SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS
AND HYPER-LOCAL COMMUNITIES

OUTLINE

How should we re-build Europe?

- *What challenges should we solve for?*

- *What learnings from the contemporary built environment in Copenhagen could guide us?*

LONELINESS

"In 2022, more than 33% of Europeans were lonely at least sometimes and 13% were lonely most of the time."

Share feeling lonely most of the time (in %)
18 - 20
17 - 18
16 - 17
14 - 16
13 - 14
12 - 13
10 - 12
9 - 10
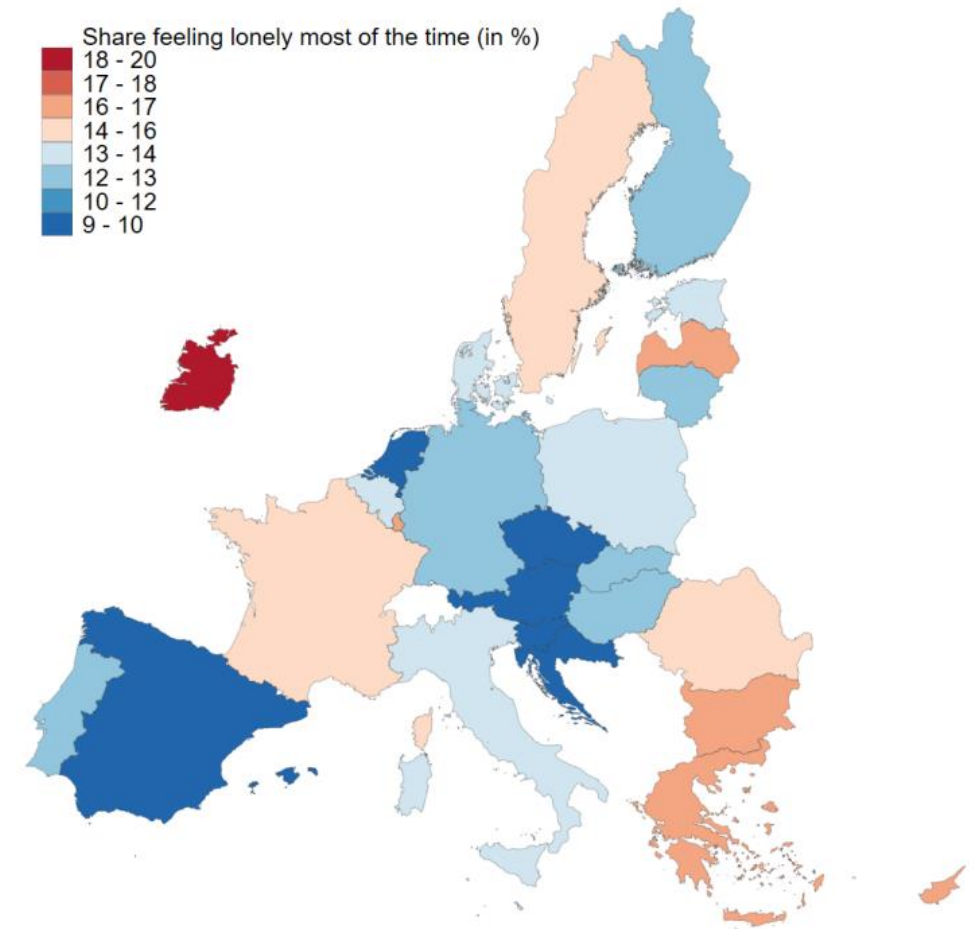
LONELINESS AND COMMUNITIES

Covariates of loneliness:

- Psychological health problems

- Raised blood pressure

- Impaired sleep

- Lower levels of empathy

- Higher levels of distrust and intolerance towards others

- Lower social capital
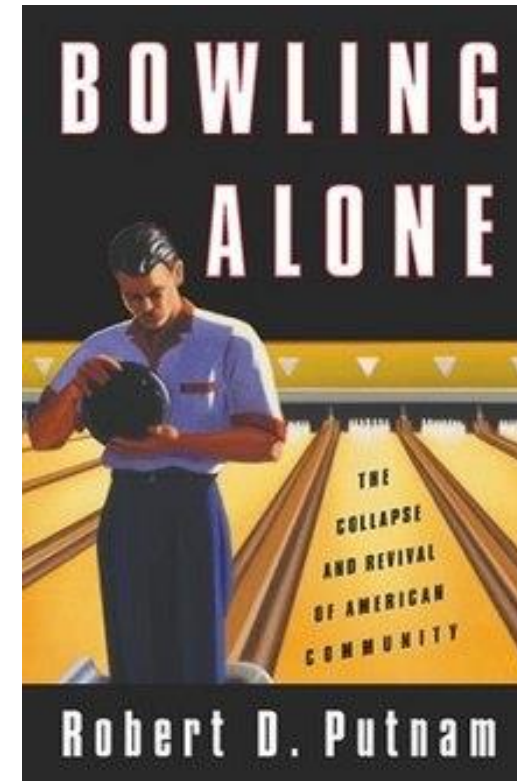
THE FOUR HOUSING TYPES OF COPENHAGEN

Condominium (owner-occupied housing)

21.2%

Coorporatives (andelsbolig)


28.9%

Private rental

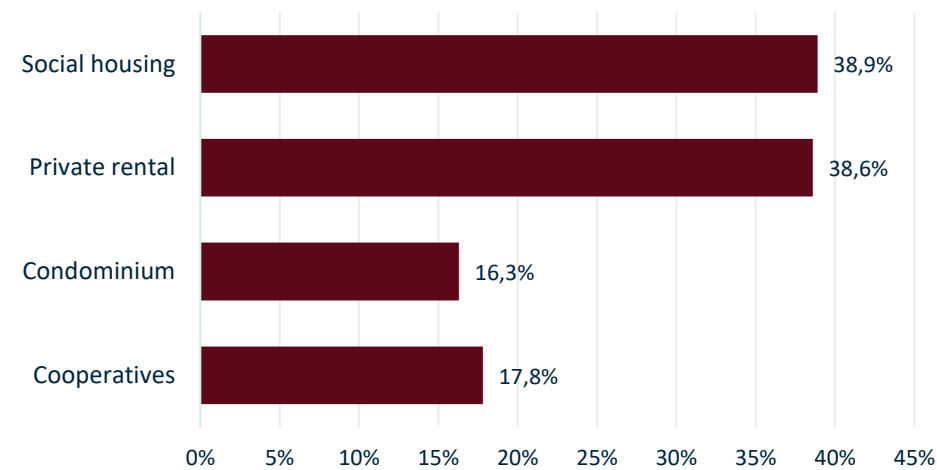

29.3%

Social housing

19.9%

Source: *Boligredegørelsen 2022*, City of Copenhagen, 2022, p. 10 (in Danish). https://www.kk.dk/sites/default/files/2022-08/Boligredeg%C3%B8relsen%202022.pdf

COMMUNITIES IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Evidence from *The Danes in the Built Environment 2023*
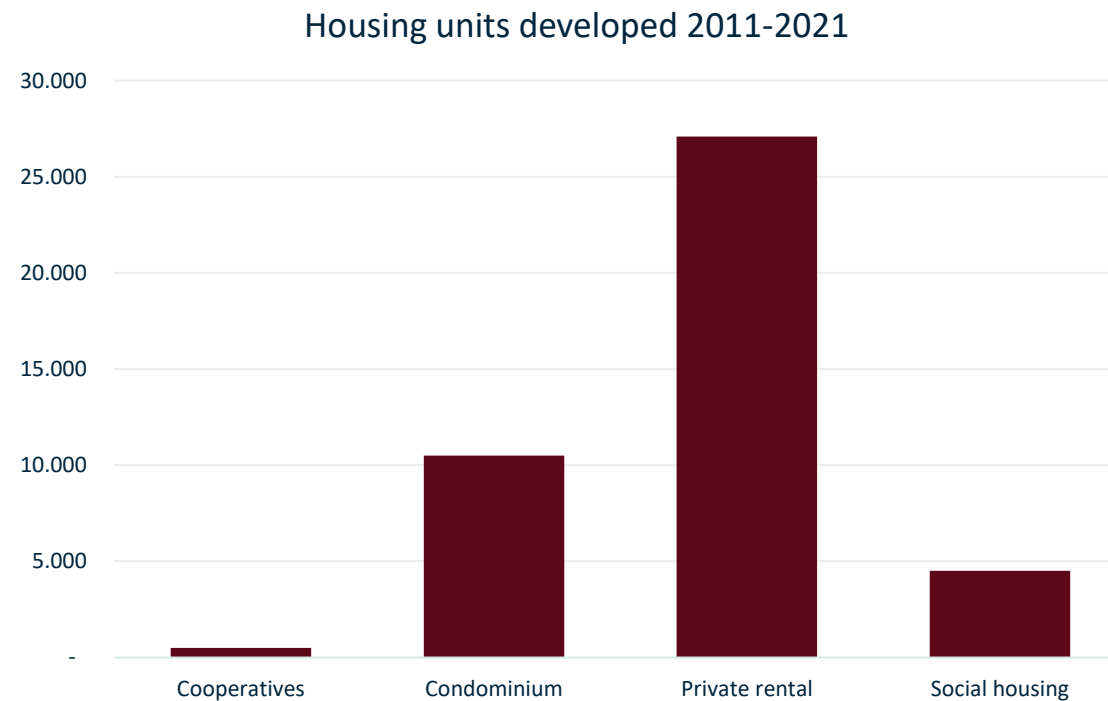

"Common road/garden parties"

Social housing	9,1%
Private rental	8,5%
Condominium	24,1%
Cooperatives	27,5%
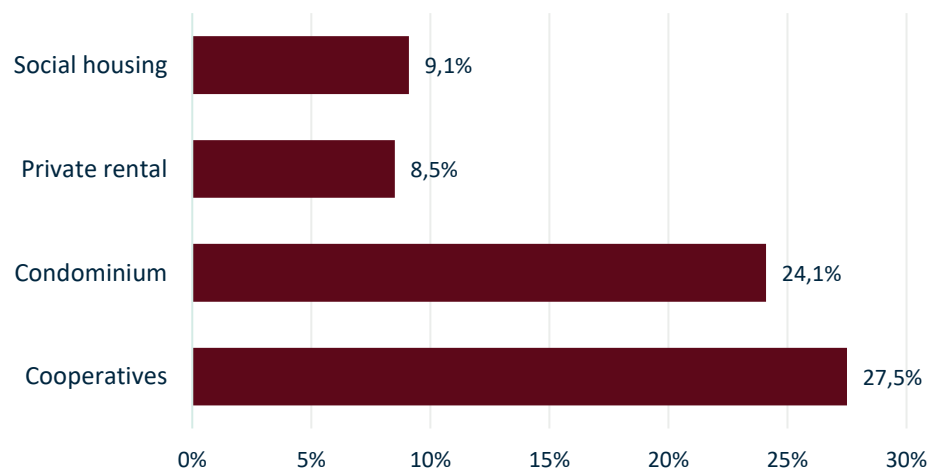
"We have nothing to do with each other"

Social housing	38,9%
Private rental	38,6%
Condominium	16,3%
Cooperatives	17,8%

RECENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN COPENHAGEN

Massive boom in private rental housing

Housing units developed 2011-2021

A CASE FROM BALDER BOVIERAN

Danish wordplay: Live-at-the-Riviera

Coorporative housing for senior citizens
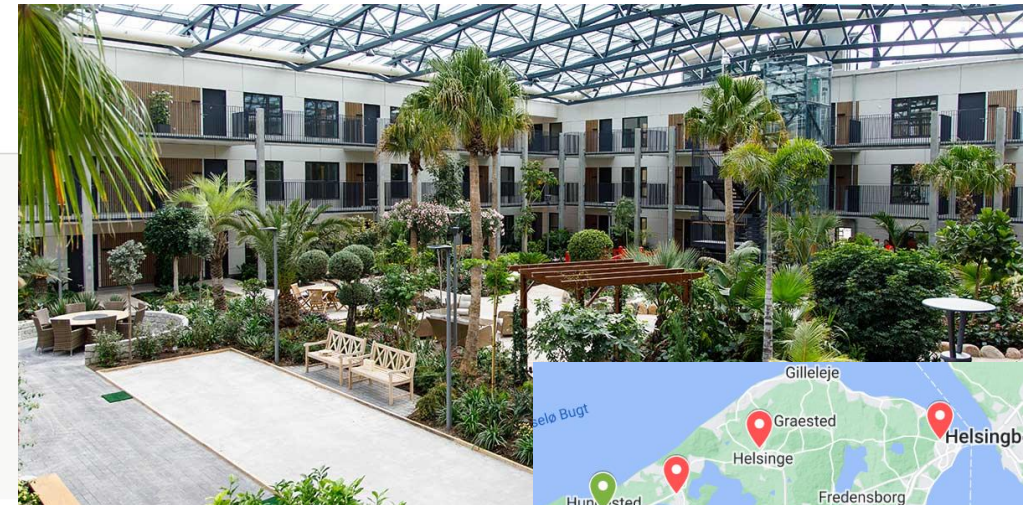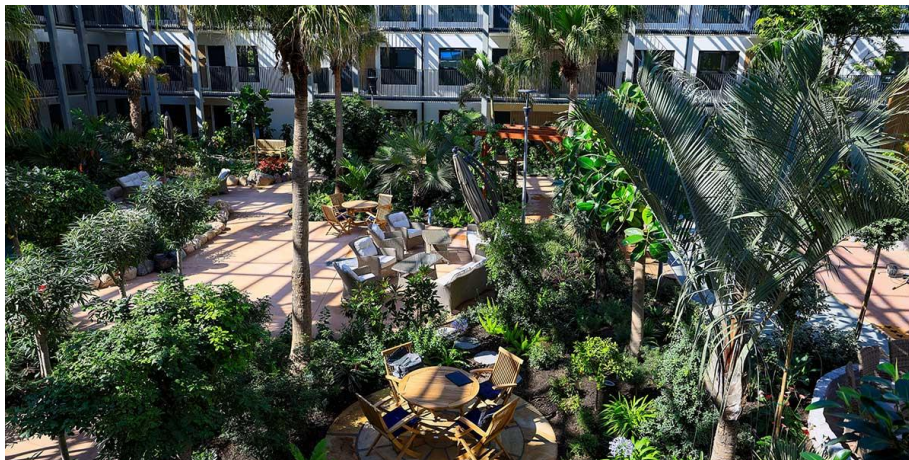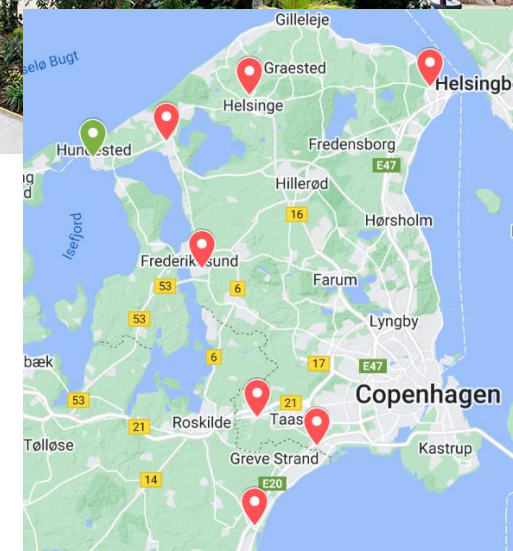
CONCLUSIONS

How should we re-build Europe?
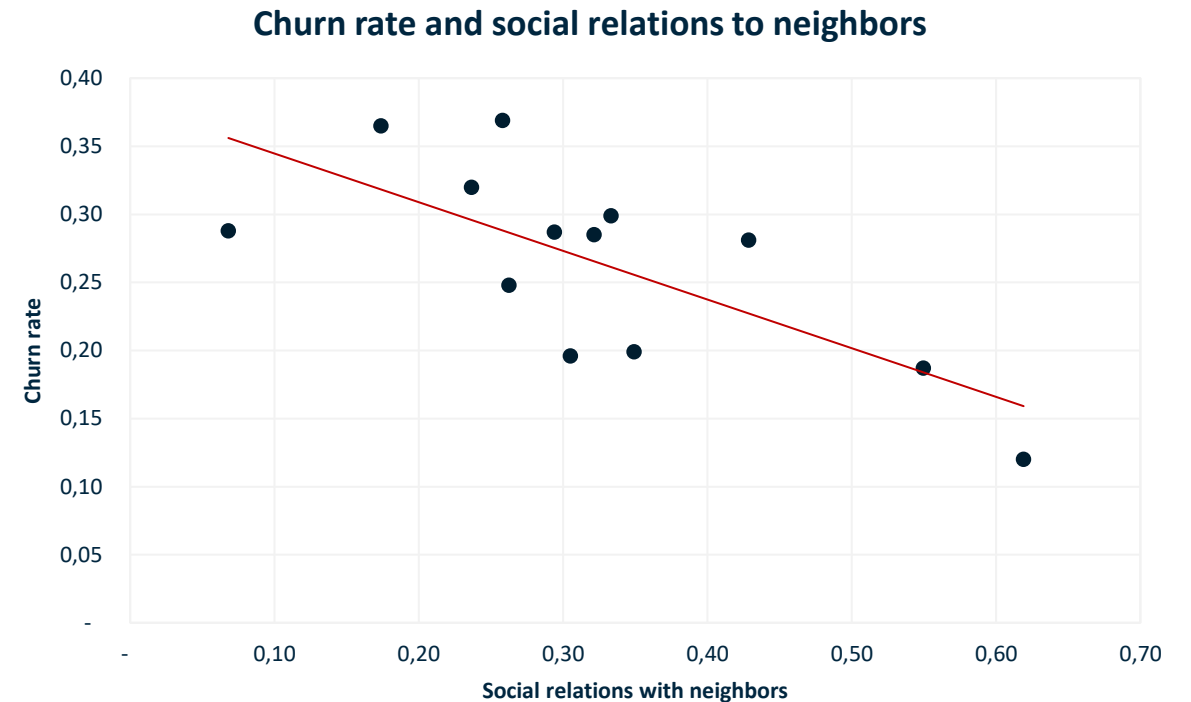
- *Challenges*
  - Loneliness
  - Social connectedness

- *Learnings from Copenhagen*
  - Be mindful of the impact on social connectedness and communities of what you build
  - When developing new housing, ask yourselves: "*is this a place where people will make friends*?"

Churn rate and social relations to neighbors

THANK YOU!

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