For the MH17 Memorial we imagine a place where, no matter how busy or crowded it is, a sense of quiet and reverence always surrounds visitors. In our project the Memorial will be built under the act of a three-fold delimitation in order to create an inner, precious space dedicated to remembrance. This first, primal act of delimitation is between nature and artifice. Therefore, the unlimited, many times hostile, sea is portioned. Indeed, we wanted our design to work with water, not to fight or dominate it. The rough seawater becomes stable within the circular walls of the Memorial: a calm lake inside the slight sea.

The second delimitation is between present time and memory time. In fact, the courtyard building divides daily activities of the water park from the Memorial. We chose on purpose to design an anonymous building for the documentation and narration of MH17 tragedy: a prismatic architecture suspended over the water, which will host Memorial annexed spaces by impartially communicating reports of the events.

The last most important, delimitation is between collective memory and private remembrance. We chose for this space an archetypical image: a half-open box, overlooking towards a portion of sky. This primal shape is immediately associated with ancestral resurrection myths and the myth of Pandora’s box, which explains Hope as an extension to Pain. The peaceful atmosphere of the Memorial is created to relate apparently antithetical feelings. Here sky and water, light and dark, rough and smooth, are all in the same space, fighting and working together, as life and death in human condition.