

041



The
Esch
Clinics

THRESHOLD INFRASTRUCTURE: SURVIVAL THROUGH AND WITH

February 25, 2026 1/2
20:00-21:30

Pelin Tan
Helin Kaya
Norry Schneider
Artemis Gkotzaridis
Tania Soubry
Yves Diederich

Threshold Infrastructure: Survival Through and With is a field research project on Foodsapces in Esch/Alzette, Luxembourg, by Pelin Tan and associate researcher-architect Helin Kaya.

The research is part of The Esch Clinics, which explores the sovereignty of foodscapes in terms of food and ingredients, focusing on the commoning practices that intersect with precarity and daily survival in the urban and its hinterlands. The research methodologies are based on open assemblies, mapping, video interviews, and the collection of storytelling narratives.

How does migration impact the foodscapes? How are solidarity practices created around it? How do food logistics between urban areas and the hinterland work? How is transhumance practice in grazing lands preserved as spatial heritage under capitalist extractivism and the climate crisis? These inquiries are framed through the conceptual lens of thresholds and everyday critical spatial practices, aiming to understand how non-normative strategies of spatial appropriation can be recognized and supported—and how such strategies contribute to the creation of threshold infrastructures that enable survival through and with.

This event is an online research talk.

PELIN TAN is a sociologist and art historian; currently a professor at the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Batman. Senior research fellow of the Center for Arts, Design and Social Research, Boston. For more than two decades, she focuses on urban & territorial conflict, commons, labor conditions, alternative pedagogies, and methodologies. She is the 6th recipient of Keith Haring of Art&Activism, 2019. A Lead author of Urban Society report by ipsp (Cambridge Univ. Press 2018). She contributed to several publications such as *Climates: Architecture and The Planetary Imaginary* (Columbia Univ., 2017), *Refugee Heritage* (2021), and *Radical Pedagogies* (2022 MIT Press).

HELIN KAYA is an architectural researcher and a student in the Master of Architecture program at the University of Luxembourg.

CULTURES OF ASSEMBLY
Chair of the City of Esch
Prof. Dr. Markus Miessen
University of Luxembourg
www.culturesofassembly.org

24, Rue du Brill
L-4041 Esch-sur-Alzette

Team:
Markus Miessen, César Reyes,
Gustav Nielsen, Kristina Shatokhina

Associated with the
Master in Architecture Programme
Department of Geography and
Spatial Planning
University of Luxembourg
www.masterarchitecture.lu

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Vum Greis, vegetable farm in Berchem. Photo by Z. Helin Kaya.