

Conference News and Information

2015 EURA Conference in Sibiu: *Transforming Cities, transformative cities*

As the Sibiu Conference approaches, the conference organizers have opened registration and finalized thematic tracks, after reviewing an abundance of proposals. This year's conference [Transforming cities, transformative cities](#) is hosted at the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu in **Sibiu, Romania from September 17th to 20th**. Five tracks focusing on *urban transformation*, mobile and special theme workshops, a workshop for young scholars, and keynote lectures by Iwona Sagan (University of Gdańsk, Poland), Enzo Mingione (University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy), Gerry Stoker (University of Southampton, UK), Angelika Vetter (University of Stuttgart, Germany) have been finalized for the September program.

For those interested in viewing the preliminary programme, details are available [here](#). Interested participants are encouraged to take advantage of the early bird registration before the end of this week, and also begin planning for their trip to Sibiu. Travel information is available [here](#).

****Early bird registration ends June 21, 2015. **For details click [here](#).**

EURA Governing Board Election

An integral part of the EURA 2015 conference is the election for governing board members. Current board members include:

- Karsten Zimmermann, Technical University of Dortmund, Germany
- Dubravka Jurlina Aligovic, The Institute of Economics, Zabreb, Croatia
- Rob Atkinson, University of the West of England, UK
- Jens Dangschat, Vienna University of Technology, Austria
- Bas Denters, University of Twente, The Netherlands
- Valeria Fedeli, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Panos Getimis, Panteion University, Greece
- Robin Hambelton, University of the West of England, UK
- Nikos Hlepas, University of Athens, Greece
- Mervi Ilmonen, Helsinki University of Technology, Finland
- Jan Erling Klausen, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Norway
- Christian Lefèvre, Christian Lefèvre
- Jacop Norvig Larsen, Danish Building and Urban Research, Denmark
- Cristiana Rossignolo, Politecnico e Università di Torino, Italy
- Paula Russell, University of College Dublin, Republic of Ireland
- Inés Sánchez de Madariaga, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
- Pawel Swianiewicz, University of Warsaw, Poland
- Iván Tosics, Metropolitan Research Institute, Hungary

EURA Members are reminded and encouraged to attend and vote for the next incoming board.

EURA 2016 & 2017 Conference Hosts

The European Urban Research Association has also determined hosts for the next two upcoming conferences!

The EURA Board is proud to announce that the Polytechnic University of Torino will host the 2016 EURA Conference and the University of Warsaw will host the 2017 EURA Conference.

The 2016 EURA Conference: *City Lights – Cities and citizens withing/beyond/notwithstanding the crisis* will take place in Torino, Italy from June 16th to 18th, 2016. The conference topic will highlight the global crisis and its complex interrelations in the economic, socio-cultural, environmental and political terms have produced adaptive responses and counterstrategies in cities across the world. By reflecting on present conditions of cities, the possibility that they have already undergone deep changes, the recognition that citizens are dealing with new forms of citizenship, new forms of representation and, in some cases, different perspectives for an

innovative urban democracy, this conference will explore how the crisis has, in fact, impacted cities and citizens in many different ways.

Updates and details about submission and registration dates will be posted as soon as they are available.

EURA Developments

EUROLOC/EURA & Cost Summer School

The EUROLOC and EURA Summer School in cooperation with the COST Action (Loc Ref) are organizing a Joint PhD-Training School in September (13-17. 2015), in the island of Spetses in Greece. The four days intensive course, under the overall topic "innovation in local government" is intended to provide training in theories and methods to be applied in the study of local public sector reforms and democracy, especially in comparative perspectives.

Early stage researchers (Phd students and Phds+*years) from different disciplines are encouraged to participate. The number of participants is limited to 24. Participants should submit an abstract that provides a brief outline of their current work and a short CV by **June 30, 2015**.

Further information can be found in the following links:

For more information about the Training School (content/schedule): Local Organizers: [Professor Nikos Hlepas](#), University of Athens and [Prof. Panos Getimis](#), University of Darmstadt.

For more information about the COST Action 'LocRef': [Professor Sabine Kuhlmann](#) and [Christian Schwab](#), both from the University of Potsdam or visit the summer school [website](#) for details.

For more information about EUROLOC, EURA and the ECPR Standing Group LOGOPOL: contact [Professor Kristof Steyvers](#), Ghent University or visit the [EURA homepage](#) or the [European Consortium for Political Research website](#).

Participants can apply for financial support from the Cost project. COST action can give a grant to 24 applicants coming from the participating countries of the Action (click [here](#) for eligible countries)

New EURA email address for advertisements, calls and announcements!

As a means of streamlining how the EURA team manages announcements, we now have a new email address specifically for promotional request:

newsletter@aura.org

EURA members are requested to take note of this change, and add this address to their contact lists as a means of helping us improve our management process. For future calls and announcements, please use this address and not our administrative email address: aura@pg.tu-darmstadt.de.

Urban Research and Practise

The latest issue of EURA's journal (Vol. 8, Issue 1, 2015) contains the special - [Taking apart co-housing: Towards a long-term perspective of self-managed collaborative housing initiatives](#).

Other noteworthy articles and sections and their descriptions are listed below:

Special Issue Articles

Introduction to the special issue: Towards a long-term perspective of self-managed collaborative housing initiatives

Lidewij Tummars

Diversity of self-managed co-housing initiatives in France

Sabrina Bresson & Sylvette Denèfle

Housing cooperatives in Poland. The origins of a deadlock

Lydia Coudroy de Lille

Self-managed co-housing in the context of an ageing population in Europe

Anne Labit
The potential of cohousing for rural Austria
Heidrun Wankiewicz

Understanding co-housing from a planning perspective: why and how?
Lidewij Tummers

German co-housing: an opportunity for municipalities to foster socially inclusive urban development?
Christiane Droste

Towards a deeper understanding of the social architecture of co-housing: evidence from the UK, USA and Australia
Helen Jarvis

Development of new cohousing: lessons from a London scheme for the over-50s Kath Scanlon & Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia

Policy Article

From practice to policy: frameworks for temporary use
Daniela Patti & Levente Polyak

For further information on subscriptions and submissions or to view a free sample copy, please visit our [journal webpage](#).

Please remember that Institutional members of EURA qualify for a reduced individual subscription of 42 euros per year for the Urban Research & Practice journal (over 40% reduction on the normal individual subscription rate of 71 euros a year).

Recent Publications



Städtische Problemdiskurse

Marlon Barbehön, Sybille Münch, Michael Haus, Hubert Heinelt

Published: 2015

Despite the insistence in interpretive policy analysis that the discursive construction of problems must be understood in terms of its historical and spatial context...

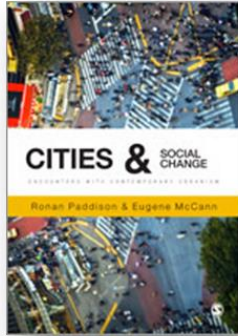


Wissen und Entscheiden

Hubert Heinelt, Wolfram Lamping

Published: 2015

Wissen bildet die Voraussetzung dafür, Entscheidungen treffen und in konkreten Situationen angemessen handeln zu können...



[CITIES and Social Change](#) [Encounters with Contemporary Urbanism](#)

Ronan Paddison, Eugene McCann

Published: 2014

Theoretically informed and thematically rich, the book is edited by leading scholars in the field and contains an eminent, international cast of contributors and contributions. It provides a critical analysis of the key thinkers, themes and paradigms dealing with the relationship between the built environment and urban life. It includes illustrative case studies, questions for discussion...



[Edward Elgar Publishing](#)

Again, Edward Elgar publishing is offering EURA members a **35% discount** on recent publications. Visit [EURA page](#) featuring new Edward Elgar publications!

Feel free to also peruse the [Edward Elgar 2015 Geography, Urban & Regional Studies catalogue](#) for more interesting titles.

[Network Activities & Musings](#)

[EURA Roundtable at the AESOP Annual Congress 2015](#)

Contributor: *Karsten Zimmermann, European Planning Cultures, Spatial Planning, Technical University of Dortmund*

EURA representatives Robin Hambleton, Valeria Fedeli, Ivan Tosics, and Karsten Zimmermann, along with Sandro Balducci will be hosting a roundtable discussion on *Creating policy spaces for innovation* on July 13th, 2015 at this year's AESOP Congress. By looking at recent research on civic leadership, planning and urban innovation, this roundtable will attempt to understand how to ensure spaces for dialogue full with creation possibilities. This Roundtable will bring together planning scholars who have studied the creation of policy spaces for innovation in different settings to share ideas and experiences.

[The Paris School of Planning \(Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris - EUP\)](#)



Contributor: *Christian Lefèvre, Institute of Urban Studies (IFU), University Paris-Est Marne la Vallée*

The Paris School of Planning is stemmed from the merger between the two most important French institutes of urban planning: The Urban Planning Institute of Paris (Institut d'Urbanisme de Paris - IUP) and the French Institute of Urban Planning (Institut Français d'Urbanisme - IFU).

The EUP gathers more than 50 faculty teaching in all major domains of urban planning such as transport and mobility, environment, territorial strategies, social affairs, housing. The faculty is composed of architects, engineers, political scientists, geographers, sociologists, planners, economists and historians.

The first Master program will open in September 2015 with master courses in English and an international program dealing with issues of both the North and South parts of the globe. As a whole the EUP will gather about 500 students from all over the world.

Besides its natural teaching mission, the EUP will be involved in the development of public debate regarding urban and territorial issues and will also be a place of collective expertise and research.

To carry all its missions, the EUP will be strongly supported by its 3 closest research labs (Lab'Urba, LATTs and LVMT) which as a whole group about 300 researchers and doctoral students.

Does having a directly elected mayor make a difference?

Contributors: *Robin Hambleton, Centre for Sustainable Planning and Environments,
University of the West of England, Bristol*

David Sweeting, School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol

A lively debate is underway in European urban studies about the strengths and weaknesses of alternative ways of lifting the quality of urban leadership. Some scholars advocate the introduction of directly elected mayors in cities, believing this model of governance can provide visible, outgoing civic leadership. Others argue that introducing directly elected mayors is a blind alley. They suggest that the directly elected mayor is an outdated 'presidential' model. Focusing on an individual figure flies against the idea of collective approaches to urban leadership and governance, and it is certainly not the model preferred in, for example, Denmark, Sweden and The Netherlands.

A longitudinal study of civic leadership in Bristol, England may be able to throw light on this debate. The Bristol Civic Leadership Project is designed to evaluate whether or not having a directly elected mayor model of governance makes a difference.

In May 2012 the citizens of Bristol decided in a referendum that they wanted to get rid of the long-established committee system of government and introduce a directly elected mayor. In the subsequent election, held in November 2012, citizens elected an Independent Mayor – George Ferguson – to lead the city.

The Bristol Civic Leadership Project has gathered views of how the system operated before the change in November 2012, and is assessing how the new model is working out. The visibility of city leadership has rocketed. In 2012 24% of citizens thought that the city had visible city leadership, whereas in 2014 this figure leapt to 69%.

Visibility is not the 'be all and end all' of civic leadership but it might not be irrelevant. The Bristol Civic Leadership Project might be the first 'before and after' study of the introduction of mayoral governance in a city ever executed. We are carrying out ongoing research on the governance of Bristol and welcome comments.

More information [here](#).

Upcoming Conferences & Calls for Submissions

[Change, Resistance, and Collective Action in Southern Italy](#) A Multidisciplinary Symposium

Kent: 4 September 2015

This symposium reopens the debate on the Italian 'Southern Question' through a variety of multidisciplinary perspectives. Challenging conventional narratives of the retrograde South in opposition to the 'civic' North (Schneider, 1992)...

[Call for Visiting Professor: "Contemporary City: Description and Projects"](#)

DASU, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies

Politecnico di Milano

School of Architecture and Society

Deadline: June 12 2015

Milan, Italy

The Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of Politecnico di Milano has opened a call for a Visiting Professor who will be in charge of lecturing a course of "Contemporary City: Descriptions and Projects"...

JPI Urban Europe: Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda

Research and innovation towards tangible solutions

SAVE THE DATE for JPI Urban Europe High Profile Event | 29&30 September 2015!

SRIA: research and innovation towards tangible solutions

By developing the Strategic Research and Innovation Programme, JPI Urban Europe wishes to ensure its contribution by setting the scene for a new research and innovation paradigm. It tackles the complexity of urbanisation and promotes new ways to facilitate urban transition towards sustainable, resilient and liveable urban areas.

Two day conference offering three events

The launching will take place during the JPI Urban Europe Conference in Brussels.

The first day of the conference is organised in cooperation with the European Parliament (STOA) and the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation).

For more information contact:

Frieda Crooy
Management Board Secretariat

info@jpi-urbaneurope.eu

EURA Aims

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

Questions? Comments? Contact EURA!

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