

# European cities and the post-crisis context : social and policy innovations

International Workshop  
30th November-1st December,  
Cité Descartes, Champs-sur-Marne

The post-2008 global financial and economic crisis has impacted the economic, social, spatial and institutional dimensions of urban environments, with significant implications for the present and future quality of life in European cities. A macro view of the crisis is predominant in current debates, as well as an economic framing. Hence, an understanding of the mature responses at the city level in a comparative perspective is lacking.

The aim of this international workshop is to elaborate a common reflection on the future of EU cities by focusing on institutional innovation, via new tools and mechanisms for policy making which have been developed by cities in order to cope with the consequences of the crisis (new forms of inequality, housing shortage, gentrification and displacement, new difficulties for the delivery of public services...). Since the crisis, cities have not only been "the context" but also "collective actors" with particular strengths, weaknesses, and resources to deploy. Many responses have been formulated at the micro level, activating place-based and site-specific resources through forms of cooperation between city institutions and other stakeholders such as SMEs and business operators, third sector actors, or trade unions. These responses are obviously embedded in a much more long-term change in cities governance -at least since the neo-liberal turn of the 1980's- as well as in specific institutional and political contexts. Nevertheless, more recent austerity measures across Europe have resulted in cuts in public budgets, privatisation and downsizing of public services with the expectation that the private and the third sector can fill the gaps left by the withdrawal of the state. This context has strongly affected the capacity of both national and local authorities to implement public-led urban regeneration, to build housing for low-income people and to deal with environmental issues.

On this background, three research questions will be explored during the workshop:

- What have been the spatial consequences of the crisis on cities?
- How have cities coped with these consequences, in relation to institutional innovation via policy tools and mechanisms?
- To what extent new forces of governance, characterized by more cooperation, networking and partnering between various stakeholders have emerged?

These social and policy innovations at the city level will be explored through case studies from three main policy areas: urban effects of economic issues, housing and neighbourhood policies/environmental issues.

## Scientific committee:

Julien Aldhuy (Lab'Urba, UPEC),  
Francesca Artioli (Lab'Urba, UPEC),  
Ylva Noren Bretzer (University of Gothenburg),  
Paola Briata (Politecnico di Milano),  
Martine Drozd (LATTS, CNRS),  
Isabel Gonzalez Gacia (University of Madrid),  
Christine Lelévrier (Lab'Urba, UPEC),  
Catalina Turcu (UCL).

## Organisation committee :

Julien Aldhuy (Lab'Urba, UPEC),  
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# Programme

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

▶ Building BIENVENÜE, Room B015

Morning (8h45-12h15)

## Introductory session: Crisis, post-crisis and urban issues

Discussants: M. Drozd, LATTs, CNRS  
C. Lefèvre, LATTs, UPEM

8h45: Welcome & coffee  
9h15: Presentation of the workshop, C. Lelévrier, Lab'Urba UPEC  
9h30: *Cities in Crisis. Reflections on urban futures in time of austerity*, J. Knieling, Hafencity University, Hamburg  
10h: *The Institutional Effects of Social Innovation. Revising a European Comparative Research 15 year later*, T. Vitale, Sciences Po, Paris  
10h30: Discussion  
11h: Coffee break  
11h15: *Cities in weakening democracies: the East European context*, I. Tosics, MRI, Budapest  
11h45: Discussion  
12h15: Lunch

Afternoon (13h30-16h45)

## Thematic session 1: Socio-spatial impacts of the economic crisis and urban planning

Discussants: J. Aldhuy, Lab'Urba, UPEC  
L. Kebir, Lab'Urba, EIVP

13h30: *The urban agendas of the Italian cities in the face of the crisis*, P. Briata, S. Di Vita, G. Pasqui, Politecnico di Milano  
14h: *The Austerity Politics of Public Land: Property Reforms and Land regimes in French and Italian cities*, F. Addison, LATTs, UPEM, F. Artioli, Lab'Urba, UPEC  
14h30: Discussion  
15h: Coffee break  
15h15: *Planning for resilient cities in the context of limited resources*, A. Yiannakou, Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki  
15h45: *Functional resilience of urban areas in Madrid*, I. Gonzalez Garcia, A. Hernandez Aja, G. Sánchez Toscano, Politecnico Madrid  
16h15: Discussion  
16h45: End of the session

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

▶ Building ENPC, Room V404

Morning (9h30-12h15)

## Thematic session 2: Social & institutional innovation in housing & neighbourhood policy

Discussants: M. Delage, ACP, UPEM  
N. Baron, LVMT, UPEM

9h30: *Understanding and measuring multiple deprivations in Athens*, N. Karadimitriou, UCL, London  
10h: Discussion  
10h30: Coffee break  
10h45: *Residential segregation and neighbourhood policy in Barcelona: the need for supramunicipal policies*, C. Donat, Metropolitan Studies Institute of Barcelona  
11h15: *Social Innovation to govern diversity in Paris and London*, C. Colomb, UCL, London & C. Lelévrier, Lab'Urba, UPEC  
11h45: Discussion  
12h15: Lunch

Afternoon (13h30-16h30)

## Thematic session 3: Social and institutional innovation in environmental policy

Discussants: O. Coutard, LATTs, CNRS  
C. Larrue, Lab'Urba, UPEC

13h30: *Planning for sustainable development with austerity and Brexit in the UK*, C. Turcu, UCL, London  
14h: *The role of civil society in urban sustainability transitions*, M. Egermann, B. Müller, S. Rößler, R. Knippschild, Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development  
14h30: *Alternatives in social innovation*, Y. Noren Bretzer, University of Gothenburg  
15h: Discussion  
15h30: Coffee break  
16h: General conclusion, P. Briata, Politecnico di Milano, C. Turcu, UCL, London  
16h30: End of the workshop

# Access



Lab'Urba

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From Paris : Take RER A, to Marne-La-Vallée, and get off  
at station Noisy-Champs

Participation in the international workshop is free and open to all  
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