Submitted By Berrin Chatzi Chousein

The Extent Of Destruction Is "A Collective Complicity" Say **Turkish Architects**

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Alper Derinboğaz: "Uncontrolled urbanization"

Alper Derinbogaz, the founder of Salon Alper Derinbogaz, underlined that the reason of the destruction could not be based on numerical values such as the earthquake's intensity, proximity to the earth, area of influence, acceleration, and period, and pointed out the poor quality of the buildings

"The extent of damage is, unfortunately, due to the poor quality of the buildings in the region" he told WAC

"The fact that one building in the same topography was standing still in the earthquake zone while the other collapsed also explains this situation."

Derinboğaz believes that the construction and design process are managed by contractors, resulting in buildings that are not durable but whose poor quality is well concealed.

"In addition to all this unqualified production, giving a building registration certificate under the name of "construction amnesty" to illegal buildings that do not comply with the regulation paves the way for uncontrolled urbanization," he added

"In the zoning amnesty law enacted in 2018, more than 7 million buildings most of which are in residential status were licensed, according to Alper Derinbögaz. "It is seen that more than 20 laws regarding zoning amnesty have been enacted in Turkey since 1948," he emphasized.

"A new insurance system"

The architect argued that a new insurance system should be introduced in order to prevent further negligence in the production chain

"I think the solution is to introduce a new insurance system through insurance institutions with international validity," the architect explained. "Buildings without insurance should not be used," he added.

"In order to carry out universal production processes, construction, and inspection norms, the architects and engineers who design it must control the building until the end and they must be held responsible for possible demolition," according to the architect

He stated that "zoning issues should not be a method of financing politics." According to Derinboğaz, "there are approximately 453 thousand 497 contractors in Turkey with a population of 85 million, based on January 2020 data. "This means that there are 10 times more contractors in Turkey than in the whole of Europe," he concluded

Derinboğaz also argued that rapid construction should be avoided to provide housing for earthquake victims, and he added that, "the area to be reconstructed should be meticulously planned and designed by a professional team, taking into account many factors such as the city's identity, history, environmental conditions, geographical and demographic structure, with considering earthquake as a primary design parameter."

