
The editorial policy of the journal

**LA ESTRUCTURA
EN EL PROYECTO DE ARQUITECTURA,**

together with its English version

The Structure in the Architectural Project

Produced by the Structures and Physics Department of
the Higher Technical College of ARCHITECTURE

Now that the first steps are being taken to publish a journal entitled “**La estructura en el proyecto de arquitectura**”, together with its English version “***The Structure in the Architectural Project***”, within the **POLIREN environment of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM)**, this document sets out the general framework of the journal. This includes its profile, aims, lines of working and the basic regulations governing how it functions.

THE WORKING PREMISES OF THE JOURNAL

1. **Although its core aim is educational, scientific papers which fit the editorial line of the journal will be accepted.**

The journal is aimed most especially at students of architecture and engineering, and this is why its educational function is more important than its scientific aspect. The aim is that a high proportion of the papers published will be written by students in this and other universities. Nevertheless, it would seem to be prudent not to exclude anything out of hand, including scientific works, on condition that they are in the spirit which inspires the journal.

2. **The main aim of the journal is to drive and express the academic life of the Department of Structures and Physics in the Higher Technical College of Architecture in particular and the UPM in general; it will also be a centre and forum for publications, as well as for debate about the connections between architecture and structural engineering. This will take place from the viewpoint of someone who is starting a project, rather than analyzing, measuring or checking a structure that is more or less definitive.** Of course this policy will be flexible, as not everything is either black or white. For example, studies of pre-dimensioning criteria will clearly be of interest for the journal, as will analytical tools for the preliminary design of structures. In general it may simply be a question of where the emphasis of a paper lies.

3. The journal will be strongly tied to experience in the ETSAM from 2001 to date within the optional subject “***The Structure in the Architectural Project***”. This is taught by Head of Department **Ricardo Aroca Hernández-Ros** with the help of Professor José L. Fernández Cabo, who has coordinated the last two courses as well as the current one. **The ideas which drive this journal were born and proven in the work of the said subject. The journal will fill a gap that currently exists in the field, one that is of vital importance in the teaching of architecture and structural engineering. Due to this, as it has an educational purpose above all, the aim is for students to become actively involved in its production.** This year the students of “Structure in Architectural Projects” have been informed that, after revision and work on layout, their best works may be published in the first edition of the journal. Those studying other subjects in the UPM or at other universities could also be informed of this possibility.

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4. **At least at first the journal will only be published on-line, not printed;** and of course, given the nature of the POLIRED platform, it will be freely available.
 5. Manuscripts in any of the languages used in Spain will be accepted: Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Basque; those in Portuguese will also be accepted, given that the journal aims to cover Latin America as well as the Iberian peninsula. Moreover, in all cases the English translation of papers must be sent in together with the original, as this is a key aspect of the project. The journal lacks the resources that would be required to translate texts, and is only able to check that English translations are more or less legible. It will also be possible to submit manuscripts that are only in English.
 6. There is no plan to publish the journal at set intervals. It is planned to bring out the first edition this winter, during the next academic year.
 7. Although the purpose of the journal is educational, it will function in the same way as any other good quality journal, with a **board of editors** who may also belong to the **list of reviewers**. This list may also sometimes include other reviewers, as occurs in all journals. **The said board will guide and control the activities of the journal**, and it is currently composed of the following individuals:

Editors:

- Fernández Cabo, José L. (Dr. of Architecture, Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM). *jose.fcabo@upm.es*
- Antuña Bernardo, Joaquín (Dr. of Architecture, Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM). *joaquinfrancisco.antuna@upm.es*

Technical Secretary:

- Majano Majano, Almudena (Dr. of Architecture, Assistance Professor, ETS de Arquitectura-UPM). *almudena.majano@upm.es*

Board of editors:

- Aroca Hernández-Ros, Ricardo (Dr. of Architecture, Emeritus Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM, Aroca y Asociados)
- Arriaga Martitegui, Francisco. (Dr. of Architecture, Full Professor, ETS de MONTES-UPM, AITIM)
- Arroyo Portero, Juan Carlos (Civil Engineer. Fundación Escuela de la Edificación, CALTER)
- Bernabeu Larena, Alejandro (Dr. of Civil Engineering, Associate Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM, IDOM)
- Bernabeu Larena, Jorge (Dr. of Civil Engineering, Professor, ETS Ingenieros de Caminos CyP-UPM, IDOM)
- Fernández Lavandera, Jorge. (Dr.of Agronomy, CIETE ingenieros)
- Fernández Troyano, Leonardo. (Dr. of Civil Engineering, ETS Ingenieros de Caminos CyP-UPM, Ingeniería *Carlos Fernández Casado* S.L.)
- Estévez Cimadevila, Javier (Dr. of Architecture, Full Professor, ETS Arquitectura-Universidad de La Coruña)
- Negrão, João (Dr. of Engineering, Professor of the Escuela de Ingenieros de Coimbra, Portugal)
- Ortiz Herrera, Jesús (Dr. of Civil Engineering, Full Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM, HCA)
- Obiols, Agustí (Dr. of Architecture, Full Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPC, BOMA)

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- Velasco, José María (Dr. of Civil Engineering, AMATRIA)
 - Rey Rey, Juan (Civil Engineer, Associate Professor, ETS Arquitectura-UPM, MECANISMO)
 - Guaita Ferandez, Manuel (Agricultural Engineer, Full Professor, Escuela Politécnica Superior de Lugo, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela.)

8. **Very strict policy will be followed in connection with the copyright of all images and illustrations**, etc. submitted for publication. Authors will implicitly take responsibility for the fact that they are able to publish such images when they submit a manuscript.

9. **A series of fields which fit the general editorial policy described above are listed below. The aim of this list is simply to be far more specific in defining the scope and aims of the journal, although without wishing to exclude anything.**

- (a) **Theoretical studies of structural design.** Work under this heading will place especial emphasis on the line of work which was commenced and consolidated by Professor Ricardo Aroca Hernández-Ros. Given the nature of the journal, most papers here will be descriptive (and may include the publication of computer applications) rather than research; nevertheless, the latter will also be acceptable.
- (b) **A review of structural types.** This is based on the fact that it is impossible to create a Project without being perfectly aware of existing different structural types. Work of this type is an established part of studies in many prestigious international schools of engineering.
- (c) **Case studies.** Case studies will run parallel to reviews of structural types, although the journal will centre on recent examples. This will make it possible to add new concepts, such as interviews with authors or the active participation of construction companies. Together with States of the Art (and surely others, too), under this heading it will also be important to connect with companies. The importance of this connection was underlined by several of you, and it is in fact highly important.
- (d) **Critical case reviews.** Parallel to the previous line but less descriptive and neutral and more analytical and critical, this will also include comparisons.
- (e) **Reviews of works by major experts and singular works from the past.** This will centre on the analysis of specific cases, most particularly singular works by past masters. Works may also be included if they are of great value, even if they are by hardly known or anonymous authors. This line will run parallel to the two previous ones, but will centre on knowledge of the historical context, without which it is impossible to understand the present.
- (f) **Form-finding applied to structural design.** This area of research is currently highly active. The use of this technique should be encouraged, as well as implementing and spreading the use of computer programs that can be used by students. The above remarks on research are equally applicable here, as the route is open.
- (g) **Optimization applied to structural design.** The remarks on form-finding are also applicable here. Optimization is a vast but also highly specialized field, although links can be found which students will be able to use. The above remarks on research are equally applicable here, as the route is open.
- (h) **Proposals for or descriptions of technical journeys.** Travel used to be of key importance in the education of architects and engineers. This is still the case, and it should form an important part of our university education. The idea is to include suggestions of routes or descriptions of previous journeys which have been highly interesting.

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- (i) **States of the art in a range of structural and constructive fields.** This will offer information about states of the art. Due to the educational nature of the journal, this information will rarely be found in any other type of publication. The following list of titles are examples: “The use of prefabricated concrete in structures”, “Current flooring solutions which are compatible with new thermal, acoustic and fire-resistance requisites”, “The use of post-stressing in building structures”, “Earth as a structural material”, “Structure versus construction in houses”... once again, the above remarks on research are equally applicable here, as the route is open.
 - (j) **Work by undergraduates and postgraduates, including final degree projects or similar.** As was pointed out above, it would be ideal for some papers to be written by students. This area is therefore explicitly included in response to your remarks. A wide range of subjects can be included here, on condition that papers centre in some way on the initial phases of a Project. This is a very broad criterion.
 - (k) **Spreading new tendencies, ideas and news.**