



THE PROJECT

Three Parts:
Workshops, Excursion, Exhibition

The project „Encounters in the Greater Region“ examines places of democratic exchange and social cohesion in a transnational context. Focusing the development of tools for making intangible urban resources visible, strategies for reactivating vacant buildings, and the medium-term development of a shared digital platform. This platform is intended to make innovative urban development tools accessible locally, regionally, and internationally as a public toolbox.

In cooperation with 24 students from the University of Luxembourg (*Research Unit Cultures of Assembly, Prof. Dr. Markus Miessen*) and the Department of Architecture – Theory – History (*Prof. Dr. Adria Daraban*) at RPTU, a new teaching format is being developed that operates at the intersection of academic research and practical urban development. In addition to field research and mentoring, a joint workshop in Esch-sur-Alzette, an exhibition, and input and guest critiques from experts are planned.

THE FRAME

- Kick-off:
10/29/2025, 12:30 PM (online)
- Workshop 1 / Excursion:
Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg
24–26 November 2025
- Workshop 2 / Exhibition:
Kaiserslautern, Germany
January 19–22, 2026
- Exhibition opening:
2026-01-21, 18:00 (public)
- Weekly consultations:
Wednesday 12:30-15:00 PM

THE CHALLENGE

Goals and Objectives:
Milestones

- **The Greater Region as a Polis**
Analysis of the Region as „Productive Tension Fields“ for Regional Value-Adding Processes.
- **Cross-border neighborhood**
Promoting cooperation within UniGR (Knowing Your Neighbor).
- **Tool development & application**
Development and testing of participatory, transnational tools to capture and strengthen meeting places.
- **Student participation**

Integration in transnational tandems: capturing the intangible resource „encounter“ through mappings and game development as an example of „sound“; later, developing one’s own tools and strategies for architectural valorization.

- **Digital platform development**
Documentation, networking, and exchange of methods and tools at different scale levels beyond the project duration.
- **Strengthen democracy**
Promoting social cohesion and democratic participation in post-industrial cities by activating material and immaterial spaces.

COLLABORATORS

Inputs & Guest Reviews

- Carine Oberwies**
Architect & Honorary Consul
- Astrid Fries**
District Manager Koblenz
- Sebastian Oberlin & Adrian Rennertz**
Game Developer, Luthier & Music & Media Artist
- Udo Noll**
Media Artist
- Rainald Manthe**
Sociologist & Author
- Bernd Pegritz**
Illustrator

COOPERATION / TEAM

- Uni-GR-Guest Professorship
Dr. Marie Enders
- ARCHITEKTUR THEORIE GESCHICHTE fatuk^R P TU**
Rheinland-Pfälzische Technische Universität Kaiserslautern Landau
- Chair of Architecture – Theory – History (ATG), RPTU:
Prof. Dr. Adria Daraban
Celina Philipps
Student Assistant at ATG



Research Unit Cultures of Assembly (COA),
Uni Luxembourg:
Prof. Dr. Markus Miessen
César Reyes Nájera
Postdoctoral Researcher on Urban Regeneration



ENCOUNTERS IN THE GREATER REGION

THE OCCASION

*The Region and the Network:
University of the Greater Region
[Uni-GR]*

The University of the Greater Region (UniGR) is a cross-border university alliance that promotes teaching, research, and cooperation across Germany, France, Belgium, and Luxembourg. The goal is to enable students and researchers to participate in cross-border educational programs, strengthen exchange and collaboration, and initiate joint projects.

Members: Universities of Kaiserslautern-Landau, Trier, Saarland, Liege, Lorraine, Luxembourg, and htw saar (associated partner).



THE FORMAT

*The Mobility Programme:
UniGR-Guest Professorship*

Dr. Marie Enders was awarded the 2025/26 UniGR-Guest Professorship for the implementation of the Encounters in the Greater Region project. The „UniGR Visiting Professorship“ mobility scholarship enables three selected young researchers to spend a two-month collaborative research stay at one of the partner universities of the UniGR network each year.

Begegnungen in der Großregion

ENCOUNTERS IN THE GREATER REGION

PROGRAMM
PROGRAMM
PROGRAMM



see QR Code for details

FUNDING



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