

Editorial

Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to write this editorial as the new President of the European Research Association. The new Governing Board along with myself were elected at the last General Assembly held in Darmstadt during our latest conference (see page 4). Many thanks to the former board members who decided to continue working in the board, and a warm welcome to the new members.

Many thanks also to our former President, Pawel Swianiewicz. We all appreciate that Pawel contributed a lot of his time during the last five years towards the development of our organisation.

I would also like to thank Marta Lackowska for her work at the EURA Secretariat. Marta left the Institute of Political Science at Darmstadt University of Technology and returned to the University of Warsaw at the beginning of last September. Her former responsibilities have been transferred to Sonja Löber. Many thanks also to Sonja for taking over these responsibilities beside the work on her PhD and her tasks as a research fellow at the Institute of Political Science, Darmstadt University of Technology.

Finally, I would like to thank Nicole Krüger for organising the EURA conference 2010 in Darmstadt. She invested nearly a year for the organization of this event and made it a great success.

We are also grateful for the support of the 'LOEWE Centre of Research Excellence Urban Research' at Darmstadt University of Technology for this conference. It supported the conference financially with nearly 40.000 Euro.

You will find a new section in this newsletter. 'Network Activities' calls for the building of research networks on topics of urban research. We intend to encourage colleagues to use this section of the EURA newsletter to inform all members about planned research projects and for them to participate. This should strengthen the role of EURA as a platform for building research networks on urban topics. Obviously, EURA already has this function – as demonstrated by successful EU projects formed by members of the European Urban Re-

search Association. However, these projects on 'Participation, Leadership and Urban Sustainability' (PLUS) and 'Governance for Sustainability' (GFORS) developed from informal communication between EURA members and not as a deliberate strategy of our organisation.

Finally, I like to mention that we have agreed with EUROLOG, the standing group on local government and politics of the European Consortium of Political Science (ECPR), to jointly organise a **summer school on urban research**. Our Governing Board members Panos Getimis and Nikos Hlepas will try to receive the funding for such a summer school, which shall take place on a Greek island next year. Unfortunately, no final decision on their proposal has been taken by the (possible) funding organization. We will inform you immediately once the decision is taken.

Hubert Heinelt
Technische Universität Darmstadt
EURA President

Editorial Team

Prof. Dr. Hubert Heinelt
Sonja Löber

The aims of EURA

- To encourage international exchange and co-operation in relation to urban research
- To stimulate and encourage interdisciplinary and cross-border urban research
- To contribute to urban policy debates.

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Conference News and Information

This section provides news and information about international conferences in Europe and elsewhere.

If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please send it to

aura@pg.tu-darmstadt.de.

EURA EVENT – COPENHAGEN 2011

CITIES WITHOUT LIMITS

23-25 June, 2011, Copenhagen, Denmark



The European Urban Research Association (EURA) in co-operation with the Centre for Strategic Urban Research (CSUR) – formed

by the University of Copenhagen and Aarhus School of Architecture and funded by Realdania Research – and the University of Aalborg will hold its next conference on ‘Cities Without Limits’ in Copenhagen (Denmark).

Conditions for urban development have qualitatively shifted in recent years, creating new challenges for urban policy. Urban areas are becoming increasingly dependent on one another, and the well-known boundaries between cities and towns as well as between urban centres and countryside are being erased. The Centre for Strategic Urban Research, Realdania Research, has chosen the term ‘The City without Limits’ to conceptualise this situation, which is investigated by integration of research from architecture and planning with research from geography and the social sciences.

The conference theme ‘Cities without Limits’ will set focus on the development, management and quality of urban areas in order to improve the knowledge base for urban development and urban policy decisions. The occasion of the conference is the closure of CSUR in its current form and the conference includes a presentation and discussion of main results of the CSUR research program.

The **general questions** of the conference are:

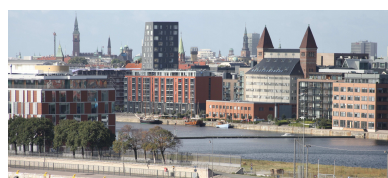
- How to understand the urban as sites of regional and global relations?
- How to govern and plan cities dominated by transnational relations?
- What is the good life in cities without limits?
- How do we meet the environmental challenges of expanding urban relations?

EURA EVENT

This conference calls for papers relating to one of the following themes (organized in one track each). We welcome scholars from diverse disciplines as well as practitioners.

- Conceptualising cities
- Governance in cities unbound
- Residential livability in urban regions
- Resilient/Metropolitan landscape
- The city of talent – knowledge economy and urbanity
- Topics selected by the participants (open track)

The conference will be held in central Copenhagen,



where excellent conference facilities are available at the University of Copenhagen. Hotels

are available at a range of price levels and the metropolitan region of Copenhagen offers a rich choice of destinations for study tours and excursions in relation to urban development, urban policy, sustainable urban development etc.

For information about the **host**, please see page 7 of this Newsletter.

Key Note Speakers:

- Associate Professor **Lars Winther**
University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Cities unbound: Geographies, people and strategies
- Professor **Paola Viganò**
University of Venice, Italy
(Re)-establishing connectivity in metropolitan regions
- Professor **Tim Cresswell**
University of London, UK
Citizenship in worlds of mobility
- Associate professor **Nina-Marie Lister**
Ryerson University, Canada
Ecological Urbanism in the Contemporary Metropolitan Landscape
- Professor **Jan Gehl**
Gehl Architects, Denmark
Designing Connectivity in urban topographies
- Maurits de Hoog
Delft University of Technology
Mapping and understanding Megaregions

For **further information** for the conference themes and the tracks, please visit the conference homepage www.EURA2011.org



Abstract submission for this event will be open until **31st January 2011**. Accepted papers have to be submitted until 27th May 2011.

For requests concerning this conference please contact EURA2011@life.ku.dk

BRUSSELS 2011

ELITES TAKE OVER THE CITY

28-30 April, 2011, Brussels, Belgium

This transdisciplinary symposium is organised by the 'Elites in the city' Concerted Research Action (CRA) of the Université Libre de Bruxelles. It will be held in French and English.

This symposium aims to confront empirical research, its work methods and ethical commitments, when it takes on the study of elites in the city. It is for researchers, both within and outside of universities, who analyse the methods influential groups use or have used to influence the city, to give it form and significance. These methods include land ownership, lobbying, various strategies for justification, technical/legal inventions, infiltration into decision-making spheres, and many more.

The symposium is thus intended to stimulate debate on the production of urban space and its enmeshed power relations, today and in the past, as well as to explore the research practices that bring about empirical results.

The **general questions** are:

- How ought we to study elites and the ways in which they shape the city?
- According to which ethical responsibilities should we work?
- What are the ensuing (empirical) consequences of this work

For **further information** on the symposium please visit the homepage

<http://web1.ulb.ac.be/arc/elites/colloque2011EN.html>

Contact concerning this event is provided by Giulietta.Laki@ulb.ac.be

DARMSTADT 2011

THE DISTINCTIVENESS OF CITIES | MODES OF REPRODUCTION

15-17 June, 2011, Darmstadt, Germany



This International is organized by LOEWE Research Area "Intrinsic Logic of Cities" at Technische Universität Darmstadt.

Venice is different from London and in Mumbai we will expect to have radically other experiences than in Paris. The simple mentioning of city names calls up mental images in us, positive or negative, exotic or banal. Cities appear to be dynamic or progressive, cosmopolitan or sentimental, but what is the origin of such images and associations?

Conference topic is the intrinsic logic of cities. Six panels will serve to structure the discussion: Body, Space, Power, Infrastructure, Knowledge and Heritage.

Keynote lectures by

- Helmuth Berking,
- Friedrich Lenger,
- Sujata Patel,
- Kurt W. Foster.

Panels on body, space, power, infrastructure, knowledge and heritage with Gabriele Klein, Fran Tonkiss, Trutz von Trotha, Stephen Graham, Olivier Coutard, Ulf Mathiesen, Brenda S.A. Yeoh and many more.

For further information on the conference agenda, speakers, lectures and registration details please visit our website: www.distinctiveness-of-cities.de

Contact concerning this event is provided by bartenschlager@stadtforschung.tu-darmstadt.de

A total of 140 participants (see Table 1) took part in the recent EURA conference in Darmstadt from 24th – 26th September 2010. The **general questions** of the conference were:

- Do cities have choices – in a globalised world? Or: Do local politics matter? And: How to explain differences between cities?
- Do we need a (new) theory of urbanism/urbanity to understand how modern societies are functioning?

About 115 papers were submitted to address these questions.

The discussion was organized in **six tracks** of the following topics:

- The intrinsic logic of the city
- Metropolitan governance and the dynamics of city regions
- City choices and strategic planning
- Sustainability: Local meanings and strategies
- How to achieve economic competitiveness and social cohesion?
- Urban design and built environment

Table 1. Participants by country

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Austria	5
Belgium	3
Brazil	1
Canada	1
Cyprus	1
Czech Republic	5
Denmark	5
France	2
Germany	54
Greece	3
Hungary	1
Israel	1
Italy	9
Mexico	1
The Netherlands	9
Norway	5
Poland	8
Portugal	2
Singapore	1
Spain	6
Sweden	4
Switzerland	5
Turkey	1
UK	2
USA	2
N.A.	1
TOTAL	140

KEY NOTE SPEAKERS

- **Prof. Dr. Martina Löw**, Institute of Sociology, Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany
'The intrinsic logic of the city. Towards a new theory on urbanism'
- **Prof. Dr. Roger Keil**, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto, Canada
'City choices in a 'glocalizing' world'
- **Prof. Erik Swyngedouw Ph.D.**, School of Environment and Development, Manchester University
'The politics of place in a globalised world'
- **Dan Popescu**, Head of the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform, Department of Local and Regional Democracy and Good Governance, Council of Europe
'Challenges and perspectives of local democracy'
- **Sara Höflich de Duque**, Project Manager, United Cities and Local Government
'How cities respond to globalization: A local government perspective'

EURA ELECTIONS

After five years of holding the **EURA presidency** Paweł Swianiewicz has vacated this position. The General Assembly with twelve votes unanimously elected **Hubert Heinelt** as the new EURA president. A short portrait of him can be found on page 14.

Also a new **Governing Board** was elected during the General Assembly of EURA at the Darmstadt Conference. Condition for successful candidature was to receive a majority of the cast votes. All 18 candidates fulfilled this requirement See table 2 for an overview on the results of the elections. **Nikos Hlepas** and **Valeria Fedeli** have joined as new members. A full coverage of all members of the newly elected Governing Board will be presented on pages 13-16 on EURA Developments.

Recent Publications

This section provides news and information about recent publications on urban issues. If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please forward it to aura@pg.tu-darmstadt.de.

Sustainability in European Environmental Policy: Challenges of Governance and Knowledge



Edited by Rob Atkinson, Georgios Terizakis and Karsten Zimmermann
Routledge, 2010

This book examines sustainability in European environmental policy and explores the related challenges of governance and knowledge. It provides an assessment of the EU sustainability strategy and focuses on three key directives: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Emissions Trading (ET) and Air Pollution control.

Sustainability in European Environmental Policy was published within the context of the research project Governance for Sustainability (GFORS) that was organised by various members of EURA. The book develops an innovative analytical model for the study of governance for sustainability, focusing on the potential synergies between new governance modes and different forms of knowledge. This cross-national and comparative volume features research on nine European countries and focuses on topics including governance, spatial planning and networks in the context of sustainability policy and its development within the UK, Germany, Italy, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Greece and Norway.

Making an important contribution to debates on governance, sustainability, knowledge and policy, this book will be of interest to students and scholars of political science, environmental studies, urban studies and European studies.

Die Zukunft der europäischen Stadt. Stadtpolitik, Stadtplanung und Stadtgesellschaft im Wandel. (The Future of the European City. Urban Politics, Urban Planning and Urban Society in Transformation)



Edited by Oliver Frey and Florian Koch
VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 2011

The objective of the book is the analysis of the often cited model of

the European city through an interdisciplinary approach – which implies that the European city is seen as the interaction of specific built- and landuse-structures, social formations and political organisation. Geographers, sociologists, urban planners, architects and political scientists give answers to the question of how this model of the European city can deal with new challenges in the field of urban politics, urban planning and urban society. The articles tackle various topics such as the European vs. the American City, multi-locality of urban dwellers, the significance of density for the European city, the European city outside Europe and the role of creativity and digital media for urban development in Europe.

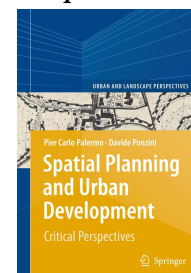
Urban Foreign Policy and Domestic Dilemmas. Insights From Swiss and EU City-Regions

Nico van der Heiden

ECPR Press, 2010

City-regions have gained economic and political power in the process of globalisation. Many of them use this power to develop their own international activities. This book investigates why city-regions go global and the consequences of their newly gained self-confidence on the international scale. The book analyses Swiss and EU city-regions' international activities with seven in-depth case studies. The book shows that the local economic setting and the political response in developing international activities are closely linked. Not only has urban politics changed due to its international dimension, but also the interplay between the core city, the agglomeration communities, the regional, the national, and EU levels. Understanding the role of the EU in city-regions' international activities is crucial for comprehending recent trends in urban governance.

Spatial Planning and Urban Development. Critical Perspectives



Pier Carlo Palermo and Davide Ponzini
Springer, 2010.

Diverse cultural traditions and professional profiles compete within

the complex, controversial field of spatial planning and urban development. Throughout the decades the distances between the different approaches seem to have grown, without finding a coherent framework which can adequately guide planning theory and practice. International *planning theory* has loosened its ties with the themes of architectural and city design, and tends to face mainly procedural or communicative issues. On the other hand, several trends in *urban design* have lost the critical tension of the modernist movement and seem to underestimate the difficulties of managing current problems of spatial development. In this book a set of authoritative planning paradigms is critically reviewed, documenting crucial weaknesses and several unsolved questions at the crossroads between *urban planning*, *architecture* and *policy design*. The authors propose to reconsider these issues in the light of selected Italian and international trends in urbanism and urban design. By developing this innovative frame of reference, the book outlines a pragmatic, interpretative, critical and design-oriented approach to contemporary planning problems.
<http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/population+studies/book/978-90-481-8869-7>

Social Geography and Urban Studies titles from The Policy Press

To browse all current and forthcoming Social Geography and Urban Studies titles from The Policy Press please go to:

http://www.policypress.co.uk/browse_urban_policy.asp

Injustice. Why Social Inequality Persists

Daniel Dorling

"Beliefs which serve privilege, elitism and inequality infect our minds like computer viruses. But now Dorling provides the brain-cleaning software we need to begin creating a happier society." Richard Wilkinson, Emeritus Professor of Social Epidemiology and co-author of *The Spirit Level*

Dorling claims in this timely book that in rich countries inequality is now caused by unacknowledged beliefs which propagate it. Hard-hitting and uncompromising in its call to action, this is essential reading for everyone concerned with social justice.

25% online discount: £14.99 (RRP £19.99) / April 2010

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847424266>

Community Development and Civil Society. Making Connections in the European Context

Paul Henderson and Ilona Vercseg

Set within the context of Europe, this book demonstrates the contribution that community development can make to strengthen civil society. The book interweaves case studies with discussion of community development principles and theory to provide a critical and accessible approach.

£17.59 with 20% online discount (RRP: £21.99) / June 2010

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781861349699>

Social Entrepreneurship. A Skills Approach

Edited by Robert Gunn and Christopher Durkin

This essential textbook provides an in-depth theoretical study of stakeholder engagement, financial options, leadership management and organisational challenges, and international case studies of real social enterprise success. The book will be essential reading for students, academics, practitioners and entrepreneurs.

£19.19 with 20% online discount (RRP: £23.99) / June 2010

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847422897>

From Recession to Renewal: The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Public Services and Local Government

Edited by Joanna Richardson

"Is there an alternative to our children having to learn Mandarin, and becoming losers in a cut-throat global market? Although it is often claimed this is inevitable, this book presents some other options and perspectives." Danny Dorling, University of Sheffield

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847426994>

£19.99 with 20% website discount

Polish Families and Migration Since EU Accession

Anne White

In a vivid account of every stage of the migration process, this topical book presents new research that takes an in-depth look at Polish migration to the UK, in particular the lives of working-class Polish families in the West of England.

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847428202>

£56.00 with 20% website discount

1. Background Paper for Efficient Decentralisation in Croatia

Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović

In mid 2001 the Croatian Government launched the initiative aimed at loosening a high degree of centralisation by extending the mandates of local self-government units and changing the sources of financing public functions. These initial steps have not been followed by additional measures of fiscal decentralisation, and consequently its level has stayed broadly unchanged in recent years. Namely, the share of local budget revenues and expenditures in the consolidated general government budget has remained around 11 percent while their share in GDP stayed at 4 percent. Consequently, Croatia has continued to be among the least decentralised countries, not only compared to the developed EU-15 countries, but also compared to transition countries.

Local and regional self-government units in Croatia are highly dependent on tax revenue sharing (income tax) and grants from the central government. The fiscal capacities of local government units differ significantly, while all municipalities and all cities (except big cities and cities that are county centres) have equal authorities. Consequently, it is not possible to ensure the comparable quality of public services. In order to address these imbalances, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb has recently conducted a research project “**Background Paper for Efficient Decentralisation in Croatia**” commissioned by the Croatian County Association. The project ends up with three groups of proposals for decentralisation aimed at a more efficient and more balanced provision of public services:

I. A clear division of mandatory authorities among municipalities, cities, big cities, and regions is seen as fundamental requirement for future efficient decentralisation. Proposed authorities are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Proposed Authorities

Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> financing children’s daycare financing municipal waste transport and management financing the maintenance of public areas financing public fire fighting brigades financing unclassified roads and public lighting
Cities	Mandatory authorities of municipalities plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> financing public libraries financing public utility services financing water supply and drainage financing primary and secondary education financing social welfare centres
Big cities	Mandatory authorities of cities plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> management of primary healthcare financing of cultural institutions financing of public roads
Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> handling the networks of agencies and institutions providing public services (establishing a network of primary and secondary healthcare, pre-school educational institutions, primary and secondary education, social protection institutions, and cultural institutions) financing secondary healthcare and financing primary and secondary education in municipalities and cities of the region which do not support the costs of primary and secondary education funding some of the public services which had previously been provided by state administration offices in the county physical planning and environmental protection

*II. A change in funding of the local and regional self-government units is related to their mandatory authorities and should provide stable, adequate and foreseeable revenue. The first set of proposals within this group refers to *modification of the existing mode of financing* and includes changing the income tax surtax rates and using surtax revenues in determining the amount of central government grants extended to local self-government units; modifying the purpose of communal contribution, and measures focused on the*

management of property owned by local and regional self-governments. The second set consists of *reform proposals* - they ask for the application of formulas to share total revenues with the central government, the definition of criteria for the allotment of grants to local units, substitution of communal fees by property tax and introduction of financial incentives for the joint provision of public functions and/or financing of development projects by several local self-government units.

III. A modified territorial division of the country is the result of the application of fiscal autonomy principles for local and regional self-government units aimed at efficient provision of mandatory authorities. The division should be based on three criteria: i) population size; ii) fiscal capacity and iii) other specific criteria (e.g. historical heritage, cultural identity etc.). The first criterion proposes a minimal number of 2,000 inhabitants for a municipality, 10,000 inhabitants for a city, and 35,000 inhabitants for a big city. The second criterion defines standard expenditure for mandatory authorities and standard revenues for municipalities and cities. Implementation of proposed criteria directly marks municipalities and cities that could successfully finance mandatory responsibilities. However, most of the current municipalities and cities are incapable of doing their job in an adequate manner and should change their status. Accordingly, as a result of the implementation of these criteria, the current number of municipalities and cities should be substantially reduced. Current division into 20 counties and the City of Zagreb is also found to be inefficient. Based on several important criteria - homogeneity, functionality, territory classification for the planning purposes as well as factor and cluster analysis, it is proposed to group counties into seven larger and more homogeneous spatial units – regions (see Table 3). Regions are expected to be more efficient in providing mandatory public services, as well as to increase capacities for local and regional development.

All the proposals from the study are aimed to serve as a basis for public debate on Croatia's decentralization and not as final answers to the numerous open questions. The policy decisions should be made only after thorough consultations with all the relevant stakeholders.

Table 3. Proposed grouping of counties

Medimurje, Podravina, and Western Slavonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Koprivnica-Križevci County of Bjelovar-Bilogorje County of Međimurje County of Virovitica-Podravina
Northwestern and Central Croatia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Krapina-Zagorje County of Varaždin County of Karlovac County of Sisak-Moslavina
Dalmatia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Zadar County of Šibenik-Knin County of Split-Dalmatia County of Dubrovnik-Neretva
Lika	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Lika-Senj
Slavonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Brod-Posavina County of Osijek-Baranja County of Požega-Slavonia County of Vukovar-Srijem
Istra, Primorje, and Gorski Kotar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Istra County of Primorje-Gorski Kotar
Zagreb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Zagreb County of Zagreb

2. Strategic Development Programme for the Town of Kraljevica, Croatia

Kraljevica is a small coastal town situated in the North Adriatic. It stretches 20 square km with a population of 4,600. Its economy is dominated by the shipyard of a medium size and a fairly developed tourist sector. The town is economically and socially influenced by the nearby regional center Rijeka.

In autumn 2008 the town officials were approached by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit – GTZ and The Institute of Economics Zagreb who offered technical assistance in local development management. The GTZ proposed a larger project aimed at capacity building for integrated coastal zone management. Kraljevica readily joined in and agreed to be a part of the pilot area of the project together with four other local government units. Three

experts from the GTZ and EIZ established a close co-operation with the mayor and the town administrators and started preparing a development program. The project started with data collection and stakeholder analysis. In the months that followed, the experts paid a number of visits to supposed stakeholders, gathered data and did the institutional analysis. Two workshops were held: one in spring and the other in early summer 2009. All stakeholders took part in both workshops and worked together on detecting development problems and stating development goals. Soon after, measures to be undertaken by the town administration were formulated and ranked. Given the insufficient capacity of the town administration measures aimed at, initial capacity and institutional building were ranked as most urgent. The preparation of the program was slowed down during local elections held in early summer 2009. The mayor who agreed on cooperation back in 2008 remained in power and the preparation accelerated in autumn. The program was ready for the public hearing by the end of 2009. The town council session with the Programme on the agenda

was held in April 2010. The Programme was readily adopted and the implementation started the very next day.

The Town of Kraljevica has been implementing the Programme ever since. One of the most urgent measures was restructuring the town budget for 2010 and it was done even before the Programme was adopted. Other measures, such as capacity building for applying to various EU funds and formulation of the town's economic policy have been underway. The cooperation between the GTZ/EIZ and the town administration will continue in 2011.

The Strategic Development Programme for the Town of Kraljevica, Croatia, is available only in Croatian. The most important parts of the Programme will be translated soon and made available on the GTZ, EIZ and Kraljevica web pages. For additional information please contact EIZ experts Nenad Starc (nstarc@eizg.hr) and/or, Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović (djurlina@eizg.hr).

Network Activities

In this section we publish two calls for the building of research networks on topics of urban research

Survey on the councilors, political leaders/political executive and leading bureaucrats of the second tier of local government in European countries

Little is known from a comparative perspective about the provinces, counties, *départements*, *Landkreise* etc. within the vertical structures of the political systems of European countries. The same is true for the horizontal power relations between the council, the political leaders or political executive and leading bureaucrats at this level of territorial government, i.e. *the level of (a) local self-government located (b) just above the municipal level*. To have a closer look at this level of local government in European countries is not only interesting, because a comparative analysis of its competences, financial resources and functioning as well as its historical development is missing. Furthermore, this level of local government has been affected during recent years in many countries by reforms or is at least addressed by reform debates.

During the last ten years a network of national teams from a number of European countries carried out sur-

veys on *municipal* chief executive officers,¹ councilors² and mayors³. Some teams from this network are now planning similar surveys on councillors, political leaders or political executives and leading bureaucrats at the second level of local government in European countries. A first meeting to prepare these surveys is planned to be held in Barcelona in March 2011. All those who are interested in such a project should contact either

Hubert Heinelt (heinelt@pg.tu-darmstadt.de) or
Xavier Bertrana (bertranahx@diba.cat).

- 1 See Klausen, K.K./Magnier, A. (eds.): The Anonymous Leader. Appointed CEO's In Western Local Government, Odense 1998 and Mouritzen, P.E./Svara, J.H.: Leadership at the Apex. Politicians and administrators in western local governments, Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University Press 2002.
- 2 The results of this survey are not published yet, but different publications are planned.
- 3 See Bäck, H./Heinelt, H./Magnier, A. (eds.): The European Mayor: Political leaders in the changing context of local democracy, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften 2006.

Research on citizens and citizenship in city-regions

More people are living in cities and their immediate surroundings, and this is leading to the increasing salience of city-regions in contemporary Europe. The greater mobility of citizens in city-regions presents a challenge for the traditionally fragmented pattern of city-regional governance. Despite the increasing importance of city-regions, studies of citizenship in such settings remain rare. We need to understand more about what it means to be a citizen in city-regions, not least as a means for improving the legitimacy of how city-regions are governed.

We are looking for colleagues who share this interest and, in particular, researchers who have carried out or are planning to undertake citizen surveys in city-regions. These may concern specific cases, or be part of national samples but they should include questions on what it means to be a citizen in a city-regional setting.

If you are interesting in being part of this collaboration, please send an e-mail to

Anders Lidström, Professor in Political Science
Department of Political Science
Umeå University, Sweden
(anders.lidstrom@pol.umu.se)

Institutional Member Profile

In this section we profile an institutional member: The Centre for Strategic Urban Research in Copenhagen that will host the EURA conference 2011

THE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC URBAN RESEARCH



The Centre for Strategic Urban Research was established in 2004, based on the need to understand contemporary urban development and the challenges

it creates for urban policies. Cities no longer constitute clearly demarcated units, but rather more or less cohesive urban regions. Economic and functional relations form new patterns of regional rather than urban living and global rather than regional economies. New relational geographies are replacing the traditional geographies of places. Research in the centre – from 2004-2011 – focused on analysing this development in a specific Danish context.

Partners are Aarhus School of Architecture (Dept. of Landscape and Urbanism) and University of Copenhagen (Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning and Department of Geography & Geology). The centre is funded by the private foundation, Realdania. An additional goal of the centre is to overcome traditional disciplinary barriers by joining expertise on architecture, geography, economy, planning and socio-spatial issues. Under the common heading “Cities without limits” the centre conducts research in five sub themes: Conceptualising the city without limits, Urban politics and strategies, The everyday landscape,

Cities and the knowledge based economy, Environment and land use.

The Board

- Managing Director, Professor Niels Elers Koch, Forest & Landscape Denmark, University of Copenhagen (chairman).
- Executive Director, Professor Hans Peter Svendler, Realdania Foundation.
- Head of dept, Kirsten Vintersborg, Danish Ministry of the Environment
- Professor Inger-Lise Saglie, Norwegian University of Life Sciences and Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR).
- Professor Eric Clark, Lund University

The Leaders

- Professor Niels Albertsen, Aarhus School of Architecture (AAA),
- Associate Professor Lars Winther, Institute of Geography and Geology, University of Copenhagen,
- Professor Gertrud Jørgensen, Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning, University of Copenhagen.

The Partners

The Institute of Geography and Geology, University of Copenhagen, teaches and conducts research in physical and human geography. The research team, Cities and the Open Landscape, focuses on urbanisation and landscape change, strategic planning and management of the environment as well as GIS. Cur-

rent central research themes are land use changes, urban and regional development, employment and industrial change. Strategic planning and management focuses on modern integrated planning and governance. Finally, GIS is used for spatial analysis and optimised use of resources in relation to human activity. Contact: Lars Winther, lw@geo.ku.dk

Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning, University of Copenhagen conducts research, teaching and public sector consultancy relating to land use, natural resources, ecology, urban and landscape development and planning, landscape architecture and GIS. The institute hosts a programme in landscape architecture and urban design as well as landscape management and rural development. Contact: Gertrud Jørgensen, gej@life.ku.dk

Department of Landscape and Urbanism, Aarhus School of Architecture carries out teaching and research focussed on the change, planning and design of cities and landscapes under contemporary societal conditions. Masters of architecture from the department hold competencies in regard to both cities and landscapes reflecting the dissolving boundaries between urban and rural, cities and landscapes, during the last fifty years. Research mainly concerns the transformations of cities and landscapes in a Danish and comparative context with focal areas in urban design, urban development and planning, urban landscapes, rural landscapes, citizen participation and sustainability.

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Urban Research and Practice **Journal of the European Urban Research Association (EURA)**

**This section presents the general scope and targets of the journal
and present the contents of Issue 3, 2010**

Urban Research & Practice is published in association with EURA and focuses on urban policy. The journal includes papers which:

- provide a systematic description of :
 - urban issues
 - urban developments
 - urban policies or
 - urban policy-making and policy implementation
- seek to explain variations in urban policies or urban governance cross-sectorally or cross-

nationally or that seek to explain such variations over time

- analyse and/or evaluate the effects of urban policies or process of urban governance
- analyse European-wide factors that impact urban areas, urban policies and urban governance.
- As well as traditional academic papers, the journal includes a policy section, a project report section and book reviews. The policy section focuses on new policies launched at the European, national and regional levels that are of relevance to a wider audience. The project report section focuses on innovative projects being carried out at a local level (in cities or regions).

One of the key aims of the journal is to bridge the intellectual and geographical 'divides' that currently exist in the field of urban affairs - specifically the North/South divide and the East/West divide and also the divides between distinct academic disciplines.

Since the journal was launched in 2008 it has gone from strength to strength.(?!). Now about to enter its fourth volume, the journal has been selected for coverage by SCOPUS, is receiving significant citations in the journals indexed by the social science citation index and has seen high levels of download.

For further information on subscriptions and submissions or to view a free sample copy, please visit: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/rurp>

Please remember, that individual members of EURA qualify for a reduced individual journal subscription of 42 Euros per year (the normal individual subscription rate is 62 Euros per year).

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EURA DEVELOPMENTS

We remind you of the contact data of the EURA Secretariat and present a coverage of the members of the newly elected European Urban Research Association Governing Board.

On 1st of September 2010 Marta Lackowska has left the EURA Secretariat at the Institute of Political Science, Darmstadt University of Technology. Her former responsibilities have been transferred to Sonja Löber. The contact and bank account details remain the same:

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Dubravka Jurlina Alibegovic is a researcher and Head of Department for Public Sector at the Institute of Economics, Zagreb. She is a co-coordinator, teamleader and consultant in many projects and studies regarding budgeting and development at the regional and local level, intergovernmental fiscal relations, local public finance, infrastructure financing, and financing of science and edu-

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Laurence Carmichael is a Research Fellow in the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urban Environments, Faculty of Environment and Technology, University of the West of England. Her research expertise and interests include multi-level governance, urban sustainability, the role of knowledge in local policies and health and planning. She has been both a district and parish councillor. Laurence is a translator for the *Community Development Journal* and the editorial assistant for the EURA journal *Urban Research and Practice*.

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Prof. Dr. Jens Dangschat, Professor for Urban/Regional Sociology and Demography at the Vienna University of Technology in the Department of Spatial Development, Infrastructure and Environment Planning, since 2006 also vice-director of the Department and head of the section of Sociology (ISRA). Research interests: social inequalities (new class structures, social milieux, lifestyles, scenes, networks), structural and cultural segregation patterns (poverty structures, gentrification, creative industries), regulation forms (new public management, policy and discourse analysis, city management) and new roles of stakeholders in governance (of planners and social sciences, action research, new forms of communication), theory of space (social constructions and structural impacts, regulations), sustainable regional development (as a social discourse and guideline for spatial planning).

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Bas Denters (1954) is a professor of Public Administration in the School for Management and Governance at the University of Twente (Enschede, The Netherlands). He is the Program Director for the master and bachelor programs in Public Administration. He is also an extraordinary professor for Urban Policy and Urban Politics and scientific director of KISS (Expertise Centre for Urban Affairs). KISS is a joint initiative of the Province of Overijssel, the five major urban municipalities in this province, the University of Twente and other regional institutions of higher education, private organisations (from the business community and civil society). He is the convenor of the Standing Group on Local Politics and Government (LOGOPOL) of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR). He has published on issues of urban governance, citizen involvement and local democracy.

Valeria Fedeli

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Valeria Fedeli is an architect and has been a Researcher and Assistant Professor at the Department of Architecture and Planning, Politecnico di Milano, since January 2007. PhD in Planning and Public policies, IUAV (2001; awarded with the 'G. Ferraro' prize for the best doctoral dissertation in Planning). She also holds an Advanced Master Degree in Planning at Politecnico di Milano (2001-2002). She has been a Post-doc research fellow at Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris in 2003, exploring institutional innovation and decentralizing policies in France.

Her research activities focus on governance, metropolitan and territorial planning, strategic planning. In particular her recent research focus has been on strategic approaches to urban planning; inter-municipal cooperation as a way to treat the weakness of territorial planning in Italy; a governance perspective, as a way to interact with the difficult but promising process of construction of EU spatial policies: processes of territorial transformation and challenges to the field of urban and territorial policies; governance forms and knowledge production in urban and environmental policies; the role of universities as new urban actors.

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Panagiotis Getimis is a Professor of Urban and Regional Planning in the department of Economic and Regional Development at the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences (Athens). He was Vice-Rector of Panteion University (1993-1998) and Director of the Research Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources at Panteion University (1996-2007). He was a Visiting Professor at the universities of Oxford (2004), Manchester (2008) and Darmstadt (2009-2010). He has been actively researching on urban policy, planning systems, territorial governance and local government for over twenty years and has published widely on these topics.

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Robin Hambleton is: Professor of City Leadership in the Faculty of Environment and Technology at the University of the West of England, Bristol. He was the founding President of EURA, serving as President from 1997-2002. From 2002-2007 he was Dean of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (CUPPA) at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Robin has wide experience of city leadership and change management in local government in several countries. His most recent book, co-edited with Jill Simone Gross, is 'Governing Cities in a Global Era. Urban Innovation, Competition and Democratic Reform' (Palgrave, 2007). Robin also directs his own company: Urban Answers
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Hubert Heinelt (EURA President)



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Hubert Heinelt is a political scientist and is currently Professor of Public Administration, Public Poli-

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Professor Dr. Nikolaos-Komninos Hlepas studied law at the National University of Athens. He completed his Post-graduate studies in Germany, Ph.D. Thesis on "*Differential Legal Status of Large and Small Communities*" at the University of Bremen. He is an Associate Professor at the University of Athens, School of Law, Economic and Political sciences, Faculty of Political Science and Public Administration. He has published several books and articles on local government, administrative reforms, public law, environmental law, city planning and aliens law. He participated in several national, European and international research projects.

He has been a member and, later, the director of the legal department of the Greek Council for Refugees, a partner of UNHCR in Greece. He has been a member of the National Committee for Human Rights and of the Scientific Board at the National School of Administration and Local Government. He has been a member of the scientific board at the Institute for Local Government since 1996. Since May 2010, he is the Chairman of the National School of Administration and Local Government.

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Jacob Norvig Larsen is a Senior Researcher at Danish Building and Urban Research. He has a background in human geography and business economics. He is specialised in the study of participation, organisational learning, innovation and production of knowledge in commercial as well as public organisations and NGOs. Currently his main fields of research are urban industrial development, urban planning, and integrated approaches to urban regeneration.

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Paula Russell is a College Lecturer in the Department of Regional and Urban Planning, University College Dublin with a background in planning practice, geography and sociology. Her teaching responsibilities are focused on the social context of planning and responsibility for the coordination of a specialized study focusing on commu-

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Iván Tosics is one of the principals of Metropolitan Research Institute (MRI), Budapest. He is mathematician and sociologist (PhD) with long experience in urban sociology, strategic development, housing policy and EU regional policy. He has published widely on these subjects and participated in a wide range of national and international research projects. He is vice chair of the European Network of Housing Research (ENHR) and member of the HS-NET Advisory Board to UN-HABITAT. He is the Policy Editor of the journal 'Urban Research and Practice', member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the 'Journal of Housing and the Built Environment' and for 'Housing Studies'. He represents the Municipality of Budapest in EUROCITIES as chair of the Economic Development Forum in 2007 and 2008 and as member of the Executive Committee since 2009. He participated in the preparation of the Rehabilitation Strategy of Budapest, and he was the leader of a consortium working on the medium and long term Urban Development Strategy of Budapest.