

Editorial

Welcome to Issue 9 of the European Urban Research Association (EURA) Newsletter. This issue contains a mix of articles on current European developments, reports on two very successful EURA events plus news of forthcoming conferences and workshops.

Rob Atkinson examines the EU White Paper on European Governance and Stefanie Dühr reviews progress with the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP). Both these developments have significant implications for European urban research. We encourage you to write responses to these interesting contributions.

The year 2000 will go down as a successful year in the life of EURA not least because the association organised two well received international events:

- Area-based initiatives in contemporary urban policy, Copenhagen, May 2001 (see pages 12-13). Our thanks go to Jacob Norvig Larsen and Danish Building and Urban Research

- Strategies for revitalising East European cities, Prague, September 2001 (see pages 16-17). Our thanks go to Michal Iner and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Over 180 people attended these two events and over 90 urban research papers were presented.

EURA continues to engage with practice. Thus, the Prague event included detailed discussions with city officials on the strategic plan for Prague. EURA also seeks to promote cross-national research. Thus, the Copenhagen conference included a colloquium on the City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage (see pages 14-15).

Looking to the future EURA has two international events planned for 2002:

- Urban and spatial European policies, Turin, April 2002 (see page 18). Note the closing date for abstracts is 30 November. In addition to academic debates this event will receive presentations from senior figures in the European Commission.

- City images and urban regeneration, Weimar, October 2002 (see back page). This event will receive contributions from different disciplines focussing on an important topic for city leadership.

The Newsletter includes news of urban research conferences as well as features on the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

We hope you find this Newsletter interesting. Please send us your urban research news for the next issue. The copy deadline is 1 February 2002.

Editorial Team

Professor Robin Hambleton
Dr Rob Atkinson
Lucy Grimshaw
Julie Triggie

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|-----|
| Urban research news and information | p2 |
| The EU White Paper on Governance | p8 |
| The European Spatial Development Perspective(ESDP) | p10 |
| EURA conference on Area-Based Initiatives | p12 |
| The City of Tomorrow and Cultural heritage | p14 |
| Revitalising East European cities | p16 |
| EURA conference in Turin, 2002 | p18 |
| EU developments | p19 |
| Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research | p22 |
| Knowing the networks | p23 |
| EURA conference in Weimar, 2002 | p24 |

Urban research conferences

This section provides news and information about international conferences and research activities in Europe and elsewhere. If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please forward it to lucy.girmshaw@uwe.ac.uk

Future conferences

THE EUROPEAN CITY IN TRANSITION: CONSUMPTION AND THE POST-INDUSTRIAL CITY

14-15 December 2001, Weimar, Germany

The project "European Cities in Transition" consists of three "High Level Scientific Conferences", sponsored by the European Commission and the German Scientific Foundation (DFG). The first conference is titled "Consumption and the Post-Industrial City" and takes place from December, 14th to 15th 2001. The second conference is titled "Urbanism and Globalization" and will take place in November, 10th to 11th in 2002. The third conference is titled "Cities in the Regions" and will be held in December 2003 (12th to 13th December).

It is the overall objective of the first conference to examine the influence of consumption on the restructuring of urban society. With the decline of the industrial core cities, in many countries other forms of industrialization and service industry are shaping the surface of the urban image. Although the loss of jobs in the manufacturing industries has not been compensated the culture economy has brought work and entertainment to the post-industrial city.

The conference seeks to combine discussion about the implications of the service oriented restructuring of society with discussion of the impacts on the social, political and cultural fabric of the European city. Themes include:

- Where consumption fails
- Leisure: a practical and theoretical challenge for urban planners and researchers
- Designing post-industrial city: what shape, what size?
- European or globalized - how "European" is the urban transition
- Communicating the urban transition
- The event is the city but is the city only an event?

For further details contact:

Frank Eckardt
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Albrecht-Dürer-Str. 2a
D-99425 Weimar
Germany
Tel: +49 36 43/58 26 43
Fax: +49 36 43/58 26 42
Email: frank.eckardt@archit.uni-weimar.de
www.uni-weimar.de/urbanistik

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE IN AN AGE OF GLOBALIZATION

8-9 March 2002, Stuttgart, Germany

This conference organised by the International Conference of Research Committee 17 of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) will be held at the Centre for Technology Assessment, Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart. The conference aims to examine and advance theories and practices in understanding regional governance in an age of globalization. The conference will focus on globalization and its impact on subnational governments around the world. Globalization will be defined in its broadest terms as growing interdependence and interconnectedness among nations and peoples. Various dimensions of globalization may be discussed - economic, political, energy, resources, crime, health, culture, ideology, etc.

The conference is interested in the intersection of the international with the local and regional and how this phenomenon is affecting the development of international and transnational relations on the one hand, and governance internationally, nationally, and subnationally on the other. The influence of unprecedented technological change on globalization and governance is also of interest to the conference organizers.

For further details contact:

Professor Earl Fry
Brigham Young University
USA
Email: earl_fry@byu.edu

Jon Pierre
University of Gothenburg
Sweden
Email: Jon.Pierre@ppl.gu.se

Dr. Gerhard Fuchs
Akademie für Technikfolgenabschätzung
Baden-Württemberg, Industriestr. 5,
70565 Stuttgart
Germany
Tel: +49 711 9063 199
Fax: +49 711 9063 175
E-mail: gerhard.fuchs@ta-akademie.de

URBAN AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING: WHAT'S RIGHT ABOUT CITIES AND AN URBAN WAY OF LIFE

20-23 March, 2002, Boston, USA

The UAA Annual Conference in Boston is going to pay attention to all the ways in which cities and an urban way of life serve the interests of diverse peoples and promote a pluralist and democratic society. We want to explore the lessons we have learned and highlight the work of private as well as public and nonprofit organisations in addressing urban needs. Specifically, what positive lessons can be learned from decades of urban policy and renewal? What positive contributions have individuals and private and nonprofit organisations made? What promising new approaches are being undertaken to address the problems confronting cities and urban life?

In this dialogue, we want to ensure the inclusion of perspectives outside North America and therefore, encourage the participation of our colleagues outside the US and Canada.

The closing date for proposals to be submitted to the Urban Affairs Association (Email: uaa@udel.edu) was 4 September 2001. Check out the UAA website for further information: www.udel.edu/uaa

EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH (ECPR): JOINT SESSIONS OF WORKSHOPS

22-27 March 2002, Turin, Italy

Two workshops at the next ECPR conference will be of interest to EURA members:

Workshop 1. Institutional Innovation in Local Democracy

During the 1990s, improvements in governmental effectiveness have become major concerns for local governments throughout Europe. In order to improve managerial efficiency and governability, local governments have increasingly involved non-governmental actors in decision-making processes (so-called governance structures). Other local initiatives have focussed primarily on the improvement of managerial efficiency, following the trend of New Public Management. After an initial euphoria there is a growing concern about the effects of these functional reforms on the democratic quality of local government. The main objective of our workshop is to bring together students interested in the democratic effects of local institutional reform.

Prospective participants should contact the director/s of the workshop in which they are interested in the first

instance. They should bear in mind that they will be expected to present a paper and should, therefore, be conducting research in that particular area.

The deadline for applications to participate in workshops is 1st December, 2001. An application to participate should include a short summary of the proposed paper, with a short explanation as to how this will fit into the general theme of the workshop.

Workshop directors:

Bas Denters
University of Twente
The Netherlands
Email: s.a.h.denters@bsk.utwente.nl

Signy Irene Vabo
Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research
P.O.Box 44
Blindern, N-0313 Oslo
Norway
Tel: +47 22 95 89 43 / 88 00
Fax: +47 22 60 77 74
Email: signyvabo@nibr.no

Please send all correspondence to Signy Irene Vabo

Workshop 2. The Politics of Metropolitan Governance

As a consequence of slowed-down or failed attempts to reform their territorial institutional structure, governance of metropolitan areas is nowadays mostly achieved through issue-based networks of policy co-ordination. These networks are often incrementally constructed, and involve actors pertaining to different sectors and various territorial levels. This workshop will address the issue of how these new modes of metropolitan policy-making affect the structures and procedures of politics in metropolitan areas. In doing this, we hope to go beyond the often raised but somewhat simplistic argument of a democratic deficit supposedly inherent to the new modes of metropolitan governance.

The workshop hopes to attract papers dealing with aspects of metropolitan governance in various locations and countries. These could be:

- single case studies
- (national and international) comparisons
- cross-cutting issues, such as: different features of metropolitan, governance and differences in local government systems, elite structures, political identities, etc.
- theoretical work on the linkages between modes of governance and
- democratic politics in metropolitan areas

Please e-mail an abstract of your proposed paper to both workshop directors by December 1st 2001.

Directors:
Dr. Daniel Kuebler
University of Zurich
Switzerland
Email: Daniel.Kuebler@epfl.ch

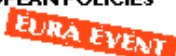
Prof. Dr. Hubert Heinel
Technical University of Darmstadt
Germany
Email: heinel@pgtu-darmstadt.de

For further details contact:

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr>

URBAN AND SPATIAL EUROPEAN POLICIES

18-20 April 2002, Turin, Italy



This major EURA conference will examine European Union urban and spatial policies and how they mesh with national, regional and local strategies. For the conference themes and call for papers see page 18 of this newsletter.

LIVEABLE AND VIVEABLE CITIES

8-13 June, 2002, Leeds, UK

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is holding its 9th conference on urban research in Leeds (UK) from 8-13 June 2002. The title of the conference is: Liveable and viveable cities. Three themes are submitted to discussion:

- Urban society and economy: achieving social equity through effective planning policies and tools: a behavioural perspective (introduction report written by David Fell (UK) and Vladimir Storchevus (CE))
- Improving urban performance: urban structure and urban ecosystems (introduction report by Anne Skovbro (DK) and Ileana Budisteanu (RO))
- Governance and urban organisation: integrated decision making (introduction report by Ingemar Elander (SE) and Anne Querrien (FR))

These introduction reports will be ready in November 2001, and disseminated after translations into French and Russian to all the UNECE countries. Response papers will then be written by researchers or professional of those countries, or by international organisations such as EURA.

One day of discussion will be given to each theme during the conference. Researchers or professionals who want to participate in the conference must be agreed by their national focal point for UNECE, and the international organisations must be recognised by the UNECE secretariat.

For further details contact:

Peter Bide
Planning Directorate
DETR
UK

Email: Peter_Bide@detr.gsi.gov.uk

or

Christina von Schweinichen
UNEVE Secretariat
Geneva
Switzerland

Email: christina.schweinichen@unece.org

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR HOUSING RESEARCH (ENHR)

CONFERENCE ON HOUSING CULTURES – CONVERGENCE AND DIVERSITY

1-5 July 2002, Vienna, Austria

Until recently, the definition of good housing standards has been widely shared within European welfare states. Meanwhile, widespread retrenchment of the welfare state has led to a recommodification of housing, giving rise to a greater diversity of housing on offer. As a result of these developments, many new forms of housing cultures can be observed in the cities and regions of Europe. Housing markets and housing policies will have to cope with a greater variety of supply and demand in the years ahead. At the conference the various cultural, social, economic and political implications of housing cultures will be discussed. The main themes will be as follows:

- Housing from a historic and cultural perspective
- Housing economics and finance
- Housing cultures and societal developments
- Housing cultures as a matter of urban planning
- Policy implications of housing cultures

The final workshop structure at the ENHR 2002 Vienna Conference will result from the incoming expressions of interest and abstracts and will be available by the end of December 2001. Abstracts should be submitted by 15 February 2002, using the form on the conference website.

For further details contact:

Europaforum Wien
Rahlgasse 3/2, A-1060 Wien
Austria
Tel. +43 1 58585 10-24
Fax +43 1 58585 10-30
Email: enhr2002@europaforum.or.at
www.enhr2002.at

(RE)PLACING EUROPE: ECONOMIES, TERRITORIES AND IDENTITIES

4-7 July 2002, Barcelona, Spain

The fourth conference of the journal *European Urban and Regional Studies* will provide a forum for discussion of the relationships between economic, political and cultural processes in shaping the map of European cities and regions. Themes will include:

- New forms of European governance
- Territory and identity
- Understanding post-colonial Europe(s)
- Knowledge, learning and organisational change
- Rurality and environment
- (Dis)integration and uneven development
- Cities, citizens and urban spaces
- Europe in the global economy

The conference will be held at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, in the Hotel Meliá Confort Campus. Printed papers will be available at the conference. Abstracts will be pre-circulated and some papers may be made available on the web in advance so as to encourage discussion.

For further details:

Kathy Wood
Department of Geography
University of Durham
Durham DH1 3LE
UK
Fax: +44 191 374 2456
Email: kathywood@durham.ac.uk
<http://www.geography.durham.ac.uk/conferences/eurs2002/index.html>

CULTURE, QUALITY OF LIFE AND GLOBALIZATION PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

23-27 July 2002, Corunna, Spain

In 2002, the 17th Conference of the International Association for People-Environment Studies (IAPS) will take place in Corunna, Galicia, North-Western Spain. The IAPS conference is celebrated every two years and is an international reference for research on the interaction among people and the environment.

The latter half of the 20th century saw an increasing tension between the forces of globalization as exemplified by international fast-food chains, ubiquitous architectural styles and the introduction of the Euro currency on the one hand, and efforts to ensure local and regional identity and distinctiveness through planning controls, sustainability philosophy and even war on the other. Such tensions are no

less apparent in Galicia than they are in other parts of Europe and the world. How will these tensions be resolved in the first decade of the 21st century? What are the implications for the quality of life? What will be the impact of global cultures on local cultures? What role can psychologists, sociologists, geographers, anthropologists, and other social scientists, as well as architects, planners, and the design professions play in this process? How can they collaborate with each other, as well as economists and environmental scientists?

The conference theme will focus on the tension between the local and the global culture as expressed and understood through research on architecture, design, planning, environmental sustainability and all the other policy and practice areas where environment-behaviour researchers are active.

For further details contact:

<http://www.udc.es/dep/ps/>

IMAGES AND URBAN REGENERATION - EURA CONFERENCE

11-12 October, 2002, Weimar, Germany

EURA EVENT

This EURA conference will discuss the role of urban images, myths, narratives and symbols and their impact on city leadership and urban renewal. For more information on this conference, which is organised by Dieter Hassenpflug and Frank Eckhardt, Faculty of Architecture, Bauhaus-Universität, Weimar; see back page of this newsletter.

Past conferences

RC21 CONFERENCE: SOCIAL INEQUALITY, REDISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE AND THE CITY

June 2001, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Marisol Gardá, President of RC21 reports on their recent conference:

The Amsterdam Study Centre for Metropolitan Environment of the University of Amsterdam hosted a widely attended conference last June. The chairman of the conference Leon Deben and a cohesive team of young students welcomed a total of 200 participants from European, American and Asian countries. Over 100 papers and four poster sessions were presented by senior and young scholars.

The conference was also supported by Research Committee of Urban and Regional Development (ISA), The International Journal of Urban and Regional Research and The Foundation for Urban and Regional Studies.

The aim of the conference was to discuss how the specific current debates are dealing with the issue of redistribute justice in cities. How are labour markets structuring new urban social inequalities? Is there any role left to play for social movements and what is their relation to urban governance? What is the significance of urban regimes in dealing with social inequality and defining social justice? What are the challenges of urban governance for the 21st Century?

The format of the conference was that of three plenary sessions and 12 parallel sessions. The opening speakers were Ray Pahl, Susan Fainstein and Saskia Sassen. The second plenary session had the interventions of Richard Sennett and Michael Harloe. These speakers coincided in the new trends of increasing social inequalities, the limited scope of concepts such as social cohesion, and the importance of reformulate social values such as social justice. The third plenary was a round table chaired by Peter Marcuse in which the authors of the volume *Globalizing Cities* explained the extent to which their views had changed since they wrote their contributions to the book.

The theme of the conference was discussed more specifically within the parallel sessions around the following topics:

- Poverty in Cities and Social Policies
- Urban Inequalities and Social Segregation
- Urban Movements
- New Forms of Urban Governance and Citizenship
- Urban Tourism and Urban Regimes
- Urban Labour Markets
- Planning Values and the Built Environment
- Urban Defensible Spaces/Coping with Danger
- Impact of New Technologies on City Life
- Inequalities, Environmental Issues and Sustainable Cities

8th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTI-ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-OPERATIVE STRATEGY

12-14 July, 2001, Bristol, UK

Derrick Purdue, Research Fellow in the Cities Research Centre, University of the West of England, writes:

Sixty academics and practitioners working on partnerships and inter-organizational collaboration from the USA, Canada, Australia and several European countries, as well as the UK, gathered in Bristol for a very enjoyable conference in July 2001. In total 24 papers were presented, exploring aspects of inter-organizational collaboration and partnership working.

An innovative aspect of the conference was a Poster Bazaar which enabled researchers and postgraduate students to present their work. Another innovation was a whole

conference event simulating the building of a Local Strategic Partnership for Bristol. Professor Bill Peterman from Chicago State University, who has been visiting the University of the West of England as a Distinguished Fulbright Scholar for the past six months, closed the conference with a keynote speech on collaboration between universities and communities detailing action research in Chicago.

The proceedings of the conference will be published as a book in time for the next conference in July 2002, to be held in Calgary, Canada. For information about next year's conference contact: Cmsscott@ucalgary.ca

WORLD PLANNING SCHOOLS CONGRESS

July 2001, Shanghai, China

Delphine Guillemoteau Research Associate in the Centre for Environment and Planning, University of the West of England, writes:

An historic first World Planning Schools Congress (WPSC) took place in July 2001 at Tongji University, Shanghai, China. Organised by four regional associations of planning schools (ACSP, AESOP, APSA and ANZAP) the congress theme 'Planning for cities in the 21st Century' enabled a wide range of topics to be discussed that are relevant to both planning educators and practitioners in the coming era.

On visiting Shanghai, the reason for holding the first WPSC there becomes obvious. Shanghai is one of the fastest growing cities in the world where both development opportunities and challenges are huge, and the need for good planning very apparent. Shanghai's outstanding rate of growth and redevelopment is illustrated by an impressive model of Shanghai, situated in the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre. The model is Shanghai's vision of how the city will look at the conclusion of its master-plan implementation. The size of the model makes one realise how wide spread the strategic city region of Shanghai is, how ambitious its redevelopment plans are and thus how large the range of challenges that planners need to address are!

The extensive four day congress programme revolved around presentations made in nineteen different tracks covering subjects from sustainable development to community planning, planning education, urban design and physical form and transnational planning. The informal nature of the parallel sessions and roundtables enabled experienced and less experienced participants to exchange views and ideas on current and future planning practice. The programme also included a large range of cultural events, exhibitions and mobile workshops allowing participants to become more familiar with Chinese culture and the city of Shanghai. An opening speech made by Aprodicio Laquian (University of British Columbia) and a closing speech made

by Patsy Healey (University of Newcastle) helped to pull themes together.

The congress was well attended and its organisation very well thought through. The sight of a yellow T-shirt would instantly comfort any lost delegate, as the student volunteers were committed to making the first world congress a success. And a success it was too. The Shanghai Agreements were signed and decisions made for the second WP9C to take place in 2006. The location has yet to be agreed upon. We can now let our imagination run loose and think about the most appropriate places in the world where the next congress could take place.

The papers presented at the conference should be added onto the Congress' web-site available at www.caup-tonji.org/

FIRST EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH (ECPR) GENERAL CONFERENCE

September, 2001, Canterbury, UK

David Sweeting, Research Associate in the Cities Research Centre, University of the West of England, writes:

Many political scientists have had the pleasure of attending the annual ECPR Joint Sessions. Now, a new ECPR event has entered the academic calendar. In September 2001 ECPR organised the first General Conference, which follows a more conventional conference format.

Those familiar with the ECPR Joint Sessions will be aware of the benefits that the workshop format brings. Lasting several days, the workshop format provides a relatively intimate, informal and extended chance to test ideas and engage in debate with those working in similar areas. The General Conference instead followed a more conventional conference format of papers and panels and initially felt more like the annual gatherings of the American Political Science Association, or the Political Studies Association of the UK. Michael Laver, Academic Convenor of the 2001 General Conference, said that this format enabled participants to 'promiscuously sample exotic intellectual delights'. Additionally, the conference boasted an impressive fringe programme of film, theatre and photography.

While the exotic intellectual delights on offer may have whetted the appetite, nothing sates urban researchers more than a staple diet of papers about local government and politics. Thankfully, a whole section of ECPR 2001 was devoted to this topic, entailing seven sessions over three days, and included many interesting and well-argued papers. The section attracted urban scholars from Europe and North America, and included lively debates about the merits of elected mayors, and the relationship between size and democracy to name but two. As many people kept

coming back to the sessions in the Local Government and Politics section, something of the feel of the joint sessions remained. So while the opportunity of promiscuity was present, urban researchers remained faithful to their discipline.

Unfortunately, the papers from the conference are not available on-line. However, for more information about ECPR, visit their website at www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr

UACES ANNUAL CONFERENCE: THE STATE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

September 2001, Bristol, UK

Caroline Brown, Research Fellow, Centre for Environment and Planning, University of the West of England, writes:

The University Association of Contemporary European Studies (UACES) held its 31st Annual and 6th Research Conference in Bristol in September 2001. The conference brought together a wide range of academics from across Europe to discuss their latest research and thoughts on European issues. The 90 or so individual papers presented at the conference were organised into 27 different panel sessions, each set up to explore a particular research theme. All contributions were treated equally, and PhD students were able to present their work alongside experienced professors and academics. While some papers picked up on the grand themes of EU enlargement and the future of the European Union, others were much more detailed in their analysis, unraveling back room negotiations and interpreting the language of European policy.

Although the range of papers given at a UACES conference is undoubtedly broad and somewhat eclectic, discussing European issues with lawyers, linguists and economists can be enormously stimulating – offering the chance to view issues from a completely new perspective. Serendipity is alive and well at conferences such as this.

The next Annual Conference will be held in Belfast, 2-4 September, 2002. Further information about UACES and its activities are available from: www.uaces.org

Write about your research

We welcome news of your research for inclusion in the next EURA newsletter.

Please E-mail your information to

lucy.grims-haw@uwe.ac.uk.

The EU White Paper on European Governance

Dr Rob Atkinson examines the new White Paper and considers the implications for the future development of urban policy

The publication in July of this year of a White Paper on European Governance (CEC, 2001) signals the opening of a new phase in the Commission's attempts to address a series of long running concerns about the nature of the European Union and the way in which it functions. Much of the debate has revolved around the 'democratic deficit' - how policies are developed within the Commission, the relationship between different levels of government and the failure of the EU to demonstrate its relevance to the every day lives of citizens. The approaching enlargement of the EU has intensified these issues and raised new questions regarding how an enlarged EU will function in a democratic and effective manner.

These issues are by no means new and in recent years the Commission has made a variety of attempts to address them, e.g. through an 'enhanced' role for the European Parliament, the creation of bodies such as the Committee of the Regions, proposals for the development of EU citizenship and the promotion of civil dialogue alongside social dialogue. All of these initiatives have been designed to enhance the legitimacy of the Union in the eyes of Member States and citizens.

The current White Paper represents the first attempt to address these issues in a systematic and coherent manner. However, given that this is only the opening of a consultation phase, with the Commission reporting on developments by the end of 2002, and given the nature of the political and organisational forces that structure, and limit, the EU we should not expect too much too quickly. Indeed it might be argued that the failure of the EU to effectively address these issues in the past does not inspire confidence for any real changes to emerge.

The White Paper defines governance as meaning the:

...rules, processes and behaviour that affect the way in which powers are exercised at European level, particularly as regards *openness, participation, accountability, effectiveness and coherence* (CEC, 2001, p8, footnote 1, see pp10 -11 for more discussion of governance; see also CEC, 2000).

It is the five factors highlighted in the above quote which the Commission views as political principles underlying its proposals for change and which should form part of the criteria for judging the effectiveness of this process¹. The essence of the Commission's proposals for change are succinctly summed up in the following terms: "The Union must renew the Community method by following a less

top-down approach and complementing the EU's policy tools more effectively with non-legislative instruments." (CEC, 2001, p4). The key headings under which the debate is to be organised are:

- Better involvement and more openness
- Better policies, regulation and delivery
- Global governance
- Reformed institutions

It is beyond the scope of this short article to address all of the issues raised so I will focus mainly on issues which are directly relevant to urban policy within the EU. In recent years the Commission and successive Presidencies have placed considerable emphasis on addressing urban problems (see CEC 1997 and 1998). The issues of good governance and local empowerment have been central to these debates, particularly as the Commission has sought to justify its interventions by arguing that its actions complement and add value to those of Member States.

In particular the Commission aims to address the growing devolution of power to regions and cities by ensuring that these areas and their representative organisations are more effectively represented and integrated into EU decision-making processes. Although quite how this will sit with the desire to speed up the legislative process and give a greater role to expert advice while giving more attention to the concerns of citizens is debatable. Moreover, there is the obvious concern that some Member States may view a closer relationship between regions and cities and the Commission as an unwanted intrusion by the latter into areas of sovereign national policy.

But the Commission is surely correct to note the importance of giving local and regional knowledge a more prominent role in policy development. This in turn may require the development of new institutional forms that will allow not just direct engagement with local and regional government, but also with the representatives of the community and voluntary sector. The need to develop new forms of multi-sectoral engagement is enhanced by the increasing role of partnerships in urban regeneration and the struggle against social exclusion. This may also require the Commission to place more emphasis on policies and legislation that facilitate experimentation, which it already does, to a certain extent, through initiatives such as URBAN and URBAN II.

While urban policy is not specifically mentioned the White Paper notes the importance of taking into account the

territorial impact of policies in order to ensure greater policy coherence. This is clearly of considerable relevance to urban areas which are all too frequently the object of policies that have contradictory and conflicting impacts. It is thus refreshing to see that the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) is explicitly referred vis-à-vis its role of "...promoting coherence between territorial development actions at different levels..." (CEC, 2001, p.13). However, this only emphasises the need for a clear and explicit definition of the ESDP's status with regard to the EU. At the moment its informal status does little to facilitate greater policy coherence. For more discussion of the ESDP see the next article by Stefanie Duhr.

The White Paper also fails to provide a clear definition of notions such as subsidiarity and proportionality. Both are highly relevant to the development of urban initiatives where, given the lack of an urban competence in the Treaty, the Commission needs to be very careful with regard to how it justifies its actions - simply claiming that they 'add value' is not sufficient.

Much of the White Paper is concerned with the Commission's relations with Member States and the wider world. Thus, it could be argued that it does not give sufficient attention to how the Commission might reform its own internal structures in order to ensure that the actions of different sections of the Commission complement one another (e.g. the impact of the Single Market on urban unemployment). Somewhat disappointing is the White Paper's tendency to argue that in the past the Commission has not always received credit for its achievements. Whilst this may be true, much of the blame must lie with the Commission and its failure to actively engage with the citizens of Europe. This final point relates to a widely perceived view that the EU, and its predecessors, has largely been developed as a result of actions by a political and bureaucratic elite who, for many years, paid little attention to the needs and desires of citizens. Thus while the White Paper represents a welcome attempt to address this apparent neglect it is an early step in a lengthy process that will require major changes in the way in which the EU operates if it is to actively engage with the citizens of Europe and win their confidence.

Rob Atkinson is Urban Research Director in the Cities Research Centre, University of the West of England, Bristol

References

Commission of the European Communities (1997) *Towards an urban agenda in the European Union*, Communication from the Commission, COM(97) 197, Final, 06.05.97, Brussels.

Commission of the European Communities (1998) *Sustainable Urban Development in the European Union: A Framework for Action*, Communication from the Commission COM(1998) 605 final, 28.10, Brussels.

Commission of the European Communities (2000) *White Paper on European Governance. "Enhancing democracy in the European Union"* Work Programme, Commission staff working document. SEC(2000) 1547/7 Final, Brussels.

Commission of the European Communities (2001) *European Governance: A White Paper*, COM(2001) 428, Brussels.

Readers interested in finding out more about the Governance White Paper should visit the governance pages on the Europa web site at:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/governance/whatsnew.htm>

¹I say only part of the criteria as it would be misleading to simply accept the Commission's own criteria as the basis for judgement, others, for instance, may wish to emphasise costs or the impact on Member States' sovereignty.

The European Spatial Development Perspective

Stefanie Dühr of the Centre for Environment and Planning, University of the West of England, Bristol, provides an overview of the ESDP

Introduction

Over the past ten years the need to develop a strategy to steer the development of the European territory has emerged as an important issue on the EU policy agenda. The increasing interest in spatial planning as an instrument for better coordination of sectoral policies at the territorial level is being driven by the Community policies for sustainable development and continuing European integration through the Single European Market and the Economic and Monetary Union.

In 1993, therefore, the informal *Committee on Spatial Development* (CSD), an intergovernmental meeting of senior officials from the member states and the European Commission, began work on a spatial strategy document for the EU territory, the *European Spatial Development Perspective* (ESDP).

Following a series of inter-governmental meetings, at which key areas for co-operation in European spatial planning were identified, and two draft versions of the ESDP in 1997 and 1998, the final document, entitled *European Spatial Development Perspective – Towards Balanced and Sustainable Development of the Territory of the EU* was agreed by the informal Council of Ministers responsible for spatial planning in May 1999 in Potsdam.

Content of the ESDP

The ESDP aims to provide a shared vision for the future pattern of development in the European Community. It represents a general reference for spatially effective measures and provides a vision for public and private decision-makers to help them formulate their policies and actions. The ESDP will help to find the right way to integrate the different territorial EU structures and requirements into policies and – accordingly to existing competences – to interlink the tasks of different administrations.

The ESDP analyses trends in European spatial development, contains an agreement on policy aims and objectives for the territory of the EU, and discusses possibilities for their application.

The ESDP was drawn up to fulfil three main functions at the European level, that is to tackle the spatial differences in welfare and prosperity (the structural funds play a major role in this drive for more balanced development), to optimise business environments by tackling unemployment, traffic congestion and threats to the natural and cultural

heritage, and to provide a spatial framework against which the spatial impacts of European sectoral policies can be assessed.

The ESDP contains three main policy aims or guidelines for the spatial development of the EU to serve these functions:

- development of a balanced and polycentric city system and a new urban-rural relationship;
- securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and
- sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage.

Status and application of the ESDP

The ESDP is legally non-binding on member states, but it is nevertheless a very important document that will influence spatial planning across Europe. It provides a framework for co-operation on planning issues across national, regional and local boundaries and, while these will be essentially taken forward through dialogue and debate, Community funding for transnational planning is available under the Community Initiative INTERREG III.

INTERREG III on cross-border, trans-national, and inter-regional co-operation is the most important initiative for spatial planning in the EU, and for implementing the ESDP in the structural funds period 2000-2006. *Strand 8* of the new initiative is the primary instrument related to spatial planning, and concentrates on transnational co-operation between local, regional and national authorities with a view to promoting wider European integration and sustainable and balanced development. This strand continues the efforts begun with the previous Interreg IIC with a significantly higher budget, and aims to contribute to the development of an integrated and wider territorial approach to regional policy. Projects are expected to follow the 'ESDP approach', and the preparation of Transnational Spatial Visions is a requirement for all eleven transnational regions under the new INTERREG initiative. INTERREG IIIB is going to increase transnational collaboration on spatial planning substantially.

Some of the transnational regions defined under the previous Community Initiative **INTERREG IIC** (1994-1999) have prepared a long-term strategic planning framework or '*spatial vision*'. The visions were intended to provide a statement of shared goals for the transnational spatial structure, function as a 'bridge' between the ESDP and

national and regional policies, and provide an agenda for future collaboration on spatial planning. The spatial visions furthermore assist in devising transnational projects under the new round of INTERREG III. Spatial Visions have so far been prepared for the following four transnational regions: Baltic Sea Region; Central European, Adriatic, Danubian, and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES); North Sea Region; and the North-Western Metropolitan Area.

During the process of preparing the ESDP, the member states and the European Commission furthermore agreed on an *Action Programme for the ESDP*, which was adopted in 1999. It consists of 12 actions aimed at promoting a spatial dimension in policies at Community and national levels; to improve knowledge of territorial development, and to contribute to preparations for enlargement. The only significant actions that have been taken so far under the Action Programme are the Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) initiative, preparatory work on the ESPON (i.e. the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (SPESP)), and proposals for a Community programme on urban policy.

The **ESPON** (*European Spatial Planning Observatory Network*) initiative is intended to improve understanding of European territorial development patterns and trends; to specify the implications of the ESDP on particular transnational and national territories; to develop better understanding of the spatial dimension of the Structural Funds and other Community Policies and to promote better coordination of decisions on territorial development matters. ESPON will include a 'national focal point' in each member state, which are now being appointed. The creation of ESPON is a major step in European spatial planning. The process will start with studies but is clearly intended to engage in policy development from 2003. A work programme for the ESPON is currently being agreed.

As a preparation for ESPON and in order to increase knowledge and understanding of spatial trends, the European Commission launched a *Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (SPESP)* in 1998. The study programme sought to improve co-operation of national research institutions in an EU-wide network, and the decision on future co-operation within ESPON. The programme focused on research in three main areas: criteria for spatial differentiation, regions and urban-rural partnership, and spatial images; and the final report was published in March 2000.

What next?

Spatial planning in Europe is a permanent process, and also the ESDP will have to be developed continually. The enlargement of the European Union and other political events have a large influence on future spatial development,

and these will have to be reflected in spatial planning initiatives at EU level.

There are various initiatives from the European Commission and the member states to continue the work on the European Spatial Development Perspective. However, it has been obvious during the last ten years of preparing the ESDP that political support through member states is essential if progress on European spatial planning is to be made. This is even more so as the European Commission does not have any clear competencies in the field of spatial planning and action can only be taken if consensus between all EU member states has been achieved.

Many have criticised the ESDP for being vague in its policy statements, though this is clearly a reflection of its status and the consensus-led decision-making process. Still, the decision on a joint spatial strategy for the European Union territory demonstrates significant progress in European integration. The ESDP process has undoubtedly been successful in providing a bridging concept to reconcile different views in EU policy-making.

Websites:

- the final ESDP document:
http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int/Avbdoc/0000ff0c/official/sdec/som_en.htm
- the report of the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning
<http://www.nordregio.se/spespn/welcome.htm>
- Guidelines and information on the new Community Initiative Interreg IIIB:
http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int/Avbpro/interregIII/Interreg_en.htm
- Documents of the four spatial visions under INTERREG IIC:
<http://www.uwe.ac.uk/be/Avision> (North-Western Metropolitan Area)
<http://www.vasab.org.pl> (Baltic Sea Region)
<http://www.univtrieste.it/~vplanet> (CADSES)
<http://www.plancode/horvision.htm> (North Sea Region)

Stefanie Dühr is Research Associate in the Centre for Environment and Planning, University of the West of England, Bristol

EURA Conference on Area-based Initiatives in Contemporary Urban Policy

In May 2001, Danish Building and Urban Research organised a successful EURA conference in Copenhagen. Below, Professor Ivan Turok from the Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow reviews the conference

The growth of Area-Based Initiatives (ABIs) in European cities was the key concern of a European Urban Research Association (EURA) conference held in Gammel Dok in central Copenhagen in May. EURA is a relatively new network that promotes cross-national analysis and debate around the challenges facing European towns and cities. Its sixth and largest international event to date involved some 140 participants and 62 papers.

Six themes dominated the conference:

1) The integration of ABIs into mainstream activity

There is a common concern across Europe that area initiatives are given considerable prominence, yet may be treated essentially as marginal add-ons and not embedded within wider institutional policies and procedures. Much useful experimentation is taking place on the ground, but risks being dissipated unless mechanisms are established to connect these innovations into mainstream policy and practice.

2) The balance between community participation and strategic decision-making

Despite the rhetoric of empowerment, ABIs have not traditionally been very effective at involving local residents and devolving power and resources to them. This is often complicated by the fragmentation of governance and the immediate pressure to co-ordinate the actions of disparate organisations. Developing strategic capacity is difficult in a fragmented urban governance system, but seems important for effective city management.

3) The growth of local concentrations of poverty and disadvantage in many European cities

The decline of manual employment, increased immigration and exclusionary institutional practices have created difficult conditions in particular neighbourhoods. Regeneration schemes often struggle to secure effective representation of local interests. They also battle to shake off the negative external perceptions of poor areas, despite tangible progress being achieved. Continued stigma threatens the durability of investment and positive change, so more deliberate 'image management' may need to be given a higher priority.

4) Increasing involvement of the European Commission in urban issues

In a keynote presentation Dr Elisabeth Helander (European Commissioner for the Regions) discussed the importance of cities in the reform of the Structural Funds and the new URBAN II initiative. Others looked at the connections between European Union policy and practices on the ground in particular towns and cities, pointing to the challenges of integration and achieving comprehensive action.



Gammel Dok
in central
Copenhagen

5) Different models of partnership working

Community-led initiatives as compared to those driven by local or central government were examined. The practical difficulties of collaborative decision-making continually re-emerged, particularly where power and resources are very unevenly distributed. Examples from the US Empowerment Zone Programme showed how agendas can be managed by particular institutions for narrow partisan purposes, to the detriment of local communities. Irish experience demonstrates the need for flexibility in public policies and resources; the value of partnerships in stimulating collective responsibility for problem-solving, and the importance of complementary national action to capture local learning.

6) Issues surrounding the evaluation of ABIs

Methodological difficulties such as the role of values and potential conflict between different value systems were discussed alongside more practical problems of obtaining appropriate data for meaningful geographical areas. Mechanisms for learning lessons from monitoring and evaluation were also explored, with case studies from several European cities.

Study visits

The conference ended with fascinating study visits to two

of Copenhagen's poorest neighbourhoods. Most delegates were very impressed by the level of sustained financial commitment from the public sector, not simply at the local level, but also through national social welfare and economic programmes. The commitment to effective community consultation and involvement was equally impressive.

Reflections

Looking to the continued success of future EURA conferences, one of the challenges for paper authors and presenters is to draw out more general, wider lessons

from their research, analytical frameworks and policy implications for an international audience. The vitality and distinctiveness of EURA depends on effective dialogue and cross-fertilisation of ideas between nations, regions and cities. This requires a broad-minded approach, recognising the very different social, economic and institutional contexts from which different participants originate.

Professor Ivan Turok is with the University of Glasgow, Department of Urban Studies, email: urbanstudies@gla.ac.uk

City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage Colloquium

On 17 May 2001 - the day before the conference - Hans Kristensen of Danish Building and Urban Research organised a useful colloquium bringing together contributions from four existing cross-national urban research projects funded by the EU Framework 5 research programme.

- Communication, urban growth and green assessment of planning concepts and policy instruments, GREENSCOM
Herman Eijssackers
- Promoting action for sustainability through indicators at the local level in Europe, PASTILLE
Yvonne Rydin
- Eco-efficient urban management and new models of urban governance, LASALA
Bob Evans
- Urban development programmes, urban governance, social inclusion and sustainability, UGIS
Jan Vranken

The colloquium was chaired by David Miles who directs the City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage research programme within DG Research. The colloquium, which was designed to share the experiences of different research teams carrying out cross-national research, was both well attended and informative. The article overleaf provides more information about the City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage programme and the four projects. You may also want to visit the CORDIS website:

www.cordis.lu/eesd/home.html

The colloquium was followed by an enjoyable reception hosted by Mr Jurgen Muller, President of the RealDanmark Fonden. EURA is most grateful to the Foundation for providing this reception which enabled exchange and dialogue to continue into the evening.

Finding out more

The EURA conference on Area-Based Initiatives in contemporary urban policy was organised by Danish Building and Urban Research, an independent institute under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The Danish title, which is not readily translatable, is: By og Byg. The conference was attended by 140 participants from 24 countries and 62 papers were presented in six parallel streams. Most of these papers are available on the Danish Building and Urban Research website:

<http://www.by-og-byg.dk/eur>

Thanks to Danish Building and Urban Research

The conference was exceptionally well organised. Special thanks go to Jacob Norvig Larsen and the team at Danish Building and Urban Research for pulling everything together and making everyone feel so welcome. The location of the conference in the beautiful, old Gammel Dock adjacent to the river was superb.

As well as a rich intellectual exchange between colleagues from different countries the event also helped to build new international contacts and friendships. The social exchanges were very enjoyable. The conference dinner on the evening of 18 May, which ended up with some good (and not so good!) singing was the social highlight. The singing by the Italian contingent was so good it was suggested that they may have to be banned from singing at future EURA conferences! However, this proposal would seem to be doomed given the next EURA conference is in Turin.



The City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage

The EU City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage Key Action aims to improve urban sustainability through delivering real, noticeable benefits to citizens throughout the EU by 2010

The aims of the programme

The overall goal is to promote sustainable economic development and competitiveness, improved urban management and integrated planning policy, safeguard and improve the quality of life and cultural identity of citizens.

The focus is on the provision of an integrated socio-economic knowledge base and products, services, tools and technologies for better city management and on the environmental challenges, particularly in relation to reducing pollutant emissions. There is also an emphasis on increasing citizen and stakeholder participation in urban decision making and helping ensure the availability of reliable, efficient and affordable services for all urban citizens, including those with special needs.

Themes

There are four main themes:

- 1) Sustainable city planning and rational resource management
 - 4.1.1. Improving urban governance and decision making
 - 4.1.2. Improving the quality of urban life
 - 4.1.3. Waste reduction and its life cycle management
 - 4.1.4. Economic development, competitiveness and employment
- 2) Protection, conservation and enhancement of European cultural heritage
 - 4.2.1. Improved damage assessment on cultural heritage
 - 4.2.2. Development of innovative conservation strategies
 - 4.2.3. Foster integration of cultural heritage in the urban setting
- 3) Development and demonstration of technologies for safe, economic, clean, effective and sustainable preservation, recovery, renovation, construction, dismantling and demolition of the built environment, in particular for large groups of buildings
 - 4.3.1. Revitalisation of city centres and neighbourhoods
- 4) Comparative assessment and cost effective implementation of strategies for sustainable transport systems in an urban environment
 - 4.4.1. Strategic approaches and methodologies in urban planning towards sustainable urban transport Cluster information
 - 4.4.2. Comparative assessment and demonstration of new transport technologies and related infrastructure

As reported in EURA Newsletter 8 (page 22) the deadline for the Third Call was October 2001. To keep up to date on Key Action 4 check out the website at: <http://www.cordis.lu/eesd/ka4/home.html>

The power point presentation given by David Miles to the EURA conference (see previous page) can be found at the Copenhagen conference website: <http://www.by-og-byg.dk/aura>

The following four projects are currently being funded by *City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage*. Members of the projects made presentations, based on work to date, to the EURA conference. The following is a summary of extracts from those presentations.

GREENSCOM

<http://www.greenscom.com/default.htm>

Communication, urban growth and green assessment of planning concepts and policy instruments.

The interaction of urban development and the quality of green areas is often perceived as a competition between growth (development) and green (protection). However, experiences show that a spatial structure of multifunctional urban green areas may contribute significantly to sustainable economic and ecological development and to the quality of urban life. In the GREENSCOM project, five European research institutes and universities have joined forces. Their aim is to improve and develop planning concepts and policy instruments for integrated urban planning and management. The outcome will be a toolkit of planning concepts and policy instruments. Case studies are being carried out in seven participating cities. The involvement of the cities right from the start of the project is expected to contribute to the practical relevance of the toolkit.

General objective: To improve and develop planning concepts and policy instruments for sustainable urban development; to be elaborated as a toolkit for urban practitioners.

The study will focus on: Governance of the balance between urban open spaces and built up areas, a balance that should contribute to quality of urban life and the conditions for urban nature. With a specific focus on forms of communications and participation in decision making.

Derived objectives:

As to governance at the strategic level:

- Assess concepts and strategic tools that address the role of green areas and other open spaces in cities

As to governance at the operational level:

- Learn from the effects of various policy instruments used to manage the quantity and quality of urban open space

As to communication issues at both levels:

- Evaluate the ways of communication between various stakeholders in urban growth and green
- Develop a method for comparative research.

PASTILLE

<http://www.lse.edu/Depts/geography/Extra/older%20versions/september/default.htm>

Promoting Action for Sustainability Through Indicators at the Local Level in Europe

The project has the following key aims:

- To define the range of roles that local sustainability indicators can play and the variation in processes of indicator development.
- To examine the processes of indicator development and use in the participating cities and to relate these to the contextual factors operating in each case.
- To identify the role of local sustainability indicators in examples of public policy decision making and development within each partner city and to assess their impact and effectiveness.
- To disseminate research results in order to facilitate more effective urban governance and more relevant strategic European policies in the context of subsidiarity.

LASALA

<http://www.iclel.org/europe/lasala/index.html>

Local Authorities Self-Assessment of Local Agenda 21

Eco-efficient urban management and new models of urban governance: the evaluation of Local Agenda 21 in European local authorities through concerted self assessment LASALA is a European wide project to self-assess the effects of Local Agenda 21 activities in local authorities or other local sustainable development programmes. In particular, the

LASALA project will aim to evaluate the extent to which Local Agenda 21 activities have contributed to the achievement of eco-efficient urban management and new schemes of urban governance at the local level in Europe.

The overall objectives pursued by the LASALA project over an 18 month project period are:

- To conduct a 'tele-guided, concerted Local Agenda 21 self-assessment' by 200+ local authorities in Europe.
- To evaluate Local Agenda 21 in European local authorities and achieve a comprehensive LA21 overview that will be published in a report.
- To identify and disseminate best practices in urban governance and eco-efficient urban management.
- To assess the functioning of the method of 'concerted self-assessment' and provide guidelines for its application that will be published in an LA21 Self-Assessment Manual.

More than 200 European cities, towns, municipalities and other local authorities are participating in this project. Their practical involvement runs over a period from mid-August 2000 until the end of the year. The overall evaluation will be ready in late 2000

UGIS

<http://www.ufsia.ac.be/ugis/>

Urban Governance, Social Inclusion and Sustainability

During the last decade throughout Europe programmes have been established with a view to combating urban problems and/or to stimulate urban dynamics. These programmes have been set up in a new policy-making context, that of urban governance, the development of which they have often stimulated. The objectives of this project are threefold:

- To analyse to what extent urban development programmes have succeeded in promoting social inclusion and urban sustainability.
- To focus on how certain forms of urban governance have shaped these programmes, their definition, their implementation and their successes and failures.
- To include a feedback loop. The central question here is how the presence of these programmes has changed urban governance or has stimulated (new) forms of urban governance.

We provided an earlier profile of the UGIS project in EURA Newsletter 6 (page 10).

Strategies for Revitalising East European cities

The EURA Workshop held in Prague, 21-22 September 2001

The first EURA Workshop to be held in Eastern Europe took place in Prague in September. Jointly organised by Professor Michal Illner - Institute of Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic - and Dr Rob Atkinson - Faculty of the Built Environment, University of the West of England, Bristol - the workshop attracted 40 participants from 13 countries.

As explained in EURA Newsletter 8 (page 20-21) the purpose of the workshop was to lift the quality of debate about 'revitalisation strategies' for cities in Eastern and Central Europe. The workshop set out to compare and contrast the experiences of different countries. We were delighted with the response from colleagues in Eastern and Central Europe. The following countries were represented: Albania, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, UK and USA.

By drawing in academics from Prague as well as practitioners working on the Strategic Plan for the City, Michal Illner was successful in bringing many of the urban challenges to life. As well as hearing presentations about various developments taking place in Prague, participants were also able to visit the Angel District of Prague to see a major new development linked to a public transit station.

The workshop was structured into eight workshops with some running in parallel. Some of the papers were case studies whilst others were thematic. There was much lively exchange. One clear theme in the debates was the **diversity** of experience in different countries.

Below we reproduce the Workshop Programme. In each case we have included the email address of the person who gave the paper. If you are interested in any of these topics we encourage you to email the person direct. They will be happy to hear from you and can probably email their paper to you.

In the final session we discussed future possibilities for urban research in Eastern and Central Europe and we came up with some initial thoughts - see the notes on the final session.



Workshop programme

Friday September 21st

Welcome and outline of the workshop

Rob Atkinson (European Urban Research Association);
Michal Illner (Institute of Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic);
I. Plicka (Head, Section of City Development, Prague Municipal Office)

Workshop 1: Key Issues for City Development

The Strategic Plan for the City of Prague
— a new tool for city management
Milan Turba, Prague Municipal Office (presented by Lukáš Zemánek)
Email: turba@urm.mepnet.cz

The dilemmas of strategic planning in Central-East European cities. The example of Budapest
Ivan Tošics, Metropolitan Research Institute
Email: tošics@mri.hu

Metropolitan economic strategy and East European Cities
Marc Weiss, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
Email: WeissMA@wwi.si.edu

Should East European countries create competitive cities or attractive cities? Strategies for revitalising economies in transition
Francisco Serrano, University of Glasgow
Email: 980881s@student.gla.ac.uk

Revitalising city centres in the Czech Republic
Vladimíra Šilhánková, University of Technology, Brno
Email: vladimira.silhankova@atlas.cz

Time bomb of urban development? Older residential areas in Brno
Annett Steinführer, UFZ Centre for Environmental Research Leipzig-Halle
Email: steinfue@alck.ufz.de

Workshop 2: Revitalisation of Communist Era Housing Projects in Prague and elsewhere

Opening presentations by Karel Maier (Faculty of Architecture, Czech Technical University) and Tatána Štědrá (Section of City Development, Prague Municipal Office), followed by general discussion.

Workshop 3: Based upon the work of researchers at Sodertorn University College Stockholm

Survival competence in Kaliningrad
Karl-Olov Arnstberg, Sodertorn University College
Email: karl-olov.arnstberg@sh.se

Privatisation, segregation and local engagement – Latvian example
Ulla Berglund, Södertörn University College
Email: Ulla.Berglund@sh.se

Urban Planning, city building and the construction of mindscapes in Soviet and post-Soviet Russia
Thomas Boren, Stockholm University
Email: thomas.boren@sh.se

Informal economy of student milieu in Krakow
Eleonora Hanylyuk, Södertörn University College
Email: eleonora.hanylyuk@sh.se

Workshop 4: Issues of Governance and Participation

Between active appreciation, passive approval and distrustful withdrawal. Citizens' perceptions of local government reforms and local democracy in Central and Eastern Europe
Pawel Swianiewicz, University of Warsaw
Email: pawian@mercury.d.uw.edu.pl

Power of the Powerless? SOS Praha as a model of urban Participation
Adam Fagin, University of London
Email: A.fagin@qmw.ac.uk

The role of NGOs in urban life in Russia since 1990
Yelena Shornina, Russian Academy of Sciences
Email: yeshm@glasnet.ru or yeshm@online.ru

Urban government performance after communism: the politics of urban development in Prague
Martin Horak, University of Toronto
Email: martinhorak@hotmail.com

Saturday September 22nd

Workshop 5: Development, Tourism and the Environment

Urban growth and its management in Prague
Luděk Šykora, Charles University
Email: sykora@natur.cuni.cz

The environment as an issue in single enterprise towns of Russia and Latvia
Jørn Holm-Hansen, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research
Email: jorn.holm-hansen@nibrono

Municipal governments as major urban property owners in countries in transition
Olya Kaganova, The Urban Institute
Email: okaganov@ui.urban.org

Workshop 6: Urban Revitalisation, Image and Public Space

(R[D]e)Constructing history in Russian cities: nostalgia, tourism and city images
Andreas Langenohl, Institut für Soziologie
Email: andreas.langenohl@sowi.uni-giessen.de

Public space, community development and revitalisation strategies

Alfonzo Valenzuela, Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Morelos
Email: adivino@hotmail.com

Analysis of revitalisation: the case of Jansky vrsek and namesti Barikad in Prague
Hedvika Hrychová, Charles University
Email: expirata@seznam.cz

Workshop 7: Housing in Post-Socialist Cities

Who needs arrears in Hungary?
Sándor Erdősi jr., Eszter Somogyi, Metropolitan Research Institute and Judith Vidá, ELTE-BTK
Email: erdosi@mri.hu, somogyi@mri.hu, vidajudith@freemail.hu

Chances to upgrade East German cities by removal of unoccupied housing stock
Sigum Kabisch, UFZ Centre for Environmental Research Leipzig-Halle
Email: kabisch@alok.ufz.de

Workshop 8: Pulling together lessons for the revitalisation of East European Cities

Study tour of 'The Angel District of Prague'

EURA and future events

Robin Hambleton, Chairman of the European Urban Research Association (EURA), introduced a short discussion of the future of EURA. This discussion suggested that it would be desirable to expand urban research efforts in Eastern and Central Europe, and that funding to facilitate such expansion should be sought from the EC.

It was felt that one way forward would be to organise a series of perhaps three High Level Scientific Conferences (HLSCs). These could be held in three different countries in Eastern and Central Europe. They could be structured to focus fairly sharply on three key urban challenges with each comparative event drawing on up-to-date evidence and attempting to identify lessons for practice.

Vote of thanks

A number of people worked very hard to make this workshop into a stimulating and enjoyable success. Special thanks go to Michal Illner and his support team at the Institute of Sociology - Jana Stachova, Daniel Cermak and colleagues. The organisation was excellent both before and during the event. We were all given a very warm welcome and it is much appreciated. Thanks also to Rob Atkinson, who designed the programme with Michal, and to all the paper givers.

A EURA prize for initiative should probably go to Pawel Swianiewicz who, at 6 p.m. on the Saturday evening, helped Dieter Hassenpflug recover his car from a car park which appeared to be locked up for the weekend. This was a triumph of communication between friendly people lacking a shared language. It has certainly strengthened links between Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic!

Urban and Spatial European Policies

EURA conference in Turin, 18-20 April, 2002

There is still time (just!) to submit your abstract to this conference. The aim of the Conference is to promote the debate, among academics and professionals, and the exchange of experiences on *practice* and *research* related to the implementation of EU urban and spatial policies with special attention to:

- impacts and relations with different levels of government: national, regional, subregional, trans regional;
- innovation in local strategies and actions;
- development of new fields of urban and spatial research in Europe.

Call for papers

The Conference will be organised in plenary sessions according to the following themes:

- *EU and urban regeneration policies*
The role of EU programmes and initiatives (integrated projects such as URBAN, Urban Pilot Projects, etc.) in urban regeneration policies.
- *EU and urban development strategies*
Experiences and perspectives of governance, strategic planning, sustainable development.
- *EU and urban/spatial network policies*
Network policies at different levels: local/regional networks, macro-regional networks (polycentrism), transnational cooperation (Interreg), city networks (Redte).
- *EU infrastructural policies and urban restructuring*
High speed rail, highways nodes, airports, ports, etc. as opportunities/perspectives to restructuring cities.
- *Urban competitiveness monitoring and evaluation*
New comparative instruments of competitiveness among urban and regional systems as territorial benchmarking, Urban Audit, urban marketing, etc.

Papers

Potential participants are invited to submit abstracts of 500 words maximum by **30th November 2001**. Abstracts should cover: 1) Title, 2) Abstract, 3) Author (full address and email details). Abstract may be sent as electronic files (Word for Windows or Macintosh) to: eupolis@archi.polito.it.

Full papers of 6,000 to 8,000 words must be submitted for refereeing by workshop chair by 31st January 2002.

Conference fees

The registration fees for this conference is:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| EURA Members | 300 euro |
| Non-members | 400 euro |
| Research students | 150 euro |
| Colleagues in Eastern Europe | 150 euro |

Participants are requested to pay the registration fee by 31st January 2002. Beyond this date registration fees will be increased.

Organisers

Alessandro Balducci, Politecnico di Milano
Giuseppe Dematteis, Politecnico e Università di Torino

EU-POLIS *sistemi urbani europei*
Dipartimento Interateneo Territorio
Politecnico e Università di Torino
Viale Mattioli, 39
10125 Torino – ITALY
E-mail: eupolis@archi.polito.it
<http://www.eu-polis.polito.it>



European Urban Research Association Developments

*Robin Hambleton, Chair of the EURA Executive Committee,
provides an update on developments in EURA*

Executive Committee: Membership

The EURA Executive Committee met at the conference in Copenhagen on 17 May 2001. There have been some changes to the membership of the Committee. Henry Back, University of Goteborg, has replaced Louise Nystrom, Swedish Urban Environment Council, as the Swedish representative. Pawel Swianiewicz, University of Warsaw, has joined the Executive Committee. Louis Wassenhoven, National Technical University of Athens, has retired from the Committee and has been replaced by Panos Getimis, Panteion University Athens.

The Committee wishes to record its thanks to Louise and Louis for the support they have given to EURA in the period since the Association was launched in Brussels in 1997. They provided invaluable help in the early years. A warm welcome is extended to Henry, Pawel and Panos.

The EURA Executive Committee is now as set out below.

EURA Executive Committee

Henry Back, University of Goteborg, Sweden

Henry.Back@spaguse

Alessandro Balducci, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Sandro.Balducci@polimi.it

Michael Bannon, University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland

Planning@ucd.ie

Bas Denters, University of Twente, The Netherlands

s.a.h.denters@bsk.utwente.nl

Panos Getimis, Panteion University, Greece

Pget@panteion.gr

Robin Hambleton (Chair),

University of the West of England, UK

Robin.Hambleton@uwe.ac.uk

Jozef Hegedus/Ivan Tosics, Metropolitan Research Institute, Hungary

Hegedus@mri.hu or tosicis@mri.hu

Hubert Heinelt, Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany

Heinelt@pgtu-darmstadt.de

Jacob Norvig Larsen, Danish Building and Urban Research, Denmark

Jnl@by-og-byg.dk

Christian Lefevre, LATTIS-ENPC, France

Lefevre@descartes.enpc.fr

Jon Naustdalslid, Norwegian Institute for Urban & Regional Research, Norway

Jon.naustdalslid@nibr.no

Anne Querrien, Ministère l'Équipement et des Transports, France

Anne.Querrien@equipement.gouv.fr

Paola Somma, Italy

Paola@iua.it

Pawel Swianiewicz, University of Warsaw, Poland

Pswian@mercury.ci.uw.edu.pl

Executive Committee Report on Copenhagen meeting

At the Copenhagen meeting the Executive Committee received a number of reports:

- Progress with the Copenhagen Conference
- Survey of EURA Members
- Plans for the Prague Workshop (September 2001)
- Plans for the Turin Conference (April 2002)
- Outline proposal for an urban research journal

The Committee made a number of decisions. These were informed by the findings of the survey of EURA members carried out in 2000 and reported in EURA Newsletter 8 (pages 18-19). The main decisions were to:

- 1) Keep membership rates for Institutional (£150) and Individual (£25) members to the same level in 2001/02
- 2) Introduce a new reduced rate for Research Students (£15) in 2001/02 (this is important as we want to expand the field).
- 3) Introduce a new reduced rate for Colleagues in Eastern Europe (£15) in 2001/02.
- 4) Submit a bid to the EC for a Thematic Network on Policy Analysis for Cities in Europe (PACE) (this was prepared and submitted in October 2001 - see below).
- 5) Take special efforts to encourage European scholars to attend the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) conference in Boston on 20-24 March 2002 (Nevin Brown of the Education Trust, Washington DC, attended the Copenhagen conference and a flyer about the UAA conference has been distributed to all EURA members).
- 6) Consider creating an international urban research journal after further investigation (this will be considered in the next period).
- 7) Take steps to contribute to the work of the new European Parliament Working Group on Urban Issues (Robin Hambleton immediately wrote to Arlene McCarthy MEP, Chair of the Working Group, and has attended the first two sessions of the Working Group held in Brussels on 30/05/01 and 20/09/01).

The Committee noted that:

The EURA membership has grown to 33 institutions and 104 individuals (as at 11/05/01).

The finances of the Association were sound, with an income of 11,702 euro in 2000/01 and an expenditure of 9,678 euro.

A successful research bid to the EC had been made by a group of EURA members to study 'Participation, Leadership and Urban Sustainability' (PLUS) (more information below).

EURA research project on Participation, Leadership and Urban Sustainability (PLUS)

Eight Institutional Members of EURA have joined forces with two international organisations - Eurocities and Quartiers en Crise - and colleagues in New Zealand to put forward a successful research bid to the EC Fifth Framework for a study of 'Participation Leadership and Urban Sustainability' (PLUS).

The aim of the PLUS project, which has a budget of 1.63 million euro, is to conduct research into and disseminate knowledge about sustainable city governance. The project will run from January 2002 for 2½ years.

Project aims

Sustainable city development is a central aim of policy makers at all levels of government and is a fundamental objective of the European Union. The effectiveness of urban governance is of key importance in the achievement of

sustainable city development. In order to realise effective urban governance it is crucial that city governments develop institutional forms and styles of leadership that promote decisiveness, facilitate the use of local knowledge and enhance public support. Certain cities have made progress towards these ends. They appear to be achieving more sustainable urban policies by combining strong urban leadership with expanded involvement of citizens in local decision making. The primary objective of this research project is to accumulate and disseminate practical knowledge about the complementarity of urban leadership and community involvement in these cities. By analysing, comparing and contrasting alternative approaches to urban leadership and community involvement in local decision-making in nine countries the project will identify aspects of "good practice".

The results of the research will be disseminated widely and we will make a real input into policy circles. Conferences will be organised around the research themes, generating dialogue at an international level, and producing outputs that will be of practical use to policy-makers.

Who is involved in the project?

The project involves 29 partners in all, from nine countries. In each country, a university works with two city authorities. Additionally, the project has the support of two important international organisations - Eurocities, and Quartiers en Crise.

The partnership is as follows:

| Country | Academic partner | City authorities | |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|------------|
| UK | University of the West of England | Bristol | Watford |
| Germany | Technical University of Darmstadt | Hannover | Heidelberg |
| Greece | Panteion University Of Athens | Athens | Volos |
| Italy | Politecnico di Milano | Cinisello | Turin |
| The Netherlands | University of Twente | Enschede | Roermond |
| New Zealand | Massey University | Christchurch | Waikere |
| Norway | Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research | Bergen | Oslo |
| Poland | University of Warsaw | Ostrow Wielkopolski | Poznan |
| Sweden | University of Goteborg | Gothenburg | Stockholm |

The consortium also includes the international urban networks of Eurocities and Quartiers en Crise

The academic partners are all members of EURA – the European Urban Research Association. The project will be co-ordinated at the EURA headquarters at the University of the West of England, Bristol, by Robin Hambleton, Chair of EURA.

EURA Thematic Network: Policy Analysis for Cities in Europe (PACE)

Following the EURA Executive Committee decision made in Copenhagen to bid to the EC Fifth Framework for a Thematic Network to develop Policy Analysis for Cities in Europe (PACE) a proposal was submitted to the EC in October 2001. This submission, which was coordinated by Robin Hambleton, Chair of EURA, and David Ludlow, Senior Research Fellow at the University of the West of England, involves all members of the EURA Executive together with other partners.

It involves 18 urban research institutes drawn from 17 countries as well as cities from across Europe. The aim of the PACE Thematic Network, which has a proposed budget of 1.73 million euro, is to create an 'urban dialogue' between researchers, national and local policy makers, the Commission and the NGOs. If funded the project will run from (possibly) April 2002 for three years.

Project aims

The thematic network has two **strategic aims**:

- **To create an effective urban dialogue between researchers and policy makers.** One aim of this thematic network is to support an effective 'urban dialogue' between leading urban research institutes in Europe and national, regional and local policy makers, NGOs and the Commission.
- **To create a platform for cross-national policy learning.** The thematic network will provide a valuable setting for cross-national policy learning. It aims to increase the effectiveness of urban policies by providing a well-organised and adequately funded institutional forum for international debate. The thematic network will ensure not only that lessons are transferred from one country to another, but also that they are disseminated widely within Member States.

The thematic network is concerned with four scientific **objectives** – as identified by the EC:

- **Urban Environment and Sustainable Development** – protecting and improving the urban environment and contributing towards local and global sustainability

- **Economic Prosperity and Regeneration** – strengthening economic prosperity and employment in towns and cities and increasing the competitiveness of urban areas

- **Social Inclusion and Regeneration** – promoting equality, social inclusion and regeneration in urban areas so increasing the social cohesion of cities

- **Urban Governance and Local Empowerment** – contributing to good urban governance and citizen empowerment and legitimacy

In each case the approach will involve measurable activities:

- **Analysis** by the urban research institutes of the key issues now facing European cities. This analysis, which will draw on existing research, will include examination of current trends; comparison between countries and cities; identification of urban challenges; and consideration of future scenarios for cities
- **Testing** of the analytical work against the experience of policy makers at EC, national and, particularly, local levels. The report will be designed to challenge current thinking
- **Evaluation** of current urban policies relating to the theme – comparing and contrasting alternative approaches, innovative tools and methods
- **Identification of policy lessons** and examples of good practice for dissemination to key policy makers concerned with urban issues at EC, national and local levels
- **Dissemination activities** during and beyond the life of the thematic network using a variety of methods

Who is involved in the project?

The project involves 26 partners in all, from 17 countries. The project brings together 18 urban research institutes, two important international organisations – Eurocities and Quartiers en Crise – and six cities.

The provisional partnership is as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 University of the West of England (UWE, Bristol) - UK | 11 Technische Universität, Darmstadt - Germany |
| 2 Eurocities - Belgium | 12 Panteion University - Greece |
| 3 Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research - Norway | 13 Metropolitan Research Institute - Hungary |
| 4 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona - Spain | 14 Politecnico di Milano - Italy |
| 5 BURICUR - The Netherlands | 15 University of Warsaw - Poland |
| 6 Danish Building Research Institute - Denmark | 16 Centre of Territorial Studies - Portugal |
| 7 Technical University of Vienna - Austria | 17 University College, Dublin - Republic of Ireland |
| 8 Institute of Sociology - Academy of Sciences of the - Czech Republic | 18 University of Göteborg - Sweden |
| 9 Helsinki University of Technology - Finland | 19 University of Twente - The Netherlands |
| 10 LATTIS-BNPC - France | 20 Quartiers en Crise, Brussels - Belgium |

In addition to the 20 partners listed above the thematic network includes six major cities that are members of the Consortium as follows: Athens, Bristol, Helsinki, Leipzig, Newcastle and Turin.

PACE is only a proposal at this stage. If however, it receives support from the EC it will enable EURA to make a significant and influential contribution to European urban policy debates over the three year period from next Spring.

The Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research

In each issue we profile an influential research institute.

NIBR is a leading institutional member of EURA

The Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) is a leading centre for research on urban issues, regional development and local government in Norway. Environment and sustainable development is a cross cutting theme for most of the research activities of the institute.

NIBR has a long tradition of research on urban issues, and is presently involved as one of the main partners in the Research Council of Norway's research programme on *Urban Development – Driving Forces and Challenges for Planning*, running from 2000 to 2004. The institute is also involved as one of the partners, together with a number of other EURA member institutions, in a City of Tomorrow (SFP) proposal *Policy Analysis for Cities in Europe – innovative approaches to sustainable urban governance (PACE)*, planned to start in 2002.

Research areas

Research activities are grouped in five core research fields that also reflect the thematic organisation of the Institute:

- *Regional research* is mainly concerned with the study and monitoring of regional development and the effects of national and international structural changes on economic development, demographic and labour market development in the regions. Processes of marginalisation of peripheral regions, centre - periphery relations, and problems more closely related to structural changes in urban communities are important fields of research.
- *Research on environmental planning* is mainly focused on studies of land use planning, including the effects of land use development on the natural environment, resource consumption and living conditions, urban planning and sustainability of cities. Other research areas are the social processes and driving forces influencing physical environment, and the potential for managing such development through public planning.
- *Research into local government administration, organisation and governance* covers a wide range of projects concerned with structural changes in local government and its relationship to central government and authorities. More specifically these are studies on the role of regional and local authorities in the implementation of national policies, the functioning and performance of local administrative and political bodies, as well as issues of urban governance, local democracy, legitimacy and public participation.
- *Welfare research* is focused on analyses of social welfare policies and living conditions. Special emphasis is put on social diversity, the living

conditions of vulnerable groups, and processes leading to marginalisation and exclusion. In the recent years an increasing number of research projects have been concerned with the effects of international migration and immigration, minority problems, and the development of multicultural communities.

- *Research into environmental and development issues* are mainly focused on Central and Eastern Europe and developing countries receiving Norwegian development assistance. The fields under study are particularly linked to regional and local development, public administration, environmental issues and the planning and management of natural resources.

NIBR is located in Oslo close to the University campus at Blindern and has also an external division located in Alta, Finnmark. The Alta department conducts research across a wide range of NIBR's core fields, particularly concentrating on problems facing the North.

Organisation and staff

NIBR is organised as a foundation with a board appointed by the Research Council of Norway. The Institute receives an annual basic grant from the Research Council, but is mainly financed by undertaking commissioned research under the various programmes of the Research Council and from projects undertaken for public agencies at national, regional and local level. Major clients are the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development and several other ministries, as well as the Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD). Projects also receive funding from international bodies.

NIBR's research staff comprises of approximately 75 researchers with backgrounds in the social sciences and planning: sociologists, political scientists, economists, demographers, anthropologists, geographers, architects, engineers, land use planners and landscape architects. A considerable proportion of the staff holds doctoral degrees. The Director of the Institute is Jon Naustdalslid.

For further details contact:

Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research

Gaustadalléen 21, Oslo
Postal address: P.O. Box 44 Blindern
N-0313 OSLO
Norway
Tel: +47 22 95 88 00
Fax: +47 22 60 77 74
E-mail: nibr@nibr.no
www.nibr.no



Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

*In each issue we feature one or two important European networks
CEMR is an important voice for local and regional government*

Established in 1951, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) originated from the conviction that local and regional authorities have a fundamental role to play in the realisation of the European Union. They provide popular support for Europe through the efforts of local politicians who are the elected representatives closest to the citizens.

Today, CEMR brings together more than 100,000 local and regional authorities in Europe, federated through 42 large national associations of local and regional authorities in 29 countries.

Objectives

The main objectives of CEMR are to:

- develop a European spirit among local and regional authorities in order to promote a federation of European states, based on the autonomy of these authorities and their participation in European construction,
- contribute to the reflection of local and regional authorities on the Union's main political dossiers which affect them directly: reform of the institutions, subsidiarity and governance, employment, Charter of Fundamental Rights, equal opportunities,
- encourage dialogue, exchange of experience and co-operation between its members, using all means (interregional and intermunicipal co-operation, partnership, twinning),
- disseminate to its members information from the Community institutions,
- help make the voice of its members heard by the representative institutions and bodies.

Structures

CEMR is a federation of national sections which gather together:

- either one or several national representative associations of the various local authority categories;
- or the local authorities of a country directly a member of the National Section;
- or both one or several associations and their direct members.

These national sections delegate a certain number of their representatives, depending on the size of their country's population and in accordance with the CEMR statutes, in a general assembly (called the Assembly of Delegates). This Assembly then elects a set number of representatives of each country to the Policy Committee. The latter then elects the President, Vice Presidents and Secretary General, and appoints an Executive Bureau. All of these statutory bodies set CEMR's policy positions, its position with respect to the process of European unification and particularly the representation of local

authorities with the official European institutions in order to defend their interests there in the best possible conditions. It decides on the activities to be undertaken in this context.

Activities

Each national section sets its policies as it sees fit and organises its dialogue with its central government as it considers appropriate. It may also take inspiration from examples of other European countries, and sees to it that its government adopt and respect the entirety of the Council of Europe's European Charter for Local Self-Government, drawn up due to the impetus of CEMR members.

At European level CEMR:

- Supports all the national sections and all their members upon request in the establishment of twinnings between two or more European local authorities.
- Encourages interregional and intermunicipal co-operation in supporting local and regional authorities in their search for Community funding linked to programmes set up by the European Union.
- Works for the federation of the defence of local and regional authority interests within the European institutions.
- Supports the European study by territorial authorities of all Community dossiers concerning the management of local and regional authorities.
- Works for intermunicipal cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe as part of the preparation for enlargement.
- Takes action for the cooperation of Mediterranean local and regional authorities.
- Participates in world dialogue between local and regional authorities.
- Facilitates dialogue between local and regional authorities.

For further details contact:

Secretariat General
Secretary General: Elisabeth Gateau
15 rue de Richelieu
F - 75001 PARIS
Tel: +33 (0)1 44 50 59 59
Fax: +33 (0)1 44 50 59 60

Brussels Office
Director General: Walter Wenzel
22 rue d'Arlon
B - 1050 BRUSSELS
Tel: +32 2 511 74 77
Fax: +32 2 511 09 49
Website: www.cemr.org/site.html



City Images and Urban Regeneration

EURA Conference in Weimar, 11-12 October 2002

This conference will discuss the role of urban images, myths, narratives and symbols and their impact on urban renewal. Cities have always been spaces of outstanding landmarks and symbols drawing their singularity from a distinctive repertoire of signs, monuments and pictures. Urban images do not only support the construction of local identities but have always been surfaces upon which hopes and visions are projected - the objects of affective occupation and of political interests and struggles. Recent challenges to urban planning have underlined the necessity of drawing upon traditional images while creating the city of the future.

The conference will be concerned to advance understanding of urban images, to compare and contrast experiences in different countries and to consider the implications for policies and city leadership.

Call for papers

The organisers invite the submission of proposals which examine the role of urban images in the life of cities. The specific themes of the conference will be shaped by the abstracts we receive. We imagine proposals will focus on issues such as:

- Which type(s) of spatial strategies are most likely to improve the images of cities?
- How can new urban images be implemented within existing urban texts?
- How can city developers integrate existing structures, monuments and symbols of the past into the reshaping of cities in times of globalization?
- What are the social consequences of these new images?

- To what extent do these new images create an inclusive identity for cities?
- Does place marketing help or hinder?
- The new urbanism - a false image of the city?
- How can city leaders shape the city image?

Potential participants are invited to submit abstracts of 300 words covering: 1) Title; 2) Abstract; 3) Author (full address and email details). Abstracts may be sent as electronic files (Word for Windows or Macintosh) via e-mail (or in the body of an e-mail) to the organisers, or as typewritten hard copy (please also send a 3.5" diskette).

Deadline for abstracts: **1 April 2002**

Conference fees

The registration fees for this conference are:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| EURA members | 200 euro |
| Non-members | 300 euro |
| Research students | 100 euro |
| Colleagues from Eastern Europe | 100 euro |

Organisers

EURA Conference Office
c/o Frank Eckardt
Faculty of Architecture
Bauhaus-Universität, Weimar
Germany

Email: Frank.eckardt@archit.uni-weimar.de

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 **1st February 2002**.

Please send your material to Lucy Grimshaw
Email: Lucy.Grimshaw@uwe.ac.uk

For general enquiries about EURA contact our secretariat
Email: julie.triggle@uwe.ac.uk

Professor Robin Hambleton
Email: Robin.Hambleton@uwe.ac.uk

Dr. Rob Atkinson
Email: Rob.Atkinson@uwe.ac.uk

Published by:

Faculty of the Built Environment
University of the West of England
Coldharbour Lane,
Frenchay,
Bristol
BS16 1QY, UK

Don't forget you can always visit our website at:

<http://www.eura.org>