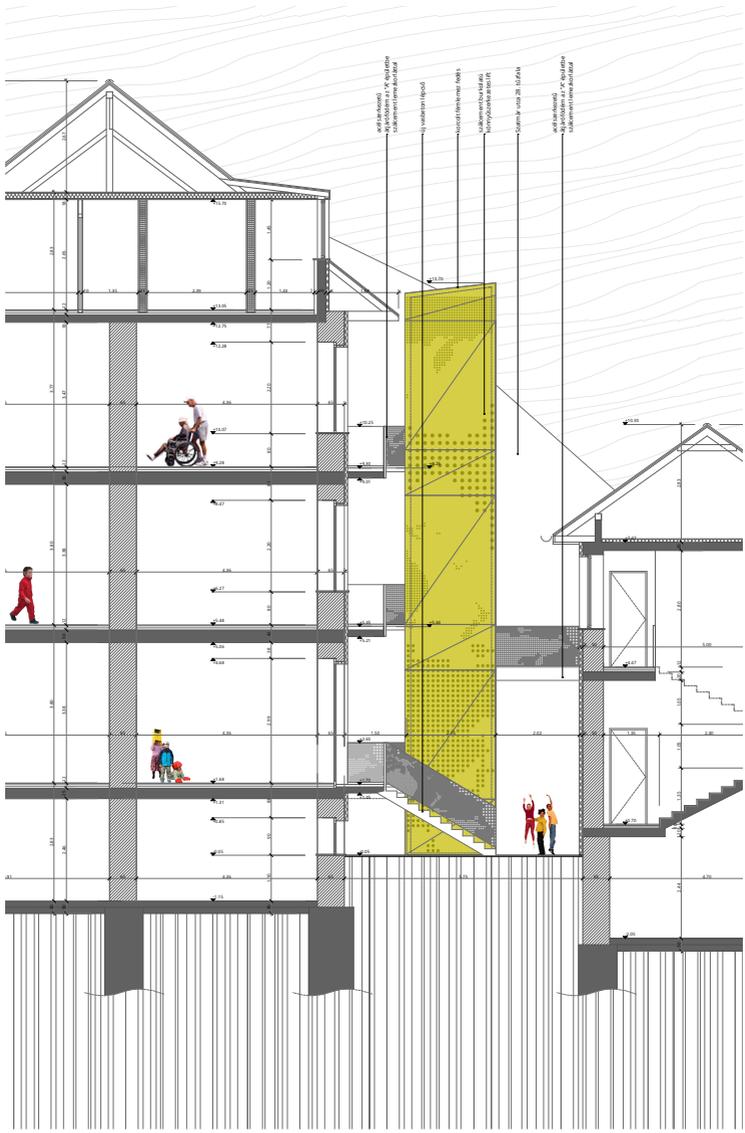
HUNGARIAN CHARITY SERVICE OF THE ORDER OF MALTA -  
MOTHER'S HOME MODIFICATION

Quotation from the paper:

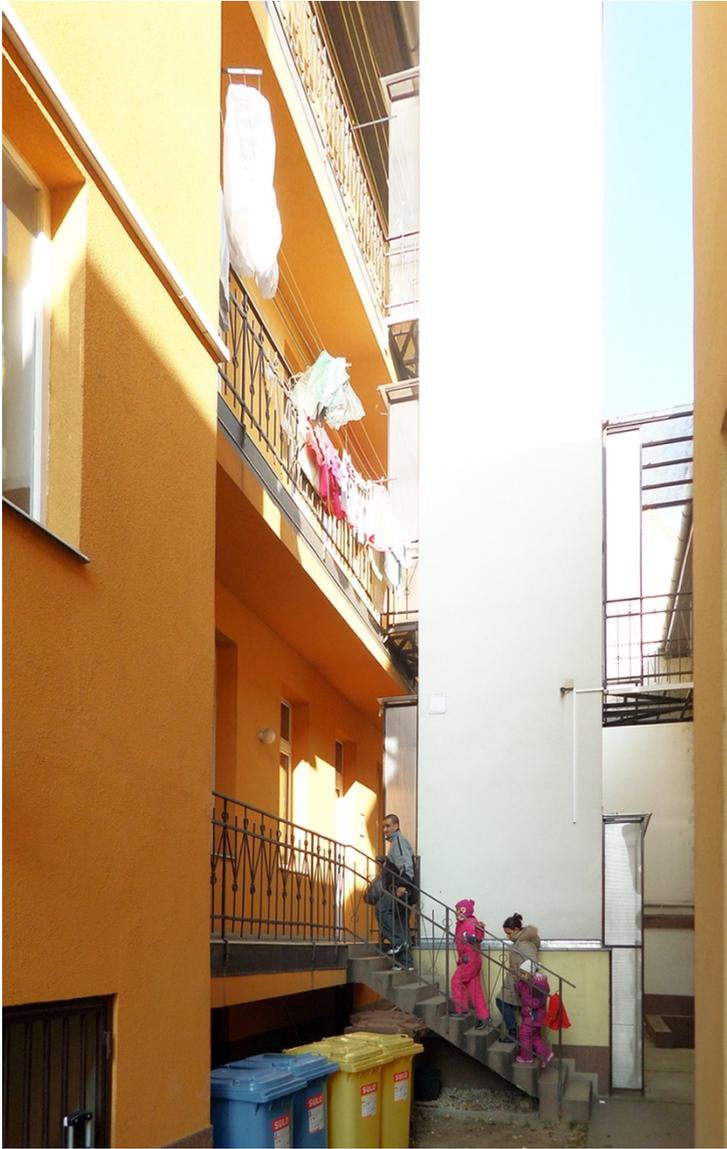
'The Mother's home is an odd phenomenon: people who live here share the same fate but are complete strangers to each other. This very dense cohabitation is not led by residents but by a helping organization that makes decisions about - among others - the housing situation of the residents, without involving them. This community housing is held together not by the common will or goals but the common fate. Temporarily. It is not easy to intervene in such an unstable system, on any level. Neither as an architect.



Vision



Design



Reality

