EUROPEAN URBAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
An International Network of Urban Scholars

Issue 24

EURA website: http://www.eura.org

Editorial

You will get this issue of EURA Newsletter just before or even during the Madrid Conference. I hope that this biggest (in terms of number of participants and papers to be presented) event in the history of our organization, organized with our American twin organization – UAA, is going to be very successful. Is there anything more attractive than spending a couple of sunny June days in Madrid? Yes, there is: spending a couple of days on a sunny EURA conference in Madrid, meeting good friends and colleagues from all over Europe and beyond.

As you know, our EURA Secretariat has recently moved to Darmstadt. So farewell Bristol, welcome Darmstadt. Using this occasion, I would like to thank once again Julie Triggle, who was in charge of our EURA secretariat for a long time, as well as to Laurence Carmichael, who was responsible for well over a dozen of previous newsletters. Thanks for your tremendous work! Robin Hambleton and Julie Triggle reflect on past 10 years of 'EURA in Bristol' in this issue of the newsletter. I encourage you to read it, since it is a good illustration not only of this work but also of a way we have gone through as an organization over the last decade or so. Talking about transition of the secretariat, also many thanks to Hubert Heinelt and the whole Darmstadt team, who did a very good job to handle the transition period as smoothly as possible. Good luck especially to Marta Lackowska with whom I had been working for several years in Warsaw, and who is now based in Darmstadt and taking care of the newsletter.

But not only internal EURA organizational issues have been in the focus of our attention recently. Can I kindly remind you of the second edition of our Young Scholars Award? The deadline to submit papers for the competition is approaching this summer! And we are continuously proud of our journal 'Urban Research and Practice' – please find more detailed information inside. With three issues already published and the next few in the pipeline, the journal slowly becomes a mature and stable element of the urban research academic landscape.

We are also working on forthcoming conferences: Darmstadt 2010 (when we are going to elect new EURA President and new Board), Copenhagen 2011 and a smaller workshop in Oslo in the meantime. I hope to see many of you on those occasions.

Paweł Swianiewicz
EURA President

Editorial Team
Prof. Hubert Heinelt
Dr. Marta Lackowska

The aims of EURA

- To encourage international exchange and co-operation in relation to urban research
- To stimulate and encourage interdisciplinary and cross-national 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 forward it to eura@pg.tu-darmstadt.de.

JOINT EURA/UAA EVENT – MADRID 2009
CITY FUTURES IN A GLOBALISING WORLD
4-6 June 2009, Madrid, Spain

EURA EVENT

The Conference City Futures in a Globalising World (an international conference on globalism and urban change), or simply 'City Futures '09', will be held in the City of Madrid on 4-6 June 2009 (see: www.cityfutures2009.com).
This is the second joint Conference organized by EURA and UAA. The Madrid conference will build on and take forward the international dialogue that started at the first City Futures Joint Conference held in Chicago in July 2004. Hosted by the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (CUPPA) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and attended by over 250 participants from 36 countries, our first Joint Conference was intensely international. In the case of Madrid, almost 400 proposals have been submitted coming from 50 countries.
For further details see: page 4. of this Newsletter.

ENHR PRAGUE 2009
CHANGING HOUSING MARKETS:
INTEGRATION AND SEGMENTATION
28 June – 1 July 2009, Prague, Czech Republic

The next international ENHR Conference will be held in Prague from 28 June – 1 July 2009 and is organised by the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic together with the Charles University in Prague Faculty of Science and University of Economics in Prague Faculty of Economics and Public Administration.
Do we need a new paradigm to enable a better understanding of changing housing markets? Have traditionally local housing markets become global? Will record house price increases be followed by record price falls? How should we deal with the consequences of income polarization and housing market segmentation?
The conference theme is 'Changing Housing Markets: Integration and Segmentation'. The role and 'power' of housing and mortgage markets are changing quickly around the world, especially through the increasing influence these markets have on the wider economy and sustainable development of many societies (social cohesion). The integration and segmentation of hou-sing markets are two sides of the same coin. While market integration is following the globalization of financial flows, the rising popularity of residential investments abroad or capital pooling in the field of building materials production and housing development; increasing income inequalities, the worsening of housing affordability, ethnic segregation, social exclusion and new poverty are mostly cited to be behind growing market segmentation.

For further details see: www.enhr2009.com.

UNESCO CHAIR EVENT – PORQUEROLLES ISLAND 2009
THE EMPOWERMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN URBAN POLICIES. FOR WHOM? FOR WHAT PROJECTS?
31 October – 3 November 2009, Porquerolles Island, France

We am pleased to alert you to the Call for Papers of the next conference organised by the UNESCO Chair on Urban Policies and Citizenship. Some grants will be available to cover accepted applicants' attendance and travel costs. The deadline for submitting papers is the 15th of May 2009.
For further details see:
http://conferences.univ-lyon2.fr/ select the Conference 'The Empowerment in Urban Policies'.

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2009
19-20 November 2009, London, UK

Holden Publishing is proud to announce that the Inaugural Conference of the International Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal will take place on the 19th and 20th November 2009 at Central Hall London together with the first Annual Journal Awards.
At the event, there will be a showcase of 45 neighbourhood renewal organisations from around the world together with a range of high quality speakers from both the academic and policy implementation field. The awards ceremony, which will honour a range of agencies, companies and individuals that have contributed to improving local neighbourhoods and developing effective neighbourhood renewal strategies.
Award Categories:
- Best UK Neighbourhood Renewal Programme.
- Local neighbourhood renewal volunteer award.
- Student Award for best paper on neighbourhood renewal.
- Award for best global neighbourhood renewal programme.
- Award for best paper in the Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal.

The judging panel will comprise members of the Editorial Support Team of the International Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal together with leading figures from the field.

For further delatis please contact
neighbourhoodjournal@googlemail.com.

EURA WORKSHOP – GOVERNANCE AND CHANGE ON THE URBAN FRINGE

EURA EVENT

6-7 May 2010, Oslo, Norway

There is increasing interest in socio-spatial and socio-cultural developments on the fringes of cities. Some studies focus on the emergence of polycentric metropolitan areas, and the formation of edge cities and nodes. Other studies focus on changes in existing suburbs and the development of new suburbs and exurbs. The term 'post-suburbia' has been used to encapsulate the variety of forms emerging at the urban fringe. It is an important challenge to explore the spatial, political, social and cultural processes and implications of the changes taking place.

Development and regeneration of areas on the urban fringes increasingly take place in a context marked by deregulation, privatization and network-like modes of coordination. Effective coordination among the plurality of governments on various levels in metropolitan regions poses particular challenges. The importance of achieving concerted action between public bodies, private sector stakeholders and civil society actors is often emphasized, but effective governance of such coalitions often prove problematic.

Profile of the event

The workshop will be organised so as to allow intensive academic exchange among a limited number of participants of various disciplines. Compared to large-scale conferences, workshop participants will be expected to devote their attention to a smaller number of presentations, each for a longer duration of time.

The workshop will be organised as follows:

- Peer reviewed abstracts
- Pre-arranged allocation of discussants
- All papers available for download two weeks ahead of the event on the designated website
- 40-45 minutes available for each paper
- High quality keynote speeches

Participants will be invited to a guided tour of ongoing city development in the fringe areas of Greater Oslo. There will also be an opportunity to visit the city's new landmark, the Opera house, which has won international acclaim for its architectural qualities. The Opera house is part of a large waterfront development in former harbor areas.

Deadlines

- Abstracts: 1st of December 2009
- Outcome of abstract review: 1st of January 2010
- Registration and payment of conference fee: 1st of March 2010
- Paper submission: 1st of April 2010
- Conference dates: 6-7th of May 2010

For further details please contact Jan Erling Klausen at jan.e.klausen@nibr.no.

The hosts

The University of Oslo is Norway's largest and oldest institution of higher education. It was founded in 1811 when Norway was still under Danish rule. Today the University of Oslo has approx. 30,000 students and 4,600 employees. Four Nobel Prize winners indicate the quality of the research at the University. Urban Geography (part of the Faculty of Social Sciences) is one of the core areas at the department, and one of the strategic research areas is the 'Transformation in the Oslo region', including research on suburbs, suburban nodes and urban fringe areas.

The Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) was established in 1967 and is home to 65 researchers spanning the social sciences. Reflecting the diversity of its staff, NIBR studies cities and regions with a focus on living conditions and social segregation, public policy and institutional development, multi-level governance, demography, business structures and clusters, spatial planning and urban regeneration. As one of Norway's environmental research institutes, NIBR uses its expertise in the social sciences to promote integrated, knowledge-based approach to environmental challenges and issues associated with economic growth.

EURA EVENT – DARMSTADT 2010 UNDERSTANDING CITY DYNAMICS

EURA EVENT

24-26 September 2010, Darmstadt, Germany

The next Bi-annual Conference of the European Urban Research Association will take place at Darmstadt University of Technology. It will be organised by the Urban Research Centre (LOEWE – *Schwerpunkt Stadtforschung*) of Darmstadt University of Technology).

Under the general topic 'Understanding City Dynamics' two sets of questions will be addressed:

1. Do cities have choices – in a globalised world? Or: Do local politics matter? And: How to explain such differences?

These questions are inspired by the observation that despite all tendencies of homogenisation and (economic and political) constraints related to globalisation and Europeanization political strategies of cities differ. It can be (and it is) argued that local problem perceptions as well as objectives and aims of actions differ, because they result out of an understanding of what is perceived as appropriate (and what is not), which is locally embedded in and reproduced by particular actor relations. And that different strategies of cities (for instance in respect to economic competitiveness) are actually successful and can be related to what has been called 'glocalisation' – namely an increasing relevance of a particular local setting through globalisation. Globalisation can go hand in hand with an increased relevance of the 'local', because only a concrete spatial context offers the preconditions (for instance certain knowledge-based service provisions) of an allocation of what is potentially possible (globally) everywhere. These preconditions can be created or even influenced by actors, and specific local political strategies are crucial for creating or even influencing such preconditions.

2. Do we need a (new) theory of urbanism/urbanity to understand how modern societies are functioning?
This question is stimulated by writings of urban scholars – like Louis Wirth – who looked for 'particular characteristics of the city as a particular form of human association', for 'distinguishing characteristics of urban life' or 'the urban mode of living'. Emphasising 'urbanisms as a characteristic mode of life' is not only essential because nowadays most people are living in urban spaces. Since the late 1970s, a powerful tradition has taken root, which regards cities as laboratories for investigating societal practices. Our endeavour of this conference is to discuss how people develop a non-questioned certainty about a city, which finds expression in many different forms and can therefore be reconstructed in various fields (for example in the speech of visitors and residents, in pictorial depictions of the city, in written sources dealing with it, in buildings and urban planning, in events such as city festivals and parades, in objects of the material culture of the city). The underlying assumption is that the intrinsic logic (*Eigenlogik*) of a city weaves itself into the constitutive objects of life practice, into the human body (*habitus*), into the materiality of dwellings, streets, centre formation, into cultural practice, into the way of speech, into the emotional engagement of a city, into political practice, into economic potency, into market strategies, and so on and so forth. The theoretical question to discuss is if and how a city possesses certain essential characteristics that pervade many areas of life.
More details about the conference can be obtained from the EURA-website (www.eura.org) from the beginning of July 2009 onwards.

EURA EVENT - COPENHAGEN 2011
CITIES WITHOUT LIMITS
May/June 2011, Copenhagen, Denmark EURA EVENT

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 and 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 through 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 from the CSUR research program.The conference is organised with a number of parallel tracks including:

- the concept of the city in the new context,
- new urban policies, strategies and administrative methods,
- everyday life, mobility and residence,
- environment, sustainability and land use,
- the impact of knowledge economies on urban development.

Papers are invited for presentation within these five themes as well as other topics.
The conference will be held in central Copenhagen, where excellent conference facilities are available at 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 further details please contact Henrik Engell-Hedager at heh@life.ku.dk.
The hosts
Centre for Strategic Urban Research–Realdania Research is a Danish cross-disciplinary research centre including three institutions, the Centre for Forestry, Landscape and Planning and the Department of Geography and Geology at Copenhagen University and the Department of Landscape and Urbanism at the Aarhus School of Architecture.

EURA/UAA Madrid Conference 'City Futures in a Globalising World'

Brief overview on the eve of the biggest event in the EURA history

The central aim of the Madrid Conference in 2009 is to lift the quality of international dialogue about urban issues by:

- creating a whole conference sharply focused on international exchange.
- engaging different disciplinary perspectives and approaches.
- welcoming papers that address policy concerns – local, regional, national and international – that speak to the impact of policy on the ground.

This conference has called for papers relating to one or more of the following themes, organized in **five tracks** and 100 parallel sessions:

- **Climate change, resource use, and urban adaptation**. How sustainable are modern cities? What policies are being introduced to tackle climate change?
- **Knowledge and technology in urban development**. How are cities harnessing knowledge and technology to increase the quality of life for their citizens? Whither local economic development in a rapidly changing world?

- **Community development, migration and integration in urban areas**. How are cities coping with rapid population movements – both into and out of cities? What are the implications for housing, urban regeneration and community building of international population shifts?
- **Urban governance and city planning in an international era**. Sound city governance and urban planning are critical to urban success. What are the implications of current trends for political and managerial leadership? How should cities position themselves internationally?
- **Architecture and the design of the public realm.** The quality of architecture and urban design affects the quality of life in cities. What innovations are taking place in urban design and planning at street level? Are cities redesigning themselves to cope with new challenges relating to, for example, public safety?

The success of this Conference in Madrid is an excellent step in the way for a closer cooperation between EURA and UAA, consolidating this path, and we all expect the same excellence in the third edition of City Futures on the other side of the Atlantic in a few years.

The Conference is actively supported by the City Hall of Madrid (Office of International Strategy and Action, 'Madrid Global'), the University Rey Juan Carlos and the Polytechnic University of Madrid, but also many other Spanish public institutions have given their support to City Futures '09, including all the other public Universities of Madrid and the Ministry of Housing. We thank all these institutions for their generous support, as an expression of the cosmopolitan sprit of this big city, as well as the Mayor of Madrid, Mr. Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón, who has accepted the honorary Chairmanship of the Conference.

The reception of attendants, parallel workshops and lunches will take place in the Municipal Training Centre (*Instituto de Formación y Estudios del Gobierno Local de Madrid*), placed in calle Almagro, 5, in the center of Madrid. The plenary sessions (Thursday morning and Saturday morning) will be held in the Municipal Theater 'Fernán Gómez', in the Plaza de Colón, 8 minutes on foot from the Municipal Training Centre.

A Reception offered on Thursday evening by the City Hall of Madrid will take place at the splendid 'Casa de America' (Palacio de Linares), placed in the Plaza de Cibeles, in the corner of calle Alcalá and Paseo de Recoletos, in front of the City Hall of Madrid, 600 metres on foot from Plaza de Colón. So, all the activities related to the Conference will take place very close to downtown, at the very heart of Madrid, the largest city in Southern Europe, with more than 3.2 million people (6.5 in the metropolitan area), which is a vibrant, dynamic metropolis, with a dense cultural and social life. Madrid today is an important cultural, university, scientific and financial centre, and the main hub between Europe and Latin America.

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Urban Research & Practice
Journal of the European Urban Research Association (EURA)

The European Urban Research Association (EURA) journal Urban Research and Practice has now entered its second year. Volume 2 Number 1 has recently been published and contains a wide range of exciting papers addressing various aspects of the urban context in Europe and beyond.

Below we include the current Table of Contents of Volume 2. Number 1.

Can we stress that the long term development of the journal very much depends upon your support, in particular through the growth of institutional subscription, so can we encourage you all to ensure that your institutions take out a subscription to the journal if they have not already done so (further information can be found at http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/journal.asp?issn=1753-5069&linktype=rates).

Can I also point out that individual members of EURA qualify for a reduced individual journal subscription of 40 euros per year (this is a significant reduction on the normal individual subscription rate of 62 euros per year).

Rob Atkinson, Editor

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

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EURA Award for Junior Urban Researchers
Second edition!

EURA is announcing a **competition for junior research scholars** working on urban issues.

1. Competition is open for PhD candidates or persons who obtained a PhD not earlier than in 2008 and who are under 30 years old.
2. Interested scholars should send their research papers in electronic version to: Paweł Swianiewicz at pswian@uw.edu.pl or Liliana Padovani at padovani@iuav.it before **1 September 2009**.
3. One person can submit only one paper.
4. Papers should be 5,000-9,000 words long and should refer to original empirical research conducted by the applicant.
5. Papers may represent urban studies of different disciplines, such as planning, political science, urban sociology, urban geography, economics etc.
6. Papers will be assessed by the jury nominated by the EURA Board.
7. **Prizes** to be awarded include:
   a) Presentation at the 13th EURA Annual Conference in Darmstadt in September 2010 (the conference fee will be paid by EURA).
   b) Recommendation for the publication of the paper in the EURA journal 'Urban Policy and Practice'
   c) Publication of summary of the paper (about 1,500-2,500 words) in EURA Newsletter (probably Spring 2010 issue)
   d) Letter of appreciation sent to the authors of awarder paper and published on EURA website and in EURA Newsletter.

EURA Secretariat – supporting the growth of EURA

Robin Hambleton and Julie Triggle report on the work of the EURA Secretariat

In January 2009 the EURA Secretariat moved from the University of the West of England, Bristol to Darmstadt University of Technology, Darmstadt. Here we look back at the work of the Secretariat in the period since the mid 1990s and outline the way EURA has grown over the years.

EURA was launched in September 1997 at an international conference in Brussels. However, the work of the Secretariat began before that. The idea of creating a new international network of urban scholars was discussed by a small number of interested academics in 1994 and 1995.

An outline proposal for a new association, aiming to improve international dialogue in relation to urban research and practice, was circulated to around 60 urban scholars across Europe. The response was encouraging and this led, in turn, to the preparation of the first EURA Newsletter in 1997. This was very much a 'pilot' newsletter. It was only 8 pages long and we were not sure if it would be the last issue!

The launch of EURA in 1997

The 'pilot' newsletter announced the plans for the first EURA conference. In practice, this event, on Governing Cities – International Perspectives, proved to be a turning point. It was held in Brussels but was hosted by the University of the West of England (UWE). Attended by around 60 participants from 14 countries – and including practitioners as well as urban scholars – the conference effectively announced that EURA had arrived.

A EURA Executive Committee was formed and a EURA Secretariat was created in (what was then) the Faculty of the Built Environment at UWE. In practice this was a small-scale affair – a few hours a week of one part time secretary, Julie Triggle.

Following the Brussels conference the Secretariat became very active in recruiting both Institutional and Individual Members to the Association. In the first official membership year - 1998/99 - EURA had 21 Institutional Members and 85 Individual Members.

Below we summarise some highlights of the last ten years.

Institutional Membership

While EURA has always welcomed Individual Members it survives as an Association because of the strong support of a growing number of Institutional Members. These provide financial support through their membership fees but, more than that, they have been the movers and shakers in the work of EURA. The table shows that the number of Institutional Members has grown from 21 in 1998/99 to 37 in 2008/09 (a 76% increase in ten years). Currently EURA has Institutional Members in eighteen countries.

Table: EURA Institutional Members 1998/99 and 2008/09 (as at January 2009)

Institutional Members	1998/99	2008/09
Belgium	0	2
Canada	0	1
Croatia	0	1
Denmark	3	2
Finland	0	2
France	0	2
Germany	1	2
Hungary	1	2
Italy	4	4
Norway	1	1
Poland	0	2
Portugal	0	1
Spain	0	1
Sweden	0	2
Swizerland	1	1
The Netherlands	2	3
U.S.A.	2	1
United Kingdom	6	7
Total Institutional Members	**21**	**37**

EURA website

We were quick to register EURA on the web and this meant that we obtained a very simple domain name: www.eura.org.

The website was created in 1999 and, over the years, it has been improved significantly. The new EURA Secretariat team in Darmstadt are planning to bring in further improvements to enhance the website service to EURA members.

This annual publication will integrate comparative Indicators of regional and local development in Croatia. Regio Review will cover information and themes relevant for local and regional decision-makers as well as ministries and other public bodies in order to improve the decision-making process at both the local and regional level.

EURA Charter 2005
A crucial step in the evolution of EURA was the adoption of the EURA Charter in 2005. This provides the association with a formal constitution. The Executive Committee became the EURA Governing Board, and arrangements for elections and accountability were put in place. The existence of the constitution is a great strength but we remain a loosely formalized and non-bureaucratic organisation. The Charter provides for a Bi-annual EURA conference – the first was in Warsaw in 2006, the second was in Milan in 2008 and the third will be in Darmstadt in 2010. The Governing Board is held to account at General Assembly meetings of the EURA membership at these Bi-annual events.

EURA Young Scholar Award
In 2006 EURA created an award to act as an incentive to young or emerging scholars. Following an international competition the first Young Scholar Award was made at the EURA conference on The Vital City in Glasgow in 2007.
Applications are now welcome for the second EURA Young Scholar Award. Please see details on the EURA website: www.eura.org.

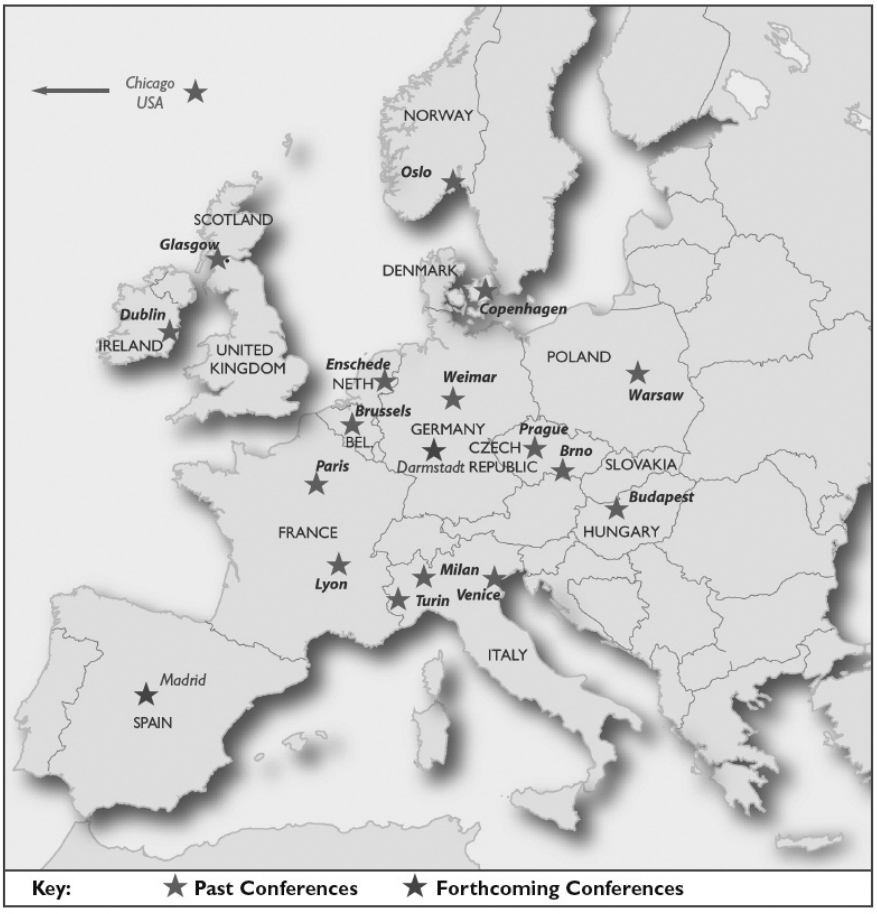
EURA journal – Urban Research and Practice – launched in 2008
From an early stage in the evolution of EURA the association wanted to create a new international journal dedicated to cultivating links between the interests of urban scholars and policy makers. This wish came to fruition with the launch of Urban Research and Practice in March 2008. Edited by Professor Rob Atkinson at UWE the journal is truly interdisciplinary. As well as the traditional academic papers, the journal includes a policy section, a project report section and book reviews. To view an online sample copy visit: www.informaworld.com/RURP. The journal continues to be located at UWE.

Conclusion
From the outset EURA has involved collegial collaboration between an enthusiastic network of urban scholars and practitioners. The philosophy of the association has been to 'organise around enthusiasms'.
As well as thanking all the active members of EURA for their efforts we would like to record our thanks to the many people at UWE who have supported the work of the Secretariat. Lucy Grimshaw and Laurence Carmichael have provided invaluable support to the EURA Newsletter and Chris Wade has done a great job on designing it. The Faculty Research Office has provided a friendly home for the Secretariat and we also appreciate the indirect financial support UWE has provided over the years.

We wish every success to the new Secretariat team in Darmstadt!

Robin Hambleton was the Founding President of EURA
Julie Triggle was Secretary to the Association between 1997 and 2008

Location of EURA events



Institutional Member Profile

In this issue we profile The Institute of Economics, Zagreb (EIZ)

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb (EIZ) is an independent public institute with seventy years experience in performing economic research in Croatia. Established in 1939, it has gained the reputation of the country's leading research institute in the field of economics. EIZ encourages an interdisciplinary approach to research in order to provide a comprehensive understanding of contemporary issues and cases in economics. Its research activities cover various topics in the fields of macroeconomics, microeconomics, spatial economics and socio-economic analysis. The Institute is mostly financed by public funds with additional financial support coming from projects commissioned by various business- and policy-makers.

The current research program funded by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports focuses on Croatia's competitiveness and sustainable development during the EU accession. In particular, it covers the following topics: macroeconomic convergence; the impact of innovation and investment in human capital on Croatia's competitiveness; an analysis of sustainable development from the perspective of good governance, innovations and regional policy; socio-economic aspects of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion; interrelation between restructuring and competitiveness of Croatia's enterprises.

Besides the publicly-funded research program, the Institute undertakes research projects and consultancy assignments commissioned by both public and private sector actors, including various ministries, state agencies and offices, local government units, public and private companies and international organizations. Major research fields include corporate governance and firm organization, innovation management and technological development, macro-economic analysis, labor market and social policy issues, public sector economics, institutional, spatial and environmental economics. EIZ employs 63 associates, thereof 37 researchers with mainly economic backgrounds, who have obtained their formal or additional education at leading national and/or international universities. A number of them teach at universities in Croatia and abroad as visiting scholars.

Publications

The Institute aims to allow open access to its research findings. Initial research results are published in **EIZ Working Papers**, which are available online. Working Papers describe research in progress by the author(s) and are published in order to induce discussion and critical comments. The papers published in the EIZ Working Papers series are listed in the RePEc electronic database.

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia publish on a quarterly basis a peer-reviewed economic journal, **Economic Trends and Economic Policy**. The published papers are listed in the AEA (American Economic Association) indexes included in JEL on CD, e-JEL, and EconLit as well as the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), SCOPUS and EBSCO.

The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

Croatian Economic Survey is an annual English language publication that includes the papers covering various fields of economics selected by a guest-editor. The published papers are listed in the AEA (American Economic Association) indexes included in JEL on CD, e-JEL, and EconLit as well as the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS) and EBSCO.

Croatian Economic Outlook Quarterly is a periodical published in English that provides an analysis of recent macroeconomic trends and gives a short-term forecast. The publication is intended for the local and international professional public. It is widely recognized as an unbiased and reliable source.

EIZ e-news regularly delivers a summary of recent research and the latest publications.

The Institute is following actual trends and themes as to better serve the needs of academic and professional community. Therefore, a team of experts is preparing to launch another publication – **Regio Review**.

Other Products

Regio Internet Portal (www.regio-hr.com) was launched on the initiative of the Ministry of the Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit-GTZ and the Institute of Economics, Zagreb, who have been cooperating for several years on the project 'Consultancies in Regional Development Planning in Croatia'.

The aim of the project is to provide support for the relevant institutions of Croatian Govement and civil society, which should develop regional development programs and improve the framework for their realization. The establishment of an Internet portal for regional development is one of the tools to enable the networking of experts pursuing regional issues and simultaneously bringing regional topics closer to a broader circle of interested individuals.

Selected research project

The project **Integrated Coastal Zone Management** – ICZM has been conducted in the scope of the bilateral technical cooperation between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Croatian Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction. The project activities commenced in 2007 and will last till 2011.

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CITY IMPRESSIONS

FORGOTTEN URBAN TALE

to Italo Calvino

The greater insight you provide into a city, the less vivid it appears. And usually, if not always, to name means to define, therefore – to limit… In other words, any urban interpretation may result in an urban intervention. However, the participant observation really does seem to be a kind of a methodological imperative for urban research (or social studies in general)? How about the 'BTW path', which lets us gather certain impressions, surprising intuitions, even conclusions – **by the way** (in a metaphorical sense: as an unintentional consequence of our scientific curiosity)?…
Yet, this unplanned consequence plays the role of the cognitive addition, which we tend to use – without any intellectual shame or doubts – trying to explain ordinary phenomena (taken on purpose into consideration previously). 'BTW path'…
When you are about to enter a city, remember four significant rules. Firstly, be like **a snake** – and pay attention to these places which are running a temperature, because only such places live. Secondly, be like **a bat** – dispatching signals and waiting for responses. They will emerge soon, for sure. Thirdly, be like **a rabbit** – and notice only what remains on the move. The quality of staying dynamic as well as the potential of change make the crucial difference between reality and eternity. Fourthly then, be like **a chameleon** – matching your temporary surroundings and existing invisibly. You have to be regarded as a relevant part of a city, common and familiar.
When you are about to leave a city, do it as if you were going to come back here…

Mikołaj Madurowicz

The lines that you are about to read are not scientific considerations. They are rather some lose impressions (resulting from Madurowicz's BTW method, I guess) of the city which has a special place in the author's heart, and which – on the eve of our EURA Madrid Conference 2009 – the author allows herself to share with you.
In doing so she hopes not only that you kindly receive the piece, but also that it gives you an incentive to write about your city-impressions. Let the new part of the EURA Newsletter begin!

MADRID

I spent a few months in Madrid in 2004, as an Erasmus student. It does not give me the right to call myself a specialist in the city, nor a decent habitant of it. Five moths is not enough to say you really lived somewhere, but it is far too much to feel like a tourist, an ordinary visitor to a place.

Madrid made a home for me or – maybe better to say – I have made this huge, exotic city mine. Perhaps it has happened so, because my stay fell into a very exceptional time. I saw the city terrified and mute in front of the unconceivable, sudden violence. Empty streets and ominous silence in the heart of a loud nation increased the fear even more. That Madrid of 11. March 2004 has taught me that the acts of global terrorism are never global. They are always local. They always strike a concrete place, its habitants, street and buildings. At that time I was a stranger in the city – being a chameleon is not always possible. The tragedy was not mine, as it could not have involved my family or friends and did not involve my streets and buildings. The city and its people suffered: shocked, terrified, painfully powerless… But I also saw Madrid in the highest national exhilaration, celebrating royal wedding in May 2004 – solemnly decorated, cheerful, miraculously raised from the terror and sorrow of the March attack.



The city has shown me a lot of its numerous faces. Many times I was delighted by the habitants' friendliness and helpfulness, once was robbed, once was thrown out of my rented room by its owners – two young Spanish women. In the end Madrid and I became friends, despite all the differences that fascinate, irritate and surprise alternately…

At first sight I was stunned by the monumentalism of the Spanish capital. Enormous squares, huge parks, incredibly wide streets right in the center… and 12 underground lines! It quickly turned out that huge does not necessarily mean 'habitant friendly' – hours that one can (and often is forced to) spend in those 12 underground lines made me understand why the Spanish society reads so much… or at least why the part of the society using subway reads so much… I hope you, City Researchers, will not leave Madrid having travelled only by taxi! While on a bus or a subway, you discover many fascinating features of Madrilleños. One of them is that the need for intimate space is next to non existant. People squeeze in such a way, which in a Polish bus would inevitably lead to a highly tense atmosphere including irritated muttering, four-letter words, pushes and hunches. No such thing takes place in a Spanish crowd. People, deprived of the (in Slavic view) minimal secure distance assuring personal comfort in a social space, do not cease to behave amazingly friendly and easy going, that is – as usual.

Another thing exceeding my adjustment capacities was a total lack of rush. Many times I squeezed through a slow flow of people on the pavement full of anger and irritation. Once I gave my feeling a second thought and realized that I was irritated with myself not with a snail pace of a crowd. I envied its total ignorance of being in a hurry, its laidback way of going through every day paths as if enjoying a Sunday stroll. I never managed to make this attitude mine. Unfortunatelly. Once again, it is difficult to be a chameleon…





A somewhat contrary feature is the behavior in queues. I remember the first time I took a bus in Madrid. I rushed to the bus stop, reached the doors closest to me (furthest from the driver) and got on the bus. My happiness of having caught a bus was abruptly disturbed by a cry of the driver: 'Señorita! Señorita! Un billete, por favor!' How should I expect that in this country of relaxed, airy people, everyone always and with no exception gets on buses through the first door??? The queues on the bus stops pose an astonishing contrast to the stereotypical image of a vivid and spontaneous Spanish nation. They resemble the ones in London, but there they are somehow expected… Now I can say, even Germans do not queue with such an *Ordnung* as the Spanish do!

On the other hand, while in a bar (I do recommend a visit to a local place) you may feel free to throw some minor litter on the ground. Looking down you will see everyone does. I was explained that the owners do not sweep during the day to preserve the "proof" of the bar's popularity – the more litter, the more customers and the more customers, the better the place!

(Getting serious) as Urban Researchers you cannot leave Madrid without visiting The City Museum! (Underground station 'Cruz del Rayo'). You will find a great exhibition there of the city' sprawl, development, politics, projects... and a lovely bear in front of the entry – personally I like this one much more than the one on Plaza del Sol.

Wishing you a fruitful conference, I also hope, you will manage to experience as much of Madrid's variety and amazingness as possible within a few days stay.

Leave Madrid, as if you were going to come back here…

Marta Lackowska

New EURA Secretariat location

Welcome to Darmstadt, Germany

From the 1st of January 2009 the EURA Secretariat is hosted by the unit of 'Public policy, public administration and urban research' at the Institute of Political Science, Darmstadt University of Technology.

The unit is part of the interdisciplinary Urban Research Centre of Darmstadt University of Technology, which will organise the bi-annual EURA conference in September 2010.
Beside Hubert Heinelt, especially Marta Lackowska (who collaborated closely with Pawel Swianiewicz) and Dorothee Böttcher will be in charge for the EURA Secretariat.

The **new contact details** are as follows:
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Dorothee Böttcher: phone: 0049 6151 162045;
e-mail: politik@pg.tu-darmstadt.de
The location change also involves the change of the bank account data. Apologizing for the inconvenience for some of you in the recent months, we draw your attention to the positive side of this, namely: the membership fees are from now on paid directly in Euro!

The **new bank account details** are as follows:

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TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT



Your views

We would welcome your views and reactions on any aspect of this newsletter. If you have any material for inclusion in the next issue the copy deadline is **1 st October 2009**.
Please send your material to: eura@pg.tu-darmstadt.de

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Published by:

Druckhaus Dresden GmbH
Bärensteiner Strasse 30
01277 Dresden
Germany
www.druckhaus-dresden.de

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