

Norman Foster Foundation

RIBA Travelling Scholarship  
winner  
2019

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"Her research will investigate the spaces between shelters, with a focus on the transition from temporary refugee camp to sustainable city," explains RIBA's scholarship announcement. "Iulia will also be exploring the importance of educational and social infrastructure in building community growth and resilience."



2020 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholar: Iulia Cistelean

"I was delighted by the high standard of the 48 applications which were received from nearly thirty countries," [Norman Foster](#) commented on the winning selection. "After much deliberation, the jury were unanimous in their choice of Iulia Cistelean's proposal as this year's very worthy winner. The findings from her study on the permanent nature of refugee camps will be universally valuable as well as advancing her own career."

RIBA President [Alan Jones](#) added: "Iulia's research promises to cover some of the most pressing matters of our time: the global refugee and climate crises. I am inspired to see Iulia — who represents the future of our profession — investigating architectural solutions to these complex issues [...]"

The 2020 scholarship jury included Norman Foster (Foster + Partners, Norman Foster Foundation); Elena Ochoa (Norman Foster Foundation); Farshid Moussavi (Farshid Moussavi Architecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Norman Foster Foundation); Nicky Watson (JDDK Architects, RIBA); and Victoria Simpson (dlg Architects, RIBA).



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Patrick Danahy ~ GAN 007

## Architectural investigation of global refugee camps wins 2020 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship



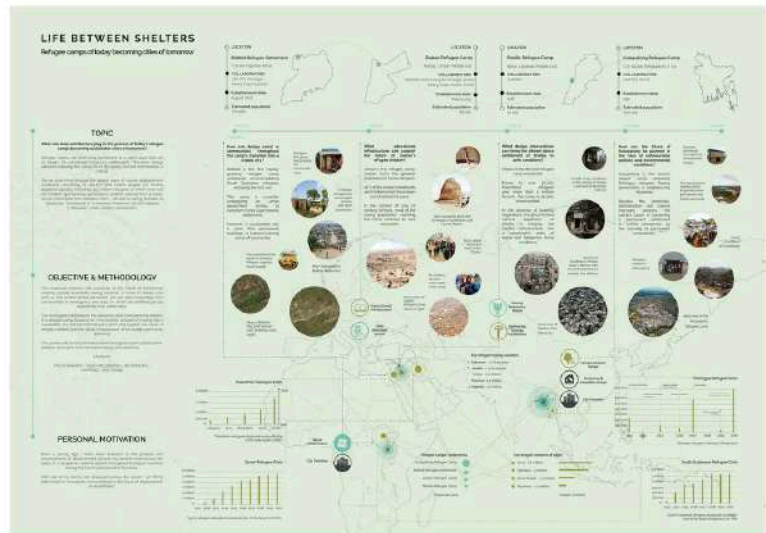
By [Alexander Walter](#)

Jun 25, '20 2:36 PM EST



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Iulia Cistelean's project poster "Life Between Shelters: Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow" for the Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship

The annual [RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship](#) has selected the project *Life Between Shelters: Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow* by [London School of Architecture](#) student Iulia Cistelean to receive £7,000, nearly US\$8,700, in support.

The scholarship enables Iulia to travel to four [refugee camps](#) across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East — Bidibidi (Uganda), Zaatari (Jordan), Shatila (Lebanon), and Kutupalong (Bangladesh) — to examine "the role that architecture can play in transforming today's refugee camps into sustainable communities."

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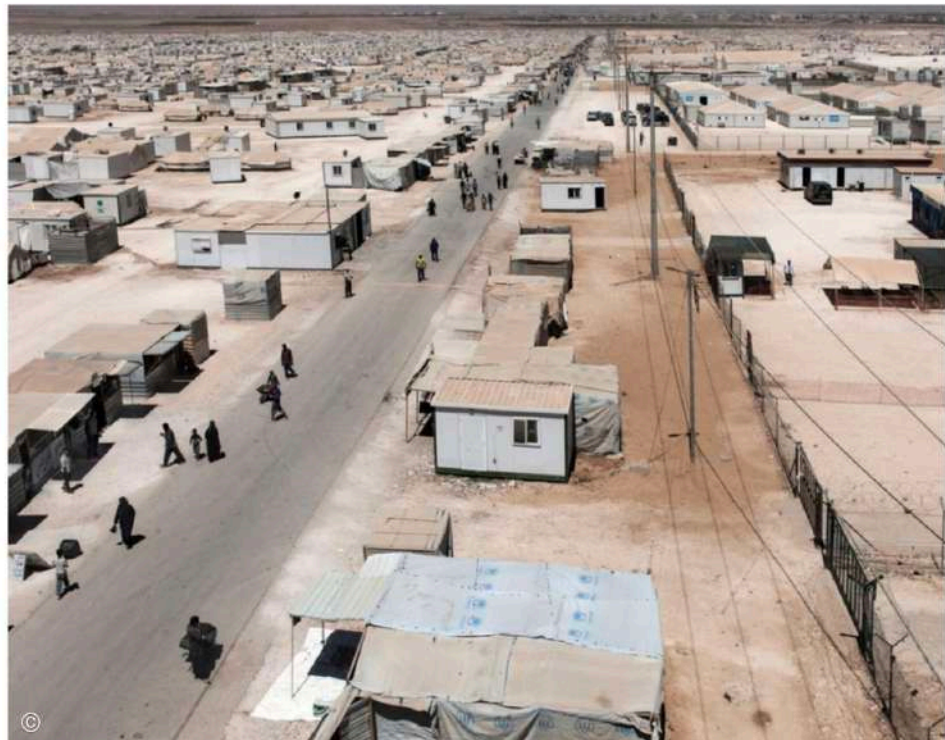
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## Iulia Cistelean, from the London School of Architecture, Wins the 2020 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship



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Written by [Christele Harrouk](#)

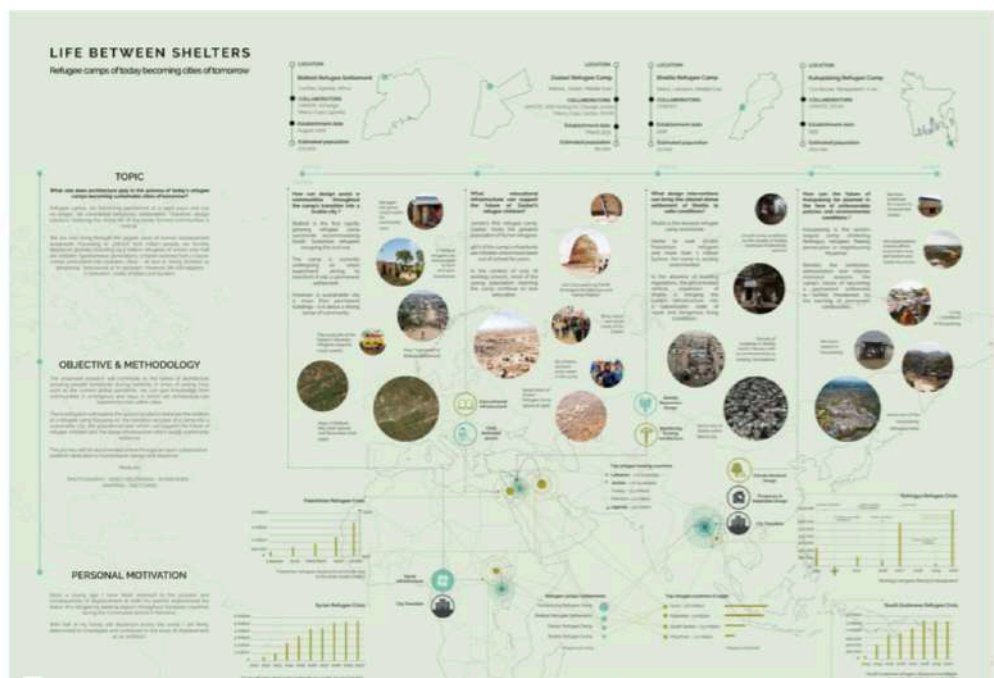
June 26, 2020

Now in its fourteenth year, the 2020 RIBA [Norman Foster](#) Travelling Scholarship has been awarded to Iulia Cistelean, from the London School of Architecture, for her project “Life Between Shelters: Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow”.





Intended to fund international research on a topic related to the sustainable survival of towns and cities, the **RIBA Norman Foster** Travelling Scholarship was established in 2006 by the Norman Foster Foundation with Foster and Partners, in association with the **RIBA**. In fact, the annual scholarship offers £7,000 to a student of architecture who demonstrates the potential for outstanding achievement and original thinking.



This year's winning proposal "*examines the role that architecture can play in transforming today's refugee camps into sustainable communities*", the research will focus on the spaces between shelters, especially on the transition from temporary refugee camp to sustainable city. In order to pursue her investigations and explore the importance of educational and social infrastructure in building community growth and resilience, Iulia will travel to four refugee camps across Africa, Western Asia, the Middle East, and South Asia: Bidibidi (Uganda), Zaatari (Jordan), Shatila (Lebanon) and Kutupalong (Bangladesh).

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### Related Article

[Refugee Camps: From Temporary Settlements to Permanent Dwellings](#)

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*“ I was delighted by the high standard of the 48 applications which were received from nearly thirty countries. After much deliberation, the jury were unanimous in their choice of Iulia Cistelean’s proposal as this year’s very worthy winner. The findings from her study on the permanent nature of refugee camps will be universally valuable as well as advancing her own career. – Norman Foster ”*



The 2020 scholarship jury comprised of:

- Norman Foster, Lord Foster of Thames Bank (Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners; President, [Norman Foster Foundation](#))
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (Publisher and curator; Vice-President, [Norman Foster Foundation](#))
- Farshid Moussavi (Founder, Farshid Moussavi Architecture; Professor in Practice of Architecture at Harvard University Graduate School of Design; Trustee of the [Norman Foster Foundation](#))
- Nicky Watson (Director JDDK Architects; RIBA Board Trustee; RIBA Council member for the North East, [RIBA Vice-President for Education](#),)
- Victoria Simpson (Associate Director dlG Architects, [RIBA Education Development Group member](#))