

AGORA Thematic Dialogue 2019

# Unfolding Dilemmas in Urban Public Space Development and Maintenance

20 – 21 November 2019

Riga, Latvia



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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# Co-Creation, Experimentation and Placemaking for Liveable/ Sustainable Urban Public Spaces

## Ingrid Bakker

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Research group ‘Healthy Cities’ focuses on the improvement and facilitation of equity in health and wellbeing through interventions in the build and social urban environment. To achieve this, it also uses opportunities in linking actions for climate change, energy transition, mobility and health promotion.

Some current changes that ask for a broad integral and intersectoral approach are providing new challenges for professionals. To support these professionals, innovations should be explored. For example in living labs.

One major challenge has to do with the upcoming Environmental Act in 2021 in the Netherlands. This law modernizes environmental law by simplifying, bundling and bringing more coherence between policies and regulations. An important instrument within the Environmental Act is the Environmental Vision: a future vision with strategic choices for the physical living environment for the long term. The Environmental Act makes the assessment of health impact in spatial planning compulsory. This is new and accelerates the importance of working integrally.

Another evolution is the widely used concept of ‘Positive Health’ that distinguishes six health dimensions and provides a broader definition of health (Huber, 2011). Consequently, the demand for care and wellbeing from citizens no longer exclusively falls within the Social domain, but within all domains like Sports, Recreation, Mobility, Spatial development, Safety, Maintenance, Finance and Economics. The

diversity and complexity of e.g. the causes of unhealthy behavior can only be tackled successfully in cooperation with these other (political) domains.

When working integral and intersectoral on challenges in the physical and social urban environment, involving residents is also very important. Residents have valuable experiential knowledge about their own living environment and often know better than “outsiders” what problems and opportunities are apparent in the neighborhood. Professionals seek for the right participatory approaches; how can they involve all citizens in transition processes, and not only the “usual suspects”? It is especially hard to motivate citizens who live in poverty, are less resilient and are less involved in society. Which methods or tools are effective in co-creation processes? How can ‘citizen science’ be used in this context? How could we characterize these ‘unusual suspects’ and connect their lifestyle and interests with the urban transitions that need to take place?

Moreover, bundling efforts on different urban transitions can help realizing shared goals. Therefore, linking actions that are realized in co-creation with citizens and meant for climate change, energy transition, mobility and health promotion, can provide financially attractive and broad supported solutions.

However, working integral, intersectoral and in co-creation with citizens provides many challenges for professionals. There is a need for a collective awareness of the complexity of the impact of urban planning on issues like health

promotion, climate adaptation, mobility, etc. and a need for support on the co-creation process with all the different stakeholders involved.

### *Platform City and Neighborhood*

The research group 'Healthy Cities' is member of the Dutch [Platform City and Neighborhood](#). Platform City and Neighborhood is a collaboration of fourteen research groups from ten different universities of applied sciences in the Netherlands. They all provide insight into social issues by practiced-oriented research. The substantive focus of the platform is on 'participation' and 'resilience'. Can every citizen participate in and have access to facilities in all kinds of domains (art, care, housing, public space, welfare, work)? How can we make livable and sustainable neighborhoods and cities? And what is the power of residents and various stakeholders to make this possible (co-creation, decision-making processes, empowerment)? The platform sees opportunities in the so-called 'living labs'

where a large diversity of parties jointly look for situational solutions to social issues.

The platform is a non-profit organization. Through publications and meetings, it encourages the exchange of knowledge between policy makers, practitioners, civil society and researchers in higher education. And members of the platform are involved in interdisciplinary and city-comparative research. This year for example the book 'Places of hope and change' is published about new local partnerships between citizens, civil society organizations, social entrepreneurs and governments. The book provides insight into the strengths and weaknesses of commonly used concepts such as 'collaborative governance' and 'urban commoning'.

Key words: co-creation, physical and social environment, health equity, integral approach, resilience, livable and sustainable neighborhoods, Urban Living Labs

## Miklós Bárczi [not participating]

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Collaborative (co-designed and co-managed) services require "collective action from players on both sides on the contract, built on social capital, trust and shared values that allow and enable citizens to be coproductive agents in the relationship (Kippin, 2015)". And: collaboration needs serious amount of time. The nine partner cities of the "CHANGE! – social design of social public services" URBACT Action Planning Network had two years to think over with local stakeholders how to co-design (social design) their social public services towards a more

collaborative service provision by fostering relationships among citizens within their local social networks. This meant creating an urban strategy/policy (Integrated Action Plan) which somehow engages volunteers to improve communities in or alongside public services (people-powered public services) and reduce costs at the same time.

Placemaking element: co-design of service for local youth. Planning a local incubator (social innovation) towards a youth center and co-creation lab.

Community-led local development is a term used by the European Commission to describe an approach that turns traditional “top down” development policy on its head. Under CLLD, local people take the reins and form a local partnership that designs and implements an integrated development strategy. The strategy is designed to build on the community’s social, environmental and economic strengths or “assets” rather than simply compensate for its problems.

It will establish the above mentioned youth center in a historical neighbourhood. As a initial phase it will be the corner stone of revivlising the partly abandoned and inofficious blocks in the city center of Nagykanizsa.

I would discuss EU best practices and different approaches towards urban public space and the effective use of it - as - also in Nagykanizsa "urban shrinkage brings about fundamental challenges for urban societies, planning processes and governance structures. Population decline impacts on almost all arenas of urban life: business and employment, housing, social (including schools) and technical infrastructure, municipal finances, social cohesion, segregation etc. Shrinkage results in a mismatch between supply of and demand for built structures, urban space and infrastructure."

Key Words: co-design; co-creation; placemaking; shrinking city

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- URBACT Change! - project closed
- National OP of territorial cohesion - community led local development - placemaking for talented youth
- Urban Innovative Action - preparing application
- Urban Agenda - Partnership Culture and Cultural Heritage

## Nataša Čolić & Ana Nikovic

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Open public space is usually seen as physical, but also dialogic space that promotes social responsibility and affects the quality of life of citizens. While the regeneration of public space can be a catalyst for urban development, the quality of public space represents a significant indicator of the quality of life which affects the development of the societal awareness of a city as

a common good. To enhance the dialogic component of public space, the responsibilities in regeneration and maintenance of public space are to be shared between different actors, not only relying on a traditional role of the administration. Thus, one of the key aspects of public space development is good governance, satisfying a set of spatial and social criteria.

The Institute of Architecture and Urban & Spatial Planning of Serbia (hereafter IAUS) has been engaged in public space regeneration projects in the field of urban and spatial planning. In 2018, IAUS was involved in the preparation of the national urban policy (Integrated and Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030), as well. The process of developing national urban policy gathered a variety of stakeholders (including but not limited to local authorities) to collectively define problems, potentials, needs, vision, and goals, identify possible resources of financing of urban development, and use of different governance and traditional planning instruments for implementation and evaluation. The process thus provided a possibility to integrate different sets of measures of national urban policy (including those of governance) within the spatial area of

intervention - public space. Being recognized as a special area of intervention in national urban policy, public spaces in different local urban areas can be linked with the different sources of funding (international and EU) to initiate regeneration projects. It is expected that their implementation would require serious efforts related to capacity development and the establishment of governance networks.

With all the former in mind, we would like to both hear about and share different examples of governance models, funding mechanisms and thematic fields of ideas for public space regeneration from partners at AGORA.

Key Words: co-creation; governance; urban regeneration

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030
- CLEVER - Co-designing smart Local solutions for Exploiting Values and Enhancing Resilience (SMF, Danube Transnational Programme)

## Sofia Couto & Andreia Mafra [not participating]

Portugal, Municipality of Vila Nova de Famalicão

Vila Nova de Famalicão is an industrial municipality, but also a green city where we find several parks and squares, which give it identity. But the city is also experiencing the current problem of excessive car presence affecting the quality of life and the urban landscape.

To improve the public space quality, reinforce their use through positive experiences and enhance the city liveability, the municipality actions need to reflect the sustainability

paradigm, related to sustainable mobility and public spaces network.

For this, it is necessary to reduce the presence of cars, prioritizing pedestrian and cycling accessibility in “green” environments, improving safety and well-being. One of our aims is to renaturalize the artificial water channels in to greenery rivers.

Pursuing these objectives, the project “Downtown Public spaces - Mobility &

Rehabilitation” was approved. The project provides an inclusive design:

- Balance the allocation of public space to the different transport modes;
- Improve pavements, lighting, street furniture and green structure;
- Implement sustainable drainage and strengthen the water system;
- Enhance identity and heritage, promote local trades and traditional products and improve security.

Dona Maria II Square is the heart of the city and one of the most emblematic spaces. Mouzinho de Albuquerque Square is a space with strategic potential in view of its location in the city, but more disqualifed.

In 2020 several infrastructural improvements are being made, and this squares will be assumed as an integrative multifunction space. One of the challenges is to guarantee that different people and transport modes will be articulated and the city liveability is ensured.

D. Maria II Square will function as a single level, continuous and readable platform and will benefit from a cycling channel.

## Halyna Drahomyrova

State expert of the expert group of territorial planning of Directorate of spatial planning and architecture (policy coordinator), Ministry for Community and Territory Development of Ukraine  
Ukraine, Kiev

The primary purpose of the work of the expert group of territorial planning of Directorate of spatial planning and architecture of the Ministry for Community and Territory Development of Ukraine are:

- formation and realization of State policy with regard to results of monitoring of current

Conservation and treatment of vegetation cover in areas with higher patrimonial and social value, and a deeper operation on the parking space, making it multifunctional and milder.

The Mouzinho de Albuquerque Square project maintains the parking function, reorganization it. The intervention will reduce the car area and enhance the environmental system through the renaturalization of the water line, the creation of a new wet system with riverside afforestation. At the same time, the design of this space support soft mobility, and public space safety and comfort.

The city center will necessarily be more pedestrian, more inclusive, more environmentally friendly, safer and better able to host and stimulate a diversity of social activities, paths, walks and meeting places that can unite different social and age groups.

A good balance is expected between the landscape, the water and the building that gives more liveliness to the urban center and that citizens can recognize, identify and appropriate this space as second living rooms.

Key Words: Squares, inclusive spaces, sustainability, urban liveability, public spaces

state of affairs on territory development, cultivating alternative options for solving identified problems on spatial planning issues, assessing their advantages and risks;

- promotion of comprehensive public awareness on the Ministry’s State policy principles, preparing methodological recommendations and providing the

necessary clarifications on the issues of territorial planning;

- strengthening the inclusiveness of the strategic planning process and preparing proposals for priority Ministry Action Plans regarding spatial planning processes.

We would like to hear about variety of governance models and planning tools aimed to solve dilemmas of different urban public spaces and discuss key steps being taken to ensure practical implementation of sustainable territory development.

Key Words: sustainable development, co-creation, urban conflicts, spatial transformations

## Stéphane Durand

Head of service, Grenoble-Alpes Métropole  
France, Grenoble

Grenoble Alp is a territory composed of 49 cities. Until 2015, the public space policy was elaborated at the city level. This have now changed and the Metropole (500 000 inhabitants) is now in charge of elaborating a public space vision at a larger scale. We have tackled this challenge with co-constructing a tool with all the stakeholders that we have now been implementing for the past 2 years.

Our interests are numerous but foremost concentrated on an pluridisciplinary approach (citizen participation, climate change adaptation, experimental / temporary planning, ecological corridors, place of art in public space...)

We would be most interested in sharing and hearing others about our issues in co-

construction of public space or keeping the equilibrium between innovative public space making and maintenance of these spaces.

2 of the key messages could be :

- Experimental/temporary planning in public space making is a key efficient innovative and economic approach to transforming adn triggering new uses.
- Monitoring and Evaluation as central elements for an innovative and pragmatic public space policy

Key Words: Co-creation; experimentation; ULL; Monitoring

## Aksel Ersoy

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In recent years, many policies, programmes and projects of governmental and non-governmental organizations strive for solving problems associated with complexities and uncertainly that

the society faces. A series of terminologies such as sustainability and resilience have been coined to respond to many levels of problem solving that requires resources, and hence involves increasing

complexity ranging from individual structures to cities and regional systems.

Today the contemporary approaches are increasingly seeking to adapt complex frameworks, theories, and models to understand the diversity and problems facing humans interacting. Adaption becomes a way that enables people, communities, institutions and societies to adjust their activities to reduce their vulnerabilities whilst enhancing their resilience. It has been used as the decision-making processes and the set of actions undertaken to maintain the capacity to deal with future changes whether they are future shocks, stresses or changing conditions. Adaption involves building the adaptive capacity of individuals, organisations and cities so that they can transfer their capacity into actions.

The strategies for adaption are often specific and local, and they address a potential threat and associated vulnerability and adjust the systems as a response to that threat. The built environment is considerably under pressure due to uncertainties and complexities. The most of the adaptation measures are expected to be undertaken in public spaces and infrastructures as they are the spatial voids of the cities and places

where the dynamic flows of nature manifest. It has been suggested that public space is a democratic and appropriate space to implement adaptation measures due to its continuity, transversely and commonality.

Nevertheless, these spaces for intervention are often rigid, mono functional and have a complex governance. Public spaces often respond to one function and are constrained by infrastructures. Their governance can be considered complex due to regulations, ownerships, uses, functions, among other multiple overlapping constraints.

What I suggest is that institutional rearrangements have a potential to create an alternative space that can facilitate interaction and enable more experimentation. A more open and transparent way of collaboration can open up change and dialog between academics, practitioners and stakeholders from different backgrounds. This not only strengthens the debates between the social sciences and other disciplines but also offers better insights for global environmental change as well as global governance and stewardship.

Key Words: capacity building; governance of public spaces; ULL; experimentation; co-creation

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

Supervising a research project on 'Collaborative design for resilient public space'

## Ineke Hulshof

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[www.hulshof-architecten.nl](http://www.hulshof-architecten.nl)

### *Living lab and placemaking in a monumental environment.*

The Prinsenhof is a culture historical museum in Delft. It is a former monastery and the palace of William of Orange. The Prinsenkwartier culture center is also housed in the complex. The museum and the environment are in an urgent need of renewal. A working group has been formed of citizens, specialists and civil servants to prepare the plans. The plans include the garden and the Agathaplein, all public spaces. That was the reason for Delft Design to contribute to the design and the process. A Living Lab has been organized for this. It involves a form of Place Making by doing, observing, sharing experiences and recording in different ways by various disciplines.

The Lab consists of expeditions from all parts of the city in order to involve residents in the experiments with light, sound, water and various cultural activities. The result concerns proposals for the future design of square and garden. Students of Delft University did research the history of the area and made preliminary designs for the public space as well as for the Prinsenkwartier building. These were discussed with the working group. This meeting was a public one and gave input to continue the search for a better and useful environment. This living lab might be an example for another approach of

future projects as the city of Delft has to meet an urgent need of housing and workspaces. As space is limited this is a great concern and challenge.

Placemaking should be given a permanent place in the planning of large spatial changes, as in this example the transformation of a large complex with a museum, a cultural center, a big square and a garden. All kinds of questions play a role. What is the right moment in the process, how are outcomes communicated, how can the results be used and is the design chosen here adequate?

Now the question is how do we decide to realize the best plan, not an average but the best in all aspects. How do we get funds to realize this, and finally how do we get the politicians to agree on the plan and the investments necessary to realize this. I hope to show the result in November as we are getting close to these final steps with this living lab now.

The project shows that designing public spaces is a matter of using local knowledge, local experience, of trying, of treasure finding and sharing, involving all stakeholders bottom up, to upcycle, make a SLOW start to get to the best involvement for a successful result.

Key Words: co-creation; design; ULL; placemaking,

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

Living Lab Prinsenkwartier and environment as well as with the cooperation Delft Energy Design we are involved in various projects concerning the climate and sustainable society of Delft. With the University of Delft, faculty of Architecture, a master study was done with 12 students also on the Living Lab topic. The results are being discussed now.

## Dahae Lee

PhD Researcher, Technical University of Dortmund  
Germany, Dortmund

<http://epc.tu-dortmund.de/wordpress/en/team/researchers/dahae-lee/>

Title of thesis: Co-production of public space – Planning Instruments used for Privately Owned Public Space in Transitional Context. The case of Seoul and Berlin.

Summary of thesis: Public spaces are not solely products of planners and architects but are produced by and within a society (Van Melik, 2008). Society keeps changing, so does public space. Public spaces are still commonly considered as traditional public goods – i.e. owned and regulated by public hand (Van Melik & Van der Krabben, 2016). But in fact, the recent development of public space suggests the loss of a clear distinction between public and private space (Nissen, 2008). Many of our public spaces are co-produced by public authorities and private entities – ranging from individual citizens to large-scale corporations. They have various mixtures of public and private structures, different degrees of accessibility and varying extents of usability (Nissen, 2008). The notion of ‘hybrid spaces’ has emerged to explain this phenomenon. This research specifically looks at Privately Owned Public Space (hereinafter POPS), a term used to describe physical space that is legally required to be open to the public despite its private ownership. POPS is a type of hybrid space in which the public creates rights and determines rules, whilst the private creates and maintains the

space. Studies have been conducted on POPS based on New York and some other large cities of the Global North.

This research makes two distinct contributions. First, it fills a research gap by looking at two case studies in two transitional contexts, Seoul and Berlin. Both cities have undergone radical transformation for different reasons – in case of Seoul, it was rapid urbanisation followed by Korean War; in case of Berlin, reunification and the subsequent privatisation of state-owned properties in the former East Berlin – but have come to the same conclusion in terms of public space i.e. the incapacity of public authority to provide and maintain public space alone. The research shows how two cities of transitional context have reacted. It analyses formal and informal planning instruments regarding provision and maintenance of POPS. What is more, it provides a policy recommendation not only for Seoul and Berlin, but also for all cities which undergo radical change and feel high development pressure, because public space is one of the first things to be affected. The policy recommendation informs policy makers about different kinds of planning instruments for POPS as well as their strengths and weaknesses.

Key Words: co-creation; public-private;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

I am a PhD candidate working on co-production of public space. I write doctoral thesis on planning instruments used for Privately Owned Public Space. I teach master students about co-production of public space, e.g. how public spaces are co-produced, why they are co-produced and what consequences there are.

## Julia Nevarez [not participating]

Professor, Kean University  
USA, New York

[https://rowman.com/Action/Search/\\_/Julia%20nevarez](https://rowman.com/Action/Search/_/Julia%20nevarez)

Living in contemporary cities involves facing a degree of complexity recently articulated with concerns about climate change, sustainability and inequality. Many of the answers crafted by possible policy directly involves demonstrations in urban public space to trigger conversations among participants in an equal footing. Public libraries, that anchor community activities, programming, and events, can and do facilitate these important conversations. As exemplars of democratic

institutions that are still understood as such, making clear connections among different existing public spaces and moments is a concern to better support democratic practices. The form and shape the contemporary agora for the different ways in which relevant issues are expressed in an interest of mine.

Key Words: co-creation; design; ULL; placemaking,

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

Public libraries and urban development, climate change and communities of solidarity

## Ioana Natalia Onesciuc

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"Where does the need for urban regeneration come from? What is the root of places' decay? One of the causes is citizens attitude towards their cities and its values, which in one word can be described as passivity. In one of his essays, the famous urban planner Kevin Lynch explains the causes of abandonment of places, vandalism or other signs of environmental carelessness, by associating them to a lack of sense of place that is more and more present in nowadays' society. He describes this phenomenon as a low capacity of individuals to recognise the places as their own and this phenomenon is directly linked to a general lack of involvement.

In this regard, I would like to present a very interesting approach to public space regeneration, where regeneration is understood as a holistic process which involves strong synergies between people and places through placemaking methods. The H2020 project ROCK - Regeneration and Optimization of Cultural heritage in creative and Knowledge cities (<https://rockproject.eu/>) experiments with cultural and historical city centres as laboratories for urban regeneration, sustainable development and social growth. Cultural heritage is used as a tool for strengthening the communities and their sense of place in all the partner cities, while engaging them in the process of co-creation of

public spaces, which hold a relevant cultural heritage value, be it tangible or intangible. The idea that stands at the heart of the project is to pilot ways of adaptive reuse of cultural heritage to the current citizens needs and expectations, by linking cities past to their future through a set of innovative tools, with the aim of strengthening citizens' sense of belonging and their participation.

The reason why ROCK chose to link cultural heritage and placemaking comes from the discovery of the great potential CH has for socially meaningful public spaces, while also reviving a set of valuable areas in the partner cities. Through ROCK, CH regeneration is not

only seen through an economic lens, but the project tackles also the societal, environmental and institutional dimensions of the topic. Through a set of placemaking practices such as sociability (participatory approaches for social inclusion), uses and activities (sustainable adaptive reuse of CH), access and linkages (CH accessibility at physical and non-physical level), comfort and image (safety, security and branding), the project aims at exploring CH potential to suit the current societal needs, by also leveraging on it as an innovative tool for collaborative planning.

Key Words: Cultural heritage; Placemaking; Regeneration

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- H2020 project ROCK (Regeneration and Optimisation of Cultural Heritage in creative and Knowledge Cities)
- Interreg Danube project CLEVER (Co-designing smart Local solutions for Exploiting Values and Enhancing Resilience) - finished in september
- H2020 project STARDUST (Spreading the light of innovation across EU cities)

## Tamara Schwarzmayr

Project manager, Samstag in der Stadt  
Austria, Vienna  
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“Samstag” (German for “Saturday”, the traditional market day in Vienna) was a neighbourhood project in public space, located in one of Vienna’s most diverse districts. We, the two founders and organizers Nadia Prauhart and Tamara Schwarzmayr, are interested in the meaning and the urban function of markets and had realized a socio-cultural project at Vienna’s flea market some years before.

“Occupy us!” was the first invitation to the neighbourhood. In the beginning we worked

alone, but bit by bit we grew, finally being supported by a social worker, a professional hobby gardener, an artist, and a retired family worker. And people came to use the big square, half market area, half public space. We realized various interventions and provided supply: Social work, a neighbourhood garden, community cooking, food saving and public dinners, live music, parties, theatre, and workshops. Most of these interventions based on ideas, needs or wishes of people from the neighbourhood: the lack of green areas in the densely populated

neighbourhood, the lack of food or attention at home, the precarious status concerning permit of stay, their labour or housing contracts. And sometimes, we all just wanted to have fun.

After five years the project was declared over in 2015, for professional and personal reasons. First, the local authority did not support us anymore. Second, it was one of our aims to stay as long as it made sense and leave, when others were willing to take over, what partly succeeded.

The emotional reasons were far more complicated to accept: it was mainly exhaustion. Working in public space means to be tangible and vulnerable: you never know what will happen. And, it were the so called vulnerable individuals and groups who frequented the space and were looking for companion, feedback and support: children, elderly and old people, people in the need of support. The activities also attracted people with mental problems, many of them.

The hungry, the poor, the youngest and oldest, the socially marginalized: they found their space at "Samstag", some of them temporarily, some of them stayed. One of the reasons why they felt

welcome might have been the entire female hosting team with a wide variation of life experiences. We attracted those in need of care. Another reason, and about both I would like to discuss in the workshop, is the mere fact, that urban public space (in Vienna) does not provide places with the following qualities: accessibility for all (no barriers in any sense, no fear), fair enough equipment (furniture, flooring material, alternative indoor options,), protection from heat and pollution (garden, trees).

A city is weakest where people suffer most from being or feeling marginalized. All of them should be enabled to contribute now and tomorrow to the formation of the cities we live in. Inclusive public space as space for and shared by all, should be one of the key contributions to inclusive societies. The workshop might be an opportunity to share experiences and to discuss the required resources, methods and skills to be elaborated and/or provided."

Key Words: experimentation; inclusiveness; co-creation; service provision (link to homelessness?)

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- neighbourhood/community projects and art in public space
- public space and urban development/planning in context of (new) social housing"

## Carlos Smaniotto Costa

Professor/Research Coordinator, Universidade Lusófona/Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Education and Development  
Portugal, Lisbon

<http://www.ceied.ulusofona.pt/en/researchers/integrated-researchers/carlos-smaniotto-costa/>

About Inclusive and Responsive Public Space - There is an increasing awareness and advocacy claim for engaging the society in the production of public spaces. Enabling the engagement

process to take place requires a great commitment and effort from all actors to be involved. Actual spatial practices and needs on public spaces differ not only among people and/or

groups, but also in relation to spatial contexts. It differs also to a greater or lesser extent according to the awareness of engagement opportunities. This contribution addresses the relationship between public spaces and spatial practices from the perspective of teenagers. It is based on the results of Living Labs with teenagers in Lisbon and explores on the one side, their spatial practice and needs, and on the other side the experiences on engaging them in the process of co-creating more responsive public spaces. The Lisbon Living Labs were organised within the frame of the European research project C3Places ([www.c3places.eu](http://www.c3places.eu)), which aims to increase the knowledge towards raising quality and attractiveness of public spaces as a community service backed by co-creation and interactive processes for placemaking. The participative perspective and particularly the lessons learned

will enable to design recommendations that boost the development of policies that, oriented to the urban space, take into consideration the needs of different population groups, in special elderly, teenagers and citizens with disabilities.

Reflecting on the Living Lab with Teenagers, this contribution discusses the experiences gained and the success achieved - emerged through the dynamics and knowledge acquired on the relationship between teenagers and urban fabric and their spatial knowledge. Based on these issues, the role of territorial educational for the construction of a more active and participatory citizenship, and a more responsive production of urban space will be discussed.

Key Words: ICT; co-creation; ULL; citizenship; (right to the city)

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- C3Places - Using ICT for co-creation of inclusive public spaces ([www.c3places.eu](http://www.c3places.eu))
- CyberParks - Fostering knowledge about the relationship between Information and Communication Technologies and Public Spaces ([www.cyberparks-project.eu](http://www.cyberparks-project.eu))

## Aldona Wiktorska-Święcka

Board Member/Professor, UERA (Urban Europe Research Alliance) /University of Wrocław Poland, Wrocław

Co-creation of public space as a new policy instrument in resilient urban governance. Selected practices at local level in Poland

The proposed contribution is part of the current debate on urban resilience in Poland upon Europeanisation in terms of governance patterns which include new approaches to the delivery of public services. Lack of satisfaction from the existing forms of provided services prompts public organizations to look for new

arrangements. One of them is co-creation which occurs when citizens participate actively in delivering and designing the services they receive. This form of improvements of existing practices in this field can occur both in the aspect of co-initiating and -designing, co-deciding, and then co-governance and co-implementing of public services. Thus, the co-creation approach has come increasingly onto the agenda of policymakers, as interest in citizen participation

has more generally soared. Expectations are high and it is regarded as a possible solution to the public sector's decreased legitimacy by accessing more of society's capacities. In addition, this approach can be seen as a part of a more general tendency to strengthen social cohesion in an individualized society. It seems to be the most effective action to answer to the need for new social innovations and the growing demand for personalised services.

The contribution focuses on arrangements of public space in Poland and provides a overview of the development of co-creation by presenting selected case studies. The analysis takes into account primarily the regulatory framework, but

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- "Co-creation of public services in Europe" funded by the European Union (Horizon 2020)
- Working Group on Affordable Housing by EURO CITIES

also includes some observations on the practical side of this process. In particular, one considers also key elements as local leadership, local governments and civil society. The main objective of the contribution is to identify different types of co-creation in urban governance and the relevant drivers and barriers that account for the success or failure of co-creation processes at the local level as a new policy instrument in resilient urban governance in a long-term perspective.

Key Words: co-creation of public space; urban governance; Poland; institutional practice; urban resilience; challenges and opportunities of co-creation of public space

# The Role of Urban Mobility and Energy Efficiency for the Quality of Urban Public Spaces

## Floriea Di Ciommo

Co-director, cambiaMO s.coop.mad.

Spain, Madrid

[www.cambiamo.net](http://www.cambiamo.net)

Our main experience and interest regarding the topic of public space includes the following their main points:

1. We deal with urban spaces and transport networks in order to keep the city such as a space for social interaction and coexistence, prioritizing people over the modes they use for travelling.
2. We provide a range of methods with the potential to shape transport decision-making process thus allowing for the adoption of more

equitable mobility solutions within a social inclusive, gender balanced and health perspective.

3. We focus on the challenges of the city logistics related to new business and consumer models that need sustainable solutions which care for the environment and the health of citizens.

Key Words: Urban mobility; equity;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- MaresMadrid: since September 2017, cambiaMO co-leads the Mobility work package, the Mar de Movilidad and promotes the creation of new companies and business activities in the sectors of active mobility (cycling and walking), urban logistics, mobility of caring and gender and urban space management in the city.
- Accessibility-benefits in corridor N-150 of Barcelona: the aim of this study is to develop a methodology for evaluating the transportation and land use strategies to integrate within the strategic planning of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB). The analysis focuses on the evaluation of the corridors of poverty and the mobility needs of their inhabitants.
- The Assessment and Diagnostic Report of the Sustainable Mobility and Public Space Plan
- (PMSEP) of the City Council of Vitoria-Gasteiz , an instrument that encourages reflection on the transformation experienced in the last decade in the mobility system of Vitoria-Gasteiz that was recently named such as the ONU world green capital.
- Other relevant public space projects are included in the webpage [www.cambiamo.net](http://www.cambiamo.net).

## Christoph Gollner

Programme Manager PED Programme, JPI Urban Europe / FFG

Austria, Vienna

<https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ped/>

Public spaces are the “veins” of urban structures and play an essential part to urban life – most importantly in their ability to provide opportunities for social interaction, integration and mobility. Public spaces very much define the way we experience a city, the way we behave, interact, live in our cities. They create rhythm and pace, inclusion and exclusion.

Having worked in a local community office in a deprived Viennese neighbourhood for many years, the significance of the quality of public spaces has become all the more evident for me. Currently, I am programme manager for the “Programme on Positive Energy Districts and Neighbourhoods for Sustainable Urbanisation” (PED Programme) – a programme aiming at developing high-quality, sustainable urban environments that are fit for perhaps the century’s biggest challenges: tackling the energy transition and achieving the climate targets. While technology, RES, energy grids, materials and buildings play an important part in that ambition – we are still dealing with living urban structures that need to be carefully transformed, keeping in mind the people with their needs and abilities.

So what about the “space between the buildings”? The PED Programme aims to widen perspectives on energy efficiency from the individual building

to whole urban neighbourhoods with all their plurality and complexity. Developing the urban neighbourhood as a key area for creating or further developing local identity as well as for substantial urban transition processes requires creative approaches integrating physical, ecological, economic and social aspects: an up-to-date holistic urbanistic strategy. Therefore, elaborating the role of public spaces in this context must play an integral part: supporting the “green city”, influencing interaction and behaviour of users and defining the quality of urban life.

How do we get there? What role do public spaces play in the efforts regarding the energy transition and climate targets? Do functions of public spaces need to be reconsidered? (How) can public spaces contribute to energy efficiency or energy production? What guidelines need to be developed? What steps need to be taken? – Discussing and bringing forward these aspects will be a highly valuable contribution to the development of the PED Programme or any other ambitions towards the sustainable, smart, climate neutral – yet liveable, inclusive city of tomorrow.

Key Words: social interaction; energy efficiency; climate change

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

PED Programme

## Astrid Hendriksen

director honours programme Wageningen University/lecturer Environmental Policy Group  
Netherlands, Wageningen  
www.enp.wur.nl

Our main topic is to analyse and create more sustainable solutions for urban mobilities. We are interested in exploring the different aspects of public spaces in terms of physical space, uses and meaning. By drawing on insights from practice theory we are connecting scientific knowledge with practical challenges in order to come to sustainable solutions. During the discussion we would like to share our insides from previous projects (in the Netherlands, Malta and Portugal) on urban mobilities and show the importance of

knowledge exchange and inclusive collaboration in creating innovative solutions for sustainable urban mobilities, with a special focus on cycling. Furthermore during the workshop we would like to discuss our and the participants experiences around sustainable urban mobility's throughout Europe and moreover we would like to explore possible partnerships.

Key Words: Meaning of public spaces; urban mobility; cycling

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Research and education on meaningful stakeholder involvement in participatory decision making processes.
- Projects on sanitation and waste management in East Africa and South East Asia focused on inclusiveness, joint knowledge generation and legitimacy of decisions made.
- Education on advanced metropolitan solutions.

## Kristine Krumberga [not participating]

research policy planner/RIS3 expert on smart energy, Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia  
Latvia, Riga

As a research policy planner I am involved in the development of research and innovation system in line with the Smart specialization strategy of Latvia and specifically in relation to the smart energy. I am also involved in the development of National Energy and climate plan 2030 and formulating of research and innovation priorities in regard to energy efficiency and decarbonization. In regard to the public spaces, I am interested in such issues as development of smart cities, infrastructure integration, positive

energy districts, multimodal and zero-carbon mobility. According to the SDGs and climate-natural development priorities, I would like to discuss the concept of "public space" in three aspects – 1) the social (accessibility, inclusiveness, opportunities of co-living and sharing), 3) the environmental qualities (f.e. clean air, less noise, safe infrastructure) and 3)governance – process of planning, desiging, management. In relation to that, I would be also interested to find out what are the research and innovation needs related to

public spaces in the context of development of smart, efficient and inclusive urban spaces and cities.

Key Words: smart specialisation; energy efficiency; PED;

## Florian Lorenz

consultant/director, lorenz consult | Smarter Than Car  
Austria, Vienna  
florianlorenz.com  
smarterthancar.com

Issues and questions that I have immersed myself in and find interesting in regards to public space:

### SOCIETY

- What are truly public spaces? How public space transforms more and more into a consumer-oriented space. Many people have never learned to use public space in a non-consumerist way.
- Reading public space. Fascinating phenomenological approach: When we closely observe urban (public) space we can “read” the urban environment and thereby find out many things about the preferences, regimes and values of our society.
- Fine-grain informal uses of public space. Informal economies and spare time uses. How can we plan for cities that allow more such truly public spaces that can be owned and used as public spaces.

### ECOLOGY

- Materiality and energy footprint. I am continuously interested in how we rebuilt our (urban) public spaces.

### CLIMATE CHANGE

- How can we adapt urban public spaces to future climatic condition?

### MOBILITY

- How would public space look like that prioritizes the different modes of mobility according to their footprint on health, energy, resources and climate? What would the resulting urban quality be?

### TRANSFORMATION

- What is the imaginary that we re-create our public spaces with? How can we use strategies like Imagineering and Backcasting to break up those learned, established and often-unconscious pre-sets for the way we build, manage and use public space?

### PLACEMAKING

- What effective and innovative approaches do we have at hand that can be used to create new places in public space? How can we avoid to create dull events and rather lasting places that are unique and have unique feeling to them?

What I would like to discuss in the workshop

- Public space (and there mainly streets) is the main space (spatial resource) that cities can easily and quickly leverage to deal with current challenges. How can we mobilise public space for sustainability transformation in a more effective ay?

- How can we solve the dilemma between the goals that we need to reach (in order to deal with climate, equity and mobility challenges) and the daily reality in public space?
- How can we approach the golden cow of private parking in cities?
- Options for pan-European research projects that deal with traffic calming measure and removal of on-street parking?
- What would be the pathways for developing urban forest strategies?
- What new design patterns and typologies can we develop for streets as public spaces?
- We need to transform public spaces very quickly to encounter challenges (climate, mobility, equity)
- Let's work with citizens and bring them in as partners in transforming public space!
- We need to abstain from too quick fixes that are too easily dismissed as mere PR stunts. (If you do something temporary and for a strong image be well prepared!)
- Be more daring when it comes to working with city administration as a creative partner.

The key messages I would like to contribute to the discussion

Key Words: meaning of public spaces; energy efficiency; climate change; urban mobility; urban transitions; placemaking

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- R&D project: SUPERBE  
 Role: Initiator and member of project consortium as „implementation partner“ from the private sector.  
 The research probe SUPERBE investigates the spatial organising principle of a Superblock for a possible application in the context of Austrian cities.  
<https://projekte.ffg.at/projekt/3039713>
- Implementation project: KOMMRAUS.WIEN  
 Role: Responsible for concept, curation and project management in a team of consultants.  
 To start implementing ist „Thematic Concept for Public Spaces“ the City of Vienna hosted a „Forum on Public Space“ in May 2019. The three day event activated the stakeholder groups administration, political decision makers as well as civil society groups and individuals. More than 80 unique events were held across Vienna's citispace engaging more than 3500 participants over three days. The formats ranged from  
[www.kommraus.wien](http://www.kommraus.wien)
- Imagineering project: FUTURAMA REDUX  
 Role: As director of „Smarter Than Car“ a Vienna-based advocacy and r+d group for future urban mobility and post carbon urbanism.  
 FUTURAMA REDUX – urban mobility after cars and oil is an ongoing urban research and design project investigating the future of mobility beyond the use of fossil fuels. The project includes an exhibit, symposia, study tours and imagineering workshops. FUTURAMA REDUX opens a creative space to develop visions and articulate pathways for context-sensitive post-carbon transition.

<http://www.smarterthancar.com/#/futuramaredux/>

- Activism project: PARKLET2GO  
 Role: As director of „Smarter Than Car“ a Vienna-based advocacy and r+d group for future urban mobility and post carbon urbanism.  
 PARKLET 2 GO is an urbanistic tool for testing, evaluating and discussing the transformation of specific (parking) spaces in an effective and informal way. The PARKLET 2 GO offers the possibility to create a temporary ""parklet"" (=mini-park) at different locations of a city within a very short time and with little effort. In addition to its function as a meeting and recreation place, it should also become a stage for a public and spontaneous discourse on public spaces.  
<http://www.smarterthancar.com/#/parklet2go/>
- Consulting project: OPEN STREETS EVENT IMPLEMENTATION  
 Role: consultant and project leader  
 Feasibility study in relation to creation of Open Streets events.

## Hans-Günther Schwarz [not participating]

Strategic Programme Coordinator, Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology  
 Austria, Wien  
<https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/ped/>

The Implementation Working Group on Smart Cities of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan for Europe (SET Plan) was established in October 2018 with the mission to bring about 100 urban districts or neighbourhoods in Europe by 2025 with a clear commitment to sustainability, liveability and going beyond carbon neutrality by becoming energy positive. Such “Positive Energy Districts/Neighbourhoods“ (PED/PENs) could be new developments, but should also implement ambitious solutions for urban district renewal. About 20 European countries are currently participating in this initiative, which also involves problem owners, as well as key stakeholders from industry.

In honouring the economic, cultural and climate-related diversity of European countries and cities, a definition for such PED/PENs should not be just an algorithm for calculating the input and output

of energy, but rather a framework, which outlines the three most important functions of urban areas in the context of their urban and regional energy system. The first obvious requirement is that PEDs should ultimately rely on renewable energy only (energy production function), which is one of the main contributions towards climate neutrality. Secondly, they should make energy efficiency as one of their priorities in order to best utilise the renewable energies available (energy efficiency function). Thirdly, the awareness that urban areas are bound to be among the largest consumers of energy, and therefore need to make sure that they act in a way which is optimally beneficial for the energy system (energy flexibility function).

Based on such a basic framework, cities should be able to optimise the different functions and guiding principles against one another, in order to find a balance, which can best represent the

renewable energy resources available in their respective climate zone, together with their specific ambitions and needs.

Each PED/PEN will have to find its own optimal balance between energy efficiency, energy flexibility and local/regional energy production on its way towards climate neutrality and energy surplus taking into account the guiding principles.

The development of PED/PENs should also follow three guiding principles to make them attractive for cities and citizens:

- Quality of life
- Inclusiveness
- Sustainability

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- SET Plan Action 3.2 on Positive Energy Districts
- ERA-NET Smart Cities

## Jiri Vlcek

Policy officer, Ministry of Regional Development CZ  
Czech Republic, Prague  
[www.mmr.cz](http://www.mmr.cz)

Being rather a generalist dealing with most urban and regional mobility issues including the use of public space the aim of my participation will be to exchange knowledge with practitioners as well as policy makers and particularly learn more about the sound approaches how to develop public space in Eastern European / post-Soviet countries.

In terms of my position at the Ministry of Regional Development CZ, our main stakeholders are cities and their authorities, as well as regions and territories in Czechia.

Urban Public Space Development will play a pivotal role in shaping the liveability of PEDs, but will equally define the energy consumption of urban mobility and urban housing in these areas. The walkability of an urban neighbourhood will, for example, be a key factor in how people move around, and the quality of the green environment in the same space will play a role in how they will want to spend their time in their own places.

So, what should then the focus of urban spatial planning and urban energy planning be in the creation and/or refurbishment of urban neighbourhoods?

Key Words: Energy efficiency; PED; urban mobility; walkability;

As national authority, we are in charge of developing policies, recommendations for city policies and we contribute to the exchange of good practice with various stakeholders at all levels of governance.

What I can contribute with personally is my 3year experience in the position of policy officer and project coordinator, including international cooperation with cities, regions and member states across Europe. My main focus over the past 3 years has been the Urban Agenda for the EU, particularly the Partnership for Urban Mobility. Its

scope has been quite broad, so more fine-tuning on public space issues seem to me a good motivation and direction I would like to be heading toward. As support we also serve to our Ministry of Transport in terms of their membership in Partnership for Security in Urban

Space whom we have helped out to develop their successful scoping paper to become member thereof.

Key Words: urban mobility; security;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- National Focal Point for Urban Agenda EU
- Partnership for Urban Mobility: co-coordinator;
- Partnership for Security in Public Space: support to Ministry of Transport (member)"

# Safe and Open Urban Public Spaces: the Right to the City, Interactions, Meanings and Identity

## Sverre Bjerkeset

PhD Fellow, Oslo School of Architecture and Design  
 Norway, Oslo  
<http://www.oculs.no/people/sverre-bjerkeset/>

Sverre Bjerkeset, PhD Fellow, Institute of Urbanism and Landscape, Oslo School of Architecture and Design

‘License to interact’: Interaction among strangers in urban public space

A political activist more or less successfully attempts to make contact with passersby; two men seated side by side at a café terrace start chatting; bystanders to a street performance exchange glances and smiles.

The city essentially consists of strangers. Rarely do these strangers interact directly with each other, but occasionally they do, and most often so in the city’s public spaces. Yet, what make such interaction actually occur has rarely been thoroughly documented. The study here presented investigates circumstances that prompt peaceful chance interaction among strangers in urban public space. Long-term field

studies were conducted in a number of public spaces in Oslo, Norway. The research revealed that a broad range of circumstances prompt, or license, such interaction, the principal ones here categorized as ‘exposed positions’, ‘opening positions’, and ‘mutual openness’. In this, the research relied on, as well as substantiates and expands on a part of pioneering sociologist Erving Goffman’s work which largely has been disregarded. The research further points to some ‘contextual’ conditions – such as gender, time, climate, urban form, and culture – that more broadly affect how willing or inclined people are to interact with strangers. The paper concludes by asserting the relevance of empirically-grounded knowledge for policy-makers, planners, and developers in their intent to create public arenas for citizens to meet and interact face-to-face.

Key Words: interaction;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

Own PhD project with a focus on interaction among strangers in urban public space + teaching university course on "the city's public spaces".

## Yvonne Franz [not participating]

University Assistant (postdoc), University of Vienna, Department of Geography & Regional Research Austria, Vienna

"The role of inclusive public spaces in neighbourhoods of transition" In my ongoing research projects, public space is not explicit the research objective. However, in my projects dealing with social innovation, housing market and

arrival spaces, public spaces are implicately part of the analysis. Also in teaching and thesis supervisions, public spaces is a very relevant topic of interest amongst students.

Key Words: Inclusion; urban transitions;

## Sandra Guinand

Post-doc, University of Vienna

Austria, Vienna

<https://fgga.univie.ac.at/news/artikel/exploring-donau-citys-landscape/>

I have been involved in the field of urban geography and urban studies for several years and have followed an approach which looks at how people shape space but also how, in turn, space influences people's behaviour (the so-called Lefebvrian approach). My current research focuses on the qualitative production of space. This implies looking at the actors at the origin of the place being produced (governance and negotiation processes) (Guinand, 2017), the way it is implemented and managed over time, but also the reception and sense-making undertaken by users – *espace vécu* – (Lefebvre, 2000). This is the latter dimension (tangible and intangible) that I have been exploring with Ana Montalvo, Mark Scherner and the support of Yvonne Franz within the area of Donau City in Vienna, Austria. Donau City as an urban site is particularly worth investigating, as it is a new built area (dates from the end of the 1990s) located on the eastern side of the Danube, which has been experiencing tremendous changes over the past decades and which is still under major redevelopments.

In the scope of this workshop on public space development and maintenance, I am particularly interested in the Citizen Science/collaborative approach or how could work or diagnosis with residents and users inform us on the potentials, challenges, issues of public space. For instance,

the explorative project on Donau City was a means to test photo-walk and photo-elicitation interviews (Aitken & Wingate 1993; Mogensen 2012; Lombard 2013) with residents and users of the areas as a mean to collect data on the perception and intangible dimensions (emotions, experiences, memories) of this socio-cultural landscape. The objective was to get a better understanding of the residents' and users' different spatial perceptions and receptions of this area (emic perspective), how they make sense of everyday practiced and the lived space (Harrison, 2000; Bigando, 2013; Schoepfer, 2014). The ideas was to characterize and depict the salient tangible and intangible features of this area in order to establish a better understanding of Donau City's environment, and of new built environments more generally.

The first results of this explorative research showed the potentialities of the method. It helped understand how people position themselves within the area. It strengthened the elements that characterize the area, what should be reinforced, improved or reworked. I would be very keen in sharing this experiment with the other participants.

Key Words: meaning of public spaces; co-creation;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Citizen Science - Exploratory project
- Revealing Donau City's landscape

## Petr Kratochvíl

senior scholar + member of SAB JPI Urban Europe  
 Institute of Art History, Czech Academy of Sciences  
 Czech Republic, Prague  
<https://www.udu.cas.cz/en/staff/petr-kratochvil/>

### Works of Art as Catalysts of a “Dialogue” in Urban Public Spaces

Prof. PhDr. Petr Kratochvíl, Institute of Art History, Czech Academy of Sciences

The deeper sense of urban public spaces is to offer the open stage for a “dialogue” on issues of public interest. This dialogue can be initiated deliberately by a provoking person (as Socrates did in Athens), it can be part of a talk of friends at the street café, or in a more escalated form of street demonstrations. However, most often such a dialogue is led unintentionally and wordlessly by watching other people that we pass on the street: their appearance, behaviour remain in our memory – usually only for a minute, sometimes as unforgettable event – enriching our experience of others.

Works of art play a specific role among these kinds of a dialogue. They are silent, yet they speak by their meanings. There is a wide spectrum of meanings that can be brought to urban stage by

works art and also their purpose and forms have changed during the history. As memorial statues they can remind not only splendid, but also tragic moments of our own past enriching thus the place with a historical dimension. They can also provoke, bringing current topics into public discussion, or merely be beautiful or interesting objects that make our time outdoors more pleasant. They can be components of some utilitarian structure, enriching it with an aesthetic dimension. Most of all, such works of art help define important points in the urban landscape, reinforcing the identity of individual places by filling them with new meanings and impulses for our experience.

The presentation will analyse these processes on several examples mostly from Czech cities and will concentrate on contemporary art forms dealing with burning issues of current social and political life.

Key Words: interaction; meanings of public spaces; design; aesthetics;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Architecture and Public Space - research project supported by Czech Grant Agency (2011-2015).
- Public and Private as a Topic of Multidisciplinary Research - research project of the Czech Academy of Sciences (2015-2018)

## Don Mitchell

Professor of Cultural Geography, Formas/Uppsala University  
Sweden, Uppsala

I have been studying public space in the United States and Europe for thirty years. My research has focused on homelessness in public space, privatization, law, policing (including policing protest), and the contradictory role of public space in the circulation and accumulation of capital. I have written dozens of articles and book chapters on related issues, as well as three books: *The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight for Public Space* (2003/2014); *The People's Property: Power, Politics, and the Public* (with Lynn Staeheli, 2008); and *Mean Streets: Homelessness, Public Space, and the Limits to Capital* (2020). In addition with the late Neil Smith I am the general editor of *Revolting New York: How 400 Years of Riot, Rebellion, Uprising, and Revolution Shaped a City* (2018)

I am particularly interested in discussing the ways in which the ongoing enclosures of public space (through law, policing, and the like) reinforce not only the increasing class exclusivity of the city, but, for some people, the very ability to be - to

live. All space, that is, all property, is necessarily exclusionary. Even the most inclusionary policies regarding public space entail exclusions, though these too often go unrecognized. My sense is that both the basis for, the practices of, and the possible effects of exclusion need constantly to be addressed across the whole life course of public spaces, from their design to their possible later redevelopment -- and at all moments in between. Increasingly, the force behind exclusion is contemporary capitalism's necessity to accumulate capital through the built environment: the built environment is not now merely a conduit for the circulation of capital, but a primary site of accumulation. As such, "undesireable" uses of public space threaten the economy itself, or so it is assumed. This is a central problem confronting cities now that urban, more than industrial, capital is the dominant force in the contemporary global political economy.

Key Words: homelessness; right to the city; inclusion; segregation;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Book: *Mean Streets: Homelessness, Public Space, and the Limits to Capital*.
- Research Project: Prefigurative platforms, public spaces, and planning phenomena: exploring the historical geographies of Swedish People's Parks
- Research Project advisory board: DEMOSSPACE: Governing private provision of public space: developing governance models and urban design that ensure inclusive, democratic public space
- Edited book project: *The Rent Gap Turns 40: Theorizing a Generation of Gentrification*
- Edited book project: *Beyond Catastrophe and Revolution: Essays in Honor of Mike Davis*
- Swedish National Geography PhD Course: *Urban Rage in the Urban Age*

## Nathalie Noupadja

Head of Research and Studies, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)  
 Belgium, Brussels  
<https://www.ccre.org/en>

The Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) is the oldest and broadest European association of local and regional governments. We are the only organisation that brings together the national associations of local and regional governments from 41 European countries and represents, through them, all levels of territories – local, intermediate and regional.

Since its creation in 1951, CEMR promotes the construction of a united, peaceful and democratic Europe founded on local self-government, respect for the principle of subsidiarity and the participation of citizens.

In relation to the topic of public space, we would like to address the issue of gender perspective in the workshop. Sexual harassment and gender-

based violence are major safety risks facing girls and women in Europe and globally. We will provide information and materials on this aspect of safety in public spaces for inclusion in the workshop, such as a report that CEMR and URBACT published earlier this year about Gender Equal Cities. It includes a dedicated Chapter on Safety. There is also the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life, a tool for local and regional governments to promote gender quality in their specific areas of competence, which includes articles on safety and security (art. 21), gender-based violence (art. 22) and urban planning and regulation (art. 24-29).

Key Words: safety, inclusion, equal cities, urban planning

## Nicolás Palacios

Researcher  
 Sweden, Stockholm  
<https://urbanlimits.city/>

Since 2017 an effective ban on rough sleepers has been enforced in Copenhagen, the regulation came as a response to a series of columns written by the politician Marcus Knuth, who stated the need of the police to ‘clean the Roma encampments.

In 2018 the regulation was revamped and the penalty for rough sleeping in public spaces was turned into an expulsion from the municipal limits for 3 months. This new measure was met with resistance by the population and by the homeless,

who were rising the question “where should I sleep tonight?

Criminalization of homelessness and its displacement from public spaces is nothing new, nonetheless, never before in history, democracy and inclusion have been considered such relevant values. In this context, criminalization of homelessness does not only generate questions in relation to infrastructure and the quality of our public spaces, but also questions on the right to the city and who and why some people are allowed

to use public spaces while others are pushed out of their own cities.

The case of Copenhagen presents a strong case of a paradoxical relation between the vision and goals of the city, where diversity, inclusion and creating a city for the modern Copenhagener are highlighted as key elements, whilst all that does not fit within 'proper' or 'acceptable' use of space is removed from the sight of the modern Copenhagener.

I think this workshop gives us the opportunity to discuss which uses of space are deemed as proper and why? and how we can reconcile these different spatial practices in urban public spaces in cities where profit has taken over the 'private sphere' of housing and where public spaces seem to still stand tall and resisting this influence (for now).

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

I have developed research on public space and homelessness in the Nordic context, focused on the banning of public sleeping in Copenhagen.

This research has been presented recently in the 14th European Research Conference on Homelessness hosted by the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (Feantsa).

## Karin Peters

Assistant Professor, Wageningen University; Cultural Geography Group  
Netherlands, Wageningen  
[www.geo.wur.nl](http://www.geo.wur.nl)

Our main topic is to analyse and create more sustainable solutions for urban mobilities. We are interested in exploring the different aspects of public spaces in terms of physical space, uses and meaning. By drawing on insights from practice theory we are connecting scientific knowledge

My main message would be that the right to the city can't be kept as an abstract theoretical discussion and needs to be put into practice. Banning or displacing certain spatial practices and uses of space is only a temporary fix for such issues with segregation and marginalization as the outcomes. In the case of homelessness in Copenhagen, the ban has meant setting an extra burden on people who already face marginalization in a city with not enough shelter for everyone and with a homeless population which has been slowly but steadily rising in the recent years, facing a stagnation in 2019 in total numbers, but with an increase in rough sleepers.

Key Words: homelessness; right to the city; inclusion; segregation;

with practical challenges in order to come to sustainable solutions.

During the discussion, we would like to share our insights from previous projects (in the Netherlands, Malta and Portugal) on urban mobilities and show the importance of knowledge exchange and inclusive collaboration in creating

innovative solutions for sustainable urban mobilities, with a special focus on cycling.

Furthermore, during the workshop we would like to discuss our and the participants' experiences around sustainable urban mobilities throughout

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

Research and education on the relations between public spaces, sustainability and mobilities. My aim is to create more inclusive urban public spaces by better understanding the relations between humans and urban public spaces.

Europe. Moreover, we would like to explore possible partnerships.

Key Words: Meaning of public spaces; urban mobility; cycling

## Caroline Wrangsten [not participating]

Urban geographer, think tank Global Utmaning (Global Challenge)  
Sweden, Stockholm

<https://www.globalutmaning.se/rapporter/urbangirlsmovement-catalogue/>

Fittja is home to about 8000 people and inhabits a young population. It is located in Botkyrka municipality, south of Stockholm in Sweden and connected to the Stockholm city metro. During 2018, stakeholders in the area decided to act on the issue of open drug trade on Fittja main square in a new way. Fittja square was often occupied by a group of young men and boys, sometimes masked. For inhabitants, the square was a transit area lacking both functional and aesthetic design. Girls and young women in Fittja described it as problematic, ugly, boring, unsafe and unwelcoming: a place where they never linger. In preparation for a large refurbishment effort, the municipality partnered with the independent think tank Global Utmaning who recently initiated #UrbanGirlsMovement. For one year, the team ran innovation labs where girls from Fittja were recruited as “place experts”. Together with landowners, local decisions makers and researchers, they identified problematics, solutions and re-designed their neighbourhood using tools from the computer game Minecraft. The final designs used a compact and

multifunctional urban form, accessible to all citizens through a variety of unprogrammed activity options, vibrant hangspace and green beautification. Safety according to the girls, comes from improved liveability and presence of diverse social groups. Thanks to carefully developed methodology and facilitation, the project did not only produce local-based solutions and successful prototypes on Fittja square that assisted the refurbishment process, but also delivered a toolbox to be used in more places than Fittja. Simultaneously, the movement works with perspective widening efforts by targeting professionals nationally and internationally with the learnings and the many co-benefits of letting girls and young women take lead in multi-stakeholder urban development processes.

Policy recommendations and call for action is found in the final report, #UrbanGirlsMovement catalogue:

<https://www.globalutmaning.se/rapporter/urban-girlsmovement-catalogue/>

There is also a toolbox:

<https://www.globalutmaning.se/rapporter/urban-girls-handbook/>

Key Words: Public space, livability, urban feminist geography, feminist urban planning, participation, case study, multiple methods, Agedan 2030, #UrbanGirlsMovement, Minecraft

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

#UrbanGirlsMovement

If we plan a city for girls – it will work for everyone. That’s the idea behind #UrbanGirlsMovement.

The initiative is primarily a collaboration platform for actors who engage in girls’ living conditions and young women’s needs in urban development. The project has mapped initiatives, highlighted good examples, and engaged research in feminist urban development, in order to promote that the design of cities needs to be inclusive and sustainable for all.

## Ruth Yeoman [not participating]

Fellow, Oxford University

United Kingdom, London and Oxford

I have developed the Meaningful City research programme at Oxford University, and cases include the King’s Cross development in London and a network of six Finnish cities. I bring these examples to the AGORA dialogue, together with a conceptual framework of how to apply meaningfulness to city institutions, civic spaces, and stakeholder constituencies. Smart and sustainable city initiatives have given insufficient attention to the lives that people lead in cities, and what this implies for the design of cities based on human values. The concept and practices of ‘The Meaningful City’ remedy the neglect of the human dimension in technological perspectives upon the city by examining how cities can foster meaningful lives and work. This research programme explores how the value of meaningfulness may be institutionalised at a city-level, and used in policy innovations and novel social practices. While we see an increased tendency to promote policy transfer, transmit knowledge and technologies across national and

urban contexts, more understanding is needed of how the communities targeted by these policies and technologies give meaning to them, how they build systems of meaning from their interactions with these technologies and policies, and they incorporate meanings into lives they have reason to value. The research programme asks - how do the interactions of people with data and technology generate positive meanings which motivate their efforts to embed smart and sustainable city initiatives, and generate meaningfulness in their lives and work? The concept of the meaningful city yields an ethical framework that is applied to smart and sustainable urbanism. This extends to investigating the conditions - economic, political, social and environmental - needed to promote meaningful lives, including innovating in institutional and governance practices, and methods of evaluation. Meaningfulness at the city level fosters economic and social advancement from an alliance of social and material technologies with human learning,

organised by public values and civic work. The programme brings together the 'human' and 'value' dimensions on sustainability, smart technologies and digital innovation in cities. By fostering opportunities for leading meaningful lives, cities can gain reputational advantage, enhance innovative capacity and address anxieties that inequalities are fostering alienation and populist tendencies. Civic spaces can be designed to ensure that values, voice and practices (technical and human) provide enriched sources

of meaning and pathways to meaningfulness, and to evaluate how meaningfulness is realised in lives and in work. The topics explored by my research programme are highly relevant to thinking about how to organise urban public space, and I will be pleased to offer insights from city-level meaningfulness into the discussion.

Key Words: people centered approaches;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

The Meaningful City research programme

# Green and Blue (Elements in) Urban Public Spaces

## M'Lisa Colbert

Associate Director, The Nature of Cities

Canada, Montreal

[www.thenatureofcities.com](http://www.thenatureofcities.com); <https://www.tnoc-summit.org/>

Cities are rapidly urbanizing. This immense land use change means that more actors, needs and social groups are competing for space in cities. My main experience in regards to public space is exploring how increasing public space can contribute to improving urban life, creating community, healthy environments and increasing livability in cities. I would like to discuss these various aspects of the importance and challenges of public space during the workshop. Key

messages to contribute to the discussion are a) the importance of designing effective engagements to create public space that works for citizens in cities b) using green and blue infrastructure in the development of public spaces c) collaborative and multi-stakeholder approaches.

Key Words: quality of life; design; green-blue infrastructure, co-creation

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- The Nature of Cities: TNOC Summit ( An international, multidisciplinary Summit that bring stakeholders from all sectors together to discuss and design solutions for challenges cities face - public space in cities is a big focus)
- IFWEN : Food, Water, Energy Nexus in cities (An urban land use focus issue. How to better integrate service provision of these three elements in cities for people)
- Connecting Cultures in Europe: Focus on how to revitalize urban centers and urban entrepreneurship in city centers on the decline in Europe)

## Manten Devriendt

director/architect, Sampling / Urbanizing in Place

Latvia, Riga

[urbanisinginplace.org](http://urbanisinginplace.org)

Sampling intends to elaborate urban scenarios that offer alternatives to the current notion of the city by using the narrative tools of design. These scenarios can be used to trigger the policy makers and urban planners to think about the public domain. "As a growing body of radical designers and architects have suggested, .. design

futurism [is] a materialized invitation to political debate" (White D., Critical design and the critical social sciences: or why we need to engage multiple, speculative critical design futures in a post-political and post-utopian era.)

Our research project ‘Urbanising in Place’ explores possibilities for agro-ecological urbanism in the public domain of the city. We are looking forward to discuss new models of urbanism where food is taken into account in planning the city, something that was there for decades but disappeared with the process of globalisation. This is one of the challenges in the

public domain, owned by the city, designed by public policy and needs new policy documents, research and innovation.

Key Words: urban farming; food production; agroecological urbanism;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

We are currently involved in the Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative (SUGI)/Food-Water-Energy Nexus project. ‘Urbanizing in place’ will explore how farming and food growing practices on the metropolitan fringe, threatened by an ever expanding urbanisation, may be reimaged and reconfigured within what we call ‘agroecological urbanism’: a model of urbanisation which places food, urban metabolic cycles and an ethics of land stewardship, equality and solidarity at its core. The project will explore the physical and metabolic context, scenarios for economic valorisation and political processes that can enable alternative metabolic capabilities, and the specific practices and configurations that farmers and food growing communities could develop in order to regain control over resources and claim an active role as agroecological urban food-water-energy actors.

## Eric Koomen

associate professor, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
Netherlands, Amsterdam  
<https://research.vu.nl/en/persons/eric-koomen>

The impact of urban resurgence on public green space

Cities are great places for interaction and innovation that continue to attract new waves of migrants (Florida et al., 2017; Glaeser and Gottlieb, 2006). This is reflected in the resurgence of most cities in Europe since the turn of the century (or even earlier, see: Turok and Mykhnenko, 2008). Their current popularity may, however, threaten their livability as house prices are soaring (Claeys et al., 2019), city tourism results in overcrowding (Namberger et al., 2019), congestion limits accessibility (Moya-Gómez and

García-Palomares, 2017) and green space is lost to urban development (Russo and Cirella, 2018).

The negative impacts of urban development are partly exacerbated by compact city policies that favour densification over expansion (Broitman and Koomen, 2015), giving rise to the so-called compact city paradox (Wiersinga, 1997). Cities are deemed to be more sustainable when they remain compact and foster high densities as this, for example, limits car travel (Newman and Kenworthy, 2006), but this comes at the cost of becoming less livable (Neuman, 2005) with loss of public green space as one of the most obvious consequences (Lin et al., 2015). This is particularly

worrisome in view of climate change that strengthens the need for green space to, for example, limit the formation of urban heat islands (Rafiee et al., 2016) and allow for water storage or infiltration in case of more frequent heavy rain storms (Voskamp and Van de Ven, 2015).

It is not easy to strike a balance between the positive and negative impacts of compact city development as their relative importance differs per city depending on the local context (Westerink et al., 2013). To support the careful management of public green spaces in urban areas it is thus essential to understand their provision of ecosystem services in relation to local demand. Based on recent research on Dutch cities, I will comment on the relative importance of densification versus expansion in accommodating the growth in housing since 2000, changes in the provision of urban green space and impacts on limiting the urban heat island effect. We find that Dutch cities become evermore important focal points for residential development. The majority of the residences created in the past few years was added to existing residential and industrial neighbourhoods within urban areas and only a small proportion replaced urban green space. Urban heat islands seem to be influenced more by urban expansion that extends their later extent than infill on urban green spaces that results in local increases.

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Key Words: Green Spaces; densification; livability; Nature based solutions; DILEMMAS

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Space for employment (NWO-SURF)
- SIMETRI (JPI-Urban Europe)

## Alisa Korolova

Lecturer, Researcher, PhD Student; Riga Technical University, Faculty of Architecture Latvia, Riga

Competing interests of different stakeholders are transforming public open space in large housing estates into the places of conflict. Despite the fact, that many large housing estates are characterized by large amount of green open space between houses, undefined nature of these areas, as well as lack of maintenance, growing number of cars, overall decay of recreational amenities, lead to conflicts between different user groups.

Relatively small size of apartments, as well as lack of community space indoors, makes the outdoor public space a crucial place for social cohesion, participation in community life, etc. These places can promote active lifestyle and positively influence inhabitant's well-being. Still, it's difficult to make these spaces more liveable as often people don't feel attached to them. Also, they are

not on the top of the preference list by local authorities to deal with.

Private ownership of courtyards sometimes leads to degradation of the territory until the investor comes with a certain development project. Infill development often creates gated or partly closed communities, fostering social segregation in the area. On the other hand, there has been an increase in the local activism. Neighbourhood associations and individuals are trying to participate or even force public open space transformations, to make it more attractive, inclusive and liveable.

Thus, it's a crucial question how to deal with all these initiatives and promote balanced, sustainable, and inclusive urban development.

Key Words: mobile urban gardening, large housing estates, conflicts of uses, local activism

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

My PhD research is focused on transformation of open public space in large housing estates. In terms of the PhD research we organised "mobile garden" event, as well as several other urban gardening - public open space transformation initiatives.

I'm also lecturer in the study course on outdoor space design for the 3rd and 4th year Architecture students. Each year we are collaborating with different municipalities and NGOs to create neighborhood or small town regeneration proposals.

## Adrian Moredia Valek

Urban regeneration specialist, ReGreen

Netherlands, Rotterdam

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/adrian-moredia-valek/>

As urban populations and cities continue to grow, public space becomes more a commodity than a right. Most of the cities around the world are urbanizing without considering sufficient space for human spontaneous activities. Meanwhile, public space offers "neutral ground" for human interaction and recreation, fostering social cohesion, environmental inclusion, and cultural expression.

My vision seeks to transform cities into ones that foster progress and equality while respecting planetary boundaries. I believe in strengthening civic participation in urban planning and management for the revitalization of public spaces.

In this workshop, I would like to discuss how public space could achieve its full potential, how public space has become the most important under-used asset in urban planning, and what benefits and services do multifunctional, integrated, and

environmentally friendly public spaces deliver to citizens. What is the future of public space?

My contributions to the AGORA Dialogues aims to explore "how increasing, connecting, and greening public spaces can become a powerful agent for adaptive urban regeneration" in the fields of:

- Urban Adaptation to Climate Impacts (climate sensitive design)
- Urban Contributions to Climate Change Mitigation (pollutants sequestration)
- Enhancing Urban Ecosystem Services (cultural, regulatory, provisioning and supporting services)
- Improving multimodal urban mobility (sustainable, fair, accessible, etc)

Cross-cutting topics: social equality/accessibility, local economic development and environmental inclusion (quality of life of citizens).

Key Words: climate change; ecosystem services; urban mobility

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

ReGreen is a company devoted to sustainable development in the urban-architectural contexts. Using in the built environment, low impact and innovative materials, technologies, and techniques for low-carbon and circular practices. Meanwhile, in the urban and territorial contexts, promoting public space, natural environments, green corridors, and land restoration. In complement, to an “eco-technology” implementation.

Integrating strategic solutions to pursuit Sustainable Development & Resilience at local and metropolitan scales.

1. Low Impact ARCHITECTURE
2. Green URBAN PLANNING
3. Sustainable TERRITORIAL MANAGEMENT & LAND RESTORATION"

# Miscellaneous

## Nele Descheemaeker

Neighbourhood Manager social affairs, City of Ghent Neighbourhood  
Belgium, Ghent

<https://stad.gent/nl/samenleven-welzijn-gezondheid/samenleven/de-sociaal-regisseur-als-verbindingsfiguur-de-gentse-wijken>

As a neighbourhood manager social affairs in the city of Ghent we are at clear and accessible position to work around complex questions about society on neighbourhood level. We try to connect spatial development and social challenges. We collaborate with fieldworkers through social innovation on complex themes as social housing, safety on public places social cohesion, poverty and vulnerability. We often

make a difference where we can connect with spatial development on a neighbourhood scale. I would like to exchange and contribute about this interesting dilemma with other civil servants and other participants.

Key Words: social innovation; integrated approach

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Neighbourhood managing
- Social innovation
- Dilemma spatial and social development city level

## Carina Gomes [not participating]

Architect, 2019  
Portugal, Braga

I always had passion about playgrounds and public spaces/landscape; and how those things can transform the city and in the same time the people's living. For me, the relation between common spaces, nature and playground are the most important things to give life quality and developed knowledge to the children - physic and psychological.

For that reason, I did my thesis about "THE PLAYGROUND AS ELEMENT REGENERATING URBAN SPACE AND THE STANDARDIZATION OF LUDIC". I wrote about the evolution of the playgrounds and how they start to be an

architecture element in the cities after the second war and the problem of the playground nowadays. In the end of the thesis I searched about the reality of the playgrounds in Portugal and try to find some responses to my questions, about the massive standardization of the playground in Portugal and why the children don't use it often.

So because of that I wanted that the people discuss about the play spaces for the children in the city!

Key Words: Playgrounds; regeneration

## Luiza Hoxhaj

Executive Director, Center for European Policy Studies on Regional and Local Development  
Albania, Tirana  
[www.crls.org](http://www.crls.org)

We have organiser of FoRLED and in the fifth edition we like to discuss about the topic of publikspace. I want to discuss the Managemento f the city and public space. We have organiser of

FoRLED and in the fifth edition we like to discuss about the topic of public space. Open lecture about public space.

## Karlis Kreslins

Rector, Associate Professor, Ventspils University of Applied Sciences  
Latvia, Ventspils  
[www.venta.lv](http://www.venta.lv)

The main experience about the public space has been gained from the state funded research programme EKOSOC (2017 - 2019) related on how the ecosystem of local municipality, business community, NGOs and local community can foster regional development and transform the country from monocentric to polycentric. The main interest is to research how the above mentioned ecosystem and involvement of each community member can help development of innovative products and solutions. Based on the experience in the current state funded research programme INTERFRAME I would like to discuss

how the aspects of intercultural relations, languages and digitalisation along with the local governments, business community and local community in general impact urban public space development. As my interest area also relates to innovations, new technologies and digitalisation I would like to stress the importance and role of those aspects and tools in the urban public space development and maintenance.

Key Words: intercultural relations; digitalisation;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Next Gen (Small Urban EU Cities) - EU financed project
- State funded research programme INTERFRAME
- KINGs - Kurzeme region innovation grants for students

## Velta Lubkina

professor, director of the research institute, Rezekne Academy of Technologies  
Latvia, Rezekne  
tdl.rta.lv

Main experience and interest related to implementation of interdisciplinary research, capacity building and the creation of a new knowledge base by studying the situation and transferring innovation to implement TDL in doctoral studies;

Development of new prototypes: e-platform, innovative methodologies (approaches, methods, techniques) for completing experiments, approbation, implementation and provision of new services in the context of higher education,

which will provide world-wide recognized knowledge transfer in the development of innovative and advanced didactic materials which meet the most topical priorities of the Smart Specialization Strategy set out in Latvia: Productive innovation system; modern ICT; Modern education; Knowledge base; Information and Communication Technologies for Education and Economics.

Key Words: ICT; capacity building;

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

- Applied and fundamental research of the Board of Science in Latvia about the Transformative digital learning (TDL) in PhD program;
- LV- UA R&D cooperation program Gender aspects of digital readiness and development of human capital in regions;

## André Francisco Pilon

Associate Professor (Senior), University of São Paulo / International Academy of Science, Health & Ecology

Brazil, São Paulo

[https://www.academia.edu/38312171/Abridged\\_Curriculum\\_Vitae.pdf](https://www.academia.edu/38312171/Abridged_Curriculum_Vitae.pdf)

In view of the overwhelming pressures on the global environment and the need to disrupt the systems that drive them, an ecosystemic theoretical and practical framework is posited for the evaluation and planning of communication, advocacy, public policies, research and teaching programmes;

Priority is given to a set of values, norms and policies in view of human well-being, quality of life and natural and built environments,

Challenges are more civic and political than technical, they depend on the paradigms of growth, power, wealth, work and freedom embedded into the political, technological, economic, social, cultural and educational institutions: to face lock-ins and barriers to

change it is mandatory to develop institutional capacity, judicial neutrality, informational transparency and social spaces for civic engagement.

Inequality cannot be solved by market-based solutions or isolated public or private sectors; it requires a change of asymmetric power relations and resource distribution. Wealthy elites, multinational corporations translate their economic power into political access and influence government decisions, further entrenching their advantage. States must enshrine in their laws the duties of corporations towards the environment throughout their operations worldwide

In the socio-cultural learning niches, awareness, interpretation and understanding encompass a thematic (“what”), an epistemic (“how”) and a strategic (policies) approach; as a process of exploration, inquiry, and discovery – rather than a recording or a re-presentation of an already established and finalized position – it builds the ground to create new paradigms for being-in-the-world; this implies many changes, reconsiderations and significant expansions in concepts and ideas.

Beyond generating new knowledge, contended values, social, cultural and economic constraints are faced, enabling people in the socio-cultural learning niches to develop new action pathways, to explore new scenarios and information

relevant to achieve outcomes. To define and deal with environmental problems, quality of life and the state of the world, communication, advocacy, public policies, research and teaching programmes should:

- a) define the problems in the core of the “boiling pot”, instead of reducing them to the ‘bubbles’ of the surface (effects, fragmented, taken for granted issues);
- b) combine all dimensions of being in the world in the diagnosis and prognosis of events, assessing their deficits and assets, as donors and recipients;
- c) promote the singularity (identity, proper characteristics) of and the reciprocity (mutual support) between all dimensions in view of their complementarity and dynamic equilibrium;
- d) contribute towards the transition to an ecosystemic model of culture, as an essential condition for consistency, effectiveness and endurance.

To create international collaborative ecosystem partnerships, we must deal with how land retrieval affects the retrieve of men and how retrieve of men affects retrieve of the land. Objectives should encompass all dimensions of being in the world (intimate, interactive, social and biophysical), as they combine to elicit the events, suffer the consequences and organize for change. International treaties should hold transnational corporations to account for environmental violations.

Involvement in the following projects regarding public space and related issues

I have an extensive career as an Associate Professor of the University of São Paulo; as a Psychologist of São Paulo State Court of Justice (Juvenile Court); as a Director of the Health Education Department, Ministry of Health; as the Editor-in-Chief, of the journal *Academus*. My affiliations include the International Academy of Science, Health & Ecology, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Science-Policy Interface), the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy, the World Alliance for Citizen Participation; the EuroScience; the Water Supply and

Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). My work integrates politics, economics, environment, quality of life and the state of the world and includes an ecosystemic model for diagnosis and planning of communication, advocacy, public policies, research and teaching programmes, considering the different dimensions of being in the world (intimate, interactive, social and biophysical), as they combine to elicit the events, suffer the consequences and organize for change.

## Kateryna Zuieva

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine  
Ukraine, Kiev

In Ukraine the question of urban research, innovation and technological development is in competence of several Institutions:

Ministry for Community and Territory Development of Ukraine, that is responsible for Strategy-building, environmental modeling, distribution of land use activities, sustainable development.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine is a central state executive body that shapes and implements state policies in the field of education and science. The Ministry plays a leading role in the Ukrainian R and D system.

National Academy of Science of Ukraine, that provide a scientific support for state policy decision.

Kyivmiskbud - Kyiv City Construction - The major construction holding company of Ukraine and the biggest construction company in Kyiv. It is also considered a community company that subordinates to the city government, which controls 80% of the company's stock.

In the Ministry of Education and Science system we have several universities that are always at the forefront of many strategic areas of research, from urban studies and environmental sustainability to membrane research, literature studies, technical technologies: Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, National Technical University of

Ukraine —Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv etc.

So, Ukraine has good basis for develop urban research. Concerning state funding of the research, we have in the Ministry each year competition according to different subject including urbane one. For instance we fiancé now the project of Karazin Kharkiv National University – Development of tools for implementation of the strategy of smart specialization in Kharkiv

And Ternopil Economic University – Functioning of the mechanism of sustainable development of urban transport on the basis of the concept of "smart city" and municipal ecology.

Also, budgeting for research projects in the urban sphere has the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. Unfortunately, Ministry for Community and Territory Development of Ukraine has no budget allocation for R and D sphere.

Till the participation in Expand II project. Urban research was not a priority for stakeholders in Ukraine. But, due to participation in EXPAND project Ministry Education and Science of Ukraine is creating the pool of expert for forming on the state level the policy in the field of urban research.



## JPI Urban Europe Team

Margit Noll (FFG)

Management Board Chair – Strategy and Coordination



Margit Noll is Chair of the Management Board of JPI Urban Europe since 2015. She has been involved in the development of the JPI Urban Europe from the beginning in 2009 and is in charge of the strategic development and the implementation of the programme, comprising international outreach, establishment of strategic partnerships and of a stakeholder involvement. Margit has 15 years' experience in research management and strategy development. Until 2016 she was also responsible for Corporate

Strategy at the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology. She has a PhD in physics and a MBA in general management. Margit is employed by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency FFG

Jonas Bylund (IQS)

Research & Innovation



Jonas Bylund is part of the JPI Urban Europe Management Board since 2013. His main responsibility is science-policy communication and to develop urban research and innovation funding calls with affiliated funding agencies as well as strategic other initiatives. Since 2013 he is also employed at IQS, the Swedish Centre for Innovation and Quality in the Built Environment. He is trained in human geography and social anthropology, with a specific research focus on the knowledge practices in planning and

environmental sciences. His PhD thesis Planning, Projects, Practice (2006) investigated a national investment programme concerning new environmental technologies in the case of Stockholm urban development and was an attempt to translate actor-network theory into planning studies. He is an experienced lecturer in urban and regional planning, with a particular focus on epistemology and ontology in the social sciences. He is also a consultant with Urbanalys.

Johannes Riegler (FFG)

Stakeholder Involvement Officer



Johannes Riegler started working with the JPI Urban Europe Management Board in 2012. As an assistant to the Chair of the Management Board, his work spans from strategic issues, stakeholder involvement process development and implementation to the preparing and facilitating JPI Urban Europe related events and activities. Furthermore, he is involved in the H2020 funded URBAN-EU-CHINA project where he ensures the exchange and communication between JPI Urban Europe and the project.

Johannes holds a B.Sc. in Geography and Regional Science as well as a MA in the UNICA 4cities Urban Studies programme. He conducted his studies in Brussels, Vienna, Copenhagen, Madrid, Budapest and Klagenfurt. Johannes is employed by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency FFG.

## Host

### **Uldis Berķis**

State Education Development Agency of Latvia (VIAA)

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Kaspars Karolis

Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia (IZM)

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## Observer

Evelyn Echeverria

Scientific Officer, Project Management Juelich

Germany, Berlin

## Annex:

Results of "Dilemmas of Public Spaces" session during the European Placemaking Week 2019, Valencia, Spain

JPI UE Team: Jonas Bylund, Caroline Wrangsten, Johannes Riegler

## Workshop results

The workshop attracted representatives from municipalities/cities: "in my job, dilemmas are everywhere" (participant). Below are some results from the two different group discussions.

### Group Discussion 1: Unfolding the dilemma

- a.) Which of the collected points build synergies, amplify each other for sustainable urban development / Inclusive public space?
- b.) Which of the collected points result in dilemmas, contradicting each other for sustainable urban development / inclusive public space?

Cluster	Dilemmas and Synergies
Safety	<p>Dilemma: Climate change and accessibility, meaning accessible public space vs. public space that adapts to climate change links to accessibility in green spaces.</p> <p>Dilemma: pen vs. closed spaces: improving security of private space such as terror protection/ road blocks etc. is important for safety but creates closed spaces.</p>
Inclusiveness	<p>Synergy: "Placemaking is about participating in public space": public space has to allow for incentives to interact and here we have to at least learn to tolerate "the other". Go "treasure" hunting with residents: don't just focus on problematics, develop the treasure of a place.</p> <p>Synergy: Flexibility in design and use is important. The role of the local governance is to organize security, cleanness and affordability. Here the challenge can also be the solution: if design is co-creative, it stimulates sense of ownership, which leads to affordable maintenance through stewardship: "we tend to take better care of things we create ourselves".</p>
Financing & Planning	<p>Dilemma: The speed of changing needs vs. the time and role of planning. The difficulties of commercial activity and financing of developments.</p>
Social cohesion	<p>Dilemma: Public spaces are too few and those that exist are badly designed or claimed by certain user groups at the cost of others.</p>
Lifestyles and density	<p>Dilemma: Lifestyles and density vs. green spaces. Too much pressure on public space in densification policies linking to housing needs and offices, etc.</p> <p>Dilemma: lightning to improve safety, but once illuminated, neighbourhoods become lively, noisy and changes...</p>

	<p>Dilemma: Battling urban sprawl but at the same time leave certain space untouched.</p> <p>Dilemma: ensuring open green spaces for climate-change adaptation but at the same time adopt densification policies.</p>
Climate crisis, green (s)pace, mobility	<p>Dilemma: Projects demand more greenery, but how to ensure accessibility to such greenery? How to ensure physical and mental access to green areas (wheelchairs access, sense of safety, etc.) Electric cars and their charging stations answers to climate issue but not space issue and instead adds cluttering in public space.</p> <p>Dilemma: Pace, how to make efficient transport (fast mobility) but also have people linger in space (“you don’t linger close to a fast-pace-transport lanes, even if sitting space is put up”). Businesses are affected by the “pace” at their entrance and doorstep. What pace should the city prioritise?</p>

## Group Discussion 2: Relevance of Placemaking

a.) How can placemaking connect between synergies and dilemmas?

- “Placemaking needs to answer to basic needs, not just the “extras” such as the colour of doors...”
- Value of placemaking: the temporary and the experimentation, also as means for nudging towards new and sustainable practises and change in mindsets. Or else, (too big of a) change can scare stakeholders into modes of resistance.
- It is problematic when placemaking only happens during a period of transition and doesn’t remain as means of maintenance as well
- Placemaking is also about sharing knowledge, learning practises, and having people understand the value of place. Recognise everyone’s expertise and include both working professionals and “place experts” (locals).
- Plan public space for wellbeing: bridge the research to these practises

b.) What methods are required to do so?

- Experimenting is reversible physically but not socially (“try and fail” can change mindsets) Regulations need to acknowledge that “failing” of something that has been put up temporary is ok: “the need to control the project and reach pre-set targets is in the way”
- “In placemaking we should have people thinking about these things, not us”
- Don’t forget the “public space on the borders”: the areas between regeneration projects and other areas are usually poor and becomes transition areas rather than invested in place-making wise (such as between brown-field development projects in industrial areas and the rest of the city). Include the residents in these between-areas in the development of the new neighbouring area.

- Not achieving what was set out to be the target is considered failure: never mind what other positive outcomes occurred instead. This need to plan and control stands in the way to discover and implement positive changes in urban public space.

## Consequences for research, innovation and policy making

- How to focus on welfare outcome and well-being outcome and not just economic outcome: can research help prove this value of placemaking: “us working with placemaking can see the difference made but we can not prove it, which is why its not taken seriously sometimes”
- What is the role of placemaking in welfare, and not just economics?
- How to monitor wellbeing before, during and after an intervention. What are the indicators that are easy and interesting to implement?
- Tactical urbanism: how can we plan in a way that have us adapt faster and go faster in a planning process.
- Research the consequences of social interaction and dynamics of placemaking
- Can we put experimenting and placemaking into regulations as “demands” in development efforts and planning efforts.?



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For more information on how to participate in the various JPI Urban Europe activities and to keep up to date with the news, events and activities visit the website

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