

# Call for Spaces

## What is this call about?

We are open to participation for Spaces like Actions collective Atlas. Everyone can become part of the project by sending us a spaceaction. But, wait, what is a spaceaction?

- A spaceaction is a space (intended as an object, room, outdoor area, building, part of a city/landscape) connected to a specific action or way of use, to a gesture, or to a shared meaning.  
(example: Stube - heating room where people chill out on cold days, the room heats the whole house and is used for gathering, relaxing and enjoying physical and social warmth.)
- A spaceaction is not international but is in use within a specific culture, area, community, group, region. It's untranslatable, which means it doesn't have any direct correspondence in other spatial cultures and is unintelligible for newcomers.  
(example: Stube is used in Tyrol alpine area. Its name, features and use are obvious for people who are familiar with the area, but if you are new to Tyrol you probably won't know about it, how to use it or why.)
- A spaceaction is a typology: it's not a unique piece but it can be found in several versions which share similar characteristics or recurrent patterns and are recognizable by a group of people under the same name.  
(example: Stube is present in many Tyrol houses: it's generally clad in wood, with a big ceramic heater which is wood-powered from outside the room, low ceiling and a corner bench running along the walls.)
- A spaceaction could be both a new habit or part of tradition, but it should be in use in the present or still part of a living memory.  
(example: Stube is an old invention but is still used nowadays in traditional as well as in contemporary forms.)

Do you have anything in mind? Great!

## How do I participate?

It's easy: once you have in mind a spaceaction you can send us an e-mail with the following info: name of the space + location + text + image  
Our contact is: [spaceslikeactions@gmail.com](mailto:spaceslikeactions@gmail.com)

## Entry requirements:

Your entry should include the following info:

- 1) Name of the space (in its own language) (example: ศาลา)  
+ Optional: How would you write it in latin alphabet (example: sala)
- 2) Location/Culture (examples: Central Pyrenees/Thailand/Sámi)
- 3) Text in English (100-300 words)  
+ Optional: Version of the text in your own language
- 4) Image (with photo credits)  
+ Optional: Where was the photo taken
- 5) Would you like your name to be published? (yes/no/pseudonym)

## Entry specifications:

### (1, 2) Name and location:

Common name of the space: the way it's called by its community of users in their language or dialect\*. Please write the name in its original language and with its specific characters\*\*. We would also like you to indicate where or by whom this space is used: it can be the name of a city, region, country, community, group, landscape\*\*\*.

\* It's possible that the space has more than one name in one or more languages, if you know different versions of the name you can send us all of them.

\*\* As additional information, if you want you can also send us a second version of the name in latin alphabet.

\*\*\* If you know it's used in several places or by several groups of people you can indicate them all.

### (3) Text:

The description should both narrate the spaceaction in its spatial/material presence and use or cultural dynamics. The text has to be minimum 100 and maximum 300 words, so try to be as essential as possible. This is your own personal text, there is no need to write historical aspects of the space, its formal or cultural development in time unless it's necessary to explain its use. We prefer spaceactions that you know from direct experience or personal use. Don't worry if you don't feel objective: we are not looking for a scientific definition but rather for a voice narrating the story of that space. While writing about your space you can take inspiration from these questions:

- Try to focus on the untranslatable aspects of the spaceaction and describe them: why is it so special and unique in relation to other spaces or spatial cultures?
- What are its spatial characteristics? Is the way it is made important to tell the story of its use? Are there any details (like materials, shape, ergonomics, distribution, dimensions) that facilitate people interaction or invite action?
- How do people interact with this space? Tell us how they use it physically, for what purpose, if it relates to other cultural aspects, beliefs, stories or events.

The text should be written in English\*. As an additional info, together with the English version you are also welcome to send us a copy of the text in your own language, we will publish it too!

\* If you would like to participate but you don't feel too confident with English, please ask us for help before writing the text: our team can translate from a number of languages.

### (4) Image:

Send us one picture of your spaceaction\*. Remember that the picture should show the physical space and its peculiar features in the best way, helping to clarify its use and complementing the written description. It would be great if you were the author of the image, if not remember to indicate the photo credits or we won't be able to publish it. Please verify the good quality of the picture before sending it and, when possible, you can indicate where the picture was taken.

\* If you are uncertain about which to choose you can send us 2-5 pictures, we will help you choosing one.

### (5) Publication:

All the entries which follow the guidelines and address Spaces like Actions research topic will be published. We will review your submission and get back to you soon. Together with your contribution, we would like to publish your name as narrator, please indicate if you prefer to use a pseudonym or no name instead. We will not publish or use any information from the collective Atlas elsewhere without asking for permission to the authors. Participation is voluntary, Atlas doesn't have any commercial purpose or academic affiliation and relies on free access and exchange of information.