

Abstract Book

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Ordinary **Cities** in Exceptional **Times**

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ROUND TABLE I

Conveners | Carmel Rawhani, Nadine Appelhans

Participants | Dr. Oluwafemi Olajide, Prof. AbdouMaliq Simone, Dr. Mercy Brown Luthango

It was never 'normal': The disruptive powers of urban African everyday to urban development thinking

Carmel Rawhani, Nadine Appelhans

The abundant proliferation of multilateral international 'development' frameworks highlights a particular set of universal seemingly ordinary catchwords and elevates them to the status of ubiquitous norms. Inclusivity, justice, cohesion, solidarity, sustainability, and many others which have been left behind as respective concepts gain or lose popularity. These normative concepts are to be reproduced at the regional, national, provincial, and local levels. When we pause that reproduction, it becomes clear what is hiding behind this ubiquitousness: the assumed innocent neutrality of these powerful terms. But how neutral are they? What do they mean? And to what effect? Without this confrontation, we leave the experience of everyday life vulnerable to the unacknowledged and potentially problematic qualities of these ideas. In African cities in particular, the urban everyday reveals that we cannot assume this neutrality where years of doing so have produced tangible complexities that are far more nuanced than achieving or failing to achieve a set of development targets. The problem is that urban development has been constricted by a framing which imposes particular concepts onto Africa's cities based on their assumed innocent neutrality, when the everyday experience of those cities indicates these norms to embody powerfully problematic dichotomous hegemonies hiding behind the label of what is simply ordinary. The 'extraordinary times' we live in have opened up questions across multiple disciplines, the urban among them, about what the 'new normal' will look like. What will be ordinary? We posit that these discussions assume the previous existence of an agreed-upon 'normal', captured within the various ubiquitous norms we label as problematically neutral. We argue that a disruptive critique of these normative concepts, grounded in the African everyday, opens up space within which to dismantle this assumed neutrality, laying a foundation for providing actionable suggestions for change, and it is this exciting task which we take up for discussion in this roundtable.

We invited participants to provide provocations and contributions on the disruptive powers of the urban African everyday to urban development thinking.

ROUND TABLE II

Conveners | Angeliki Paidakaki, *KU Leuven*

Invited Speakers | Andreanecia Morris, *Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance*; Flozell Daniels, *Foundation for Louisiana*; Lazaros Petromelidis, *Greek Housing Network*; Nefeli- Myrto Pandiri, *ARSIS*; Nik Theodore, *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Redefining the resilient and just city in times of “crisis” and “normalcy”: A transatlantic and transdisciplinary conversation

Angeliki Paidakaki

This round-table discussion aims to reconstruct the concept of “resilience” and “housing justice” by shedding light on the political and institutional agency of housing non-profit/non-governmental organizations (NPOs/NGOs) and their alliances to introduce, improve and deliver “housing-for-all” policy aspirations and, in turn, co-produce more egalitarian post-crisis recovery outcomes. It will specifically focus on political claims, actions and strategies of these organizations and their umbrella organizations in their interactions with policy- and decision-makers during post-crisis periods to:

- leverage support and funding for affordable and adequate housing for all;
- correct dysfunctional governance arrangements (e.g top-down, pro-market, exclusive decision- and policy-making arenas);
- address socio-spatial injustices (e.g. gentrification, nimbyism, housing exclusion) and inherent biases within housing policies (e.g. structural racism)
- widen the range of housing options for needy populations (e.g. minorities, no/low-income, homeless, asylum applicants, refugees, immigrants).

The discussion will facilitate exchanges among housing practitioners (New Orleans and Athens) and urban scholars working with NPOs/NGOs on both sides of the Atlantic (University of Illinois at Chicago and KU Leuven) to (i) co-develop a new and deeper transatlantic understanding of the resilient and just city and its governance in times of “normalcy” and “crisis” (natural disaster, refugee crisis, public health crisis), (ii) deliberate on the nature of NPOs/NGOs’ political engagement and enduring challenges to co-build more open, democratic and bottom-linked modes of governance and fit the housing system to the needs of all; and (iii) reflect on the urban researchers’ potential in enhancing their professional’s long-term societal and spatial impact in and through their interactions with NPOs/NGOs and other civil society organizations in the field.

ROUND TABLE III

Conveners | Bianca Freire-Medeiros, Deborah Fromm

The technopolitics of mobility regimes: the exceptional as the ordinary in the contemporary city

Bianca Freire-Medeiros, Deborah Fromm

We have long known that cities are places of exchanges between different people, of acceleration of time, of objectification of relations and of monetization (Simmel 1903). More than a century after Simmel's seminal work, the forms of global circulation of products, people, technologies, resources and discourses are rapidly modifying contemporary cities. Trends towards widening inequalities and security measures that were once exceptional are now part of everyday life in global cities.

The roundtable integrates two dimensions of contemporary debates on transnational cities, largely worked on by proponents but little explored in an articulated manner in the urban literature: i) the debate on mobility regimes and global flows (value chains, transnational migrations, regulation, etc.); ii) the debate on contemporary technopolitics (the technical devices that are inscribed in power struggles for urban order, such as the elements of surveillance, data capture and securitization of urban everyday life).

The table proposes a hybrid composition between these two lines of debate, with comments from the organizers. The names to invite would be Corentin Cohen (University of Oxford) and Palloma Menezes (IESP/UERJ) besides the selection of colleagues who are interested in contributing new approaches to our themes.

ROUND TABLE IV

Conveners | Claire Colomb, *University College London, Bartlett School of Planning*; Yuri Kazepov, *University of Vienna, Department of Sociology*; Sonia Arbaci, *University College London, Bartlett School of Planning*

European urban studies and the ‘European city’ in the era of postcolonial comparative urbanism

Contributors:

- **Introduction**, Prof. Claire Colomb (UCL Bartlett School of Planning), **Prof. Yuri Kazepov** (University of Vienna), Dr Sonia Arbaci (UCL Bartlett School of Planning)
- **Is there (still) such a thing as the ‘European city’?** **Prof. Patrick le Galès** (Sciences Po Paris / CNRS) reflecting on his book *European Cities* (Oxford University Press, 2002), twenty years on
- **Enriching European urban studies from “the South”**, **Prof. Thomas Maloutas** (Harokopion University of Athens)
- **Enriching European urban studies from “the East”**, **Dr Slavka Ferenčuhová** (Czech Academy of Science, Institute of Sociology), **Dr Anna Zhelnina** (University of Helsinki, Helsinki Institute of Urban and Regional Studies)
- **The post-/decolonial critique and the call for global comparative urbanism: what does it mean for scholars of European cities and how should they engage?**

This round table will discuss the relevance of the concept of ‘European city’ and the legacy of the European scholarship of the past 25 years in the context of the now globalised field of ‘urban studies’. In the 1990s/2000s, scholars from different European countries (many active in RC21) produced seminal work that built on Weberian ideas to argue about the distinctiveness of ‘European cities’ in a globalising and neoliberalising world. This was a critique of the prevalent application of North-American theorisations and neo-Marxian political economy to explain what was happening in Europe - recognising the diversity of national linguistic and disciplinary traditions within the continent. Several books exemplify this, e.g. Bagnasco and Le Galès (2000), Le Galès (2002) and Kazepov (2005), which have shaped subsequent generations of European urban scholars. The first aim of the round table is thus to reflect on the contribution and continued relevance of this body of work two decades on, in a globalised world that has been mired by multiple crises. To an extent those debates continue today, as illustrated by critical analyses of ‘neoliberalism’ as an explanatory framework for urban change (Le Galès, 2016; Pinson and Morel *Journal* 2016) or by controversies on the “Americanisation” of public debates in continental Europe (Onishi, 2021; Guerrin, 2021).

Besides, over the past two decades powerful post-colonial critiques have emerged, calling for the ‘decentring’ of Europe and the reinvention of urban theory from the ‘Global South’. In that context, the huge diversity of ‘Northern’ or ‘Western’ urban research is often simplified into a big ‘black box’. Yet voices from Europe’s ‘South’ and ‘East’ have challenged the dominance of North-Western European scholarship to underline key differences within Europe (e.g. Arbaci, 2019). The second aim of the round table is thus to reflect on the contributions from Europe’s ‘South’ and ‘East’ to (European) urban studies, and on how European urban scholars can learn from the postcolonial call to ‘decentre Europe’ while sustaining a meaningful contribution to global ‘comparative urbanism’.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS PANELS No. 1 – No. 47

PANEL No.01: Conceptualizing temporalities of crisis and action in European cities. The case of conflicts and debates around urban development models

Conveners | Deborah Galimberti, Marc Pradel, *Centre Emile Durkheim (Sciences Po Bordeaux), France*

Emergency in the Longue Durée: A Historical Retrospective of Housing Policy in Greece through the Lens of Resilience

Ms. Maria Kouvari¹

¹*Independent Scholar, Bern, Switzerland*

Focusing on Greece as a case study, this paper explores the notions of emergency and resilience in housing policy from a “developmental” view. Turbulent factors, such as political instability, economic crises, migration flows, warfare, and natural disasters, have shaped housing policy in Greece from its early developments until today, as ad hoc interventions rather than a stable strategic plan. I claim that Greek housing policy evolved as a resilient mechanism to crises through adaptation in terms of its providers, beneficiaries, and structures of housing provision. This paper constructs fresh knowledge of Greek housing policy that focuses on State activity versus the master narrative in literature that promotes the absence of the Greek State in housing. Housing provision is not addressed as large-scale housing projects—as manifested in many Western European countries—but in a variety of other forms, such as land provision, aided self-help housing, subsidies, and the improvement of existing building stock, which are not documented and historised. It also offers a different conception of emergency and action through continuity and promotes a broader and more inclusive understanding of state housing. Five cases are critically analysed: Housing the Refugees (1922–1940), Housing the War-stricken (1945–1949), Housing the Slum Dwellers (1951–1972), Housing the Earthquake-stricken (throughout), and Housing the Returnees from the Soviet Union (1990–2001). This study shows how state activity in Greece normalised a sequence of unexpected emergencies. This paper addresses contemporary risk management planning in the face of financial crises, climate change, and human mobility, and suggests lessons to be learned from the past to improve present and future policy-making.

The temporal politics of a manufactured crisis: urban renewal in Moscow

Dr. Anna Zhelnina¹

¹*University Of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland*

A crisis is an opportunity for change: this formula became popular during the Covid-19 pandemic, but it applies to other kinds of social and political crises. In this paper, I explore the temporal politics of a manufactured crisis: “Renovation,” an urban renewal program in Moscow planned for 2017-2032. The project suggests demolishing thousands of socialist-era apartment buildings across Moscow, which house more than a million people and relocating the residents to yet to be constructed high-rises. In 2017, residents were invited to vote on the demolition of their buildings. The plan was announced unexpectedly, and the mounting of the program took only a few months. At the time of the vote, the conditions of relocations, the location of the new housing, and the relocation schedule were not available to Muscovites to make an informed decision. In addition, the Moscow government kept shifting the deadlines for decision-making it imposed on the residents, adding to the extreme uncertainty, under which

neighbors, opponents and supporters of Renovation, organized and tried to influence the fate of their buildings. This exercise of temporal power (Auyero 2012) complicated and discouraged the residents' collective action, and disrupted the social life of the affected neighborhoods.

The relocations began in early 2018, but the detailed timetable still has not been published. The renderings and promises of the new residential districts that the Moscow government used to lure people to join the program proved to be false: instead, people are relocated into poor-quality high-rises. The anxiety and disorientation created by the way the proposal was implemented in 2017 had personal, communal, and political costs, which I will explore in the paper. However, the period of emotional and stressful mobilization in 2017 also gave rise to new civic infrastructures and caused an influx of new players into the urban political field.

Scholarly pathways on post-pandemic urban sustainable mobility transitions

Dr. Carmen Perez del Pulgar^{1,2}

¹UFZ, Leipzig, Germany, ²University of Jena, Jena, Germany

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a set of non-pharmaceutical interventions by local and national governing bodies aimed at providing for a greater interpersonal physical distance to reduce the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. In cities, these interventions have involved important shifts in mobility patterns and land uses. Many of these transport and land use rapid transformations are in line with previous propositions for sustainable urban (transport) planning, which has led to optimistic framings of the covid-19 pandemic as an opportunity to change the status quo and speed up the transition towards more sustainable urban (mobility) systems. At the same time, many cities fear a collapse of their transportation systems because people consider that individual car usage has a lower infection risk. Much remains to be understood in regard to the magnitude, scope, manifestations and longevity of these rapid changes/responses to the pandemic. In this paper, we parse out potential longevity factors from the urban political ecology, urban geography, planning and systemic change scholarship on sustainable (transport) transitions and propose new questions, theoretical approaches, and research design approaches to examine the socio-spatial dynamics, ramifications and potentials of the urban mobility changes initiated in response to the covid-19 pandemic.

The issue of housing accessibility in densifying cities: Entangled housing and land-use policy limitations and insights from Oslo

Ms. Rebecca Cavicchia¹, Roberta Cucca¹

¹NMBU, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Oslo, Norway

In the face of global and worrying trends related to climate change and the "urban housing affordability crisis" (Wetzstein, 2017), urban densification is often seen as the most sustainable solution to combine efficient land use with the necessity to accommodate a fast-growing urban population. Indeed, several cities have introduced densification policies to counteract urban sprawl, protect natural land and resources, and create socially diverse and inclusive urban areas. However, within the housing sector, the implementation of densification policies might be linked to the intensification of existing and the creation of new social and spatial challenges. In this article, focusing on Oslo, we explore the relationships between densification, as a core concept of public policies, and the social sustainability of the housing sector, here conceptualized as the accessibility of the housing market. Drawing on the analysis of relevant policy documents and on semi-structured interviews with key informants, we analyze and retrace the process of planning and implementing urban densification in the past 20 years. Specifically, we focus on the limitations – with respect to local government's role, legal framework, and economic resources - in

combining urban densification and housing accessibility at the local level. We discuss how densification alone is neither sufficient to solve socio-environmental issues, nor does it stand alone as a cause of possible negative social implications. Rather, we argue that a critical approach that discusses densification's alleged benefits and drawbacks in relation to the broader policy context is crucial to understanding the possible socio-spatial implications.

Growing independent: conflict and strategies of the independent art spaces in Milan

Prof. Marianna d'Ovidio¹, Dr. Carlos Manzano¹, Dr. Cecilia Nessi¹, Ms. Laura Raccanelli¹

¹*Dip. Sociologia E Ricerca Sociale - Università Milano Bicocca, Milano, Italy*

This contribution positions the long-term crisis of the urban development models of European cities within the crisis of the institutional system of contemporary artistic and cultural production, with particular attention to the responses, strategies and conflicts of the independent contemporary art scenes in Milan. The local development of this city is often driven by private actors, particularly within the cultural creative system where culture is both an economic asset and instrumentally used by the local government for territorial cohesion.

The paper focuses on the local configuration of the independent art spaces, acknowledging the paradox of their integration as well as their distance within the cultural strategies of the city and their contribution to the broader "urban cultural atmosphere".

Independent art spaces are described within the art scene as "fluid, hybrid and transdisciplinary" spaces of production and/or exhibition of contemporary art. They are considered places of experimentation of new practices and languages where liminality, precarity and crisis seems to be the condition for their creative potential. Therefore, recognising and being recognised as an independent actor is often a temporary process and open to interpretation.

The research explores the cultural governance of Milan, questioning the role, spaces of action, conflicts, strategies of resistance and negotiation of the independent art spaces.

Starting from a review of previous definitions of independent art spaces, we discussed them with some key actors. After that, we conducted in-depth interviews with spaces selected through this process.

Since the boundaries of the local cultural scene are by their essence blurred and fluid, the definition and identification of these spaces is crucial to investigate power dynamics, the transformation of symbolic apparatuses and languages, points of rupture and continuity with the contemporary art system and their relationship with the territory.

Urban future-making in times of crisis and urgency.

Dr. Alessandra Manganelli¹

¹*Hafencity Universität, Hamburg, Germany*

We live in a time characterised by visible disruptions and profound crises, which exercise tangible consequences on the organisation of human settlements and societies. The combined effects of the climate change emergency, the Covid-19, as well as the instability of key social and political systems, usher the need to radically rethink modalities to plan for the future. In particular, the urgency to radically reduce energy consumption combined with expectations of energy, food and resource shortages, raise questions about the sustainable and just transformation of key socio-ecological infrastructures in urban areas (Bulkeley et al., 2014). These infrastructures can be defined as socio-material systems tailored to provide critical goods and services to citizens and people (The Foundational Economy Collective, 2018). Examples are in the field of water, food and energy.

Contemporary debates on city development display how modalities of intervening in the materiality of the city and imagining future socio-ecological infrastructures, are changing. On the one hand, there is a sense of urgency to rapidly change the course of development and to promote new experimental solutions in socio-ecological infrastructure systems. The “urgency to act” for a different future is often predicated through discourses around energy efficiency and resource optimisation (Kaika, 2004). Yet, on the other hand, new claims for socio-ecological justice also pop up (Castán Broto & Westman, 2020). Thus, it remains an open question how future-making practices can account for procedural as well as substantive questions of justice.

Taking the above into account, this paper attempts to theorise how urban future makers (i.e. urban professionals in different public, private and civil society spheres) perceive and try to respond to the above tensions. On this basis, this contribution shows how urban future-making in times of crisis and uncertainty can be directed towards more sustainable and just courses of action.

PANEL No.02: Contested property relations: Landed property regimes and housing precarity amid the Covid-19 pandemic

Conveners | Marianne Maeckelbergh, Christina Sakali, *University of Ghent, Ghent, Belgium*

Geographies of foreign housing investment in Greece: individual investors and small-scale dispersed housing properties

Dr. Matina Kapsali¹

¹*Aristotle University Of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece*

Since the 2008 global financial crisis, foreign real-estate investment in Greece has been framed as a key factor for the country's economic recovery and the reactivation of the real-estate and construction sectors that had been stagnating for almost ten years. Attracting foreign real-estate investment has become an important state goal, supported by targeted incentives and campaigns. Foreign housing investment has been encouraged due to low real-estate prices; the liberalisation of the secondary mortgage market and acceleration of foreclosures; the reform of planning regulations; tourist flows; access to the European Union; and the expansion of the platform economy and short-term rentals. Given the absence of large scale housing properties in Greece, investments are mostly channeled towards small scale dispersed housing assets. While the Covid-19 pandemic exposed the volatility of real-estate investment and the instability of housing market-cycles, these trends appear to persist, in line with global real-estate investment processes. In parallel to the introduction of corporate landlords and institutional investors in the Greek housing market, there is also a significant investment activity by individual investors from countries in geographical proximity, particularly from the Middle-East, the Balkans and Turkey. Focusing on these individual investors and building on the analysis of data collected through media entries and real-estate broker websites, we explore the changing trends and geographies of foreign housing investment in Athens and Thessaloniki. In doing so, we investigate the ways in which foreign housing investment in small scale dispersed housing assets in Athens and Thessaloniki is shaped through the interplay of investor types (individual vs corporate, foreign vs domestic, big vs small, etc.) and their motives (economic, cultural, political, affective etc.), property types, institutions and international networks. We also assess the variegated impacts -beneficial and adverse- that these investments have on local housing markets and societies.

"Housing is nowhere to be found": omissions and exclusions in Greece's RRF proposal

Mr. Nikolaos Vrantsis¹

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The pandemic put a starker spotlight on link between the exercise of right to housing and health, magnified wider questions of housing exclusion and homelessness across Europe and exposed the fragility brought about by the neoliberal undoing of tenure security. Hailed as a unique opportunity to render the European housing sector green and fair, the COVID Resilience and Recovery Facility (RRF) earmarked €47.28 billion on renovation efforts, and €5.5 on social housing. While countries like Portugal and Spain dedicated €2.7 and €1 billion EUR respectively to social housing, Greece responded with a single pilot social housing project of €1.2 million. The contrast in investment size becomes even more severe, considering that Greece stands out among all EU MS as the sole country with 0% social housing stock.

We analyse the underpinnings of the reluctance to systematically address housing in Greece's RRF proposal and the aloof indifference to the 'invisibles' in light of the legacy of familialism and asset based welfare policies constituting Greece as an outlier among other countries of South Europe, rendered all the more contradictory in a context characterised by a social reproduction squeeze after a decade of structural adjustments. We expand the concept of 'consequential categorization' (Wacquant and Akcaoglu, 2017) to look at the structure and content of the Greek proposal and to allow not only for an analysis of the argumentative frames but for unearthing the omissions when conceptualising social inclusion: who is framed (un)worthy and how, but also who is missing and why.

The overall absence of investment in social inclusion in Greece's proposal is forfeited to reproduce and reinforce a diachronic understanding of housing as a 'laissez-faire' domain, as it marks the social exclusionary grid through a vision with consequences: an antechamber opening up the way for the reification of exclusion.

Housing precarity through the lens of governmental precarization: (Re)distribution of protection and vulnerability during the Covid-19 pandemic

Dr. Christina Sakali¹

¹*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

This paper explores aspects of housing precarity during the Covid-19 pandemic, through the lens of governmental precarization. In moments of crisis, the neoliberal state redistributes repeatedly lowered minimums of protection and thus vulnerability, through policies and new (or existing) moral discourses of worthiness and blame. Concurrently with this redistribution of protection and vulnerability, long-standing market processes, such as those associated with the commodification and securitization of debt, financialization of housing, and dispossession, continue to precarize an ever increasing section of the population. A case in point has been the Bridge Programme policy in Greece. Through this temporary policy of loan subsidies, the state guaranteed loan repayments of homeowners affected financially by the pandemic, rewarding the most "consistent" amongst them and excluding from the policy overindebted homeowners who faced payment difficulties for other, structural reasons. At the same period this transitional policy went on, in June 2021, a new bankruptcy law went into effect, which liberalises foreclosures and introduces new actors and new market mechanisms for the financialization and repossession of debtors' homes.

Property and its discontents: Challenging housing precarisation in pandemic-era Greece

Mr. Theodoros Karyotis¹

¹*University of Ghent, Ghent, Belgium*

Greece, a country historically characterised by high homeownership rates and only rudimentary housing welfare policies, is undergoing a shift to increasing housing precarity since the start of the 2010s. The previously secure homeownership majority is rapidly precarised owing to the resolution of the long-standing non-performing mortgage crisis in favour of banks and investors. A perennially disadvantaged tenant sector is afflicted with the highest housing cost overburden rate among EU countries. At the same time, voiceless populations such as asylum-seekers and ethnic minorities reside in substandard conditions. Despite positing the home as paramount in the protection from contagion, the management of the Covid-19 pandemic by the government has only served to accelerate the above processes of precarisation by shifting blame and responsibility to the individual and –through moral discourses and legal arrangements– by further subdividing the population into those sectors worthy of official protection and those excluded from it. In this presentation, I am approaching the above processes not simply as by-products of austerity and fiscal consolidation, but as indicators of an incipient mode of governance through precarisation, whereby insecurity becomes the new norm for the entirety of the population. Subsequently I am outlining three distinct but overlapping responses to the above challenges on the part of social movements, animated by different appraisals of the role of homeownership and proposing different dividing lines among the exploiters and the exploited: A movement against housing auctions that attempts to defend homeownership against processes of dispossession by banks and investors; a movement of the precarious, aiming to link the issue of housing unaffordability with wider themes of urban exclusion, labour precarity, unemployment, exploitation and state repression; finally, a movement of migrant solidarity, which protests the dehumanising living conditions of migrants and asylum seekers.

Housing Financialization and Housing Precarity in Turkey

Ms. Dilek Karabulut¹

¹*Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne / UMR 8504 Géographie-cités, Paris, France*

In the beginning of 2020, when the Covid-19 pandemic emerged, the economy of Turkey was struggling to recover from the negative effects of a debt crisis that had commenced in 2018. This study aims to present the reflection of Covid-19 crisis on the housing precarity in Turkey through introducing the boom-bust cycle of the construction sector and the housing financialization.

Since the 2000s, the housing provision in Turkey has mainly been maintained through promoting and facilitating the homeownership, rather than developing the social-housing system or regulating the rental housing market. After the deteriorating effect of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), the government adopted a more “debt-fuelled growth” in the economy with an intensified intervention in the built environment.

Through the new instruments in the housing financialization in the post-GFC period, the housing loan market gained momentum, and it maintained this upward trend until 2018. When this growth policy eventually resulted in the construction sector-based debt crisis in 2018, the government made some measures and legal arrangements to alleviate the negative effects of the debt crisis, e.g., zoning amnesty law and housing construction campaign. Owing to these regulations, the construction sector recuperated relatively from the last quarter of 2019. However, Covid-19 lockdowns in April and May 2020 have negatively re-affected the mortgage sales. In June 2020, the government of Turkey introduced a loan package that constituted a decline in the mortgage interest rates with longer payment terms. Due to the Loan Incentive Package, in the second quarter of 2020, the mortgage sales increased sharply (please see the Figure). However, the currency crisis and accompanying high inflation in the second half of 2021

reversed this short-term upward trend of the mortgage sales, and the residential prices have dramatically increased which eventuated a far-reaching public discontent and students housing protests in the country.

Tenant rights and property structures in post-homeownership societies

Dr. Lorenzo Vidal¹

¹*Institute For Housing And Urban Research, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden*

Mortgage holders were the protagonists of the 2008 global financial crisis, yet it is renters who have featured more prominently during the Covid-19 crisis. Countries at the centre of the last mortgage crash witnessed homeownership rates decline and the private rental sector expand to house a new “generation rent”. Their residential property landscapes also changed in the process, with the growing prominence of global investment funds and an older “generation landlord”. As emergency measures and legislative proposals have been put on the table during the pandemic, these new fault lines in the housing sector have come into sharp relief. Demands for improved rights and protections for tenants have been met with concerns about harming “mom and pop” landlords and impacting on the savings of pensioners and small investors. This distributive dimension to housing conflicts in post-homeownership societies is explored with reference to the paradigmatic case of Spain. Public discourse analysis is set against the backdrop of data on property structures and household wealth and income. This approach contributes to better understanding the sociological basis of contested property relations today and critically interrogates one of the main obstacles to housing justice in the wake of the pandemic.

Is property polarization giving way to diverging experiences of citizenship? Evidence from Europe and the United States.

Dr. Carlos Delclós¹

¹*Universitat Autònoma De Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain*

During the 2010s, Europe and the United States experienced important shifts in the structure of their housing regimes. With few exceptions, the role of the private rental market has expanded at the expense of homeownership and social housing in these areas. At the same time, several countries have seen increases in landlording. Where both of these trends have occurred, economic inequality has increased, a diverging dynamic referred to here as property polarization.

Despite an ample literature on the relationships between housing and political participation, the role of one’s property relationship to housing in this dynamic remains understudied. Using data from the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) and the American Housing Survey, this study examines the contribution of housing property status to income inequality in the United States and six European countries: Denmark, Spain, France, Greece, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. It finds that, between 2007 and 2020, the share of household income inequality accounted for by variation between landlords, owner-occupiers and tenants rose modestly in the Netherlands, more intensely in France and exponentially in Spain. These diverging trends are then linked with analyses of data from specific modules on political participation, which suggest property status is associated with differentiated degrees of political trust and active citizenship. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications of property polarization for experiences of democratic citizenship in these countries during the period of observation.

PANEL No.03: Cultural flagships: pathways, practices and politics of an urban intervention

Conveners | David Gogishvili, Julio Paulos, *University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland*

Beyond Image Architecture. Museum Architecture and Regional Identity Formation in Small Towns in Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Karen van den Berg¹, Lic. phil. Janine Schiller², Dr. des. Eva Zepp¹

¹*Zeppelin Universität, Friedrichshafen, Germany*, ²*ZHdK, Zurich, Switzerland*

For more than twenty years, urban planners seem to follow the Bilbao Effect mantra, all the way to the provinces. At the same time, however, planning maxims that were negotiated under the premise “Bilbao Effect” were regarded as the epitome of the neoliberalisation of urban planning. French sociologists Luc Boltanski and Arnaud Esquerre refer to this strategic use of image architecture as “Economy of Enrichment” (2020). Numerous buildings are seen as examples of the failure of the Bilbao narrative. The ruins of Saakashvili's “building mania” in Georgia are a particularly striking example.

In our presentation, we will argue that both the affirmative Bilbao Effect mantra and the critique of it, follow under-complex narratives.

Our interview-based study of five so-called landmark projects in four countries around Lake Constance investigates the long-term influence of signature buildings on regional self-images. It aims to show that both the attribution as image architecture and its local significance for urban development arise less from a rational calculus, than from multiple influencing factors within a dynamic ecosystem. We will argue that museum buildings considered as landmark projects or image architecture, firstly, follow less a clearly neoliberal urban planning premises or rational decisions, but rather owe themselves to complex local ecologies. Secondly, we will show that – as far as the investigated museums are to make a sustainable contribution to local processes of identity formation – on-site educational and artistic programming is much more significant than the architectural envelope. Thirdly, we will point out that the contribution to the built urban environment is a decisive factor. And fourthly, the study concludes that the history of the buildings’ creation plays an important role in their local integration and long-lasting appeal.

Consuming Istanbul: Galataport

Dr. Aysegul Can¹

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Galataport Istanbul is a public-private and state-backed port-renewal project that stretches by the coast of historical Istanbul. This cultural development project was announced in 2002 but was met with legal challenges and criticism from the urban planning community. Since then, there have been many lawsuits, changes to urban laws and regulations, revisions to urban policy papers, and demolition of listed historical monuments to facilitate the construction of this project. Galataport includes luxury hotels, restaurants, and retail services that were completed and opened to the public in late 2021.

It is no secret that there has been an urban redevelopment frenzy in Istanbul since the early 2000s. In the last 20 years many controversial, profit-led, and politically motivated urban regeneration, renewal, and infrastructure projects have been proposed and constructed. Galataport is only another addition to this long list. However, along with other culturally motivated projects constructed in the historical environment, Galataport is promoted as the ‘modern face’ of Istanbul and it is said to ‘add tremendous value to the brand of Turkey’.

In this paper, I aim to examine the effects of and challenges against this significant cultural urban development project beginning from its first announcement in 2002. To be able to do that, I first analyse the legal challenges and changes, and policies that were enabled to make this project happen. Secondly, the paper employs an ethnographic case study method, relying on participant observation. I perform formal observation of Galataport and its surrounding neighbourhoods weekly to analyse the use of this space as part of the city and as part of the everyday lives of Istanbulites. The paper concludes with some remarks on the increasing spatial gap between the citizens of Istanbul and the brand of Istanbul.

Exploring the links between transnational architects and local flagship projects

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In recent decades, flagship projects have become a way to internationalize cities and establish them on a global stage. Resorting to internationally famous designers, opening opportunities for international investors, attracting global attention and tourism have become common strategies that circulate among cities. Flagship projects are expected to play a key role in the transformation of one area or even improve the image of an entire city. Given their “exceptional nature,” flagship projects are expected to require specialized designers that typically operate in different countries and cities. Substantial research work has been carried in discussing individual projects or their urban effects. However, less attention has been focused on the specific link between the transnational trajectories of designers and the local contexts where they operate. This paper explores this link by selecting and following the transnational firm SANAA, using 3 example cases of cultural flagship projects in different countries to further unpack the specific mechanisms of this link. We pay particular attention to the mobilities of the firm, the design solutions, technologies used and the importance of contextual factors in the success of projects as well as of urban transformations attached to them. In analyzing the similarities and differences between the cases we intend to call attention to some of the key elements within the transnational decision making and design process. This initial case study that focuses on following the firm rather than just one project is proposed as a methodological test to be expanded and built upon in the future.

Ponzini, D. (2020). *Transnational Architecture and Urbanism: Rethinking How Cities Plan, Transform, and Learn*. London: Routledge.

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Nantes, Iconic Palimpsest – From Landmark to Flagship

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From the Bilbao experience, the City of Nantes (Fr) learned that culture could add value to a city and impulse urban change. But questioning the production of flagships through iconic buildings, the municipality relied on an existing network of cultural actors to quickly and with moderate investments enhance its image and drive urban transformations. The choice was made to support street festivals and cultural events, inviting international artists to produce themselves. In parallel, Alexandre Chemetoff, a landscape architect was commissioned with a masterplan for the former industrial island in the heart of the

city. His project relies on the history of the site, enhancing the qualities of its materiality, reusing derelict buildings and focusing on public space rather than on architecture. The city developed an image now widely used in its promotion and turned its industrial remains into iconic elements of a touristic attraction. Capitalising on these initial successes, the municipality institutionalised the integration of the creative class to its urban development projects to position itself as a creative city in the competition between French metropolises. This approach is leading to a separation between “top-down” and “bottom-up” cultural initiatives and critics are rising from a part of the local artists.

This contribution presents a reconsideration of new iconic buildings as flagships and aims to give an insight into a strategy using on-site resources to enhance cultural value. Through a field research and a literature review I will present an analysis of the integration of cultural promotion and urban development strategies in Nantes, focusing on how the city chose to support grassroots initiatives and the re-use of pre-existing buildings to create a strong cultural identity. This research contributes to the interrogation of cultural flagships, both through a questioning of star architecture and of the exploitation and touristification of the city.

Opening new public spaces: the role of social media in shaping the cultural ecosystem of Milan, Italy

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This contribution aim to explore the publicness dimension of the urban texture, and its transformation, focusing on both cultural production and consumption in the city of Milan.

Milan has taken a path, like many other cities, based on the attraction and development of advanced segments of the economy (cultural, creative, knowledge-intensive, ...), aligning perfectly to the model of the so-called creative city. Notably, this is based on strong financialization dynamics affecting the whole urban life by merely accounting the exchange value at the expense of the use value. Processes of social and cultural polarisation, privatisation of public spaces and homogenization of cultural production are consequences of such a drift.

On this background, we observe the challenging, within the cultural sphere, of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has brought cultural institutions to a digital transformation, forcing them to reconsider the ways in which physical encounters with their public happen. Digital tools to reach and engage cultural audiences, such as social networks, have contributed to modify both the public cultural space of interaction and the cultural supply.

Using big data from social media platforms (i.e. facebook, instagram, youtube) of culture producers, together with face-to-face interviews, digital and traditional ethnography, the paper explores how and to what extent the digital shapes the publicness of the urban space within the cultural ecosystem on a twofold level of analysis. a) Micro level (exploring practises): the extent to which the digital contributes to the creation and transformation of new public spaces for practices of cultural production/consumption, and its role in paving the way to a permanent reconfiguration of public spaces. b) Meso and micro level (exploring networks and ecosystem): the extent to which the digital crafts the Milanese ecosystem of cultural production, for instance by strengthening or weakening actors, opening spaces for minor or marginal players, newcomers.

Rise of the global cultural capitalism and its global urban dimension

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Ever since the opening of the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, major cultural institutions have become an important driver in the globalisation of cities. Known as cultural flagship buildings, however, these institutions have so far remained neglected in the literature on cities and globalisation, despite the large investments and transformative impact associated with them. Addressing this gap, this paper traces the global spread of new cultural flagships - large museums, multifunction arts venues, performance venues and libraries - between 1990 and 2019 as a globally mobile urban intervention, based on a custom-built database containing 288 flagship buildings worldwide with a total cost of USD 60 billion. It finds a strong increase in the number of new cultural flagships opened between the early 1990s and the late 2010s. What is more, there is a geographical shift away from the established centres of culture in North America and Western Europe and towards Asia, with a particular concentration in China and the Persian Gulf. Shanghai stands out as the city with the highest number of cultural flagships in this period (13) among the 84 built in China. The Western cities with the most flagships are Miami and Washington D.C., with five new buildings each. By contrast, Los Angeles, Paris and London have had fewer new flagships but the highest expenditure. Beyond illustrating the fast-changing geographies of global cultural circuits, our results call for an extension of the concept of global cities to encompass culture and a notion of global urbanism that recognises the dynamics of non-Western cities in sectors such as high culture, long considered a prerogative of Western cities. We also show that the new global geographies of cultural flagships transcend the Global North/Global South binary, as they show the rise of the Global East.

Turning nature into a cultural urban brand: The historic production of local green identities through the Green Belt, Vitoria-Gasteiz

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With increasing interurban competition, place branding and marketing of local identities become a strategy for urban economic development. In recent years, there is increasing attention from city planners and local decision-makers on green(ing) cities, wherein parks and natural areas are used and pushed forward as cultural assets of value for the local economy, such as the High Line, New York. Urban nature and related green infrastructure planning are used to attract tourism, increase livability and attraction for the middle and upper classes, and increase international investments. What thereby counts as a desirable green intervention follows universally decided criteria, as cities aim for international awards and recognition. In this paper, we examine the socio-political factors conditioning the creation and evolution of green flagship projects and their role in urban place-branding in the case of the Spanish mid-sized city Vitoria-Gasteiz, capital of the autonomous region of the Basque Country and 2012 winner city of the European Green Capital Award. Based on a critical discourse analysis of archival data and in-depth interviews, we explore the historic production of a green identity that enabled the development of an green belt into a cultural asset over a period of over forty years and determine four factors being crucial: (i) an example of early good leadership with a social and green city being core objective of planning, (ii) policy mobilities and the thrive for being a global best-case example and green pioneer, (iii) an violent political identity conflict in the Basque Country and the need for consensus and shared goals, and (iv) technocratization and de-politization of the surrounding discourses.

We argue how a social green amenity that served as a unifying project across polarized political fractions turned into an economic cultural asset for local profitmaking.

Keywrrurban green branding, urban (re)development, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Green Belt, sustainability fix

Urban Transformations of Former Industrial Neighborhoods: Scrutinising urban networks – a comparison of Savamala (Belgrade) and NDSM Wharf (Amsterdam)

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¹*Hafencity University Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany*

Research examines the transformation of Savamala and NDSM Wharf, former industrial neighborhoods located on the riverfronts. The research is a comparative case study and aims at exploring urban networks. By employing social network theory, this research examines power geometry in the process of creativity-led urban regeneration. It explores the mechanisms of policy-making and decision-making processes and explains the transformations of the networks of the stakeholders. Likewise, it provides an explanation of the individual and collective social actions and the cultural and socio-psychological context in which the actors act (Emirbayer and Goodwin, 1996), and how those actions have led to the creation of the particular outcomes of the regeneration process. The results suggest that Amsterdam has a more comprehensive policy towards urban regeneration in contrast to Belgrade's case. The NDSM Wharf is an integral part of the development of the northern part of the city. For instance, the foundations for the urban policy can be found in the Breeding ground (BG) policy and the establishment of the BG burro by the city council. Furthermore, it can be observed that the policy network in Amsterdam's case has included more diverse network participants in the policy-making process, and knowledge is more widely distributed in contrast to the former case. Nevertheless, similarities in policy goals can be observed in both compared cases respectively. However, the results in Amsterdam's case indicate a policy network with a particular agenda i.e. a mixed-use development, and with policy goals that are to a large extent held in the following years. On the other hand, Belgrade's case indicates structurally different policy networks with different agendas and goals which are not coherent. This has negatively affected the effectiveness on the community level, in contrast to the positive externalities that can be observed in the former case.

Ways of intertwining city and literature: iconic urban symbols from the field of literature

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The presentation analyzes the relationship between literature and city, focusing on the question of how elements of the literary field contribute to the city identity. Starting from the understanding of the literary field as a space that includes literary works, writers, literary events, and institutions, it is discussed how these different components of the field contribute to the sense of the cities' specificity and uniqueness. The analysis is inspired by the work of Peter Nas and his associates (Nas, 1993, Nas, 1998, Nas, De Groot, Schut, 2011) and more particularly the concept of "urban symbolism". The notion of "urban symbolism" helps us understand symbolic and ritual structures which reflect the history of the urban community and shape the identity of a city. Following the typology of "urban symbol bearers" proposed by Peter Nas and his associates, we identified key identity markers of the city which are related to the literary sphere which

are related to the literary sphere, such as monuments dedicated to writers and literary characters, literary institutions (literary museums and libraries), depictions of cities in literary works, literary events, and other related phenomena. The importance of identification of such identity markers, “urban literary symbols”, lies in providing deeper understanding of interconnection between city identity and literary field, as well as, in considering the possibility of using them as a cultural resource for local development. Urban literary symbols connected with the globally most famous authors and books are promotional icons abundantly used in city branding strategies as a tool to raise tourist attractiveness of the city. However, urban literary symbols connected with authors and literary works that did not gain global recognition are unsustainable means to promote the culture of the city, and therefore have been largely overlooked in urban cultural policies.

PANEL No.04: Decolonising urban knowledge(s): an ordinary imperative in extraordinary times

Conveners | Catalina Ortiz, *University College London, London, United Kingdom*; Penny Travlou, *ESALA, Edinburgh College of Art/University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK*; Elizabeth Sweet, *University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, United States*; Giulia Testori, *Joint Research Centre - European Commission*; Raksha Vasudevan, *Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, United States*, Marina Toneli Siqueira, *Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, Brazil*

Activist infrastructures and commoning "from below" The case of Cheetah Camp, Mumbai

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This paper builds life histories of figures that are linked through shared housing struggles for creating and consolidating an informal settlement in Mumbai against tremendous odds. It argues that this interwoven mesh of living activist knowledges, practices and affective relations acts like an infrastructure (Simone 2004) that sustains and nurtures many poor, informal settlements to exert presence in the city and negotiate citizenship claims counter to the dominant pattern of housing and habitation. We draw upon Simone's work to talk about one type of people- infrastructure – community activists – of crucial importance in inspiring new forms of solidarity, shared caring, creative adjustments and common life. These living infrastructures, we argue, symbolize the engine of agency that can transform informal places from below through the process and collective labour of commoning. They make a variety of things possible – from schools to creating refuge, from greater mobility for members to greater ability to remain rooted in the place they hold dear.

We develop our argument using the case of one informal settlement, Cheetah Camp, to illustrate how living infrastructures initiate three different counter projects and the ensuing trajectory of place-in-process over a 50- year period. Thinking from Cheetah Camp as a place from where theory can be made, we argue that activist infrastructures constitute alternate forms of knowing, inhabiting and transforming the city. By understanding the work that goes into creating and maintaining these living infrastructures, along with their possibilities and limits for transformation of settlement and city, we take the project of decolonizing urban knowledges on (informal) housing and city building seriously.

Black Utopia in Europe: Investigating the potential of alternative utopias for marginalized city makers

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To transform our urbanized society, new visions for cities are needed. Recently, we have turned to city makers for such innovation, largely believing their efforts to be a democratic evolution of formal urban development. However, outside of academia views on what constitutes city making and who may engage in doing so, are often narrow. City makers usually signify young, white, and privileged individuals. The contributions of racialized, ethnicized persons and migrants are not recognized to the same extent. Here a parallel to utopias and whose imaginations we pay attention to, can be drawn. Historically, western utopias have provided alternative visions of society, including ways of living in the city, and have served as a source for inspiration of political thought and collective action. However, in some cases, they were also vague, grandiose, steeped in colonialism and espoused racist views. Therefore, casting doubt on their usefulness as an inspiration for urban transformation and city making, especially when it comes to marginalized communities. Yet utopian thinking has persisted, and newer traditions of Feminist and Black utopia show us that decolonizing them is possible. To understand the potential of alternative utopias for city making, we therefore must investigate both common themes emerging from such utopias and ways in which they might inspire marginalized city makers. Some have noted a lack of awareness of racial issues or their denial within Europe, perhaps that is why the aforementioned literature has not reached wide dissemination within academia here, making it even more relevant. This paper conducts an integrated review of the relevant literature and attempts to provide a link to urban and planning theory, particularly in the European context.

Building Knowledge: The challenges of creating a ‘Southern’ frame for urban planning pedagogy

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The ongoing global urban transition, led by cities in the Global South, presents one of the defining development opportunities of the 21st century. Rapid urbanization in the next 30 years will lead to an explosion in the demand for livelihoods, urban renewal, infrastructure and real estate development, food, water, energy, housing, and digital technology. The challenges that face our cities today are more interdisciplinary, inter-connected, and intertwined than ever before. This complexity of 21st century challenges require a fundamental paradigm shift in research, education and training. New and different institutional capacities and new knowledge paradigms are therefore vital to address the sustainable and inclusive urban development, innovation and technological opportunities of the 21st century.

This paper sets out the challenges that institutions that engage with knowledge production, education and training face, particularly in the context urban planning in the Global South, and the role that they can play in helping to tackle global urban challenges. Drawing on expert interviews across Asia and Africa, and institutional histories, we posit that there are five major challenges that institutions of learning and knowledge production face: how to teach (the method/approach to teaching and learning); what to teach (interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches); whom to teach (conventional students, mid-career learners, practitioners with little or no formal education); where to teach (sites of learning – the university/higher education institution or other locations for lifelong learning); and how to manage equity in the teaching and learning process (equity in access to education/learning, but also in representation in

the classroom). As we engage with these challenges, we also begin to suggest potential ways forward that are currently being implemented in different contexts and by different institutions.

Decentering debates on culture in cities beyond the West: alternative perspectives from Istanbul

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This article promotes counter-hegemonic inquiry on culture and the city in urban studies. Debates on the role of culture in urban development are built on a series of pillars, from an understanding of 'urban culture' as a community-builder to culture as a creative tool for urban (re)development. Nevertheless, the literature lacks epistemic justice due to a persistent Eurocentrism of both the idea of culture and the city, preventing an understanding of current challenges from non-Western contexts. The continuous portrayal of a Western urban and cultural model translates into a theory-making imbalance: inquiries on culture and the city elsewhere are deemed less worthy of scholarly attention or in need of validation through the comparison with the West.

Following recent work on southern urban critique, I discuss the case of Istanbul and the 2020 conversion of Hagia Sophia from a museum into a mosque. I explore ordinary practices in Hagia Sophia, which constantly blur spatial, religious, and cultural uses. These experiences on the ground highlight how the confinement of culture in the Western idea of modernity and secularism is not always suitable to grasp the current conflicts in Istanbul, nor to unbundle new multiplicities of what constitutes "culture" from current theoretical assumptions. The case of Istanbul suggests the re-insertion of religion, informality, and affects to interpretations of culture, to unlearn and provincialize the dominant knowledge production in urban theory.

This work builds on ethnographic research and mobilizes walk-along interviews and affective mapping as methods to value the connections, practices of care, and forms of knowledge of ordinary people. Thus, it promotes the diffused relocation of a vision of culture and the city exceeding and reconfiguring the parameters imposed by Western epistemology.

Decolonising Local Planning: Language, articulation, representation Propositions from Chittur-Thathamangalam, Kerala, India

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Critiquing the dominance of western experience and intellectual traditions in urban theory, Robinson (2002) calls for decolonisation of urban studies by "restructuring the terrain" so that theory generated in and from specific places/experiences, particularly underrepresented in urban theory, can travel and illuminate other places/experiences. What conditions shape this "terrain" in the postcolonial contexts and what needs restructuring to enable a genuine "dialogic" non-hierarchical cross-cultural epistemological exchange (Chakrabarty, 2005)? Sundaresan (2018) has shown how the very categories that articulate this terrain in the post-colonial contexts are incapable of this task due to their foundational and structured epistemic, methodological and institutional coloniality. How do we address this problem then? What manoeuvres can help us beyond critiques of the metropolitan engagement with its periphery?

From the location of our own praxis in India, in this paper we will share lessons from our attempts to shape a decolonial praxis by surpassing the epistemic and methodological injustices embedded in the Masterplan, and some of its categories - like 'urban', 'land use' and 'heritage' - as well as the tools deployed (zoning,

greenbelts, bypasses). Specifically, we will draw from our experience of working as lead advisors in setting up and implementing a participatory plan-making process in a small town called Chittur-Thathamangalam in Kerala. Our ongoing interventions attempt to restructure the Master plan process, and reimagine the content and instruments including language, categories of articulation, mapping and representation, notion of value and participation.

Decolonizing urban knowledge through teaching collaboration

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In an ongoing teaching collaboration with a center for undocumented immigrants in Zurich, we aim at decolonizing the production of urban knowledge through two critical and overlapping collaborative practices: first, in co-producing knowledge with undocumented immigrants through methodologies of just collaboration (Reyna and Lopez, 2021), and, second, in recognizing “the university classroom as a site of decolonization” (Mbembe, 2015) to rethink practices of teaching through collaboration. As part of the push for epistemological justice, scholars aiming to decolonize urban knowledge have proposed fruitful ways to foster knowledge co-production (Osuteye et al., 2019). Though knowledge about urban change is increasingly developed in partnership, knowledge production in teaching often remains entrenched in traditional roles of teaching and learning, research objects and subjects, and their attendant power asymmetries. Especially when working with groups historically the “subjects” of research rather than the authors of expertise, teaching can be a site to transgress these established relations (hooks, 1994). Our teaching collaboration with the Sans-Papiers Anlaufstelle Zürich (SPAZ) and a group of undocumented immigrants in the context of a postgraduate geography course at the University of Zurich suggests a number of critical possibilities and practical challenges of advancing epistemological justice that concern issues of authority and voice. On the one hand, we highlight the contributions of this research in terms of the selection of topics, spaces of research, and the development of methods. On the other hand, we detail the difficulty of funding collaborations within existing schemes dedicated to either research OR teaching, the linguistic demands and limitations of ourselves and participants, the reliance on mobile chat and in-person meeting, the anonymity required yet rendered ethically precarious given Corona regulations in university spaces. Inspired by feminist geographers pushing theory-building frontiers, we analyze these practicalities as moments of radical possibility for decolonizing knowledge production.

Design as Decolonial Urban Praxis

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As evidence of the past, ruins are the express materialization of the right to history in (post)colonial cities. Yet the abstraction of macro-political perspectives and the immediacy of the micro-political approach serve to disenfranchise oppressed minorities as spokespersons of their own past. Questioning manifestations of power in the everyday urban fabric, an interdisciplinary scholarship of conflict has addressed ruins from geopolitical perspectives to register violence and attempt to offer novel cultural advocacy on behalf of the displaced. Yet the geopolitical lens does not necessarily subvert power’s epistemological dominance, which is often depicted as a pervasive, causal determinant. This paper scrutinizes the explicit role of the spokesperson by identifying three actions in the claiming of urban histories: confrontation, subversion, and negation. Through this exposition, the subalterns are revealed as spokespersons who transgress disciplinary boundaries in the production of power and knowledge. This paper draws on the authors’ parallel critical urban research on the Israeli–Palestinian and Cyprus conflict to examine cases where the

subalterns act as spokespersons, adopting design as a heuristic for the ideological theorization of colonialism, and as a critical praxis in the production of new histories. Design, the paper aims to show can serve as pedagogy in the discursive/material transformation of colonized urban knowledges and spaces.

Design as Prompt: Experiments in Pluriversal Politics and Southern Urban Practice

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(Urban) Design is political. One of the first steps towards decolonizing urban design practice is to imbue it with explicit radical politics. This implies sidelining egocentric, colonial and technocratic notions that seek control and order over socio-natural worlds. In this paper, we reflect upon our experience of collaboratively working towards the ‘design’ of a city center in the small border town of Abohar in Punjab, India. Drawing upon notions of situated urban practice put forth by Southern Urban theorists, embedded in feminist geographic and political ecological frameworks, and aspiring towards a pluriversal politics, we conceptualized a pedagogical studio that would engage with Abohar and propose interventions.

The team (that we call Abohar Urban Fellows) were mentored by a feminist urban geographer and a landscape architect. Over the course of 9 months, the fellows worked towards gaining a deep ethnographic understanding of the city. This critically reflexive process that we hoped would lead to an ecologically sensitive and socially inclusive design created more questions than it answered. Every line we drew was fraught with contradictions. What does inclusion mean? - Is public space to exclude non-human animals? How does one negotiate neo-liberal aspirations when they come from city residents? Do we ignore them in light of the ecological understanding we have gained? How does one retain a fluidity in design and yet give exact specifications in the working drawings?

Instead of being paralyzed by these questions, we chose to act with an understanding that design is but one point in the spatial evolution of a city - Design is a prompt. It will necessarily be taken over, tampered with, decorated and dismantled by all those who inhabit the city - the human and the ecological. In this paper, we present our reflections from this attempt at a critical urban design studio.

Dirty Research: A manifesto for decolonising the process of urban knowledge production

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“We have seen many researchers over the years, you guys come and collect data, and go back, you get your [research] degrees but what do we get in the end? We are still living in the same condition for years”, said one of the ‘slum’ dwellers during my first visit to Karail--the largest informal settlement in Dhaka—where I was conducting fieldwork for my doctoral thesis. During my involvement with the community there for over three years now, I have come to be critical of the process by which we produce ‘knowledge’, in which we advertently objectify collective experiences into “data”, heterogeneously threaded collectives of human and non-human into “communities” and all in all, even with the utmost sensitivity extract, and distil the lived realities into publications and books. This machinic production of knowledge perhaps is a more subtle form of colonial subjugation that we are all involved in. Against such research, we contend “dirty research” (Recio and Shafique 2021), in accompaniment to Raewyn Connells’ notion of “dirty theory” (Connell 2007), the central tenet of which is an inherent political critique of “armchair activism” as well as an ontological

critique of knowledge production as a good in and of itself. Rather, dirty research takes knowledge production as an embedded process within producing worlds themselves, which only means that the way we conduct research and what we do with that knowledge is implicated in the structural injustices and epistemicide. Without reciprocity, co-production and providing allyship, we remain within a colonial frame ourselves. Examples of dirty research can be seen in theoretical work of Flyvbjerg (2012) in importing phronesis and the scholarly-activist work of Ananya Roy with the houseless networks in Los Angeles. After articulating the conceptualisation of dirty theory, I will end by drawing out its implication for methodology, impact and activism.

Hybrid Pedagogies for Knowledge Co-Production, Trans-local Solidarity and Community Development

Ms. Natacha Quintero González¹

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This contribution addresses how hybrid pedagogies can create common grounds that link remote, local(ised) and transformative knowledge co-production processes, while fostering trans-local solidarity and urban activism. To this end, it draws on a series of transdisciplinary workshops that focus on the self-organised occupation of Solano Trindade in Duque de Caxias, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Each of the workshops in the series is underpinned by a recognition of the multiplicity of knowledge(s) and histories of the human actors involved, as well as the vibrant agency of nonhumans, with a methodological approach based on collective action, hands-on work, and systemic scenario planning. I will concentrate on the last workshop held in 2021, which in the face of the new pedagogical configurations imposed by the pandemic had to be redesigned in a way that still provided an open, inclusive, and safe space for knowledge exchange, co-production, and embeddedness. In doing so, I will focus on two aspects. Firstly, on how these transdisciplinary experiences allow for an alternative form of engagement with the epistemological project of decoloniality, while enabling channels for participating in activist urban practices. Thus, creating pedagogical but also responsive spaces at the intersections of institutional and extrinstitutional actors. Secondly, on how hybridity takes on a new role in linking the agentic capacities of spatial and virtual spheres in practices of physical and non-physical transformation. In this sense, the workshop becomes a transformative human-non-human alliance. The virtual space is regarded as a socio-technical assemblage in which technologies are used to enable transboundary collaboration and to connect people and their knowledge(s) beyond dominant hierarchies, while the physical space becomes a teaching space and a space for experimentation in which co-produced knowledge is embedded and materialised.

Insisting on everyday life. Methodological remarks studying places of childhood.

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This paper draws on children's geographies, a recent interdisciplinary field, shaped by the intersection of geography, critical pedagogy and urban studies, alongside contributions of post-colonial and gender studies. Childhood construction theories and the concept of children's agency have created space for new studies on children's spaces, involving children themselves. This progress revealed the adult-centered production of urban space and knowledge, leaving researchers with great responsibility for their

methodological choices. It is very clear now that field studies with and for the children contribute significantly to our knowledge of urban space and childhood.

This study defends the importance of studying children's places through the perspective of everyday life. Everyday life is a field where notions are produced and collective actions are formed. Exploring children's everyday practices, gives us the opportunity to rethink childhood. We can focus on children's present, which has deliberately overlooked, because they are conceptualized as future adults and as an adult memory. Making children visible, as subjects and citizens, unfolds a landscape of "other", marginalized social groups, such as the elderly, the unemployed and women. Children's everyday practices disrupt many binary perceptions about spaces and groups. In the same time, they reshape and challenge adult's worlds and reveal the multiple aspects of urban space.

This paper highlights these arguments through examples of recent ethnographic research in Athens. Moreover, dominant discourses and practices during the pandemic will be presented, which intensified the institutionalization of children in domestic and educational spaces. The pandemic brought to the fore the importance of everyday life for understanding the different lives of children, within local and global processes.

Logistics as method and resistance: circulation and popular infrastructures in Argentina

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Logistics transitioned from depicting the management and circulation of resources in military and business circles to organizing the infrastructural landscapes of today's just-in-time urbanism (Arboleda, 2020; Cowen, 2014). From the multiplication of warehouses and fulfillment centers to intermodal-hubs, and digital platforms for exchange, the rhythms and the quotidian practices that make urban fabrics are increasingly sustained by a varied set of logistical operations. The tracing of supply chains and the mapping of the corridors and nodes that facilitate the flow of goods, data, and labor, has provided a methodological lens by which to examine the relationship between urban metabolisms and the expansion of extractivist geographies (Mezzadra and Neilson, 2019). As these forms of logistical urbanization transform the governance and distribution of resources across the globe, a new wave of collective action and urban activism emerges (Gago, 2015).

In this presentation, I would like to explore the potential of logistics as both, an action-research method and a means of knowing contemporary forms of urban resistance in South America. Based on the analysis of recent popular initiatives related to the production, circulation, and distribution of food in Argentina, the paper illustrates how counter-logistics is informing and shaping new tactics of survivability and territorial organization. From the development of alternative commercial platforms to the construction of community-led infrastructural solutions for warehousing and distribution, the politics of other circulations is expanding the repertoire of interventions and developing novel political identities. The analysis of projects like the Public Food company by Ciudad Futura in Santa Fe and the networks of markets developed by the Union the Trabajadores de la Tierra (UTT) in Buenos Aires, highlights the centrality of logistics in contemporary forms of urban activism and calls for a more open and horizontal integration of academic research in the prefiguration of counter-logistics.

Recognising, resisting, repairing. Situating urbanism in postcrisis Santiago de Chile

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Urban planning in Chile is considered technocratic, centralist and vertical in its decision making, based on urbanistic ideas like hierarchy, universality, order, individual and limits. In this way of city making, experiences of everyday living, territorial dynamics and above all diversity, remain quite distant. Although urban and housing interventions over the past 30 years have generated significant material transformation in Chilean cities, their limited consideration of dwelling dynamics have generated what we have called fragmented cities. The postsocial outbreak and postpandemic crisis in Chile leads us to reflect more profoundly on the epistemologies behind contemporary urbanism and propose new ways of thinking / making cities.

Based on research carried out in Santiago, we seek to identify and analyse the interaction between knowledge generated along the urban intervention and daily dwelling practices continuum. Three main situations detected include: firstly, that knowledge on which urban interventions is based on is scarcely situated and this explains the complete decoupling between interventions and territorial living; secondly, that not only is knowledge on urban dwelling scarce, but it is often intentionally ignored due to lack of interest or incapacity to deal with it; thirdly, the existing dissociation of expert knowledge and interventions has political implications due to the privileges which feed these interventions.

In this context, situated knowledges (Haraway 1989) help us redefine the ways urbanism is thought in cities in the South. For this, we propose three guiding principles: recognising, resisting, and repairing; recognise the diverse knowledges that coalesce in territories; acknowledge forms of resistance to hegemonic urban ideas and, repairing the fragments that have split our everyday lives. These principles can help us envisage a situated urbanism that can allow us to transform the way we live today.

Situating care through counter-hegemonic counter-hegemonic protest: An understanding of women solidarity from urban margins of India

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Recent popular protest movements across India have exemplified how politics of care can be practised in protest sites. The current paper builds on two movements in India namely anti-CAA-NRC protest and farmer's protest which not only centre care as an important everyday practice for any protest but also unsettle the liberal discourse of forced secularisation of protest movements. Anti- CAA-NRC protests across the country were sit-in peaceful protests started to oppose the discriminatory Citizenship Amendment Act and National Register of Citizens, 2019 which discriminates citizenship rights based on religion. Whereas the farmer's protest started at the periphery of Delhi opposing the Indian Agriculture Act of 2020 which would facilitate price fixation of agricultural commodities by corporates. Both these protests organised spatial occupations and challenge the colonial legacy and resist the state which legitimises violence through sedation as an extension of colonial power.

The paper adopts an intersectional feminist framework and critically analyses women solidarity networks at these sites. The ethnographic study comparatively looks at anti-CAA-NRC protests in Ranchi and Patna town led by Muslim women and farmer's protest at the Singhu border. Being located at the margins of popular urban imaginations, these protests also challenge metropole-centric urban imaginations. In each of the protest sites, women not only transgressed home-based care practices (viz. cooking, washing) on street but

also asserts their ownership of agency and installed gendered questions by resisting coercive judiciary practices. Through the lens of religion, the paper also constructs a framework where religion acts as a catalyst for solidarity. By doing so, on the one hand, it establishes untranslatability as an important theoretical category to decolonise urban knowledge. On the other hand, being situated in subaltern urban sites – small, provincial cities, these protests also offer a nuanced understanding of solidarity through religiosity for epistemic justice.

Studying the overstudied: 'academic extractivism', grassroots resentment and distancing from the elites in Chile's 'Poblaciones Emblematicas'

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We reflect on 'academic extractivism' from our fieldwork with 28 historical, highly-politicized, low-income neighborhoods in Santiago and Valparaiso (Chile). Arriving at the field with a relatively traditional research design, we faced a big barrier from subjects: they told us about 'academic extractivism', about how overstudied are their neighborhoods, and about how little or nothing is left for their people after each study. And here we observed different reactions: from people who consider that our research themes are not concrete enough, to other very resented against academic elitism.

'Academic extractivism' can be traced back to Latin America's decolonial literature, which describes the reification of indigenous epistemologies and its transformation into extractable and exploitable objects. 'Internal' and 'external' academic extractivisms can be seen in Latin America. There are academic elites who get immersed into contexts of poverty and then publish their work in intellectual channels that are inaccessible to the communities they studied. And there are researchers from the Global North who, besides the mentioned, do not get involved with local academics and publish their work in their home countries, leaving nothing to the local academia nor the communities, which is a somewhat 'double extractivism'.

In our fieldwork, we experienced what Participatory-Action-Research (PAR) has been saying while ago, which forced us to reflect and to make important turns in our research from retributive mechanisms. We will show some actions carried out to co-construct a form of doing science 'from' and 'to' the communities, which have brought a concrete impact for residents, and have allowed us to validate ourselves. However, we recognize that power asymmetries are inevitable in knowledge production, given the legitimacy that society gives to expert knowledge. This led us to think that a more sensitive scientific validity should be given by the interests and needs of the studied communities.

Theorizing the Anthropocene: the subaltern still speaks

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When subaltern and postcolonial historian Dipesh Chakrabarty, recently proclaimed that "the Mansion of modern freedom stands on an ever-expanding base of fossil fuel," he challenged profoundly the entire postcolonial project including subaltern urban epistemologies. He submitted that postcolonial, gender, cultural, minority, Indigenous and other studies, while advantageous to subaltern studies, were ill equipped to understand the Anthropocene. Urbanism as a phenomenon plays a key feature in his articulation of humanity as a "geophysical" force: cities as urban heat islands, the thirty-one "missing" hills of Rajasthan are but a few examples. Chakrabarty suggests that given the universal challenge of planetary climate

change, prior (anti-universalist) values and methodological commitments of postcolonial studies need reevaluation.

Contra Chakrabarty, my paper attempts to formulate an alternate theorization of the Anthropocene where the planetary may (only) be approached through the subaltern. Historically, the city was seen as an apparatus to deliver modern freedoms, serviced by expanded fossil fuel consumption. What role will the city play in this Anthropogenic future, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and additional imminent disasters? First, global warming and climate change are triggered by accelerated processes of globalization premised on perpetuation of the capitalist world order – these reproduce and expand global and local precariats. Second, and relatedly, the new ways of living and surviving practiced by these precariats – during and beyond pandemic periods- will be indispensable to securing any kind of viable future for our species as well as achieving social justice at an individual scale. I elucidate these arguments drawing from the Indian case, arguing that the subaltern can speak to the future of the Anthropocene.

Tuning into an empathetic future beyond epistemic injustice: multi-temporality, decolonial futures, spaces of safety and deep listening

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In unraveling the connections between colonial pasts, decolonising presents and the imagining of decolonised and decentralised futures in the process of city making the mythologies that drive 'erasure' and epistemic injustice that is perpetuated within the production of the city will be examined. Immigrant communities born of historic colonisation existing as an obvious representation of 'otherness' or 'abnormality' actively seek to establish spaces of 'safety' and/or 'belonging' in response to these multitemporal processes and narratives of who can shape the city. In direct communion with the mythically inherent violent structural processes and bureaucratic systemic complexity, spaces of safety are sought and generated within the city.

Such spaces claim to offer minorities safety from the violence of erasure and myths that perpetuate this: socio-economic/racial myths that in the tradition of European universality predetermine who and what they were, are and should be. These spaces can arguably become either realms of stagnation or ignition points for imagining a vastly different future within a space in the present, that acknowledges the wounds and pain that are interwoven into the experience of colonisation and migration. As spaces that support, strengthen and embolden to ignite imagination and action these spaces can offer the context for a radical reimagination of the world on whichever scale this may be. How can complex multilingual/cultural cities become more reflective of their pluriversal needs and realities?

I propose that embedded deep listening and empathy are key ways forwards in the process of the voices that influence policy becoming much more reflective of their complex paradigms. Using processes of gamification that also support the collection of qualitative data onto open source digital platforms that allows for a decentralised and accessible commons offering an iterative view or listening space into the social landscape of a city.

Understanding Urban Transformation at the Body's Scale, or How Women from the Favelas Aquilombam the City of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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A lot of attention has recently been given to the notion of “planetary urbanization” (Brenner & Schmid, 2015). However useful from a structural point of view, many have criticized its assumption that neoliberalism is the unique driving force of urbanization (Oswin, 2018; Peake et al., 2018). In doing so, other forms of urbanization are left aside, especially those that lie intertwined with everyday life and don't emerge as “ruptures” at a macro scale.

In this presentation, I argue that significant urban transformations occur, or are initiated at a much smaller scale: the body. Not only is the body ontologically meaningful, he also represents an important—if not crucial, when working with subalternized populations—locale of urban knowledge production. I build this argument on empirical evidence from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, where I conducted interviews (47), focus groups (6) and participant observations with women residents in 2016, 2018 and 2019. I draw from feminist, decolonial and Afrodiasporic theories (Anzaldúa, 1987; Gonzalez, 1988; Simas & Rufino, 2019) in order to show that women play a major role not only in maintaining urban structure and life (Castells, 1978; Chant & McIlwaine, 2015), but in transforming them.

Women successfully navigate city rhythms and uncertainty by transforming themselves, whether to care for others or protect them from urban violence. By doing so, they become very good at anticipating what is “yet to come” (Simone, 2004) and at creating a (black) sense of place (McKittrick, 2011) in an often-hostile city reminiscent of the plantation. Consequently, by looking at women's body gestures, way of being, and affects, we see emerging a web of knowledge, practices and political struggles that encroachingly (Bayat, 2010) transforms the city, something that, building from Abdias do Nascimento's notion (1980), can be understood as quilombismo.

PANEL No.05: De-Privatizing Municipal Services and Public Infrastructures: Instituting Urban Commonfare?

Conveners | Markus Kip, Silke van Dyk, *University of Jena, Jena, Germany*

A: Basic Goods and Services

Democratization through Co-Production? Food and Healthcare as common goods

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The commodification of municipal infrastructures and services has excluded groups and communities from basic common goods since the neoliberalization of urban politics in the 1970s. Lately, urban social movements and civil society organizations pressure local governments to re-establish access to social rights and public welfare through protest. They also demand to be included in the production of these infrastructures and the democratization of those as well as service delivery. A development culminating in municipalist movements.

In this paper, we take a closer analytical look on two municipal processes of co-production in the fields of food justice and healthcare in Berlin and Thuringia, Germany: The co-production of a food hub to establish access to healthy, ecological and affordable food and the co-production of an anonymous system creating access to health care to illegalized migrants and other groups excluded from regular health insurance. We argue that these cooperations broaden the access to these basic common goods and lead to a democratization in the provision of public services and goods. Pushed by social movements who address the deficiencies caused by commodification, these co-production processes are causing local state administrations to reshape local infrastructures in a more socially inclusive way. Within these cooperations public welfare is negotiated and redefined while new commons are shaped, which opposes the hegemony of neoliberal state strategies.

Presenting findings of our research project “KoopWohl” (www.koopwohl.de), we want to discuss our claim that co-production of services and common goods is leading to a more democratic design of these social infrastructures. Beyond this hypothesis we examine in how far these processes lead to long-lasting accessible public goods and services and if these model projects influence the regular public systems of infrastructure and service delivery.

Hostile property landscapes and housing commons: a cross-scalar perspective in Brazil, Germany and the Netherlands

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Commoning has emerged as a key paradigm for understanding a range collective housing practices based on sufficiency, reciprocity and democratic ownership. Existing empirical work has highlighted how commoning in housing works through shared values and specific tenure forms, such as CLTs or LECs (Huron, 2015; Tarleton, 2018). A central theme concerns how commons – within the realities of our economic and legal system – are built on uneasy compromises between social practices and legal options (Thompson, 2018). Key conditions for reproducing housing as commons appear to be shared values, common property and public land ownership (Bossuyt, 2021). Still these three dimensions simultaneously point to the three principal threats to the reproduction of housing commons. First, enclavization by inward-looking homogenous groups, failing to uphold the right not to be excluded (Blomley, 2020) Second, the lure of tenure conversion resulting in commodification. Third, co-optation by local state actors who seek to use housing developments to meet their own political ends. The relevance of housing to commons/commoning and remunicipalization follows from its centrality to human lives and enclosure relationship to human life and enclosure.

Existing work on housing as commons exists principally out of qualitative work documenting loss and reclamation at the case-study level. The longitudinal approaching particular has been side-lined as part of this one-sided methodological perspective. In contrast, this research explicitly engages with the premise that commons can be understood as social systems nested in dense infrastructural landscapes that extend beyond just resources, social practices and their arrangements. Building on an empirical study of housing developments across three different contexts: Brazil, Germany and the Netherlands, the research investigates through what conditions commoning efforts are sustained in the face of hostile legal and economic landscapes. It asserts cross-scalar dynamics are central to understanding the social reproduction of urban commons over time.

Remunicipalisation of Izmir’s local food chains as critical infrastructure

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Since global trends such as climate change, unequal distribution of resources and post pandemic future, new dialogue to be established between local administrations and citizens are urgently required, by considering the quality of life, equal access to fundamental rights and the commons. By this context, many countries have public policies to ensure resilience and protection of food and agriculture as critical infrastructure. Also, city governments have some initiatives for continuity of local food production and equal access to safe and affordable food. Likewise, in Izmir, civic initiatives and collaborative models promoted by local municipal organizations have also increased regarding the production, distribution and consumption of local food and agricultural products. Correspondingly, by focusing on “Halkın Bakkalı (HB)” which is an initiative of city government in Izmir, this research examines the role of city-run grocery stores (CGSs) selling local foods and agricultural products as a critical infrastructure in building sustainable cities and strong communities. The study based on interviews, secondary data analysis, user surveys and site observations evaluates effectiveness and efficiency of CGSs in terms of local food demand and supply processes. Surveys and observations are notably suited to examine the users and spaces (‘demand’), more than the role and objectives of the local governments and producers (‘supply’). Besides HB offers neighborhood-scale public spaces, they are part of a hybrid system that offers network relationships at the urban scale and beyond. Therefore, their impacts and outcomes will be evaluated by examining user insights and analyzing their spatial characteristics within the city-context. Furthermore, supply process as a critical infrastructure sector and the distribution chain will be investigated through semi-structured interviews with crucial stakeholders and secondary data analysis of management plans and news media. The results of this study reveals how remunicipalisation of essential public services can contribute to the sustainable city development.

B: Water

Co-management of Water in the Remunicipalised Companies of Paris and Naples

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After local mobilisations exploded in many parts of the world to protest against the global wave of privatisation of urban water services (Bakker 2013; Barraqué, 2011), the debate on public/private management of water entered the European Union. In the first two decades of the 21st century, over a hundred European cities have implemented water services remunicipalisation reforms of local (Kishimoto and Petitjean, 2017), inspired by the theory that water is to be managed as a common good (Dardot and Laval, 2019). This paper aims to increase the insufficient knowledge of the water remunicipalisation phenomenon by comparing two water remunicipalisation cases in Paris (2009) and Naples (2011). In particular, the work investigates the strategies implemented by the two local governments to involve citizens in the water remunicipalisation processes, the issues they tackled and the outcomes of the water co-management experimentations.

The article reconstructs each reform process with a Process-Tracing method and compares them. The remunicipalisation process tracing is based on qualitative data collected through documentary analysis and interviews. We have realised 27 in-depth interviews to privileged observers and reforms' protagonists between 2017 and 2019. The explanation and evaluation of water companies' co-management outcomes are fulfilled thanks to a conceptual framework that integrates analytical tools from the Institutional Analysis and Development Framework (Ostrom, 2005) and the Policy Process Framework (Goyal and Howlett, 2020).

Despite implementing the same management model, co-management has produced profoundly different outcomes for the two water companies. The Parisian remunicipalisation was quick, efficient, and almost conflict-free, whereas the Neapolitan one was long, complex and highly conflictual. Local variables and

actors behaviour on remunicipalisation processes are essential: the relationships of the protagonists of analysed reforms are not only characterised by relational and structural embeddedness but, above all, by temporal embeddedness (Granovetter, 2017).

From Remunicipalisation to Re-commoning: Radical Imaginaries Shifting Urban Water Governance

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This research investigates the surge of water remunicipalisation movements in cities across Europe in response to the austerity crisis of the last decade. A literature review brought into evidence that the exploration of the water remunicipalisation movement through a commons lens is sparse with very few scholars clearly attempting to bridge this theoretical gap. Building particularly on McDonald's (2019) call for further empirical and theoretical clarity in both the remunicipalisation and water commons literature [1], and to weave intersections between the two, I identify the lens of the social imaginary of "re-commoning water" as a notion that is better able to frame the ambitions underpinning the collective social and political aspirations of actors pushing to move water from the private sphere to the public sphere. I argue that the remunicipalisation process in some cases is acting as a threshold (Stavrvides, 2015) [2] or liminal space (Varvarousis, 2020) [3] for a bottom-up process of re-commoning water. A case in point is the Citizen Water Observatory of Terrassa, Spain, that was set-up as part of a new governance model between citizen groups, the City Council and the water company. The process here did not merely end at remunicipalisation, but instead, during the threshold period of political, social and institutional change, there existed an unwavering push for more democratic and unprecedented formations. This paper presents empirical results from semi-structured, open-ended interviews conducted with actors in the movement, to understand how they have (re)constructed notions of the commons, and to what extent they are participating in ongoing processes of water re-commoning in their city.

[1] McDonald, D. A. (2019). *Water Alternatives*, 12(2): 348-359.

[2] Stavrides, S. (2015). *Footprint: Commoning as Differentiated Publicness*, 9-20.

[3] Varvarousis, A. (2019). *Environment and planning E: Nature and space*, 2(3), 493-512.

Re-municipalisation of Urban Water Services between resistance and re-appropriation

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Re-municipalization of urban water services has in the past year gained increasing political and academic attention as a viable policy alternative to ongoing privatization, however the literature thus far has focused on counting the cases of re-municipalization worldwide and evaluating whether it is a trend or not. Little attention has been posed to in-depth investigation of particular cases, thus I aim at filling this gap by examining the re-municipalization of water services in Naples, Italy, which took place in 2013 following a successful referendum against water privatization promoted by a national mobilization, and was centered on the idea of water as a commons. While social movements studies list such re-municipalization as a successful outcome, and legal and economic studies evaluate its consequences, I take instead a critical political economy approach, centered on social reproduction theory and political ecology, thus looking at re-municipalization as a process that different social forces continuously try to shape.

Therefore, I will examine the transition in the mode of governance: more specifically, to what extent the claims of the water movement translated into the re-municipalized company; how such company evolved in the following years and what obstacles were encountered. The methods used are qualitative, based on interviews with local policy makers and activists, accompanied by content analysis on the documents produced by such actors.

The findings contextualize the re-municipalization of urban water services in Naples as counter-hegemonic with respect to national and international policy-making, thus highlighting its broader relevance, by assessing to what extent the influence of the Italian water movement persisted over time within the re-municipalized water operator and by evaluating the obstacles encountered.

Splitting urban waters: water remunicipalisation in Barcelona as discursive battlefield between public and private actors (2015-2021)

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Water remunicipalizations in Europe have informed theoretical reflections over the possibility to enact a counter-hegemonic shift away from the technocratic, ‘post-political’ water management (Bakker, 2013, Beveridge et al 2014). However, the existing literature on remunicipalization of water deals predominantly with emancipatory agents, overlooking the complexity of the reactions of private companies (McDonald, 2018). This paper examines the remunicipalization of water in Barcelona, through critical discourse analysis (E. Laclau 2005), and reveals the complexities of the on-going dialectic of antagonism between (Barcelona en Comú, the social movement platform governing Barcelona, and the economic agents (multinational Agbar). In particular, while Barcelona in Comú has adopted a strategy of exclusion through the ‘othering’ of the private actor, Agbar developed a multi-dimensional communication strategy that mimics selectively the discourse of Barcelona en Comú in order to reclaim legitimacy in the public sphere. The paper demonstrates that the discursive dimension of the conflicts over control and management of resources is crucial for understanding the real emancipatory possibilities of the anti-privatisation movements. Moreover, the research illustrates the difficulties of new municipalist governments to deliver on their radical transformative agendas: legal barriers, the opposition of private actors as well as political alliances weakened by the conflict between the municipalist and the nationalist political projects.

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Water service governance in Caracas, Venezuela: An urban commons or creeping privatization?

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This paper discusses the challenges and opportunities for advancing the urban water ‘commons’ in Caracas, Venezuela. For over 20 years, Venezuela’s national government has promoted a country-wide program of

participatory water management intended to deepen democratic decision-making and improve services. This was first implemented through neighbourhood-level technical water committees (as of 2001), followed by a shifting landscape of other fora meant to transfer some aspects of infrastructure and service oversight, provision, and management to organized communities. These include water councils at different scales, as well as more recent attempts to establish community water management offices (2016) and community-based infrastructure crews (“brigades”) (2021). What makes this model relatively unique is that it is spearheaded by the national government in partnership with community associations, rather than through the municipal government, reversing earlier decentralization trends. While considered a hopeful, if fraught, ‘alternative to privatization’ (Arconada Rodriguez, 2005; Spronk, Crespo, & Olivera, 2012), Venezuela’s participatory water management today faces significant challenges amidst a growing water crisis and wider political and economic turmoil.

This paper takes stock of the successes and limitations of participatory governance for achieving more ‘communal’ public management, drawing on ongoing fieldwork in Caracas since 2012. Its central argument is that there is a need to query the ‘public’ orientation of the service, despite its formal ownership and management characteristics. It points to three moments where the categories of public, private, and community break down: where the ‘public’ sphere serves as a strategy for private capital accumulation, where the ‘people’ or ‘public’ is contested amidst competing legitimacy claims, and where publicly-owned infrastructure networks are increasingly ‘splintered’ (Marvin & Graham, 2001) as households and neighbourhoods retreat into private water solutions to service intermittency. It concludes with a consideration of pathways forward in Caracas and broader lessons for struggles for the ‘urban water commons.’

C: Public Commons Partnerships in Barcelona

Community-based initiatives for sustainable cities and urban regeneration in Barcelona: conflicts in defining ecological transition

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The emergence of COVID has meant growing awareness of the need for changes towards sustainability and greater healthy environments in cities. As a result, a new wave of initiatives is emerging to lower emissions and pollution, change consumption patterns, and transform city infrastructures towards greater sustainability. These initiatives are often framed in a wider perspective on decommodification and development of public-community partnerships, in line with critical perspectives on ecological transition which focus on overcoming capitalism to reach sustainability. This paper analyses the emergence of such initiatives in the city of Barcelona, where citizens have experimented new practices based on community and horizontal organisation since the emergence of the financial crisis. Now we witness a new wave of initiatives which want to fulfil environmental objectives. The paper focuses on the uneven impact of these initiatives, resistance to change and impact in the transformation of public space. Our departing hypothesis is that impact in the transformation of public space is uneven: citizens’ initiatives can find opportunities to redevelop marginal spaces and to establish community practices there, but conflict emerges with greater projects, in which public-private partnerships are leading the transformation towards sustainability for these areas, and citizens tend to play a secondary role. The paper analyses initiatives in sustainable mobility, transformation and greening of public space and provision of food and water, comparing small initiatives for transformation of public space with large development projects in the former industrial area of the city. The analysis includes mapping the initiatives, and qualitative analysis of small and large projects through interviews and observation. The main conclusion is that

local administration can combine supporting small citizens' initiatives based on the commons with a much more traditional approach to large urban regeneration projects based on private investments promoting visions on ecological modernisation and green capitalism.

Democratic deepening and decommodification processes in urban governance relations: Potentials, constraints and challenges of community-based management practices in the case of Barcelona

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During the last decade, the global economic and political crisis involved transformations in urban governance relations in Southern European cities. Under austerity conditions, cities became the scene of self-managed initiatives aimed at the provision of welfare services, in a context of withdrawal of the role of the state and the market as providers of collective consumption. These initiatives led to the multiplication of community-based management practices that set-in motion a variety of partnerships with local governments and changes in urban policy production and management. The objective of this paper is to analyze the configuration process of this community-based initiatives, as well as their contribution to the creation of instruments and regulations that favor social participation in urban affairs decision making and the expansion of cooperative relationships based on reciprocity and redistribution in urban governance. By studying the case of the city of Barcelona, we propose to answer the following questions: to what extent and how are these experiences fostering processes of decommodification of urban collective goods and services; to what extent and how do they promote practices of democratic deepening in the urban governance and broaden the exercise of rights in urban life? We develop the analysis paying attention to path-dependency and local context factors, as well as to multilevel factors that shape the rise and configuration of community-based experiences. From the methodological point of view, the study is based on the examination of a significant sample of community-managed sociocultural centers opened between 2011-2015 in Barcelona. To collect and analyze the data, we adopted a qualitative strategy that is mainly sustained by semi-structured interviews and the review of documentary sources.

Democratising the practice of community asset transfer. The case of the Citizen Assets programme in Barcelona.

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Over the last decade, there has been a proliferation of public policies supporting collective self-management of public spaces and facilities in European cities. Some examples are the Regulation of UrbanCommons in Bologna, the Commons Transition Plan in Ghent and the Citizen Assets programme in Barcelona. In this article, we will focus on the latter, in order to explore the changes this may bring within the local public administration practice.

Inspired by the notion of the commons, the Citizen Assets programme was adopted in 2017 by the Barcelona City Council, during the first mandate of Barcelona en Comú, with the aim to provide a regulatory framework to democratise the transfer of municipal properties, facilities and spaces to the community organizations. Such transfers have been previously carried out through direct or ad-hoc assignments responding to citizens' demands but lacking the required transparency and a clear procedure.

Through a qualitative-interpretative approach based on the collection of different sources of evidence, such as document analysis and interviews with policy-makers, community organisations' members and public officers, the paper aims to explore how the programme is changing the practice of community asset transfer, and whether and how it is democratising it.

Social inequalities and commons internal governance

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Civic management facilities are those owned by the City Council but administered by grassroots organisations in Barcelona. Among civic management facilities are community, youth and cultural centres. For the purpose of this study, these facilities are considered forms of hybrid commons (Ferrerri and Vidal, 2020) since they are resources that are managed collectively and that have a stable relationship with the local state.

Critical theories on the commons emphasise the potential of the commons to become instituent practices based on the principle of self-government and non-profit logics (Laval and Dardot, 2015). However, these theories tend to obviate the power relations that can also exist in internal governance (Deleixhe, 2018) and that reflect the inequalities derived from social structures in society. Participation in the commons is influenced by social inequalities, which diminishes the ability of individuals who are in less privileged positions to participate, unless mechanisms to counteract this limitation are implemented.

In order to delve into the internal governance of the commons, this research has analysed the gender, age and race composition of the decision-making bodies of the civic management facilities. The fieldwork consisted of a survey conducted among 51 of the 56 existing facilities in 2018-2019, as well as 34 in-depth interviews with representatives of different facilities. The results showed that 63% of the facilities had a management board formed mostly by men (more than 50% of the members) and, in 42.55% of the facilities, the management board was formed by people aged 45 and above. In addition, almost all of the management boards were composed of white people.

Thus, the research shows that social homogeneity in management bodies is influenced by inequalities in participation derived from social structures in society. However, in some facilities, certain mechanisms to counteract inequalities in participation were observed.

PANEL No.06: Discretionary at work in urban/local contexts: street level bureaucrats between institutional and organizational constraints and their individual agency

Conveners | Alberta Andreotti, Diego Coletto, *Departement of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milan - Bicocca, Milano, Italy*

“There is competition among schools and a sense of entitlement within families”: School principals' agency and the legitimacy of parental choice in Germany and The Netherlands

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While literature has extensively documented how the expansion of school choice affects parents and contributed to increasing school segregation in many (European) cities, less attention has been paid to how principals perceive the choice-based school admission procedures. However, introducing choice does not only increase parents' room for manoeuvre. By decentralising responsibilities and introducing quasi-markets, school choice policies also expand principals' agency, force them to position themselves in these 'markets', and redefine their school's interests vis-a-vis the local educational landscape.

Based on interviews with primary school principals, our aim is to scrutinise the interplay between the institutional context with its specific educational policies regulating school choice and allocation, and principals' discretionary power in implementing those. To do so, we chose a comparative perspective across two local educational contexts that underwent opposite policy interventions regarding school allocation: one implementing choice and enhancing principals' scope of discretion in the admission process (Mülheim, Germany) and the other one constraining and collectivizing choice more and thereby forcing principals to redefine and legitimise their new role (Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

Using Lipsky's (1980) 'street-level bureaucracy' as our conceptual framework, we analyse and compare the relationship between the new allocation guidelines ('policy as written') and their motivation and their actual day-to-day implementation ('policy as performed'). The comparative perspective allows for valuable insights into this interplay illustrating that the former does not only define principals' competencies but can also shape their value systems and the ways in which they perceive and legitimise both the choice systems itself and their specific role in it. We demonstrate that decentralisation and autonomy do not only offer discretionary power for principals in denying or enabling access to schools but also create uncertainty and tensions in positioning themselves between parents' expectations and their own educational values.

“We try to shake structures from below” – How 'street-level bureaucrats' become agents of diversity-oriented organisational change

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In recent years, a wide range of local organisations in European cities have developed policies fostering diversity-oriented organisational change. These policies are implemented on different hierarchical scales and, in particular, by the daily practices of 'street-level bureaucrats' in interaction with diverse urban populations. Recent research has shown different dynamics in more or less formally structured and institutionalised organisations. While more informal structures (such as shops, clubs) are highly dynamic and quickly adapt to new migration processes (Meeus et al., 2020), formal organisations (such as welfare organisations) and their structures, norms and practices are more persistent. These different dynamics shape newcomers' access to resources. The current COVID-19 pandemic has brought into light the barriers many newcomers are facing especially in dealing with formal organisations. Thus, it is crucial to better understand the drivers of their organisational change.

Against this backdrop, the paper focuses on formal organisations (public services and a local welfare organisation) dealing with newcomers' local integration. The arrival neighbourhood Dortmund-Nordstadt in Germany is taken as a case study. The contribution investigates how diversity-oriented organisational change is implemented as well as shaped by 'street-level bureaucrats' daily practices and their embeddedness in local governance structures. Thereby, it analyses how organisational change processes are influenced both from bottom-up and top-down levels. Interviews with local stakeholders illustrate under which conditions 'street-level bureaucrats' use their scope for discretion to implement organisational diversity policies and can be perceived as agents of change – or rather act as gatekeepers by partly even further restricting migrants' access to resources. We argue, that street level bureaucrats' role is strongly shaped by their collaboration with other actors and, thus, embeddedness in local networks. Thus,

the contribution brings together two strands of research: urban governance and diversity-oriented organisational change.

Changes in urban regeneration policy – the viewpoint of local practitioners in Lisbon

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Institutionalist analysis looks at how institutions work and the factors leading to their construction, maintenance, and adaptation. Whereas old institutionalism focuses on the procedures of organizations within government bureaucracies, the new institutionalism, which falls broadly within the social constructivist tradition, goes further and identifies the cultural dimension of these procedures' implementation. This draws attention to how changes in legal and financial structures imply changes in policy and practices and how individuals react to them.

By connecting these theoretical frameworks, we aim to contribute to the analysis of institutional change and policy implementation in Lisbon, noting that change in urban and affordable housing policies over recent decades has produced tensions and even contradictions that are passed on to frontline practitioners and street-level bureaucrats.

Based on empirically grounded research – namely on interviews with staff with extensive experience in these issues – this paper analyses how actors interpret changes in urban regeneration policies and practices over time, in relation to policy paradigms (goals, norms and instruments) and to the “ways of doing things” (implementation practices) on the ground.

This paper's empirical findings are that:

1. Changes in the realm of urban regeneration have happened mostly in phases of economic/political change that demanded institutional adaptation in terms of policy aims and practices (e.g. the role of the community, private and public sectors in urban regeneration).
2. Prevailing norms and values, institutional cultures and everyday routines within organizations shape how policies are interpreted and implemented and help to explain why planned action is not always carried out as expected.

The paper goes beyond the knowledge produced by these case study findings to contribute to the micro-institutionalist theory of policy implementation. It does so by discussing the interaction between structure and agency, as well as tensions and even contradictions related to objectives, instruments and results.

Comparing multilevel governance of social assistance policies in two Brazilian metropolises

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Studies on social policy implementation increasingly take into account multiple levels of analysis, aiming to connect decisions taken at the street level to macro decision-making processes that take place in other jurisdictions. Despite the growing discussion on the so-called multi-level governance, we argue in this article that it is necessary to advance in specifying the effects of this intersection between the vertical and horizontal axes of governance over time in order to produce integrated explanations of how these multi-level interactions restructure local implementation processes. This paper seeks to fill this gap: its goal is to

specify which are the main explanatory dimensions of social assistance implementation in two Brazilian metropolises, considering their participation in multi-level arrangements of social provision in a federative country (Brazil).

Based on the articulation between the lenses of multilevel governance and policy implementation, we consider both the vertical axis of the multiple interrelations between levels of government - federal, state and municipal, in the case of Brazilian federalism - and the horizontal axis of interactions between state bureaucracies, civil society organizations (CSOs), civil society movements and legislative actors. In order to do so, we compare two in-depth case studies, São Paulo and Belo Horizonte. The comparative design (one-policy, two-cities) helps to identify empirical variations and analytical mechanisms. Despite the general similarity in terms of pioneering experimentation with strategies for organising social assistance as a public policy, these are very divergent cases in terms of many analytical dimensions of interest.

This article is based on the combination of the following methods: literature review, document analysis (legislation referring to the three levels, normative acts and regulations), database analysis (budget, agreements with CSOs) and in-depth interviews with public managers, politicians, municipal councillors, and representatives of CSOs and social movements related to social assistance policy in these two cities.

Elite Capture and Street-Level Bureaucracy: Distortion in Covid Response due to VIP Culture in India

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This paper investigates the phenomenon of elite capture that manifested through the street-level bureaucrats (SLBs) involved in Covid response activities in the Indian city of Indore, a Covid hotspot. Elite capture—or VIP (i.e., Very Important Persons) Culture, an Indian euphemism for elite capture—is envisaged here as usurpation or cornering of the public goods or services by a few powerful groups at the cost of masses.

Based on extensive fieldwork, this paper traces roots of elite capture of covid response to the lack of availability of critical goods and services in the private sector and the stringent government regulation of Covid patients. It documents the manners in which the elite capture manifests in the Covid response through SLBs, who were found to be serving VIPs with special attention, additional time, and treatment, and access to infrastructure in an out-of-turn manner. Though not expected, the SLB supervisors were involved directly in serving the VIPs; and sometimes even stringent rules were relaxed for VIPs.

SLBs were often directly or indirectly instructed by their supervisors to provide special services to VIPs. However, in many instances, SLBs served the VIPs on their own, even without any instruction from supervisors or any express request from VIPs.

The capture of scarce, critical, and, hence, invaluable services and resources by VIPs did significantly affect the benefits to other citizens, who were often left to fend themselves. However, in many instances, the SLBs, while serving the elites, were found to be going an extra mile for providing necessary services to the critical and needy members of the masses.

The paper relies on data collected during the immersive, six-month-long fieldwork in the Covid-Control Room of the city through semi-structured interviews, participant and non-participant observations, and informal conversations with forty-two SLBs and their three Supervisors.

Governing marginality through everyday practices of the street level bureaucrats

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In Hungary, neo-liberal paradigms of poverty governance have merged with 'welfare to work' (workfare) policies based on a punitive and disciplinary shifting of responsibility to the local level and to individuals. In my presentation, I will focus on the interaction of Hungary's public works scheme with EU-funded interventions targeting social cohesion and segregation and their resulting socio-spatial impacts. A case study of a former industrial town with a significant marginalized Roma population will be presented. As part of this I will analyse local practices and the room for manoeuvre of local authorities to exercise discretionary powers in order to regulate the socio-spatial order of their jurisdictions. Moreover, I analyse the role of street level bureaucrats (SLB) within this context. These practices are partly rooted in institutional legacies of socialist era policies targeting Roma communities through displacement and particular forms of poverty governance. In this specific case, the central issue relates to the intersection of ethnicity and social status, i.e. the categorization and labelling of the population in terms of Roma and non-Roma citizens and, in the sense of Gans (1994) 'deserving' versus 'undeserving' poor. Thus, the SLBs selectively manage the social and spatial mobility of the vulnerable groups. Those who are seen as undeserving are racialized, contained and disciplined. Those seen as deserving of support are provided affordable social housing, material protection and the sense of belonging to the local society in return for acceptance of the obligations prescribed by SLBs.

Implementing integration policy in Sweden: What challenges do Swedish street-level bureaucrats face and what coping strategies do they employ in their encounters with newly-arrived immigrants?

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Implementing integration policy in Sweden: What challenges do Swedish street-level bureaucrats face and what coping strategies do they employ in their encounters with newly-arrived immigrants?

Encounters between street-level bureaucrats and immigrant clients form the basis for integration policy as state institutions are responsible for facilitating immigrants' establishment into society. These integration processes take place not only at the individual level, but to a large extent through encounters with local authorities in urban settings, such as the Public Employment Service, the Social Services office or project managers for various integration initiatives.

This article examines how employment officers and teachers of Swedish for immigrants (SFI), experience and handle their exercise of authority and their encounters with immigrant clients. More specifically, we contribute with knowledge about how the encounters with immigrant clients affect street-level bureaucrats' views on the exercise of authority and their interpretation of the room for maneuver they have at their disposal. Our findings show that street-level bureaucrats constantly face the challenges of how to practically apply government integration policy in an efficient and 'person centered' way within the organizational environments in which they are positioned. The challenges are foremost caused by the scarce resources, the migrant client's diverse needs and institutional structures and organizational 'cultures'. In response to these challenges, some street-level bureaucrats employ coping strategies to meet specific migrant client's needs. However, these initiatives can only marginally bridge the gap between goals and praxis in Swedish integration policy.

The data consists of semi-structured interviews with employment officers and teachers working with newly-arrived Syrian refugees in the city of Gothenburg.

Inside the local contexts: practices of policy implementation at the Street-level

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The Street-Level approach is a way to open the “black box” of policy implementation. Street-Level organizations (SLO) and their bureaucrats (SLBs), indeed, concretely shape regulatory provisions through discretionary practices. Besides personal factors, contexts affect forms and contents of actions at the Street-Level. In this paper we argue that it is important to consider the mutual relationship between discretionary power and contexts of policy implementation, pointing out a specific process, the territorialisation of policy, that leads the local dimension to the centre of the debate.

We will show this relationship and how it is working through the analysis of an Italian case-study, the policy *Reddito di Cittadinanza*, and especially its active labor component. This measure against poverty is designed at the national level but implemented through the local ones (regions and cities). The street-level, then, represents not only the ground in which the relational experiences of public services take shape, but also the focal point of vertical and horizontal forces.

According to the SLB literature, a deeper understanding of this problem needs a comparative approach. Therefore, two Italian regions (Lombardia and Emilia Romagna), very different as regard to their local welfare configurations and identities, were selected and studied.

Assuming that contexts in which Street-Level Bureaucrats are embedded play a role, our hypothesis is that territorial features (i.e., modes of vertical integration and horizontal diversification) relate to territorialized practices at the Street-Level. Our main research question is therefore the following: how do practices of implementation at the street level differ, in relation to the specific territory?

The results that will be presented come from a preliminary analysis of the policy based on legal acts and public reports, and from empirical research that targets 40 semi-structured interviews with Navigators, who are the professionals specially recruited for this policy implementation.

Judges in local courts: delivering justice under challenging managerial conditions

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In Lispky's seminal work (1980/2010), judges in local courts represent a distinct category of street-level bureaucrats. Like other street-level bureaucrats, they directly interact with a lot of citizens, make quick decisions on many cases, and play an important role in the implementation of public policies (Biland & Steinmetz, 2017). Moreover, they are characterised by the functional independence guaranteed by the judicial system, which ensures them a fair degree of autonomy and discretion. Particularly in densely populated cities, local judges face an ever-increasing workload, while the logic and reforms of judiciary management at an institutional level tend to reduce their resources (Rothmayr Alisson, 2013). We seek to understand how judiciary management logics influence the practices of frontline judges and their discretionary power, and what are the implications for the relationships between them and the actors who constitute their organisational environment.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with judges of the peace and police court judges, their clerks, and the heads of these courts in French-speaking Belgium. Based on a thematic analysis (Paillé & Mucchielli, 2016), we show how local justice is transformed and standardised when confronted with increasing workload, the inadequacy of human, financial and IT resources, and administrative reforms. Our results, at the individual level, concern the way in which the judges adapt their work, routinise and rationalise their cases. At the collective level, we show how relationships with other judges, clerks or heads of court play a role in coping with the managerial logic, through the implementation of common measures, sharing of practices, exchange and cooperation. We scrutinize the influence of the work environment in terms of urban versus rural context. Empirically, we test the often stated but rarely substantiated critique related to the (negative) effects of managerialisation on street-level public services in the judicial sector.

Losing trust, losing clients: how Covid-19 and social distancing affected frontline work with marginalized clients in Berlin

Dr. Nina Margies¹, [Ms. Daniela Krüger¹](#), Dr. Henrik Lebuhn¹, Prof. Talja Blokland¹

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Street-level work is often studied during ordinary times, implementing ordinary policies, and developing routines. While already then frontline workers were facing crises such as resource scarcity and high workloads, the pandemic brought a whole new set of challenges and required many to reorganize their work.

How did social distancing influence the ways frontline workers learnt and habitualized to establish and maintain relations to clients; especially in contexts in which clients' or communities' histories with state institutions involve stigma, exclusion, surveillance, or punishment and let to distrust?

Based on qualitative material from 30 interviews with migrant- and youth-serving organizations in Berlin, conducted in two research projects at the Georg-Simmel Center for Metropolitan Studies, we will show that agents found themselves caught between the state logic of health prevention and the everyday logics required to establish and maintain relations to clients.

Firstly, frontline workers suddenly had to deal with tasks of explaining, disciplining, and controlling, often mismatching their role of being of support. Secondly, frontline workers build trustful relations with marginalized clients over years, relying on tacit expertise, face-to-face exchanges, and low-threshold access to their help which the new working format (including appointments, home office, support via digital means) constrained. While despite these challenges, frontline workers tried to ensure the continuity of their work, many relations to clients broke, reproducing clients' marginal position vis-à-vis state institutions.

Operationalization and maintenance of sanitation infrastructure: a case study of street-level bureaucrats in the millennial city, Gurugram

[Ms. Sumedha Priyadarshini¹](#)

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Gurugram, a part of Delhi's National Capital Region, is the millennial city of India which is an office hub. The entrepreneurial state of the city, invested in financialised flexible (Gururani, 2017) planning and governance, has multiple state bodies involved in infrastructural planning and governance. However, the everyday governance comprising of operationalizing and maintenance of infrastructures like sanitation (ranging from access, repair to upgradation) is the prerogative and function of the street-level bureaucrats

of these bodies. The paper explores the role, discretionary power, and practices of street-level bureaucrats (SLBs) of the Municipal Cooperation of Gurugram through the case study of the sanitation infrastructure of a planned residential sector in the city. The paper examines how SLBs firstly, are the initial point of reference (as the state) for the public(s) by focusing on the everyday negotiations between the SLBs and the public(s) and secondly, how SLBs are supervising their outsourced task to private agencies like- agencies cleaning up the sewer lines by using hi-tech expensive machines. The paper notes that SLBs face work overload, pressure from the higher authorities, public(s), and lack of resources like- non-availability of sewer lines maps forcing them to operate on the basis of tacit knowledge. Simultaneously, emphasis is laid on the interpretation of the dynamic operative sanitary regulations and norms, inclusive of both formal and informal regulations and codes, which the SLBs are using for their functioning as well as are (re)creating them. The analysis would broaden our understanding of conceived space (Lefebvre, 1991) in terms of if and how market forces and the social-political power is externalized/internalized in the imagination of sanitation infrastructure by the SLBs. These imaginations, thus, shape the production, access, and maintenance of sanitation infrastructure, transcending the perceived and the lived space.

The changing rules of local welfare: Territorial disparities and welfare policy institutions in times of new socio-ecological risks in Austria and the United Kingdom

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My research investigates how new social risks affected welfare regime institutions in subnational localities of Austria and the United Kingdom after 2008. Welfare regimes, particularly (un)employment policies, are under pressure from new socio-ecological risks. These risks and pressures stem from changing work conditions, global economic competition, demographic trends, new family structures and dynamics, austerity measures, and – newly - climate adaptation needs. Norms and legitimisation logics for (un)employment social policies at the street level might have changed since Esping-Anderson introduced his typology of how welfare is organised according to institutional and social norms. Within the multilevel governance of the EU, also the increased contact with each other across national borders might have influenced the organisation of welfare institutions. However, while scholars identify instances of path dependencies, isomorphism or gradual transformation in welfare policies, territorial differences within countries are often neglected. Using these concepts of institutional change, I analyse the organisation and discursive legitimisation of local welfare regimes represented in (un)employment policies affected by new socio-ecological risks from work relations, austerity, demographics and - newly - climate change. Methodologically, institutional mapping, strategy documents discourses, as well as local policy actor interviews cover both structural conditions and agent influences at local scales. This empirical material provides the multi-set data for analysing possible changes of rules and norms in welfare institutions at the street level. Ultimately, a twofold comparison between countries and subnational levels will provide insight into (changing) mechanisms of local welfare regimes. Thereby, the research will not only contribute to a better understanding of the (changing) processes of welfare policies within multilevel governance but also refine the awareness of territorial differences within countries and possible similarities across them. My RC21 presentation will give tentative insights from institutional mapping, document and interview analysis between the selected local cases in Austria and England.

The police as a state actor of the migration governance landscape: the case of pre-trial detention.

Ms. Ismini Mathioudaki¹

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The focus of this paper is third-country citizen detention in Greece, and the role of police officers in the decision-making process. More specifically, I will examine a) who decides which individuals are funneled into the system of pre-trial detention, b) the factors that lead to these decisions and c) the length and character of this detention, and more specifically, whether the periods of detention surpass the limits set by the law. In order to do this, in the first part of the paper, I will map out the relevant legislation in Greece, and conduct a socio-legal analysis of its evolution from a stricter to a lower threshold. In the second part, through empirical research, and more specifically interviews with third-country citizens that have been detained, I will be examining whether the conditions are met, and how the decision making process is taking place in practice, upon arrival of the individuals in question.

I believe that this is a very pertinent question, for two reasons. The first one is that the police have seen their competences extend since the beginning of the so called “refugee crisis”, resulting to a constantly expanding margin of discretion in the choices that they make. This has increased the significance of the decisions that they are making, raising the question of whether they are merely interpreting the law, or shaping it on numerous occasions. The second is that the Greek law regulating pre-trial detentions, has also seen numerous changes during this same period, resulting to a transformation of the legal threshold required for individuals to be detained. This combination of factors, calls for an examination of both the conditions under which pre-trial detention is decided, and the implications of this decision making procedure with fundamental human rights of detainees, such as non-discrimination, cruel and inhumane treatment.

PANEL No.07: Documenting and representing the infrastructuring of arrival in ordinary cities

Conveners | Bruno Meeus, Karel Arnaut, *University of Leuven, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Leuven, Belgium*

“Sometimes people call me from the other end of Germany” – Understanding arrival infrastructures through mapping

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During the last years, arrival as a crucial period for newcomers’ settlement and future mobilities has gained academic and political attention. Arrival infrastructures can be understood as a variety of more or less formalised spaces supporting and enabling, and sometimes also hindering newcomers’ access to resources. The pandemic highlighted the interdependencies of different arrival relevant spaces, as particularly the access to many state institutions was restricted due to COVID containment measures. To better understand the functioning and spatial embeddedness of arrival infrastructures, it is thus crucial to analyse how spaces

of arrival – as localities, materialities, and people forming and producing arrival infrastructures – act and interact within the neighbourhood realm and beyond.

By using different mapping techniques, the contribution discusses arrival infrastructures' intra- and interdependencies and how these can be documented. It draws on insights gained during interviews and long-term participatory observation in different spaces offering (among others) support for newcomers. The spaces are located in the district of Nordstadt in Dortmund, Germany – an area with a long history of immigration. The research focusses on a call shop and an educational organisation that act as low-threshold settings for accessing resources, such as help with documents and emotional support. The mapping seeks to grasp how these spaces are embedded in the neighbourhood and beyond. This is done by mapping (1) the clients' residential areas, (2) the places that newcomers are referred to and that play an essential role in support activities, and (3) the locations of people and means of (re)production that enable the functioning of the space. By doing so, it shows how arrival spaces are both transcending but also re-emphasising neighbourhood boundaries through its users, its infrastructuring practices and its facilitators. An analysis of the respective connections shows the various (inter)dependencies that produce and structure arrival infrastructures.

Arriving in Peripheral Contexts – Spatial Patterns of Accessing Arrival Infrastructures

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This paper focuses on refugee residents in a high-rise neighborhood which lie at the periphery of an East-German mid-sized city. Compared to more metropolitan immigrant gateway neighborhood this and similar neighborhoods had only a small number of migrant residents prior to 2015. Since then, these neighborhoods have seen an increase in refugee residents which transforms them into de-facto arrival contexts. This de-facto arrival has also spurred the development of new arrival infrastructures (Meeus et al.) like groceries, multi-lingual support structures, or migrant self-organizations. It is, however, still an open question if these local developments also mean that the residential neighborhood is the main location for accessing social support and other resources. This paper therefore explores if and in what ways recent refugee residents also use everyday mobilities and digital communication to access arrival infrastructures. Methodologically it makes use of a recent mixed methods study conducted in an East-German peripheral high-rise neighborhood where the immigrant population rose by 14% since 2015. The paper uses data from a survey conducted among refugee residents as well as from in-depth interviews with refugee residents to explore spatial patterns of accessing arrival infrastructures in and outside the neighborhood. With this we would like to contribute to a more nuanced understanding of arrival infrastructures in different locations and of the mobility strategies used by recent immigrants to access them and how this affects their process of arrival.

Follow the commutes: Commuting trajectories of migrant workers as lens to understand arrival infrastructures and infrastructuring practices beyond cities and neighborhoods

Ms. Carolien Lubberhuizen¹

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This paper explores the potential of migrant commuting as conceptual focus and methodology to grasp migrant infrastructures and infrastructuring practices connecting and going beyond ordinary cities and metropolises. Migration and arrival infrastructures are often studied in either urban or rural contexts. However, many migrant experiences and infrastructures are not embedded in either one or the other and a strict dichotomy between these spatialities might obliterate a crucial part of migrants' realities, struggles and aspirations. A particular case in point are agricultural migrant workers in the Netherlands and Belgium. During my fieldwork –part of the Horizon2020 project 'ReROOT' - in areas where intra-EU labour migrants come to work in greenhouses and orchards, looking at the different ways migrant workers commuted each day to the worksites allowed me to see a wide array of formal and informal, material and social infrastructuring practices for and by migrants. Following, and being part of, these commutes led to rural villages, ordinary cities, and metropolises, as well as a different distances, vehicles, strategies, and amount of autonomy. Walter's (2014) viapolitics inspired migration and mobility scholars to focus on the 'in-between' and on the politics and meaning making involved in the relation between the materiality of infrastructure, mobility and migration. In line with Walter's concept, I argue that a focus on migrant commuting allows us to see particular socio-material constellations where differentiated migration infrastructures become tangible. This not only means seeing migrant commuting as networked object and infrastructuring practice, but also helps to deconstruct the 'arrival city' and connect metropolises to rural areas and (unexpected) ordinary cities that are important to the aspirations and struggles of migrant workers. Specifically, taking migrant commuting as a lens to understand these infrastructuring practices offers new insights into the relationship between types of mobility and precarity involved in agricultural migrant labour.

Infrastructures of abandonment and arrival: Refugees and processes of ruination, displacement, and dispossession in a disempowered city

Dr. Cansu Civelek, Dr. Ayşe Çağlar

This paper aims to explore the processes of ruination, displacement and dispossession in a disempowered city (Çağlar and Glick Schiller 2018) in Turkey and the structures of affect and politics these processes unleashed through the lens of entangled infrastructures of abandonment and arrival of refugee newcomers. Eskisehir is one of the cities designated as a satellite city for the emplacement of (refugee) newcomers under international protection and temporary protection (mainly from Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq) in Turkey. It is a deindustrialized, disempowered city where its several municipalities had been subject to massive urban regeneration since 2011, which in turn had triggered massive but uneven restructuring of urban space, displacements but also abandonment of people and its built environment in some of its municipalities. Despite its "successful" initial phase, urban renewal especially at particular municipalities were interrupted leaving large zones empty in ruination with decaying social and material infrastructure, leading to increasing depopulation of these areas. These depopulated areas are exactly the places where the newcomers with a plethora of legal, social and economic positionality are settling. The processes of newcomers' emplacement and the emerging sociality and affective landscapes in this municipality have been shaped by these multiple forms of abandonment, social and economic disempowerment and

dispossessions of both the “local” and the newcomer populations. The paper calls for a multi-scalar analysis of these emplacement dynamics rather than a “neighbourhood” and/or arrival of refugees/migrants research. Rather than the “ordinariness” of the city, its disempowerment is central in addressing the infrastructuring of “populist” affects and discourses of this depopulated, “left behind”, abandoned municipality.

Infrastructures of arrival in East German Large Housing Estates – sites of negotiation between inclusion and bordering practices

Dr. Madlen Pilz¹, Dr. Stefanie Rößler¹, Dr. Katja Friedrich¹

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The project StadtumMig (From shrinkage to immigration? New perspectives for Peripheral Large Housing Estates) started in Mid-2019 to study how in three East-German municipalities, the cities Schwerin, Halle and Cottbus, which possess large housing estates from GDR times, the arrival of refugees since 2015 has been managed. In our research we focus on different infrastructures supporting migrants after their arrival. Following a comprehensive understanding, we address both soft infrastructures, as volunteering neighbourhood services, counseling and meeting centres, and the hardware of neighbourhoods like for example public and green spaces, playgrounds, neighbourhood gardens, as well as retail, catering and leisure facilities. Therefore, we combine in the analysis our different approaches from social and spatial science on governance and the autonomy of migration, as well as on patterns of appropriation and usage of physical settings. Against this backdrop, we offer to introduce some considerations on the following points into the discussion on infrastructures as objects and practices:

- on the adaptation of aspects of a multi-sited approach for the research on infrastructures.
- on the complex and multiscalar composition of the different infrastructures of arrival combining national and local political, and/or economic as well as residents/migrants responsibilities and needs.
- on the interplay between the dissimilar and competing interests of initiators, organizers, supporters and users of the infrastructures.
- on the efforts of these different actors to define and redefine the objectives of the infrastructures, to negotiate their border making, to assemble actors and resources to organise their functioning, and to deal with their inherent incompleteness.

In doing so, we aim to contribute to the discussion on infrastructures of arrival by considering infrastructures as fields of tension between different interests and needs as well as fields of negotiation.

Institutional Analysis and Mapping of “infrastructuring practices”. The case of two small cities in Central Greece.

Mr. George Papagiannitsis¹, Dr. Paschalis Arvanitidis¹, Dr. Aimilia Voulvouli¹, Mrs. Athina-Zoe Desli¹

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Facing with unrepresented migration flows over the last decade, reception countries have resorted to highly governmentalized processes, in an effort to facilitate an “orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies” (IOM, 2017). Even though border controls, strict mobility regulations and tight policing practices constitute the main apparatus for the taming of migration, there seems that other “infrastructures” (related to the provision of housing, food, medical help and education) also play similar roles. Although more local in context, these infrastructures embrace a degree of governmentalization due to the centralization of control and financial

dependence on national authorities, challenging localities' autonomy and power in dealing with the integration of newcomers.

In this context, the current work focuses on two small size cities of Central Greece, Karditsa and Katerini, in order to assess how the ESTIA program has been implemented, actualized and evolved in the context of the local, socio-political, conditions and dynamics. In particular, it investigates the degree of governmentalization and the ways through which the organizations that implemented ESTIA intertwined with the institutions, the authorities, the local population and the newcomers. In methodological terms the study employs historical and comparative institutional analysis and mapping to outline existing and emerging "infrastructures", the related agents and their links. The work proceed as follows: First, it conducts a critical analysis of the macro-economic and the governmental institutional environment. Second, semi-structured interviews and secondary data are used to triangulate and enrich the institutional analysis, aiming to delineate the infrastructuring processes and dynamics that pivot around ESTIA and to map out the respective agents, their links and networks. A comparative analysis of the two local settings follows. The work concludes outlining the findings and reflecting on the methodological tools it puts forward.

Mapped to see: the productive value of a spatial lens in the research on arrival infrastructures

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Drawing from the project "Mapped to see", this paper discusses the role and value of mapping within the research on arrival infrastructures. "Mapped to see" is a collaborative platform that explored the contribution of mapping through dialogues with researchers involved in ongoing projects on migrant and arrival infrastructures, and interviews with professionals who use mapping as a core of their work. Recent projects exploring arrival processes and infrastructures, from various disciplinary perspectives, often include the task of mapping within research programs. The centrality of a spatial perspective in research exploring the nexus between migration and urbanization has been widely discussed, and mapping is in this sense promoted as an essential research operation. However, what this means, how mapping can be developed, through which tools and operations, in which phase of research mapping should be introduced, by whom, and with which implications remain very open questions. In other words, among researchers, the question about the possible concrete roles of mapping in research and its added value remains.

The contribution aims to address these questions and argues that mapping, intended as a way of introducing a spatial lens to the observation of arrival infrastructures, has an analytical role and a productive one. In other words, assuming a spatial perspective allows to organize information into a spatial hierarchy, but most importantly to 'see' unnoticed patterns. In this sense, the contribution unpacks the role of mapping within the different research phases and discusses its productive value for research on arrival infrastructures and the possibility of 'seeing' their alternative geographies.

Migrants and the ordinary city: Analysing private rental tenure (PRT) as an arrival infrastructure in inner-city Santiago, Chile.

Ms. Carolina Moore¹

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This paper examines private rental tenure (PRT) as an arrival infrastructure to analyse migrants' lived experiences when negotiating access to the ordinary city. Drawing on four months of ethnographic fieldwork in two boroughs of the inner-renewal ring of Gran Santiago, Chile, this paper dissects migrants' renting trajectories amidst experiences of pervasive uncertainty. As an arrival infrastructure, PRT represents not only a legal category but a series of socio-spatial experiences and struggles given the interrelation of market conditions, legal frameworks and cultural elements (Easthope, 2014).

Unable to buy a house or to apply for a housing subsidy in the Chilean housing system, an enlarging group of migrants resort to PRT as a viable option for negotiating access and staying put in the ordinary city. Yet, they constantly deal with precarious labour conditions, have to pay large amounts of their income to get a roof to call their own, face crowded conditions and are less recognised within the territory of property. To all its challenges, PRT also works as a coping infrastructure to actively 'stay put' in the ordinary city.

Methodologically, analysing experiences of PRT as an arrival infrastructure requires creating the tools to 'seeing like a city' (Valverde, 2011). This is, to engage with the diversity of logics and complex spatio-legal realities that constitute cities as well as understanding them from the street level rather than the bird's eye vision. Using a migrants journal together with in-depth interviews and participant observations enabled a focus on experiences of PRT. Against this backdrop, this paper discusses that analysing PRT as an arrival infrastructure advances an understanding about the way migrants' tenancy trajectories are mediated through experiences of dealing with uncertainty and harshness as well as escaping from it.

Migrants in old train wagons in Thessaloniki. From abandonment to infrastructures of commoning

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The paper examines the living and infrastructuring practices of homeless newcomers that find shelter in abandoned train wagons in the west site of Thessaloniki, an area described as "one of the biggest train cemeteries in Europe" (Thessaloniki is the railway hub of Northern Greece). Hundreds of train wagons have been abandoned there over the years, especially after the 2010 financial crisis, when the state-owned railway company came across to significant financial difficulties. These abandoned wagons have provided temporary shelter to numerous homeless and unregistered migrants that stop in Thessaloniki on their route to new lives in Europe. Although there is a significant number of studies which discuss the formal infrastructures provided by the state and the NGOs', little attention has been given to the various ways by which, homeless and unregistered migrants create and self-manage their own infrastructures to meet their needs. The paper aims to shed light in this gap examining the (re-)production of arrival infrastructures by the migrants themselves. In doing so the paper builds upon the concept of abandonment (Leshem, 2017) and attempts to enrich it drawing on the theories of arrival infrastructures (Meeus et al., 2020) and urban commons (Stavrvides, 2016). It combines spatial analysis and urban ethnography to explore how abandoned infrastructures, like the train wagons, are re-used and transformed into commoning infrastructures, where newcomers and settled migrants join their forces in their attempt to support each other, meet their needs and of "becoming otherwise".

Migrants' hostels (foyers) in the infrastructuring of arrival of West Africans in the region of Paris

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Since the 1950s, the French state has managed (post)colonial migrant workers from the African continent through a specialized housing system, hostels for male labor migrants, called foyers, that dotted the region of Paris, as well as other industrial areas. Though they presently represent a minority type of housing, foyers still play a key role in the arrival of many migrants from Mali, Senegal and Mauritania. They have undergone a significant transformation: their architecture and legal frame have been transformed, the foyers giving way to 'résidences sociales' where African migrants are not the only residents anymore and where socio-spatial practices are closely monitored to prevent the installation of unregistered inhabitants (Mbodj-Pouye 2016; Guérin 2021).

In this paper we wish to contribute to the discussion on migrant infrastructures and migration infrastructures by bringing the foyers into a comparative conversation. We will highlight two key points: the role of the State in the infrastructuring of West African migration; the agency of migrants in turning foyers into arrival infrastructure and attempts to maintaining this role.

We wish to discuss how the foyers inhabitants created through the past decades a welcoming space for their relatives recently arrived in France through socio-spatial tactics, even though the foyer as an arrival infrastructure faces nowadays new politics constraining these practices through their transformation into 'résidences sociales'.

Movement Beyond the Pathway: Exploring the field of Irregular Migration through an Ethnographic Dialogue

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Various actors enter the field of irregular migration with distinct intentions related to personal or societal change. Next to the ones who are on their way to better futures, are those who are mobilized by the precarious and often inhuman conditions the former endure. In addition to the apparent one-way solidarity activities from the latter directed to the former, encounters among diverse actors in the field enable more complex exchanges and infrastructuring, constituting what Papadopoulos and Tsianos (2013) depict as 'mobile commoning'. This paper spatializes these dispersed socio-material interactions by not only looking into the pathways of those who pass through and temporarily stay at places, but to understand how these pathways reverberate into local society and transform its public and its spaces in non-hegemonic ways. Furthermore, the paper aims to refrain from reproducing the social differentiation present in the field, by taking as starting point a collaboration which emerged from an encounter in the field itself: We, the authors, are a journalist who migrated irregularly from Iran to England, and a researcher who investigated and personally took part in various private and small-scale solidarity initiatives related to irregular migration in Belgium, the Netherlands, and the North Sea coast. Hence, the outcome is the result of a dialogue that unfolded between a person on the move and a person who is moved. We converse about our ethnographic vantage points and how our trajectories intertwined on the way. This situated and relational perspective thenceforth allows for a broader take on mobility and arrival infrastructuring by drawing on ethnographic data which depicts a multifold of encounters – both, adverse and promising ones – at the intersecting trajectories of various people in the field of irregular migration.

Space or practice? The making and unmaking of 'home' and 'neighborhood' through urban arrival infrastructures

Dr. Anna Steigemann¹

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Within the field of interdisciplinary urban research in Germany, few scholars have addressed the more informal self-made arrival infrastructures in the course of home-making of forced migrants in so-called collective accommodations and on the neighborhood level as well as their impact on urban space-/ place- and neighborhood-making.

With a focus on the making and unmaking of home through more makeshift or bottom-up arrival infrastructures (e.g. stores, restaurants, or community centers) and the related infrastructuring practices, this presentation discusses findings from an in-depth ethnographic study of a refugee accommodation and the surrounding (ordinary) neighborhood in Berlin-Neukölln. The presentation looks at both the spatial production and the social life of these more self-made, bottom-up and often more informalized arrival infrastructures and the more top-down formalized arrival infrastructures in/of the camps. Contrasting the two as first, socio-spatial/more spatio-material settings and second, as a set of distinct practices and personal ensembles of the involved people, the presentation then reveals how the forced migrants' efforts to make themselves at home (temporarily or not) involves and results in socio-spatial settings and practices, which in turn also affect arrival, belonging, and homemaking for other (migrantized) newcomers and city residents.

In detail, comparing the un-/making of official and rather top-down arrival infrastructures with more self-made, informalized arrival infrastructures, which are often built with the help of other (migrantized) residents, I argue that particularly the latter with their joint spatial appropriation and production processes smooth, support, and negotiate the arrival and homemaking processes inside the camp and on the neighborhood level. Last but not least, this highlights how the more makeshift spatial production (as also infrastructuring practice) often collides with the technocratic migration management approaches as well as with the urban planning visions for the area and ideas about what and who makes a neighborhood.

The Dual Devolution of Migration Policy: Examining Local and Sub-Federal Regulations of Migration Infrastructures

Mr. Edward Mohr¹

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Private-sector labor intermediaries that connect migrants with employers are increasingly forming an important part of the migration infrastructure that alters global flows of movement. While the actors are transnational in nature, they are accountable to State institutions who govern the intermediaries in order to influence who enters a territory and how migrants interact with the private-sector once inside. The governance of migration has historically been regarded as a key State function assigned to and held exclusively by the highest level of government, yet new trends regarding how private-sector migration intermediaries are regulated are challenging this assumption. In particular, local and sub-federal governments in select countries are increasingly licensing and regulating how the private-sector labor brokers interact with migrants; thus indirectly impacting how migrants arrive in urban areas. This PhD dissertation therefore investigates macro-meso relations surrounding migration infrastructure using local governments as strategic research sites. In particular, I employ the sub-national comparative method in order to analyse how and why local governments are influencing the methods that migration brokers use to alter migration governance. This presentation will cover preliminary findings on how sub-federal and local governments in Australia, Canada and the United States are currently regulating labor intermediaries

in agriculture, in-home care and food processing, as well as what is causing these policies. Findings for the first question illuminate the new ways that local governments have recently started using to alter their local migration infrastructures. I will discuss not only variation between the policy mechanisms used by local governments in different States, but important intra-country variation in how the actors are regulated as well. Answers to the second question illuminate how migrant agency, meso-level institutions and national immigration schemes all interact to shape the collaboration between local governments and migration infrastructures in different ways.

PANEL No.08: Entrepreneurialism from below: governance and neoliberalism in the peripheries

Conveners | Mara Nogueira, *Birkbeck, University of London, London, United Kingdom*; Gareth A. Jones, Aiko Ikemura Amaral, *LSE, London, United Kingdom*

Cable infrastructures and citizenship

Mr. Suyash Barve¹

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Cable television is synonymous with the beginning of neoliberalisation in India. Cable infrastructures came at a historical juncture in postcolonial India amidst a period of rapid urbanization, economic volatility, labour conflict, rising consumerism, changing telecommunications policy, ascending ethnic majoritarianism (Hindutva) and hegemonic entrepreneurial discourse. This paper discusses how local cable television and internet operators (hereafter LCO) appropriate, embody and perform the entrepreneurial-citizen subject position in contemporary Mumbai. Examining everyday practices of LCOs who have built, expanded, maintained and repaired thousands of miles of cable wires and connections, it positions how urban citizenship is interwoven with discourses of entrepreneurialism and raises its social, political and economic actualities and potentialities. The paper brings forward everyday discourses of LCOs who identify as 'grassroots entrepreneurs' and claim to have been marginalised by state telecommunications policy and pervasive corporatisation. LCOs approached to be part of the research are members of the Shiv Cable Sena, a cable operators trade union affiliated to the Shiv Sena, the nativist Hindutva aligned political party ascendant in Mumbai since the 1960s. The findings allow for a nuanced grasp of the conjoined emergence of the entrepreneur-citizen subject, neoliberalisation and Hindutva and their embeddedness in everyday spatial, cultural, gender, class, caste and identity politics. The paper applies a conceptual understanding of how neoliberal discourses violently occupy non-economic domains and everyday spaces where social belonging, spatial inclusion, access to resources and connection to the state 'fuses civic duty with entrepreneurial components [and produces] new conceptions, practices and subjectivities of citizenship' (von Schnitzler, 2016, p. 901). Summarising 12 months of fieldwork in urban communities where LCOs live and work, this paper looks at what it means to be a 'grassroots entrepreneur' in Mumbai and how it opens discursive and material spaces to learn, contest, negotiate, configure and transform the scope and limits of citizenship.

Getting things Done: Brokers, Boosters and Entrepreneurial Entities in Urbanizing India

Ms. Sophia Abbas¹

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This paper is an ethnographic study of land disputes and land related urban transitions in three peri-urban villages located in the National Capital Region of India. Amidst emerging master plans, real estate activity, logics of economy and party politics these villages have undergone massive land acquisition for urban development. As the value of land rapidly transforms on this urban periphery, the paper turns attention to the quotidian life activities of different local actors currently inhabiting these urbanizing landscapes. In the world of hopes, dreams and emerging urban aspirations, many of these diverse actors like land brokers, boosters or petty contractors help negotiate these changes that are underway in this urbanizing landscape. While recent regional literature has rightly focused on the role of private players such as giant real estate corporations in shaping the way land is commodified, these actors are by no means a homogenous category of big businesses and profit makers. For instance-many small-scale brokers talk up and speculate about the emerging high rises, help book flats or hike the prices of these projects. Similarly, small time contractors help win bids to a public work project and many others aid in boosting real estate investments. In doing so these actors form an ecology of intermediaries that rely on each other, travel between different worlds (of the state, kinship, religion or caste), hustle, sell, market and help get 'things done'. In this process they use a repertoire of skills, local knowledge, relationships, and forms of capital marking their transition into Entrepreneurial Entities that then generate new meanings and relationships animating land and redefine the emerging urban geography of this region. How this ecology of intermediaries operate, what constitutes their entrepreneurial practice and how their actions shape the changing values and attachments to urbanizing land will be the subject of this paper.

Grassroots organizations co-implementing World Bank sponsored housing programs in Mexico. Role, strategies, tensions and ambivalences

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Since the first decade of this century, Mexican saving and credit cooperatives, and housing organizations linked to urban movements, have been participating in different versions of a program supporting self-help housing, sanctioned and subsidized by the national government but in essence formulated and sponsored by the World Bank. The participation of those grassroots organizations in the housing program has consisted in providing micro-loans and technical assistance to low-income families wanting to expand, renew or rebuild their homes. For those organizations, the opportunity to participate in the housing program has been perceived as a response to their demand to the government to support what they have defined as "social production of housing", a type of housing production operating on a non-profit basis, geared to meet families' shelter needs rather to increase capital accumulation. However, while housing organizations claim to and strive to work against commodification and financialization of housing, the World Bank formulated the housing program with the declared aim of expanding housing finance markets. In this regard, the present paper is concerned in analysing the role of grassroots organizations embracing alternative views on housing when implementing programs recommended and formulated by the World Bank. In particular, in analysing the strategies and resources these grassroots organizations have used to subvert the logic of those programs, the challenges and dilemmas they have faced when participating in them, and the ambivalent results they have achieved.

Insurgent Entrepreneurialism at the urban periphery during COVID-19

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As COVID-19 hit Brazil, concerns about its impact over densely-populated urban peripheries highlighted the inequalities in access to health and social services and infrastructures. Against the backdrop of nearly absent state support, the local association of São Paulo's largest favela, Paraisópolis, partnered with business sector initiatives to provide services during the crisis, from food donations to ambulances and emergency income. This parallel system of welfare provision was embedded in entrepreneurial discourses and practices that circulate and travel through the G10, a pre-existing network of favelas that champions the market innovation and consumer potential of these neighbourhoods. In this paper, the case of Paraisópolis is used to explore the emergence of new peripheral subjectivities and forms of governance where insurgent citizenship incorporates and transforms neoliberal approaches to development centred around the social benefits of markets. By exploring the initiatives implemented in Paraisópolis during the COVID-19 pandemic, and replicated elsewhere, we demonstrate how they reveal the emergence of forms of 'insurgent entrepreneurship' in urban Brazilian peripheries. Moreover, by analysing the working of such forms of peripheral governance during a major health, political and economic crisis, we also foreground their ambivalences. We argue that this 'insurgent entrepreneurship' which gained visibility during the COVID-19 crisis is the product of ongoing economic, political and social changes, where precarity and empowerment, resilience and struggle raise new questions about the role of and relationship between local residents and associations, private and third sector organisations and state institutions in the peripheries.

Popular entrepreneurship in recent Brazil

Mr. Henrique Costa¹

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Recent decades have seen a proliferation of terms and prescriptions that seek to establish values and expectations of competitive capitalism to encourage individual performance. Terms such as "entrepreneurship" became part of different spaces such as the school, family and the world of work, interconnected by the reaffirmation of "protagonist role of the youth" and "life projects". While cultural changes are incorporated by the labor market, which transforms them into "employability" factors, public policies such as microcredit and student financing encourage self-management and revisit the value and role of the family. Based on Burawoy's extended case methodology, I use interviews and ethnographies conducted at NGOs, neighborhood associations, schools and work training courses in the south of São Paulo, to discuss the different profiles of those who live, work, study and circulate in the city's urban peripheries. Informed by the works of E.P. Thompson, Raymond Williams and Fredric Jameson, I analyze the emergence of a popular culture that retains residues of the historical experience of wage-less life in Brazil pushing towards autonomous jobs, a culture that is crossed by the contemporary ideology of entrepreneurship. The result, I argue, is the formation of a new popular entrepreneurship on the outskirts of São Paulo, informed both by popular culture and by the modernizing trends of contemporary capitalism.

Rent as management of housing precarity: entrepreneurialism, public policies and territorial violence

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In the last two decades there has been an increase in the percentage of rental housing in Latin American cities. In Brazil, this dynamic includes informal rental which increased with the densification of self-built settlements, managed by local agents. The calculated urban housing deficit is increasingly composed of excessive rent burden, in part due to the intense neoliberal restructuring of popular territories which articulates local markets mobilizing entrepreneurialism from below and from above – in a gray area between legal/illegal, formal/informal – and public investments.

From below, capital availability invested in new housing derives from the consolidation of international illicit markets and the economic prosperity of local entrepreneurs – in a context of progressive consolidation of self-built settlements. From above, rental housing is the new frontier of the Real-Estate Financial Complex, with the rise of corporate landlords and the development of digital platforms – the “automated landlords” in the housing sector. Public investments in social programs and housing policies providing rental vouchers to evicted families articulate those two spheres, by generating permanent demand for those precarious housing and including it into the Real-Estate Financial Complex. This is done through Public-Private Partnerships combining urban deregulation and rental vouchers; but also by housing digital rental platforms which deviate from tenancy norms and include irregular properties in the rental market. Entrepreneurialism from below is increasingly linked to this process through economic initiatives mobilizing Social Impact Bonds; but also through militias and other forms of private regimes of territorial control, which involve violence to create monopolies over urban services – including rental housing. A new context of housing insecurity is generated in which housing needs, instead of being solved, are managed through a network of local governance based in local regimes of territorial control.

The emergence of peripheral entrepreneurship in Brazil

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The notion of a legitimately peripheral entrepreneurship has grown in urban peripheries in Brazil in recent years. I conceptualize the “peripheral entrepreneurship” as a branch of entrepreneurship among peripheral dwellers that value the networks established on the outskirts of the city and that opposes the entrepreneurship discussed and practiced in the central areas of the city, defined pejoratively as “middle-class entrepreneurship” or “start-up entrepreneurship.” Likewise, those entrepreneurs oppose the rest of what we might call “popular entrepreneurship” emphasizing their entrepreneurial initiatives are not only due to the financial need to find some form of sustenance in the face of the economic crisis. Thus, my research interlocutors value creativity and their “dreams” or “vocations” as opposed to the lack of options or to “opportunism” for starting a small enterprise. In addition, they highlight the ability of blacks, women, and the poor in general to “innovate” in adverse conditions, always associated with the concern of not “romanticizing” the deprivation conditions in which these people find themselves. In this way, peripheral entrepreneurs aim to offer commodities and services that are linked to their histories and cultures instead of a search for “market needs”. This paper is the result of fieldwork carried out over the last year on the southern outskirts of the city of São Paulo. In addition to building a “profile” of these entrepreneurs through the life history of some of my interlocutors, the paper aims to analyze the “ecosystem” of institutions, people, and public, private, and third sector entities that support and stimulate the growth of this branch of entrepreneurship in São Paulo’s margins.

PANEL No.09: Everyday crisis, beyond the eventful

Conveners | Ifigeneia Dimitrakou, Julie Ren, *University of Zurich, Zürich, Switzerland*

Beirut: ongoing crises. Resistance, Resilience?

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Everyday crises characterize several communities in countries where layers of global political imbalance have framed injustice, vulnerability, socio-economic disparities, and conflicts. With its high percentage of refugees per capita, economic depression, demographic and religious diversity, ongoing instability, and complex internal politics, Lebanon is a country in timeless crisis... However, a new crisis blooms every day in Beirut, apart from these exceptional events. Questions arise: How does the inhabitant cope with this volatile condition? What mechanisms do they develop to respond to the 'every moment' crisis? How does this translate on the ground?

Means, needs and urgency dictate the individual's adopted strategy: it can range from slight adaptation, adjustments, change of the everyday basic needs (exodus?). Throughout the urban environment, people's activities/movement/dynamism is dictated by temporal slots of change (power outages, fuel and water shortages). Nevertheless, this only works when combined with different degrees of withdrawal from the surrounding environment. Simultaneously sarcasm and mockery, Lebanese cultural fortes, develop into tools of resistance channelling the real feelings of frustration, anger, and desperation. All directed towards people themselves, their alienating situation, and their corrupt politicians.

Schizophrenia becomes the norm for the city and the people. The constant reappropriation of familiar geography, familiar routine, familiar faces, and past life becomes an exercise for survival and resistance. This paper reports on the two authors personal experience of revolution, refugees' crisis, pandemic, explosion, economic collapse in Beirut since October 2019. It is based on auto-ethnography and informal surveys conducted with the students at the AUB, Lebanon. Moving from the scale of the urban context, neighbourhood, private sphere, and individual, we use anecdotes to portray the city's 'every moment' rhythm.

Are we in the Civil war era (1975-90) or post-war/post-reconstruction, post-explosion, economic crisis/pandemic Beirut?

Everyday atmospheres of (counter)terrorism in Birmingham

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Terrorism is a profoundly urban phenomenon. Despite a relatively low number of terrorist attacks compared to other world regions, European cities are increasingly being redesigned through a series of material infrastructural interventions (known as 'target hardening') aimed at protecting crowds, buildings, and infrastructure from hostile threats (Coaffee 2021). In the UK, particularly following the 2017 Manchester Arena bombing, target hardening in urban public spaces has intensified as part of the Protect Duty, including the enclosure and surveillance of pedestrian areas with bollards, barriers, police and private security patrols, and CCTV cameras. While these visible manifestations of geopolitical crisis and domestic insecurity often appear near the sites of attacks, they've proliferated in many English cities that do not have a recent experience with terrorism. This militarisation of the built environment has been coupled with an increasingly decentralised approach to counterterrorism, which incites residents and local authorities in

urban Europe to remain vigilant and use ‘good reflexes’ (France) to detect what ‘doesn’t feel right’ (UK) and thus help prevent possible attacks. In the context of this heightened sense of threat, counterterrorism has become both an omnipresent and unremarkable part of the urban landscape, which is altering the felt experience of public space in cities. Using an atmospheric conceptual and methodological approach, and drawing on ethnographic research with Birmingham residents and interviews conducted with local and national security officials, urban planners, and grassroots organisations, this paper analyses how counterterrorism measures impact the atmospheres of an ‘ordinary’ city without recent experiences of terrorism. I argue that both the anticipation of terrorism and counterterrorism infrastructure are altering the everyday experience of urban life for residents who have become both desensitised to and hyper-aware of (the threat of) insecurity.

Everyday collective care, mourning and healing in the “new normal”: An ethnographic account from Athens (Greece)

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The COVID-19 pandemic has shaken our contemporary world at multiple levels. Our everyday lives have undergone significant reconfigurations in what concerns modes of sociality, consumption, mobility and work. Nevertheless, the pandemic can be positioned as yet another crisis of capitalism, which continues to reveal itself as a system that prioritises “profit-making” over life-making”. Crisis – normally understood as a phenomenon of passing nature – has turned into an enduring state of affairs. Importantly, this new normalcy is being translated in many places into a “politics of chronic-crisis” through which a new regime of accumulation and dispossession is being configured. The “new normal” manifests on everyday lives in varied forms; growing uncertainty, feelings of loss, fear and anxiety, the ubiquity of precarious life, displacement, the virtualisation of social and work relationships, and increased state control over lives and bodies through surveillance and repressive mechanisms. Helplessness, inaction and detachment seem to have captured contemporary subjectivities and collective imaginations.

However, renewed forms of collective agency and solidarity are being configured too, especially on the everyday level, particularly marked by feminist politics and ethics that have brewed in movements and struggles over the past decade. In this paper, I will present an ethnographic account of an independent group of artists and researchers that came together in Athens during the pandemic aiming to explore ways for reproducing their lives in connection with their politics and their affective and material needs. The group seeks to articulate diverse (situated) knowledges and sensitivities emerging from practices of collective care, mourning and healing as a means to give shape to new forms of (interdependent) agency and being political. I will dwell on some of the ambivalences that mark their common practice as the group navigates the “new normal” both as a shared impasse and condition of possibility.

Everyday lives in precarity. Exploring the urban youth in Athens, a capital of crisis

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Scope of the paper is to identify how precarity unfolds in the everyday life of young people in Athens during the ongoing period of the crisis. For more than a decade now—from the severity and longevity of the economic crisis of 2008 to the Covid-19 pandemic, the promoted policies in Greece have been establishing new regimes of exploitation in a situation marked by very low wages, elimination of labour rights and

precarisation of the labour market. They have also demolished whatever was left of a welfare state entailing a drastic decline of the budget deficit through cuts in public expenditure.

These conditions constitute for the Athenian urban youth a life in the vulnerable zone. Using as a starting point Lefebvre's work, purpose of the paper is to indicate the significance of everyday life as a discrete level where multiple forms of human alienation are being cultivated. From this point of view, it is intended to explore how the various forms of temporary, irregular and flexible work regimes create new experiences of time and space, bringing the short term and the episodic into every aspect of the daily life of young urbanities. Furthermore, taking into account that precarity is commonly experienced as a deteriorating and isolating situation, acting as a powerful individualizing force, it is of great interest to investigate the role of familiarity, as an emerging everyday need within a crisis urban setting.

Everyday mobility crisis in Tehran: an insight into individual experience of common extreme situations

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Although the Covid pandemic has made an exceptional condition and new forms of urban life worldwide, it has differently emerged as an ongoing recurring situation in developing countries. Focusing on everyday mobility practices, this paper investigates the distinct concept of the 'ordinary' crises in the mobility settings of Tehran, Iran, and discusses how common daily mobility challenges may make different ways of coping even at the decisive eventful Covid-19 crisis. Data collection was performed, in 2019-20, through 52 semi-structured qualitative interviews with individuals from different socio-economic status, 21 expert interviews with authorities in transport institutions as well as three months of observation in the field. The main purpose is to discover the meaning of everyday difficulties and challenging situations from the viewpoints of both authorities and people and figure out how different levels of understanding and competence may result in different experiences of daily conflicting situations. This work questions how the process of turning everyday difficulties into extreme situations directs people to different types of coping strategies which is a distinctive dimension in producing different types of mobility practices in the city. Analyzing structuring strategies to regulate everyday crisis help us to identify social groups left in the margin and understand how these ordinary crises result in unequal rights to mobility.

Everyday Proper Politics: Rethinking Spaces of Health and Care Amidst Everyday Urban Crises

Dr. Cristina Temenos¹

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Scholarship on urban crisis isn't new. Often framed in economic terms and focusing on social inequality and environment, studies on urban crisis tend to leave out other crisis forms, particularly health crises. While the Covid 19 Pandemic has brought this gap in into stark clarity, critical urban scholars have focused on the politics of public health and past pandemic urbanisms. There is much to learn by considering the rich, though often unconnected scholarship in this vein (Pierce et al 2011, Brown 2009, Ali & Keil 2011). Drawing on research in Athens, Budapest, and Manchester, I analyze how urban public health programs in European cities have been affected by austerity crisis and how communities have shown resistance to changes in care. In doing so, I seek to bring a critical spatial perspective to the politics of everyday crisis. Bringing together work on austerity urbanism, urban crisis, and policy mobilities, this paper analyzes mundane landscapes of urban public health as important public sites for 'everyday proper politics' to unfold (Temenos 2017). Conceptualizing the city through spaces of urban public health brings into focus

alternative forms of resistance, negotiation, and understandings of the political within urban politics under crisis states. This paper focuses on the relationship between structural and social processes that effect and are affected by the negotiation of tensions within mobile and local urban policies, bringing a study of local politics and communities into conversation with broader political economic analysis to draw out the nuances, mediations, and resistance to, neoliberal logics.

From ordinary cities to ordinary crises: learning from diverse forms of agency and resistance to everyday crises in Istanbul, São Paulo and Saint Petersburg

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In a peripheral neighborhood of Saint Petersburg, a babushka builds a cat house and plants some flowers in front of her soviet prefabricated housing block, despite the fact that her neighborhood was subjected to demolition. To what extent does her acts relate to a less-heroic yet valid form of resistance?

We propose to tackle this question through a comparative urbanism study outside of the ordinary Global North/Global South divide: Istanbul, São Paulo and Saint Petersburg. We aim to advance the “Global Easts” epistemology (Muller & Trubina, 2020) while adhering to the theory of “ordinary cities” (Robinson, 2006). We argue that these three metropolises, each in their own way, are backgrounds to economic, social, and housing crises, experienced as ordinary by the inhabitants, while rooted in specific socio-historical landscapes of the cities.

In Istanbul, marked by a fragile housing stock, the speculative construction process initiated by the government reinforces social inequalities, all while the city will face a big earthquake in the following years (Kuzucu et al., 2019; Günay, 2018).

In São Paulo, the inequalities in access to land and housing are rooted in Brazil’s colonial history, deepened by the years of military dictatorship and followed by the difficult reconstruction of the democracy within a patrimonialist society (Faoro, 2000 [1958]; Maricato, 2008; Ferreira, 2015).

In Saint Petersburg, the crises manifest in a form of an evergoing lack of housing, coupled with the economic and socio-spatial polarization and city governance failure after the dismantling of the Soviet Union (Trumbull 2013, Zhitin et al., 2020).

We are interested in examples of non-hegemonic forms of resistance to everyday crises. In a post-colonial perspective, our research builds upon local literature within each context. This comparative theoretical endeavor emphasizes the social and urban particularities of these everyday crises, with a methodology consisting in on-site urban ethnographies.

How repeated unpredictability shapes inequality: Exploring the time-space of short-term workers in Seoul, South Korea

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In this research, I examine how ‘unpredictability’ has emerged as a mode of living in cities and its implication for urban inequality in the context of South Korea. I draw on a 12-month ethnography on coworking spaces and short-term workers who float around to work without fixed workspaces in Seoul. The

observation centres on how unpredictability is repeated as a pattern of everyday life, shaping not only the use of time-space and organisation of resources, but also imagination of what one could be in the future. My aim is to understand how uncertainty that historically enabled socio-spatial mobility during compressed urbanisation and development is turning into everyday crisis, however, is unevenly experienced by different subjects. Therefore empirically, I take un-mobilised subjects and sites as entry points instead of a politically charged movement or community in examining the mundane navigation of crisis ordinary (Berlant, 2011). Conceptually, I engage in a body of literature that enables discussions of vernacular practices under uncertainty in relation to the precarity, socio-spatial mobility and urban inequality (Harris & Nowicki, 2018; Muñoz, 2018; Pettit, 2017). In this session, I hope to discuss how we can conceptualise the subjects and spaces emerging through the prolonged and routinised life explorations by drawing on reflections from different geographies.

Is there dignity in the responses to everyday crisis?

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A well researched experience that may be framed as an everyday crisis globally, is energy poverty, a situation where a household or a community is unable to access fuel, electricity, heat, and the like to sustain a healthy and decent life in a given context. Households living in energy poverty regularly experience health issues resulting from cold homes in winter or hot homes in summer, electricity disconnections that disable them from cooking warm meals, lighting the home, washing clothes or communication. It limits social contacts, hinders participation society, and causes psychological distress. Self-exclusion and avoidance are common coping strategies. We suggest to consider the non-material deprivation of citizens, that is emotions and affect, stigma, and prejudice. Empirical work shows that in the contact with institutions of welfare states, stigmatization continues and humiliation remains chronic. Our contribution emphasises the question of how and what normative concepts are used to inform our social priorities. Normative ideals form the basis of social critique, they open the horizon for scholarly engagement and for deepening deprived citizens' moral agency. In critical urban studies, the analysis of normatively negative phenomena pave the way for analysis and theory, e.g. perceived injustices, stigmatization and the like are the entry points to a search for causes of such unequal positions and experiences. Working with qualitative empirical material on energy poverty, we suggest that conceptualizations of dignity and dignity violation, in particular feelings of neglect or of being left behind, indifferent attitudes from "elites," feelings of inferiority, and the fear of future loss of status within the respective society should be given more attention. These conceptualizations so far remain too beholden to a general social and political critique to leave any space for ethical subjectivation.

Modes of exceptionality: event and everyday life in Acapulco, Mexico

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This paper traces how 'Ingrid' and 'Manuel' – two storms that hit the Acapulco Metropolitan Area (AMA) in Mexico in 2013 – unfolded and became entangled with people, institutions, and organisations in a context where the lines between events and everyday life are blurred, and yet the event was still named and felt as an event. By focusing on this seemingly singular event, the paper supplements how human geography understands and relates to events, arguing for an approach that focuses on what we call the 'life of events': following how events, understood as occurrences with actual or potential disruptive effects which exist as a

problem for that which governs and as such require some kind of response, begin, happen, change, end, and live on. This approach suspends ontological claims about what constitutes an event, sitting between social constructivist and naturalist approaches to events, and orientates inquiry to the (re/dis) assembling of what we call the eventfulness of the event. It remains open about what kind of happening might become an event and recognising that events take different forms – including dramatic, punctual interruptions, occurrences that were indistinguishable from everyday life until attention was drawn to them, and future events which have not and may never happen but are acted upon in the present. The paper tracks the modes of exceptionality through which Ingrid and Manuel became an event separate from normality. In doing so, the paper draws out how exceptionality is simultaneously a material, affective, and governmental matter that entails (re/dis) assembling happenings that are, might become or were events. This involves treating an event as neither a symptom of a set of identifiable causes, nor as a punctual rupture, but as an ongoing material and affective composition which has a duration and changes through its effects.

The rhythmic micro-politics of urban precarity: dispossession, displacement, and everyday crises of reproduction in contemporary Delhi (1980s – 2010s)

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As processes of financialization creatively destroy urban life in Indian megacities and productive labour seemingly diminishes in importance across the world, not only is land “freed up” and its living labour transformed into the dead or surplus, but so is the embodied labour-power of both individual practices of “home-making” (as a practice of daily and generational reproduction) and the collective labour of commoning expropriated to simultaneously generate value. In this paper, I focus on the polyrhythmic and trans-local everyday practices of temporary inhabitation and commoning, displacement and urban accumulation by dispossession that inform the contemporary dynamics of “popular urbanisation” in Delhi. How do contemporary processes of continuous dispossession through urban displacement that repurpose urban land in the interests of financial capital in Delhi, “unsettle” and maintain an insecure class of “permanently temporary” informal workers on a day-to-day basis ie. on the level of everyday life? With the analytical viewpoint of a pluralistic theory of value, I argue that the rhythms and routines of displacement and dispossession engender a micro-politics of urban precarity that is representative of the working-class geography of Delhi. Using data from my PhD fieldwork in the city (2018-19) including recorded observations, oral history interviews (n=70), informal conversations conducted in 9 separate neighborhoods, I argue that although dispossession and displacement initially appear as arrhythmic interruptions to processes of home-making within the city, their common recurrences, and repetitions (eurhythms) in working-class resident’s narratives of urban life in Delhi reinforce them as “crisis ordinaries” (Berlant 2010). In so far, they appear within such narratives both as large-scale events to be resisted but also as the accepted conditions of urban existence. In so doing, they generate particular forms of class and social differentiation amongst the informal classes of labour in Delhi that I expand upon further.

PANEL No.10: Everyday infrastructural negotiations: Ordinary people and exceptional struggles in the Southern cities context

Conveners | Leon Felipe Tellez Contreras, *University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom*; Debapriya Chakrabarti, *University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom*

(En)slaving in/against Elite Infrastructures: Repositioning ‘slave’ legacies in contemporary infrastructure projects in Colombo

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Big ‘D’ development infrastructures are politically possible through nationalist tropes, which simultaneously imagine and (un)imagine communities who get placed and (dis)placed through these projects. Colombo’s transition to a global port city and fast-moving foreign investment hub is no exception to this phenomenon. Yet, post-war Colombo’s urban regeneration is distinct in its reuse of historic legacies of ‘slave’ communities – both in terms of dis-placing marginalised communities and in creating new forms of resistant infrastructures and place making by these very communities. This paper dwells deeper into the human-infrastructure interface by bringing back the notion of ‘enslavement’- to understand contemporary infrastructural relations of power and resistance in places that are caught between being and becoming. Through a series of photo surveys, semi-structured interviews and artistic imaginaries of transient infrastructures in and around Colombo 2- the name given to the port project, the Galle face central business district and the itinerant slave island that surrounds this area, we look at how local community shaped by historic and contemporary multi-racial working class relations create new gateways of access to, from and against these big D infrastructures. We show how place and displacement are renegotiated through social production of ordinary livelihoods and their related infrastructures and how inter-racial solidarities are rebuilt from the margins. Introducing the concept of ‘enslavement’ to scholarship on human-infrastructure interaction we show how racialised imaginaries get redrawn as communities bring legacies of isolation and insecurity to contemporary struggles against marginalisation from elite infrastructure projects.

By the River Hooghly, A City is Made and Remade: Labour, River and the Production of Everyday Urban Spaces along Kolkata's Ghats

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The metropolis of Kolkata has a history - deeply entangled in the political ecologies of city-making (Swyngedouw, 1999; Gandy, 2004) along the ‘ghats’ (locally, flight of steps leading down to the river) of river Hooghly or the ‘Gangar-dhaar’ (Ganges riverside). Born out of amphibious geographies around a colonial trading port, ghats have stood at intersections between labour, their livelihoods, materialities of past and the present and State governmentalities dwelling on the logic of hygiene, aesthetics and spatial order. Spaces around these ghats mark a distinct urban ‘informality’ (Laguerre, 2016; Roy, 2009), a work regime that is casual, unregulated in nature and is reflective of the spatial practices specific to this waterscape.

Moving beyond technocentric semantics of infrastructure and locating urban labour regimes against the backdrop of riverine ‘blue infrastructures’ (Mukherjee, 2020), this paper argues that ghat-spaces act as social and spatial infrastructural forms, that are ‘situated, heterogenous and quotidian’ (Carse, 2016) in

character. On one hand, ghats are sites for labour translating into performativity and embodied place-making, rooted in cultural logics, meanings encompassing religion, politics and economics. On the other, these are spaces offering constituencies of ‘people as infrastructure’ (Simone, 2004) working in mediation with fault-lines of power, inequality, State’s rules, regulations and planning protocols. Ghats therefore, become the lens to view the negotiated process of city making, by people at the margins – sweating out at crematoria as Doms, as barbers, cobblers, rail and ferry-servicemen facilitating daily commute, as house helps to well-off neighbourhoods and to help the city deal with all things - filthy and unwanted. Within the larger context of Southern Urbanism (Bhan, 2019) this work illustrates how the ordinariness of everyday hydrosocial relations (Linton & Budds, 2014) produces the extraordinary ‘lived’ urban spaces at the city-margins of Global South.

Configurations of Fragmented Infrastructure: The Case of Nicosia Situated at the Global North-South Interface

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The processes of modernisation and urbanisation in Cyprus, by previous colonial but also subsequent Greek-Cypriot administrations adopting earlier planning mechanisms, have mainly followed technocratic formulae (Mavratsas, 1998; Trimikliniotis, 2001), aiming to replicate the “modern infrastructure ideal” (Graham & Marvin, 2001). The processes of the island’s urbanisation are situated at the “interface” between the planning rationalities of the global North and the lived realities of the global South (Watson, 2009). Nicosia, the capital city, is characterised by dispersed, low-density urban development, incessant parcellation of land and the overwhelming dominance of private car mobility (Constantinides, 2018; Ioannou, 2016) resulting in great deficiencies and fragmentations of urban infrastructures. Such political and spatial incongruities are conveyed by pockets of entitlement contrasted by the informal practices and claims to urban space through which under-resourced citizens perpetually strive to adapt and improvise. However, the social implications of disjointed and dispersed infrastructures have been greatly overlooked. This paper focuses on the relation between the physical and social attributes of Nicosia’s peripheral expansion apparent in people’s everyday confrontations with and configurations of fragmented infrastructures. Using suburban infrastructure as a frame of examination, the method of visual ethnography is used in order to trace the socio-material practices that point to heterogeneous arrangements. These include among others, side-of-the-road vendors, do-it-yourself advertisements, improvised agricultural practices and informal home extensions. Furthermore, physical evidence of the lived, grounded realities that resist dominant land use configurations is juxtaposed with spatial planning logics. The paper highlights the need for a critical, Southern perspective of investigation, revealing human-infrastructure interactions that contest normative planning positions and North-South binaries. Therefore, this study aims to determine whether an “ordinary” geography of human-infrastructure interactions may lead to envisioning development processes that re-politicise land and infrastructure to shed light on alternative planning pathways that refute inherited trajectories of modernisation.

Doing sanitation, doing and undoing enclosures in cramped spaces: Insights from two marginalised communities in downtown Shanghai.

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In current infrastructure – including sanitation-related – literature, considerable attention has been given to the lack of access and the associated inequalities in informal and Global South settings (Anand, 2017; Iossifova, 2015, 2020; Jewitt, 2011; Rodgers & O’Neill, 2012; Truelove & O’Reilly, 2021). In addition, there is a growing body of literature exploring the nexus between infrastructural configurations, aspects of everyday living, and embodied, lived experience in the urban margins (Graham & McFarlane, 2015; Lancione & McFarlane, 2016; McFarlane & Silver, 2017; Silver, 2014; Truelove, 2019, 2021). However, the ways universal and normative conceptions mingle and merge with situated, alternative ways of infrastructural access and provision remain underexplored. Addressing this territory, this paper contributes to and expands the scope of the above discussions by examining everyday practices of access to sanitation in two marginalised enclaves in central Shanghai that are excluded from interventions specifically aiming at adequate sanitation provision at the domestic level. Through an ethnographic exposition, we examine the often overlooked spatial-material dimension in infrastructure literature through the lens of enclosure in marginal conditions of cramped living, and their associated minoritarian enunciations. We develop the concept of minor infracultures to account for the hybrid potentialities and sociomaterial manifestations that emerge as life unfolds in the urban infrastructural margins. We argue that with minor infracultures as an analytical lens, it is possible to examine the ways by which macro-normative infrastructural conceptions and imaginaries become entangled with situated and culturally embedded micro-practices of doing, or even being, infrastructure.

Everyday negotiations with infrastructure and municipal services in Kolkata’s inner-city Kumartuli neighbourhood

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Kolkata’s inner-city slum (basti) neighbourhoods not only house a sizeable population but also are places for home-based enterprises involving traditional practices and communities, including the famous idol-crafting community in the Kumartuli neighbourhood. However, despite being situated in the inner-city areas, these communities are often marginalised due to lack of access to infrastructure and services, informality, lack of tenure and other exclusionary factors such as gender, class, caste, and religion. Communities in these informal settlements continue to negotiate, adapt and appropriate the disjointed infrastructure to get by and get on with their everyday lives as well as accommodating economic pursuits in place. Reflecting on the ongoing debates on citizenship and rights to infrastructure in Southern cities, this paper investigates the complex everyday human-infrastructure interactions in one of Kolkata’s inner-city informal neighbourhoods. The primary research question that this paper addresses is how residents of this densely populated notified slum associated with the crafting of religious idols for the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage listed Durga Puja, interact with the existing uneven physical infrastructural systems particularly water and sanitation facilities. Findings are consolidated from a deliberative workshop completed in Kolkata with a diverse range of stakeholders including community representatives, practitioners, planners, politicians, academic researchers with earlier ethnographic findings and interpretation of the data using local knowledge. These findings suggest everyday struggles with disjointed services, lack of repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure and quick fixes to solve immediately

visible problems. Finally, the workshop also importantly suggested that there has been continued lack of engagement and dialogue between the local government and community stakeholders to address ongoing issues of access to basic water and sanitation infrastructure to the idol-crafting community.

Living with sanitation failures: Embodied experiences of fragile infrastructures in Lilongwe, Malawi

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In this paper we explore two different cases of failure of sanitation infrastructures in Lilongwe Malawi. These failures are the collapse of latrines in the low-income areas of Lilongwe (LIAs) and the leaky sewers of Area 18 (a neighbourhood located in the planned city). Drawing on empirical material collected through ethnographic and archival/desk research, we describe how the different sanitation configurations and understandings of responsibilities for the provisions of sanitation services in Area 18 and LIAs have developed linked to the postcolonial and colonial histories of the neighbourhoods. As a result of passing maintenance costs and labours on to residents, infrastructural fragility has become a persistent challenge read within the urban fabric that transverse the life of residents in violent ways. Through a feminist and embodied approach and by engaging across the intersections of the concepts of infrastructural violence, labours, and citizenship the paper demonstrates how sanitation systems at the brink of failure affect and engage bodies along intersecting hierarchies of income/social standing and gender. We demonstrate: i) the uneven (corporeal, emotional) harmful consequences of fragile sanitation systems and how those build on broader social and gender inequalities; ii) the role of non-expert and gendered labours and bodily practices in maintaining sanitation systems at the brink of failure and how these intersect with gendered subjectivities; and iii) the different possibilities urban residents have to claim infrastructural or hygienic citizenship vis a vis or on the margins of the state.

Manufacturing open defecation free cities: punishing people and collapsing toilets, unpacking paradoxes of Mumbai's sanitation landscape

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The government of India launched the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) with the aim of making the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) through universal access to toilets by 2019. Since the launch of SBM, local governments have been striving to declare their cities ODF. Mumbai was declared ODF overnight on 1 January 2017. Police marshals were deployed to fine people who defecated in the open. Drawing on findings from a social audit of shared toilets of M-east ward, one of the administrative wards of Mumbai, conducted in 2017, the chapter conceptualises embodied experiences of access to sanitation and the making of ODF cities as manifestations of everyday infrastructural violence. It illustrates how people live and contest prolonged periods of infrastructural breakdown. This paper suggests that the target-oriented drive for ending open defecation under the SBM exacerbates existing socioeconomic tensions.

Regulating infrastructure from below: 20 years of politico-legal battles in Mexico City's public markets

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Mexico City has one of the largest public markets networks in Latin America. Its 329 commercial facilities and more than 72,000 traders make it an exceptional infrastructure network in the region. Since the late 1980s, trader communities have fought against disinvestment and the markets' material deterioration, the expansion of supermarket companies in the city, and multiple attempts to reform the laws that regulate markets' provision and maintenance. These long-standing struggles have become the everyday infrastructural negotiations of small-scale and low-income market traders and their way to refuse the implementation of neoliberal policies in the retail sector. This paper examines the politico-legal battles of these trader communities to deter the law reforms that risk changing the rules that govern markets and traders' practices. Based on ethnographic and archival research conducted in 2018, this paper documents the traders' activism in the past 20 years. This includes exploring the traders' successes to defend the 1951 Markets Bylaw and their continued opposition to legislative initiatives that have threatened to deprive them of their right to infrastructure. In this period, trader organisations have boycotted these initiatives through public demonstrations, lobbying politicians and government officials, and developing counter-initiatives. The paper argues that these ordinary people have shaped this exceptional markets network by performing 'popular infrastructural politics'. This distinctive form of subaltern agency has allowed market traders to successfully encroach their interests, needs, affects, and aspirations upon the city's dominant infrastructural agendas. The paper thus reveals how in the past 20 years traders have organised to preserve this extensive urban infrastructure as public goods and services.

Struggling over the heart of the city: local movements and trade unions and the privatization of the port of Piraeus

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The paper provides a sociological account of COSCO's investment in Piraeus port, Greece, focusing on how it is negotiated by local movements and trade unions.

COSCO, a state-owned Chinese corporation, acquired in 2008 the control of one pier and, in 2016 and 2021, purchased 67% of shares of the Piraeus Port Authority SA (OLP). This investment is part of the Chinese "New Silk Road" strategy and repositions Piraeus port in global networks of transportations and trade. At the same time, since the port has strong economic, spatial and identity bonds with the city of Piraeus, COSCO's investment affects local actors such as civil society, trade unions and local administration.

Adopting a "processual" approach (Abbott, 2016), the paper examines the attitudes and strategies of local movements and trade unions towards COSCO's investment in Piraeus port. We see how different movements and unions adopt different stances, which also tend to change in the turning points of the investment process; we analyse how movements and unions take part in alliances and conflicts around issues such as competition in local markets, environmental protection, labour relations and citizens' everyday life in the city of Piraeus. The empirical material of the paper comprises qualitative in-depth interviews with employers and employees organizations, residents movements, civil society organizations, as well as, politicians, local authorities and the investors.

The paper is part of an ongoing project funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (SOCINVEST, HFRI-FM17-3211).

Three-wheeled mobile political capital and livelihoods in the midst of dichotomous urban transport infrastructure.

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My research explores the value of mobility in motocars (motorised three-wheeled vehicles like rickshaws) in Soledad, Colombia. The aim is to understand a key urban practice beyond the dominant frameworks of transport studies derived from North-Atlantic urban models. Soledad, with more than 700,000 inhabitants is part of the conurbation institutionalised as the Metropolitan Area of Barranquilla.

Transport infrastructure in Soledad is characterised by the dichotomy of hosting major metropolitan and national transport infrastructure and numerous unpaved narrow roads not confined to newly established neighbourhoods. A national level highway that divides the city in two and the BRT trunk and feeders distribution are manifest of the precedence given to connectivity with Barranquilla (the main city of the metropolitan area) over local mobility. Locals depend on motorcycles (15% of journeys), active travel modes (3% and 39% in peripheral neighbourhoods) and since 2002 motocars (12%) to move within the city. In 2005 use of motocars for public transport was banned by the central government in municipalities over 50,000 inhabitants, disregarding the roles these form of mobility has in some urban areas in the country and particularly in Soledad.

Drawing from semi-structured interviews and mobility surveys, my research unpacks the configuration of these forms of mobility to examine their value for different actors. First, motocars have two forms of use-value previously found in relation to so called informal transport services in other contexts of limited transport infrastructure: as a source of livelihoods for economically active inhabitants with few alternatives in the formal job market and as a transport mode that sustains both productive and reproductive activities in the city. Second, national regulations on urban transport propelled the emergence of an additional value: as political capital. Thirdly, these vehicles are valued as economic capital in Soledad, to invest life savings, redundancy pays and retirement benefits.

PANEL No.11: (Extra)Ordinary lives between the camp and the city. Refugees' mobilities and translocality in and beyond Europe

Conveners | Ms. Eva Papatzani, *National Technical University of Athens, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Athens, Greece*; Benjamin Etzold, *Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies (BICC), Bonn, Germany*

Inhabiting through encampment. Refugees' livelihood in the surroundings of Tiburtina Railway Station in Rome and beyond.

Mr. Lorenzo Mauloni¹

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After the last eviction of a major informal camp named "Baobab Experience" in 2021, the Tiburtina Station in Rome has become the setting for several minor makeshift refugees' encampments. The contribution is based on a fieldwork research started in July 2021, right after the atomization of this major makeshift

camp, and it aims at exploring how life unfolds from the new makeshift spaces of the area. Inhabiting through encampment came to be an endured state of dwelling in this city, although always in transformation and in constant reproduction in the urban space. In fact, although the intensity of the so-called “refugee crisis” has decreased since 2017, the structural lacks of the Italian receiving system, the increasing strengthening of the migration policies and the consistent pushbacks from the other EU Member States, many are abandoned to themselves onto a life on the street. If, on one side, the amount of support to refugees has increased around the station (social services, humanitarianism, advocacy), on the other, the constant presence of these encampments created new relationships of proximity with their immediate surroundings and beyond. Using dense empirical data, this contribution aims to supplement Southern Theory and Camp Studies debates by shedding new light on how refugees’ encampments have become a persistent part of urban settlements. My argument is twofold: the city can be seen as an infrastructure that enables livelihood and the urban space as the exoskeleton of the camp.

Making Town in and Beyond the Camp in South and Central Africa.

Dr. Cristina Udelsmann Rodrigues¹, Dr. Patience Mususa¹, Dr. Karen Büscher², Dr. Stéphanie Perazzone²

¹The Nordic Africa Institute, ²Ghent University

What kinds of urbanisms do conflict induced settlements create? How are they produced? How do the specificities of certain contexts shape them? Drawing on scholarship on the interlinkages between violent conflict and processes of urbanisation (Udelsmann Rodrigues, 2017) ; Büscher 2018; Udelsmann Rodrigues et. al. 2021) the paper focusses on settlements that have arisen because of conflict related displacement and eventually consolidated in towns. It draws on the cases of Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo that have experienced conflict and internal displacement and Zambia as a recipient of refugees from these neighbouring countries. Drawing on qualitative interviews that include life stories, comparative surveys and long-term ethnographic engagement in these countries, the paper foregrounds mobilities and contestations in the creation and consolidation of settlement. It argues that these are not unidirectional but instead multidimensional and speak to temporalities of everyday place-making; and to the temporal aspects of being a refugee or being displaced. It demonstrates how these experiences of mobility link persons, places, and governance systems across multiple geographies, and how in turn shape the kinds of urbanisms and their processes of consolidation.

Migration governance and urban change in Southern Europe. An ethnographic perspective on reception systems, urban conflicts and segregation in Athens and Turin

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At the intersection between Segregation, Urban and Refugees Studies the paper focuses on reception policies in Greece and Italy, suggesting the emergence of new and differentiated patterns of urban segregation following the turn in European migration governance.

The first part of the article analyzes the evolution of the reception policies and the ongoing process of “campization”, namely the process through which, since the “Refugee Crisis”, the differences between reception, housing and detention of migrants has become more and more nuanced (Kourachanis 2018; Kreichauf 2018), exploring their outcomes in terms of urban segregation.

The second, moving from an ethnographic perspective, focuses on two different experiences of resistance against such policies, the “Ex-Moi”, a squat in the periphery of Turin inhabited by more than 1000 refugees,

and the camp of Lavrio, at 50 km from Athens, once an institutional refugee camp and now a squatted and self-organized camp, hosting around 300 asylum seekers, analyzing how the housing conditions and careers of people on the move affect their mobilities and relations beyond those spaces, and how those trajectories affect urban life and change.

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PANEL No.11: (Extra)Ordinary lives between the camp and the city. Refugees’ mobilities and translocality in and beyond Europe

Conveners | Ms. Eva Papatzani, *National Technical University of Athens, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Athens, Greece*; Benjamin Etzold, *Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies (BICC), Bonn, Germany*

“Is solving the wrong problems a failure?”. Stigmatization and displacement as local outcomes of the Italian approach of urban regeneration of peripheral neighborhoods. An analysis of the regenerative interventions in via Milano and surrounding districts (Brescia, Italy)

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Within the Italian debate, it has been argued that the national regeneration framework addressing the “problem of the peripheries” not only fails to accomplish its main goal, but on the opposite, it might foster stigmatization, gentrification and displacement as its main local outcomes (Saccomanni, 2016). In this sense, failure is a critical but still understudied dimension of regenerative urban interventions, in particular when spill-over effects and processes are taken into account in the aftermath of the regeneration itself (Kuyuku, 2022).

In this paper, failure is understood as composed by the socio-spatial discrepancies between discourses and practices, goals and results, as well as premises and outcomes, within the Italian approach and its local applications. On one hand, these discrepancies are discussed in the terms of their being the outcomes of the Italian processes of policy translation of the European approach to regeneration within the domestic urban policy-making. On the other, inconsistencies are also found between the Italian urban conditions regeneration is expected to address and through which methods, with the specific processes these policies foster on the local level. This paper develops a multi-faceted definition of failing urban regeneration through a Foucauldian-inspired policy analysis of the Italian regenerative approach, highlighting the

features making the so-called Bando Periferie an exclusive, ambiguous and problematic policy - considering the critical urban conditions it is expected to address.

By analyzing the large-scale, State-funded regeneration of three working-class, racially mixed neighborhoods in Brescia, this contribution discusses how the regenerative processes have been implemented in the form-as a punitive intervention against “improper” decaying areas, that were needing to be recovered and mended to the “proper” city.

Data were collected through two ethnographic researches carried out between 2018-2021, inspired by the literature conceptualizing urban regeneration as a set of neoliberalized strategies of urban development (i.e. Knox, 2017).

“Waiting for transformation”: Politics of waiting as a mode of governance in protracted urban renewal projects

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This paper is an attempt to understand the politics of ‘waiting’ as a mode of governance in state-led urban renewal projects. Residents of the designated renewal areas are subjected to a range of waiting episodes: Residents wait for the State to inform them about the planned redevelopment. They wait for the plans and projects to become public, and they wait for the court rulings if the plans are appealed. They wait for the demolition if the plans are approved, and, finally, they wait for the construction to be completed if they keep their property rights on the land that was once their neighborhood. In other words, an indefinite period of waiting starts with the official declaration of urban space as a site for transformation. This prolonged waiting leads to an ongoing temporariness and generates precarious spaces of urban renewal. We take waiting as a spatial relationship between the public authority and the residents of neighborhoods that are designated as urban renewal project sites. Based on our analysis of two protracted urban renewal projects (Fikirtepe, Istanbul and Karabaglar, Izmir), we comparatively study how decade-long waiting for urban renewal projects in these settlements have led to different political outcomes in terms of the progression of the urban renewal projects. While Karabaglar residents have unified around active resistance to challenge the project-based plans imposed by the central government, Fikirtepe residents have been divided based different priorities put forward by resident groups. Despite the socio-spatial similarities between these designated urban renewal project areas, differences in residents’ collective strategies of waiting have led to diverse planning outcomes.

Broken Promises: securitisation through marketisation in Diyarbakir, Turkey

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The field of urban geopolitics invites us to view the militarisation of urban space as a distinct form of political violence. Yet the tendency within the literature to engage with extreme urban combat in “conflict cities” potentially risks fetishising them. To fully understand how acts of violence are entangled with more ordinary forms of urban segregation and fragmentation, particularly in the cities of global South, we must therefore address everyday practices, imaginations and rationalities at play, and consider how place making in conflict cities complicates the relationship between time and space (Bou Akar 2018; Fawaz et al 2012; Graham 2010; Yiftachel 2020).

Drawing from this approach, this paper analyses the spatial imaginaries and rationalities underlying the violence that has paved the way for the physical and symbolic destruction of Suriçi, Diyarbakır's historic centre, during and after the urban warfare of 2015. However, rather than concentrating on military operations undertaken in Suriçi, it shifts the focus toward the initiatives to rehabilitate the area during the period 2002-2015, and takes two urban renewal projects as failed attempts of the AKP political elite and state bureaucracy to garner consent among the Kurdish residents.

These attempts have proved unsuccessful, since Suriçi's revitalisation, which was regarded as an antidote to 1990s war-torn city, came to a halt in the face of the shifting geopolitical conjuncture. Still the underlying perspective –securitisation through marketisation– has eventually rendered the physical destruction and the displacement of dwellers conceivable. Drawing on a field research conducted between 2012 and 2014, as well as subsequent visits to Diyarbakır, this paper suggests that the interrelated processes of marketisation and securitisation have resulted in novel urban imaginaries and social orders that render Suriçi residents displaceable, deprived them of their right to the city and devalued their collective urban experience produced over generations.

From failed rehabilitation to unplanned touristification – neo-patrimonial privatisation and illiberal regulation in post-socialist Budapest

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„I was told not to paint the walls in 2006, because we will move in two months” – said a social housing tenant interviewee in 2009. She still lives in the same apartment. In 2010 Neil Smith was surprised that gentrification in Budapest remained limited. However, between 2014 and 2020, inner city property prices doubled.

In this presentation we address how, why, and with what consequences an urban rehabilitation project failed and transformed. We claim that its temporal pattern is strongly related to neo-patrimonial property relations, and illiberal politics.

Our example is a century-old inner city neighbourhood that was designated for rehabilitation in 1990, but only in the early 2000s were municipality-owned buildings vacated and privatised. However, this was realised in a corruption scheme, large international real estate investors remained absent, and many buildings remained empty until the crisis. “In the meantime” bars started to operate in these buildings. After the illiberal turn in 2010 the national level of the governing party was in favour of bars related to their circles even against their local mayor. This resulted in unplanned and uncontrolled night time overtourism, and transformation of housing into tourist accommodation, causing direct displacement and displacement pressure and nuisance caused by externalities. However, social tenants of buildings under corruption lawsuits had to stay.

Many state-led developments are rather pretexts for the appropriation of public assets by political power or the support of party related enterprises for kickbacks, than projects for facilitating longer term economic growth for market players in general. Lack of clarity about the plans and informality are characteristic. Without liberal civil rights and real political competition under illiberalism, political contestation and electoral consequences are very limited. We suggest these factors can affect urban projects, not only in illiberal contexts like Budapest, Istanbul, Moscow or Danzhou, but anywhere.

Inhabiting the fault line: “local” residents and “transient” dwellers’ perspectives on urban redevelopment failure in Fikirtepe, Istanbul

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This paper provides a situated account of urban transformation in one of Istanbul’s informally-originated areas, Fikirtepe, the largest ongoing redevelopment project in town. Initially heralded as a new model for regeneration in the country, over the years it came to be regarded as a full-blown failure, epitomizing the government’s mishandling of urban redevelopment. Over the past decade, the neighbourhood has seen its social and urban fabric torn apart, and is currently stuck in an unstable but protracted limbo. As Fikirtepe becomes “unlivable” for many of its residents, a number of migrants are moving in, etching out a living: a collateral effect of redevelopment failure, creating a space of opportunity for populations with varied backgrounds, legal statuses, and life trajectories.

In Fikirtepe’s drawn-out transformation we can discern various overlapping fault lines: between long-time residents and newcomers, the “local” communities and “foreign” populations, self-built shanty houses and serially produced high-rises, people “in transit” to elsewhere and those who struggle to stay, the projected vision of redevelopment and the present quagmire of decay, the hypermobility of capital and the forced immobility of bodies – and more, constructed along lines of class, ethnicity, formality, political affiliation, or ideology. The research focuses on how such cleavages are articulated, discursively and materially, but also in how they are navigated, negotiated and dealt with by people on the ground, in their lives and everyday spaces – how these fault lines are inhabited.

Based on fieldwork conducted in 2017-2019 – before the government-driven, fast-paced resumption of development in 2021 – this article investigates the practices and narratives of those who inhabit Fikirtepe throughout this botched transformation. It does so, more specifically, by juxtaposing the intersecting trajectories of two groups, long-time local dwellers and newly arrived transient migrants, which exemplify dissonant and complementary dimensions of the inhabitation of “urban failure”.

Looking Beyond the Pacified Scenario of Urban Regeneration. Parco Dora: A Turin Case Study

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Parco Dora is a park located in Turin’s largest intra-urban industrial wasteland. The area was the object of an important urban regeneration program, aimed at transforming this plot of post-industrial dereliction into a new centrality. Reminiscent of a necklace, the interventions line up along a development axis called the “backbone”. Due to the positive inclusion of its industrial heritage the Parco Dora has signified a new understanding of inner urban landscapes reflecting the transition of the whole area towards a new redevelopment phase.

The park is daily used by hundreds of people of different origins and social extractions coming to the area from the close by neighborhoods. Here they simply walk, play, dance, skate or engage in less legit activities. Thus, at both the metropolitan and the local scale, the park has been a crucial improvement. Nevertheless, the relation among the park and its immediate surroundings needs to be more closely considered. The area has been interested by large scale real estate redevelopment projects targeting the upper class.

On one side, the park offers productive forms of urban contestation within contemporary, pacified scenarios of urban regeneration, in particular when activities are engaged by residents living in the close, marginalized neighborhoods. On the other, it remains unclear the degree to which the two identities of the

regeneration (i.e., the post-industrial park and the housing redevelopment project) are effectively able to communicate and nurture each other.

The following paper aims to offer a critical discussion of the entanglements between the users of the park and the affluent residents living nearby, exploring the ways these groups co-habit, negotiate, and transform the public space. Thus, the case of Turin enables us to unpack the processes of inclusion/exclusion, problematizing the pitfalls of urban redevelopment in contexts of shrinkage and marginality.

Mismatched ambition and capacity of urban regeneration in small cities: A case study of South Street project in Anyang, China

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Regeneration of heritage areas in China has proliferated in major cities for decades. The political achievement and economic profit generated from these projects, usually through heritage tourism, have inspired many small cities to 'learn from' the leading projects. However, things may go out of the control of the local governments. Using the failed South Street regeneration project in Anyang, Henan Province, a small city in China, as an example, this paper seeks to explore the reasons and impacts of failed urban regeneration projects, particularly in 'ordinary' cities that have a different profile compared to star cities and thus face different challenges. In the South Street project, the municipal government of Anyang delegated a local private real estate company to conduct the regeneration. After a large-scale demolition of historic buildings and fierce relocation of original residents, the capital chain of the company ruptured, leaving some poor households as well as dilapidated buildings unmanaged. Through the interviews with local cadres, planners, investors, and communities, and the research of the planning documents and government reports, this research finds that, seemingly, it is the private investor to blame who ignored government policies and regulations regarding compensation and heritage conservation in the first place. In fact, it reveals that the government lacks the ability to deliver consistent instructions, foresee and afford the risk, supervise the private sector, and correct the misconduct timely, yet has unrealistic ambition primarily from the top leader personally. Consequently, the normal lives of the original residents and small business owners have been disrupted who are forced to bear the cost of the failure, and the authenticity of the heritage area has been damaged. The government's mismatched ambition and capability not only indicates various hidden issues within the administration system of small cities but also questions the legitimacy of the regeneration projects.

Notions of time in a neighbourhood destined for state-led regeneration

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The paper deals with temporal aspects of state-led regeneration processes, focusing on a pre-gentrification era in a neighbourhood's lifecycle when various repercussions could follow. I rely on ethnographic research in neighbourhood C ("Gimel") in the city of Beersheba, Israel, one of Israel's poorest locales. The paper joins theorising efforts from southeastern "ordinary" cities, particularly highlighting the significant role of the state in putatively neoliberal processes.

Regeneration in Israel is pursued by public-private partnerships, a mechanism aimed to create a win-win situation whereas homeowner residents—often the majority—stand to benefit economically from the process. This often happens at the cost of displacement, loss of community and change of culture. Private renters are pushed out and replaced, the neighbourhood's physical state improves, and housing prices

increase. In the case of Gimel, regeneration plans are for the entire neighbourhood, and were produced through municipal efforts and Ministry of Housing funding. Residents are either homeowners or transient populations, both holding little say over this top-down process, which will take decades to complete. The paper argues that unknown temporal spatialisation—the timing, length and location of development—produce different perceptions of time with regard to urban transformation. Different actors develop a temporal perspective based on their subjective memory, imaginaries, and positioning. The paper offers three timescapes in a place constructed to be on the verge of change: (1) the “above” perspective of planners and municipal actors, patiently envisioning change based on external imaginaries; (2) the “intermediate” perspective of realtors and developers, seeing redevelopment as a nascent on-going process; and (3) the “below” perspectives of residents, either focusing on the decades-long decay or seeing their residency as a transient solution, with present-time longing for rapid change or fear of displacement.

Olympic Ruins: promises and temporalities of the infrastructures of the Olympic Rio

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After the 2009 announcement of Rio de Janeiro as host for the World Cup and the Olympic Games, the city has experienced intense megaprojects of urbanization and infrastructure works for almost a decade. Although easy to point out its begging, it is hard to say exactly when those constructions were completely finished, as by the time of the Games many were already in decay or entered in suspension no long after. This research aims to explore the case of a giant cable car built at Providência, a favela in the heart of the centre of the city, abandoned since 2016. It is one of many cable cars, elevators, bridges, tunnels and walkways that materialized the narrative of an integrated pacified city and so the promise of a olympic global future. Differing from other kinds of infrastructural interruptions, the Olympic ruins of Rio were never fully completed and/or functioned intermittently, many were “finished” by half, others simply abandoned: they were already in ruins even before completeness. Through the ethnography of the infrastructure it is possible to analyse beyond the specific temporality of mega-events and thus understand the rationalities that underpin their projects, as well as the social and political impacts that they cause. Instead of perceiving those projects only as “failures”, this work seeks to explore the thesis that the production of ruins and void operate as modes of urbanization and space management in the southern cities.

Promises and implementation tricks: inclusionary housing in Brazilian consortial urban operations

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The paper examines the relationship between the implementation of Consortial Urban Operations (Operações Urbanas Consorciadas – OUC) and the (re)production of housing needs. The urban operations have undergone regulatory adjustments over time, with emphasis on the formal incorporation of inclusionary housing provision objectives, goals and tools: an amount of housing units to be built, mandatory percentage of revenues to be used in housing, land and constructive rights reservation. These legal adaptations have been repeated in more recent urban instruments, such as Urban Intervention Projects, created by the 2014 Master Plan of São Paulo. We present the case of OUC Água Branca, in the

city of São Paulo (Brazil), in which housing do not come off the printed page, despite of having money, land and a project. Official and legal data and documents are used in a temporal perspective to show that these promises have actually been a way to justify and legitimate this type of restructuring intervention, but no to provide housing. To the contrary, new housing demands were generated. In OUC Água Branca, after a decade of displacement, no family has been catered for. Why not even mandatory housing actions are carried out? We investigate the hypothesis that this failure is not about implementation gaps, but about implementation tricks (DUBOIS, 2019). More than a discrepancy between objectives and what is accomplished, it is a case of proclamation of objectives whose realization is not sought after, deliberately privileging other results, explicitly or no.

Rationalisation of informal housings and operations within middle-income neighbourhoods: A focus on Nairobi city Kenya

Rationalisation of informal housings and operations within middle-income neighbourhoods: A focus on Nairobi city Kenya. Eunice Nthambi Jimmy¹

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The growing housing crisis in cities of Africa and other "Global South" regions is partly attributed to distorted and dysfunctional formal markets, the proliferation of informal housing delivery system, rapid urbanisation and poor urban management and governance (Bah et al., 2018; City Alliance, 2020; Mwaniki et al., 2015). The problem is more intense in Sub-Saharan Africa (CAHF, 2018; World Bank, 2015), mainly because the supply for housing remains behind the demand, and most urbanites continue to live in informally constructed houses (Payne, 2001; UN-Habitat, 2016). Informality has become the norm in the urban areas and involves several settings such as income generation, housing construction and way of negotiation (Banks et al., 2019; Datta, 2012; Roy, 2005a; Roy & Alsayyad, 2004). In addition, spaces in the urban areas are increasingly influenced and shaped by the market trends, property and urban modernist dreams for the cities (Watson, 2009). As states record economic growth, they are also reporting rapidly increasing informal 'sector' taking different characteristics that have been increasingly involving the elite and the middle-class (Roy & Alsayyad, 2004; Watson, 2009). There is the emergence and growing interest in research on higher-quality unregulated or semi-regulated housing by middle and upper-income in African countries due to the lack of empirical studies in the literature. Therefore, this article analyses the creation, maintenance and successes of informalities within middle-income neighbourhoods. The paper seeks to discuss how middle-income build informally, why they build informally, and the informal relationship with the formal rules, public institutions, and city-county planning. A qualitative approach is used to capture the perspectives of local developers, residents, and key stakeholders involved in housing development. The findings reveal that conflicting rationalities, policies, mismatch of planning and socio-economic realities (external and internal factors to planning) cause informal housing construction within the middle-income neighbourhoods.

Struggling to live by the seashore: Negotiations in post-tsunami housing reconstruction in Chennai

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The housing complexes located in Chennai's Santhome Beach are a product of different slum board clearance policies through history. The coastal area is dotted with fisher villages re-housed from hutment

areas into a diverse set of government tenements. More recently, the slum board's mission has shifted from housing slum dwellers in situ to releasing slum lands for development purposes (Coelho, 2016) or implementing beautification schemes in an attempt to become a world-class city (Saharan et al., 2018). At the heart of the coastal metropolis, these slums are the next frontier of infrastructural transformation long imagined by advocates of regeneration towards a world-class beach front. This process is a threat to fisher's livelihoods and occupancy of the seaside and has been further exacerbated since external funding was made available from the World Bank after the tsunami in 2004. However, almost two decades after the disaster, the beach front is far from matching world-class imaginations. Opposed to relocation, this research has found that the slum dwellers found different ways to negotiate with the Slum Board to maintain their rights to live by the coast. The evolving negotiations between the slum residents and the slum board after the tsunami and how it has re-shaped accesses to urban infrastructure in Santhome Beach is the focus of this paper. The narratives of this research indicate that post-disaster transformation in Chennai's coast cannot be explained solely by the rationale of resettlement that dominates India's contemporary slum policy. Rather, this paper conceptualizes how unequal accesses relate to fragmented housing policies, the functioning of political society in the city's slums and, most importantly, are shaped by complex negotiations. In this process, the absence or presence of infrastructure influences the ability of slum dwellers to embody alternative practices of contestation studied in this research through qualitative methods.

The dialectics of regeneration and degeneration: taking a long view perspective on incomplete social housing estate regeneration in London

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This paper illustrates failing urbanisms in London by taking a long view perspective on incomplete regeneration with reference to Clapham Park, a large social housing estate. This estate was one of 39 neighbourhoods in England included in the Labour Government's New Deal for Communities (NDC) flagship regeneration programme which ran for ten years since 2001. This programme is an exemplar of New Labour's roll-out neoliberalism involving communitarian and privatization strands. The research involves a multi-method case study of the estate before, during and after the NDC. The research includes ethnographic fieldwork, photographic research, and documentary analysis, and this facilitates an in-depth account of how estate residents live through regeneration over many years. The findings are analysed in relation to neoliberalism and the dialectical interplay of regeneration with what I refer to as 'degeneration' (Watt, 2021) – regeneration's demonic alter ego in the form of financial disinvestment in estates and their accelerated physical, social and symbolic deterioration over and above any original problems they might have. The paper illustrates how regeneration and degeneration have intertwined – both physically and symbolically – and how regeneration remains incomplete 20 years since the start of the NDC. Clapham Park has morphed into a highly fragmented and spatially uneven landscape comprising a patchwork quilt of condemned blocks of flats awaiting demolition, newly-built blocks, refurbished blocks and abandoned spaces. Given the regeneration delays, shifting masterplans, managed decline, ongoing housing deprivation, and frustrations over tardy repairs, it's unsurprising that many residents – including tenants who had previously been committed supporters of the NDC – were disillusioned with the NDC housing legacy. The paper concludes by highlighting the tensions within the NDC public-private partnership programme that attempted to meld together two ultimately contradictory governance logics – communitarian and market – that configured New Labour's estate regeneration policy.

PANEL No.12: Global Corporate Landlords and Tenants’ Struggles in the Post-pandemic City

Conveners | Javier Gil, Lorenzo Vidal, Miguel A. Martínez, *Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden*

“Paris” as an asset class: the value of the past in the financialization of historic residential buildings

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While scholarly attention is paid to global corporate landlords’ strategies, the types and qualities of the targeted residential stocks were less investigated. The paper contributes to the debate by analysing how historic Paris housing is turned into, and maintained as, a financial asset class. In the context of the growing post-pandemic interest by corporate investors for housing in France (Guironnet, Bono, and Kireche 2021), the paper seeks to unfold the qualities that make the “typically Parisian” building (XIX-early XX century) a key investment target. It also analyses the relational work carried by investors and brokers (both between them and vis-à-vis public authorities) through which this asset class is (re)produced. Theoretically, it combines urban political economy with economic sociology which reveals the social construction of real estate qualities (Beckert, Musselin, 2013; Coulondre 2017) as well as the growing exploitation of the past for capital accumulation (Boltansky, Esquerre 2020). First, it shows that the financialization of the historic centre lies in turning the past into a quality of an asset class, which makes the distinctiveness of these buildings compatible with investors’ conventions and returns calculations and comparable to other assets globally. The financial value of each building rests, at once, on its recognizability as a piece of historic Paris belonging to an exclusive stock (a “collection”, in Boltansky and Esquerre’s terms) and on the standardized calculation of rental revenues and latent capital gains. Secondly, it is contended that assetization is not a one-off activity, but a long-term social and political work from investors and brokers to maintain the asset availability (in opposition to the municipal pre-emption right and social housing policy) and yields (through tenants’ selection and minimizing the constraints of Parisian rent-control policy). Data about investors, investment and relations are based on interviews, press reviews, and the RCA database.

Financialization in the backyards. GLC in eastgerman peripheral housing estates

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Based on two case studies the East German cities of Halle (Saale) and Schwerin, the paper discusses the interplay of privatisation, planning and welfare policies with the emergence and expansion of Global Corporate Landlords in two large housing estates. Here, different developments come together. First, both estates have experienced two waves of privatization, in which municipal and cooperative properties have been sold to commercial investors. In the course of three decades, this has led to a fundamental change of supply structures and a growing importance of financial landlords. Second, “rightsizing” policies reacting on massive population losses in the 2000’s have led to a massive drop in house prices, thus enabling GCL to enter the market and facilitating the use of ‘leverage’ strategies for financial investors. Third, welfare cuts have put increasing pressure on welfare recipients to live in the cheapest housing available. This has stimulated the emergence and consolidation of a ‘Hartz IV business model’ of housing provision which is based on renting out to disadvantaged parts of the population, while saving on maintenance and service

costs. With the growing immigration of refugees to Germany since 2015, this model has intensified. The interplay of these different developments has not only resulted in new opportunities for profit extraction, but shapes a new housing regime in which the provision of housing for low-income groups is more and more shared between quasi-public local companies and highly financialized global investors. Since this model is strongly concentrated in peripheral housing estates, it also facilitates new patterns of segregation, marked by increased concentrations of refugees and other vulnerable groups in peripheral estates.

Housing Politics from the Streets to the Statehouse: Comparing Policies and Movements in Los Angeles and Berlin 2008-2020

Mr. Kenton Card¹

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This paper compares rental housing politics in Los Angeles (USA) and Berlin (Germany) between 2008-20 by way of each city's episode of contentious politics, structural similarities and differences, and what political processes influenced policy outcomes. The paper serves as a case of the emergence and escalation of tenant power. It analyzes how Tenant Movement Organizations influence policymakers, contribute to policy agenda setting and passage, and how to interpret those policy changes. Methodologically, the paper draws on multiple data sources: participant observations, interviews, newspapers, social media content, and government records. The cities witnessed policy bursts with four parallel characteristics: (1) offensive nature, (2) universalism, (3) progressive local reforms, moderate regional ones, and (4) signs of a breakthrough beyond economically liberal treatment of housing markets. The findings suggest that the rise of tenant movements help drive policy change via multiple channels, exhibiting both similarities and differences across cities.

Political alienation in processes of “renovictions” in the case of Basel

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Studies focusing on transformations in the Swiss residential real estate market point to a dynamization and an increase of institutional investors in urban regions (Theurillat, Rérat et al. 2015). In the context of entrepreneurial policies directed towards “good” taxpayers (Aebi and Flachmeyer 2018) and the implementation of policies of densification (Debrunner 2021), the upgrading of the existing housing stock for larger return rates has become common practice of actors such as banks and pension funds. The growing investment pressure is directly linked to an increase in displacement processes (Bossert 2014). This paper analyzes how the ‘buy it, fix it, sell it’ strategy works in the case of Basel, and what the implications of these processes are on tenants’ lives. Firstly, it therefore looks at the fast influx in financial actors in a low-income neighborhood called Rosental mapped by an association fighting for affordable housing, which the author is herself part of. Secondly, and zooming in even further, the paper analyzes interviews with tenants of five buildings which have been in the process of cancellation for the last two years, as well as fieldnotes gathered at tenant meetings. The paper emphasizes next to the psychological, social and economic effects especially on the political implications these “renovictions” (cf. Listerborn, Molina et al. 2020) have on the affected tenants. It introduces political alienation (Sørensen 2016) as the alienation from political institutions and the inability of tenants to relate to fellow residents in similar positions, as crucial for understanding displacement as “un-homing” (cf. Baxter and Brickell 2014; Elliott-Cooper, Hubbard et al. 2020). Highlighting the inhibitions of tenants to act collectively as a central experience in displacement, the

paper aims to move questions of collective agency to the fore in displacement and alienation theory. (literature can be provided upon request)

Tenant Activism at the Intersections of Rentier and Platform Capitalism

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In this paper we discuss an ongoing project that sits at the intersection of two major changes in Australian housing: the intersection of so-called 'generation rent' and 'platform real estate'. With the growth of the private rental market including the corporate dominated build-to-rent sector, a considerable number of new digital technologies are aimed at renters, landlords and property managers. We are interested in these technologies that have been specifically developed for the private rental sector to understand how they are mediating relationships between landlords, property managers and tenants, either perpetuating or reshaping existing power relations, producing new rental products, and creating new sites of value. While digital technologies have the potential to exacerbate housing inequalities, for example through increased surveillance and automated eviction which we see increasingly used by corporate landlords, they also have the potential to create a better housing system and future and can be an effective tool for organising and advocacy.

Our project involves academics and three leading tenant advocacy organisations in Australia working together to assess the nature and consequences of digital innovation, identify possible advocacy and policy responses, and ultimately using this data to build a new digital platform that might help these organisations and other advocates to work towards better housing outcomes for private renters. In this presentation we will focus on the conceptual innovations that are emerging from this work which sit at the intersection of rentier capitalism and platform capitalism.

The politics of law and economy: struggles for the socialization of housing in Berlin

Dr. Joanna Kusiak¹

¹*Cambridge University, Berlin, Germany*

'We are high-risk capital!' – that's one of the campaign statements with which Berlin tenant movements hope to repel real-estate investment. It turns out that it is also – at least partly – true. On the 26th of September, 2021, over million Berliners voted Yes in a referendum that proposes socialization of corporate-owned housing. Berlin's case offers insight into a tangle between democracy and financialized capitalism on all geographic scales. The shareholders of Berlin's corporate landlords operate globally and include infamous shadow banks such as BlackRock. In order to successfully confront them, a grassroots local initiative has leveraged the most powerful legal framework of the national scale – the German constitution. As Germany is also one of the power engines of global capitalism, a large scale de-privatization and de-financialization of housing could become a political and legal precedent of global importance. But this, of course, cannot be so easy. Despite the landslide vote in the referendum, we currently observe an unsurprising stalemate between democracy and capitalism. As the referendum is binding politically but not legally, both politicians and lobbyists are now trying to strategically delay or avoid its implementation. My paper analyses the field of forces created by radical tenant initiatives in Berlin through an investigation at the intersection of law, political economy and grassroots politics. It also reflects on my own position as a scholar-activist and one of the spokespersons of the movement. Can state law, under globalization, still be

used as a tool for socio-economic emancipation? What is the relationship between economic risk and democratic politics?

The real estate financial complex in Spain after the 2008 housing crisis

Mr. Jordi Gonzalez¹

¹*University Of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom*

A complex of actors that emerged after the GFC, rooted in Spain's political economy. Building on the existing literature on financialization, I call this web of actors the 'new real estate-finance complex' since it weaves together financial entities, asset management companies (AMCs), institutional investors and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REIT) in novel and significant ways that extend and complicate the literature conceptualisation. The literature studying these actors has often confused or conflated the roles of institutional investors, REITs and AMCs. While the literature has thoroughly examined the role of the state-owned 'bad bank' – SAREB – it has left unaddressed the role of private AMCs as new institutions linking finance and housing. The largest private AMCs remain crucial platforms to understand the new real estate-finance complex and the new cycle of accumulation through the secondary circuit of capital. By widening our gaze to explore the relations between REITs and AMCs, this presentation brings new knowledge to the literature on the financialization of rental housing (Aalbers, 2016; Bernt et al., 2017; Beswick et al., 2016; Fields & Uffer, 2016; Soederberg, 2018; Wijburg et al., 2018). This presentation will show the preliminary findings drawing on more than 20 interviews carried out with real estate professionals working for corporate landlords in Spain (among which there are interviews with Blackstone's lawyers and asset managers).

The rise of the Corporate Landlords in Latin America

Ms. Adriana Marin¹

¹*University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil*

The rise of rental as a form of access to housing has been observed throughout Latin America as part of a global dynamic that took place after the 2008 global crisis. In the private rental sector, we highlight the emergence of the multifamily model and a new generation of public policies focused on promoting rental housing, mobilizing Covid-19 pandemic as a justification to promote the entry of new types of corporate landlords in this market. Investment and pension funds, real estate developers, family offices, insurance companies have rapidly entered into residential markets. An important characteristic in the case of Latin America is that the implementation of the multifamily model implies the restructuring of local firms, which now receive capital contributions from international real estate-financial management corporations, resulting in a centralized and standardized management model. The typology corresponds to minimal residential units, with shared services and linked to the e-commerce market, frequently associated with short-term rental platforms like Airbnb, but also for long-term stay, especially, for middle-class groups. The model was first introduced in Chile and was exported by investors to other countries in the region: Peru and Colombia, but is also present in Mexico and Brazil.

Based on a review of literature and official documents and business prospectuses, interviews, and fieldwork, especially in Chile and Brazil, we argue that rental housing is a new frontier that connects finance and real estate (Rolnik, 2019), altering traditional regimes of housing tenure and introducing new paradigms where housing is understood as a service. Making property an exclusive asset and leave tenants in danger of eviction and permanent transience.

The slow ascent of housing financialisation in Greece

Dr. Philipp Katsinas¹

¹*London School of Economics And Political Science, London, United Kingdom*

Housing financialisation has progressed slowly in Greece, as all actors involved invested in a 'strategy of delay': overindebted households and housing activists on physically blocking property foreclosures in the hope of state concessions; the state on the management of discontent, while creating the legal framework and economic guarantees facilitating financialisation; and financial actors on the creation of the conditions for trading NPL bundles and properties, and the development of demand for the rental market. State intervention crushed social contestation, and passed new legislation for the regulation of foreclosures, property taxation, real estate investment trusts, corporate landlords, and facilitating the transformation of overindebted households to tenants in their homes.

This paper analyses the interaction between state policy and financial actors in the (re)commodification, concentration and financialisation of housing and its role in the restructuring of private property relations in Greece and the emergence of corporate landlords. I specifically focus on the strategies used by global investment funds, REITs, and smaller scale investor-landlords. In addition, I argue that short-term rentals (STRs) and the mass availability of devalued assets played a decisive role in the process of housing financialisation and the rise of 'generation rent': i) STRs led to housing shortage and unaffordability, while the rise of STR management companies created know-how for the management of a larger property portfolios in the Greek context. ii) The delay in the activation of investment funds was accompanied by increased investment in housing and hospitality by smaller scale investors using buy-to-sell and buy-to-let strategies, driving the housing market.

Who does the globalization of the housing market leave behind?

Consequences of fast changes in ownership in Husby, Sweden

Prof. Carina Listerborn¹, Dr. Defne Kadioglu¹

¹*Institute for Urban Research, Malmö University, Malmö, Sweden*

Since the mid-1990s, international investment companies have been interested in the Swedish housing stock, especially in the million program areas, areas that are typically located in the suburbs of cities and house working-class residents, often of migratory background. In light of the ongoing privatization and financialization of the Swedish housing stock, this paper highlights the consequences for tenants in such areas. During 2020 - 2021, we conducted a study in Husby, a million-program neighborhood in Stockholm, where approximately 40 percent of the housing stock has been sold to different private players over the past 25 years. The properties have had eight ownership changes since 1996, when the stock was first sold by the municipal provider. In the aftermath of these transfers, tenants have suffered from precarious and unhealthy housing conditions. Based on about thirty interviews with residents, tenant representatives and local networks, we found that tenants struggle with poor maintenance, unclear agreements and difficulties in contacting landlords. We also found that the local and regional tenants' association in Husby and Stockholm have difficulty in adjusting to the increasingly global and less transparent ownership structures, often finding it hard to place claims effectively.

Learning from the experiences in Husby, we suggest that, in order to be able to represent today's tenants, Swedish tenant associations, together with grassroots organizations, need to formulate new strategies in relation to the rapid changes on the housing market. We describe how the different methods used by civil society, ranging from formal complaints, over social media to street protests, sometimes contradict but also complement each other and need to be carefully evaluated in order to find pathways for resistance

that work. Theoretically we draw from studies on financialization and asymmetric power relations on the housing market (August & Walks 2018, Fields 2017, McElroy 2021, Christophers 2021).

PANEL No.14: Homelessness since Covid-19

Conveners | Hilary Silver, *George Washington University, Washington, USA*, Laura Colini, *Tesserae Urban Social Research, Berlin, Germany*

Covid-19 as a crisis of access: Infrastructure practices of unhoused persons in Berlin during the pandemic

Ms. Andrea Protschky^{1,2}

¹*Technical University of Darmstadt, Darmstadt, Germany*, ²*Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands*

In the course of the last two years, the Covid-19 pandemic and associated regulations have made visible and partly intensified the precarity of unhoused persons' everyday lives. Crucially, the situation also affected and impeded their access to infrastructures for water, energy, communication and mobility. Employing a practice theoretical framework, this contribution observes how rough sleepers and emergency shelter users in Berlin use or replace infrastructures during the pandemic and which effects changed infrastructure practices have on their social situation. This analysis is based on first results of a qualitative empirical study in Berlin, within which I have conducted participative observations in a social organization as well as interviews with unhoused persons and employees of social organizations.

The contribution shows that unhoused persons were faced with changes in infrastructure access for instance due to closings, limited services and Covid-related entry regulations of social organizations, cafés, libraries or public transport and decreased incomes from begging or selling street newspapers. Some modified their infrastructure practices, e.g. by using infrastructures secretly in open shops, using additional sleeping bags to meet the lack of chances to warm up or by accepting warm food from neighbors. Many experienced problems like maintaining contacts due to uncharged phones or health issues from lacking hygiene. At the same time, some unhoused persons could temporarily stay in new 24/7 emergency shelters with steady infrastructure access, refrain from time-intensive and exhausting infrastructure practices, recover and target personal problems. In this way, unhoused persons are faced with new forms of exclusion during the pandemic, which can barely be mitigated by public charity, as well as a temporal inclusion in 'homely' infrastructure practices for some. The analysis points to the central role of infrastructures for the social situation of unhoused persons, which is neglected in the pandemic management and still underresearched.

Not exceptional enough? the homeless, civil society, and the state in Delhi

Dr. Devaki Nambiar¹

¹*George Institute For Global Health, Delhi, India*

In this presentation, I use health as a prism to interrogate 'exceptionality' as it pertains to the homeless in Delhi. I draw from a policy analysis (2009-2022) as well as ethnographic fieldwork (2019-2022), in both the pre-pandemic and pandemic contexts. NGO action led to a 2009 Supreme Court ruling calling for nationwide construction of homeless shelters, followed by specific health-related in India's 2013 National Urban Health Mission aimed at enhancing health care access for urban poor, including the homeless. Being

involved with these exercises, we noted the exercise of biopower in the normalising a 'state of exception' for this population, such that the homeless have been cast at once as 'exceptional,' i.e. their situation requiring justiciable redress, but also not exceptional enough, i.e. not a priority in policymaking as compared to other urban (poor) populations. Literally visible on the streets, but ephemeral and 'hard to reach' from a policy and service perspective, this tension remained in the pandemic. The homeless we spoke to had endured demolition, religious and interpersonal violence, and acute agrarian distress. With some needs attended to by webs of NGOs, insecurity was what felt normal to them. The simultaneity of being exceptional and unexceptional meant that the state in a pandemic could continue to effectuate mobility and precarity, while on the other, use this as the pretext for not being able to meet needs. Lockdowns and authoritarian crackdowns on NGOs severely restricted service provision, requirements of presenting identity documents for testing and vaccination further increased vulnerability to COVID. This was a minor concern for the homeless themselves, however, in relation to other health challenges they faced. COVID, for the homeless, was itself, not exceptional enough!

The principle of less eligibility in housing markets

Dr. Francois Bonnet¹

¹*Cnrs, Oegstgeest, Netherlands*

The principle of less eligibility is best known for its application on labor markets (where assistance should be less attractive than low-wage work, or where punishment should make crime less attractive than low-wage work). This article proposes to extend it to the housing market. People who don't own property have to pay rent to a landlord, the same way people who don't have capital have to work to make a living. To work and to pay rent are both vital necessities which give employers/landlords enormous power over workers/renters to determine wages/rent—which is why progressive governments implement minimum wage/rent control. Thus, a functioning low-income housing market requires that poor people are incentivized to pay market-price rent--the same way a functioning low-wage labor market needs a steady supply of people "willing" to work. The article reconstitutes the continuum in desirability of the different housing situations, from homeownership to market-price rent to social housing to homeless shelter to sleeping rough to being in prison. It documents the example of New York City's homelessness policy, where the legal obligation to provide shelter to homeless families creates a breach in less eligibility, by making shelters potentially more desirable than market-price rentals. To reengineer the logic of less eligibility, New York City takes costly steps to make shelters more unpleasant than they should be, to make sure to incentivize precariously housed people to pay rent rather than using shelters.

Tracking flukes: Urban sustainable everyday spatialities of homelessness in Covid-19 São Paulo

Dr. Fraya Frehse¹, Dr. Ignacio Castillo², **Ms. Caio Reis**¹

¹*University Of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil*, ²*Technische Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany*

The remarkable increase of homelessness in the 12-million-inhabitant city of São Paulo since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic (Qualitest 2021) heightens challenges of the UN Agenda 2030 regarding particularly Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #11, which is being addressed in the framework of a broader transdisciplinary research-practice project on the contributions of spatial research methods to urban sustainability (www.gcsmus.org/action-4-exchange). From the standpoint of the ever-growing number of men, women, and children who spend their nights either sleeping rough in the streets of the biggest Latin American city or in one of its 152 public shelters, an inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable urban future

(SDG #11) seems more than ever far-fetched (Frehse & Castillo 2021). The pandemic has deepened the already ongoing (mainly since 2019) process of social-political dismantlement of Brazil's historically recent (1989) albeit far-reaching social assistance structure in the municipal, regional, and federal level. Acknowledging that poverty and insecurity underpin this scenario, we argue that homelessness in Covid-19 São Paulo bears four unsuspected flukes to urban sustainability. Concerning social inclusion, safety, resilience, and sustainability, these contributions become evident once we focus on the everyday spatialities of homelessness, i.e., on how homeless people daily order space both non-verbally and verbally through their bodies amidst the materiality of urban public spaces. To that end, we drew on a qualitative methodology comprising ethnographic observation and techniques of visualization of those spatialities, which was crafted and applied in downtown São Paulo between November 2020 and January 2021 within the aforementioned project. Our findings show that the spatialities of the homeless' streets and squares in Covid-19 São Paulo are characterized by (i) gender diversity and solidarity, which underlie (ii) effective informal safety strategies, (iii) resilient ways of getting by, and (iv) sustainable practices of solid waste recycling and of growing plants and animals.

PANEL No.15: Housing hybridity in the 'North': decoding the ordinary informality in the conventional housing systems

Conveners | Jakub Galuszka, *Technical University Of Berlin/University Of Oxford/LAVUE, Berlin, Germany*

Conversions: the emerging informalisation of housing in the Global North

Dr. Romola Sanyal, Dr. Mara Ferreri¹

¹*Northumbria University, Newcastle, United Kingdom*, ²*London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom*

Housing informality in the Global North is not new as forms of squatting, unregulated home sharing and informal land usage have long been part of how people have housed themselves and others. It is only in recent years, however, that the topic has been taken up again by urban and planning scholars who try to challenge pre-existing dominant frameworks of analysis and blind spots and include ordinary hybridity. In this presentation, we build on these recent debates to highlight forms of housing informality that emerge at the intersection of affordability crises and capitalism's new extractivist frontiers. Using the lens of conversions, we show how informal use conversions are transforming the functions of buildings, as they are converted from commercial to residential (and vice versa) by landlords. These conversions operate in the grey areas of the law, where such practices are not regulated, and as a consequence tenant/user rights become more precarious. We focus on examples of property guardianship and digital platforms enabling homesharing in the UK and beyond, to illustrate our arguments.

Governing informal housing in the context of urban financialisation-case studies in Taipei, Taiwan

Ms. Ying-chun Hou¹

¹*University College London, London, United Kingdom*

This article argues that informal housing has been identified as the main development target in the context of urban financialisation. Taking Nanjichang neighbourhood and Nangang industrial settlement in Taipei city as examples, the article uses semi-interviews, community observations and documentary analysis as primary research methods to examine the governance of informality, the ways in which informal settlements fit into formal planning systems and mainstream urban development discourses, and the impacts for these communities.

It concludes that informal settlements are perceived as financial assets by policymakers and they are transformed from messy landscapes into ordered developable spaces through urban renewal. However, it also reveals that conflicts and tensions between communities and policymakers are increasing especially under the pressure to satisfy political needs. In the end, while the 'zoning use' and 'building type' of these informal settlements have become legal, they were still excluded from the mainstream market and planning discussions. The redevelopment agenda is easily altered and even disappeared due to the rotation of political parties.

The case of illegal housing in Taipei, Taiwan contributes significantly to the wider international debate on urban informality in the context of recent academic focus on financialisation and challenging some common assumptions such as geographical dualism (global North versus global South) (Schiller and Raco 2020; Chiodelli, 2019) from the study of 'global east'.

Housing goes home: new residential landscapes and informality in the European periphery. The post-Yugoslav experience.

Dr. Sonja Lakić¹

¹*CY Cergy-Paris Université, Cergy, France*

This research portrays the practice of everyday life, that is, the new era of residing in diverse medium-sized and overlooked former Yugoslav cities through the perspective of "melancholy and the other" (Akcan, 2005). The study describes the last three decades, during which thousands of rebellious homeowners opposed the original architectural design, challenging formal prescriptions of what housing should look like. Always perfectly in tune with their personal needs and/or personal aesthetics, and forever against laws and regulations, masses have so far intervened on a variety of scales, transforming personal interiors, altering facades, and occupying common spaces such as building corridors, entrances, and/or rooftops. Relying on the help of family and friends, often hiring architects and interior designers, these so-called "resident architects" (Akcan, 2018) finally gave birth to the new spatial device of the contemporary housing era – i.e. an illegally glazed balcony.

The epidemic of the latter here serves as a route to an understanding of vivacity unfolding in the peripheral places across the country that is long gone. The research visits the lives of subverted housing objects and those that (re)shape and (re)make them on a daily basis, collecting residents' voices through a series of biographical narratives, photographs, and short films. This is a journey through new residential landscapes; a chronicle of day-to-day political maneuvers and attempts to be validated as contemporary enough; a testimonial of a new spatial phenomenon. Here, understanding new morals and ethics, social upheaval, and demographic change is done by perceiving melancholy as "a mode of collective production" that constitutes the human state of mind and emotions; the (geographical) "other" is understood as means and

modes of self-representation and inner-struggles (Akcan, 2005). Here, a glazed balcony is an epitome of an ongoing post-Yugoslav revolution of housing being converted into a home.

Russian informal settlements: morphology and reasons behind the spread

Ms. Daria Maltseva

¹*Hse University, Moscow, Russian Federation*

As the Russian saying goes, there is nothing more permanent than temporary. The present work emphasises the contradiction between interpretation of informal urbanisation between the state, real estate powers and the locals and its consequences in two regions: Moscow and Krasnodar, Russia. Both chosen territories have high opportunities for economic investment into infrastructure and housing development. However, they are reversed in terms of administrative control and power. These two cases illustrate the dependence of informal practices and housing morphology on regional institutional contexts in the post-soviet space. Using administrative data about the location, time period of registered illegal settlements, and occupied land characteristics, the housing typology will be classified through geospatial analysis by size, scale, age, location, nature of use, and the visibility of (il)legality within the city. Connecting these findings with data about the economic, demographic, and real estate municipal dynamics, conclusions about the reasons behind the spread of discovered types of informal housing are made. By content analysis of socio-political relations, data from the official and unofficial, local and federal social networks and mass media are analysed for the discussions of informality. It is discovered that the nature of cooperation between tenants differ: in Moscow region there are detached houses at most, disconnected to each other, having no infrastructure, and located at the periphery; whereas in Krasnodar region they are self-made, overcrowded settlements located inside the cities. At the core of the problem there is a disproportion of power and unwillingness of the state to develop informal urban areas: both sides (administration and ordinary people) do not seek in each other a negotiator. As a result, the government demolishes almost all the founded houses with law violations without litigation, while mistrust of locals grows each year, embedding itself in the improvement of forms of illegal development.

PANEL NO.16: Housing systems and their implications in the Global North, South, and East

Conveners | Oksana Zaporozhets, Daria Volkova, *Institute for European Urban Studies, Bauhaus University Weimar, Weimar, Germany*

Time slot | Thursday, 25 August 2022, 13.30 – 17.00 EEST

Room | Main Building, B3, Level -1

Family Networks and Re-distribution of Housing Resources in Russia. A Complicated Story

Ms. Varvara Kobyshcha¹

¹*NRU Higher School of Economics / University of Helsinki, Moscow / Helsinki, Russian Federation / Finland*

During the Soviet era, the state provided citizens with accommodation directly. All Russian citizens approached the '90s having some dwelling available to them that most of them have privatized in the

following decades. The privatization initially provided most of the citizens with a certain amount of housing capital, but it was unequally distributed from the start. Housing prices have rapidly increased, and simultaneously the state has transformed housing provision programs into monetary mechanisms. There is no welfare security net for the people who cannot use liberal market options to acquire the residential property. The later generations rely on their family housing resources that were generated during the Soviet period. Researchers observe the growth of inter- and intra-generational housing inequality. The paper is focused on the 'familistic' elements of the Russian housing system and explores them through a micro-level analysis of property re-distribution within the networks of family relations, supported by informal economic transactions, and new market mechanisms. What matters here is not just the amount of property acquired by the end of '80s, but the overlap between a) a configuration of the housing capital (amount, location, spatial-material characteristics, value, distribution of housing rights) b) a configuration of interpersonal (gender, age, etc.) relations within extended family networks. It serves as the key factor determining citizens' residential trajectories. Either a wrong configuration of the housing capital (for instance, if it is hard to split, upgrade, or sell) or substantial interpersonal problems in the family relations often lead to a stagnating or downward residential, as well as general socio-economic, trajectory. The empirical material for the paper is collected within the research of the Laboratory of Urban Sociology (Moscow) that is devoted to the residential mobility of Russian citizens. The research includes 80 in-depth interviews and a quantitative survey in Moscow and Ekaterinburg.

Housing pathways of migrants in southern Europe: Preliminary considerations on Bologna case study

Dr. Maria Grazia Montesano¹

¹*University of Bologna, Imola (BO), Italy*

Southern European countries are characterized by a "familistic" housing systems. However, there is a weakness in the literature on how this system interacts with specific residential pathways of people and families of migrant background. From a micro sociological point of view but considering structural social inequalities as well, the paper aims to contribute to the debate on the housing pathways of migrants in Southern Europe, focusing on the case study of Bologna (Italy).

The paper analyses the relationship between life trajectories, including migratory projects, and housing pathways of migrants. To this aim, I use semi-structured interviews using a snow-ball sampling (10). The objective is to reconstruct the so-called "housing-trajectories" of migrants by adopting an ethnographic perspective. The people interviewed, who have been living in Italy from more than 3 years, are selected by taking into account differences in origin, socio-demographic profile, and current housing condition. The interviews have been done with immigrant residents and households living outside the core municipality of Bologna.

The preliminary results of this analysis confirm, in close relevance to the existing literature, that migrants' housing pathways show a high level of residential mobility, according to the level of precariousness of their socioeconomic condition. In addition, even if the housing pathway is a continuum of housing solutions, two different steps are identified: arrival and stabilization. Furthermore, other variables are crucial to explain differences in housing conditions, such as the period of arrival, nationality, gender, working condition, and family life. The transnational perspectives should also be considered to understand the relationship with the country of origin, also in terms of housing strategies. Moreover, it emerges that access to ownership is consistently perceived among migrant households as the main goal in housing pathways, even if it does not necessarily correspond to an exit from precarious conditions.

Negotiating the Urban Housing System in Small Cities in China: Aspirations of Homeownership and Family Reproduction among Rural Migrants in Jiaonan, Qingdao Metropolitan Region

Ms. Haoyu Zhao¹, Prof. Felicity Chan¹

¹*Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Singapore*

Securing housing in the city is a major concern for rural migrants in China as it is central to family reproduction. Since economic reforms, China's urban housing systems have gone through various transformations, in which the most influential one is the housing commercialization in the 1990s. In small Chinese cities, owning an urban apartment has become an important way for rural migrants to sustain a stable life and negotiate their access to urban welfare and social services. Migrant families have developed a mode of family reproduction that heavily relies on urban homeownership as a means to meet reproductive needs, such as securing a marriage partner, accessing education for children, and sheltering elderly parents in the city. This is contradictory to conclusions of studies in China's megacities (e.g. Pun & Lu, 2010) indicating that migrants undertake most of reproductive work in villages due to the institutional and financial barriers of obtaining formal housing and other welfare services in megacities.

Drawing on in-depth interviews with 98 migrants who arrived in a small city of Jiaonan in Northeast China between 1980 and 2020 from surrounding villages and other regions, this paper presents a case study discussion of the influences that the local housing system has on rural migrants' housing-related practices and experiences for family reproduction. Interviews with local developers and government officials, and archival research further inform the discussion of the structural environment of the urban housing system in Jiaonan.

Specifically, the paper will discuss the following: 1. how transformations of China's urban housing system have affected the role of housing in rural migrant families' reproduction; 2. given the limited support from the state, how migrant families have developed and adjusted strategies to realize their housing aspirations for family reproduction; 3. the implications of urban homeownership on rural migrants' right to the city.

On portfolios and (state) spaces of financialization. Exploring Brazilian securitization in the twenty first century

Dr. Marlon Altavini De Abreu¹, Dr. Jeroen Johannes Klink²

¹*Universidade Federal Do ABC, São Bernardo do Campo, Brazil*, ²*Universidade Federal do ABC, São Bernardo do Campo, Brazil*

The securitization of real estate assets has figured as a relevant variable for understanding the contemporary imbrications between the urban built environment and the process of financialization of housing. However, although a growing literature has important considerations associated with the constitution of these asset markets, these debates have paid little attention to the question of how the spatiality of finance has reshaped different national spatial economies. This work contributed an initial contribution to fill some of the blind spots on this topic, starting from the Brazilian example exploring the securitization of real estate assets, with emphasis on the period between 2007-2020. In view of this periodization, the work seeks to present how in Brazil, the introduction of securitization operations, which was made possible by the creation of a specific financial security, the Certificate of Real Estate Receivables (CRI), promoted a new regulation of a new legal-institutional framework. for real estate financing in the country, mobilizing a political agenda focused on the increasing reduction of bureaucracy in the mechanisms for granting housing credit and on the elaboration of a regulatory environment capable of strengthening the secondary market for the sale of financial securities. The results of this work seek to

present two analytical contributions to the literature on the role of financial instruments in the restructuring of housing systems in the countries of the Global South: 1) it brings a specific focus between the points of contact, between inheritances and transformations, which permeates the dynamics of housing production and the securitization process 2) argues that the advance of the existing process in Brazil cannot be dissociated from the State and its financial institutions, unlike the narratives and imaginaries of securitization based on corporate finance, demonstrating the weight and importance of public banks and housing policies that expanded the private housing market.

The role of housing policies in the Brussels' housing crisis

Mr. Mats Lucia Bayer¹

¹*KU Leuven, Ixelles, Belgium*

The city of Brussels faces an increasingly tense housing rental market. This situation particularly affects the lower income deciles of the population (only 25% of the population spends less than 30% of their disposable income in housing), showing an increasing polarization in terms of spending in housing. The social housing sector covers 6.7% of the housing market with 40215 rented social housing units, which corresponds to less than the half of the effective demand for social housing. The dire situation in the rental market contrasts with the policy applied by the Brussels-Capital Region of home-ownership promotion by funding and facilitating the access to mortgages, subsidising purchases with tax exemptions, etc. Our study aims to analyse the links between the public housing policies focused on home-ownership and the current crisis of affordable housing, by disentangling public policies between their role of de-commodifying social housing and their ambitions as market enabler. Based on a conceptual framework that combines approaches on welfare policies focused on housing (Esping-Andersen 1990; Kesteloot, 2000; Schwartz et al., 2008) with approaches on the financialization of housing (Aalbers et al. 2014; Romainville, 2017), we show the existing correlations and causalities between both phenomena. Our study is based on the processing of statistical data in order to put into perspective the relation between the public housing policies and the trends in the real estate market from the point of view of the demographic changes in the different “communes” that form the Brussels-Capital Region.

The role of municipalities in promoting housing affordability: An analysis of local governance in three Finnish cities

Ms. Elina Sutela¹

¹*University Of Turku, Turku, Finland*

As part of housing rights, promoting affordability is considered a concern of the welfare state and an obligation of the public sector. Measures to promote affordability have been analysed mostly nationally or compared between cities in different countries. As cities have power over land use and housing – two crucial areas to promote affordability – local variations can be expected also within a national context. Focusing on three Finnish cities (Helsinki, Tampere and Turku), this article asks how local housing governances have influenced approaches to affordability. Two key strategies available to local governments are in focus in this article: (1) promoting an increase in housing stock (i.e. addressing housing shortages) primarily via the private sector and (2) promoting the development of public and other forms of subsidised housing. Both relate to land-use planning, as lot allocations and land-use regulations are essential for their implementation. Finland comprises a rich case due to its localised approach to land use and housing and the largest cities' dedication to promoting a considerable share of subsidised housing (25–55 % of new housing stock). Based on expert interviews (N=22) and policy documents, my analysis shows that one of the

cities (Turku) has a smaller role in the housing markets than the other two (Helsinki and Tampere) and consequently a more market-oriented approach. However, based on current policy goals, this does not appear to be the sought outcome. Rather, the differences stem from inadequate government organisation resources and competencies to implement the city's political will and volatility of the latter.

PANEL No.17: Intersectionality and housing struggles: Liberating housing at the intersection of race, gender, class and other forms of structural inequalities

Conveners | Ana Vilenica, Michele Lancione, *DIST, Polytechnic and University of Turin, Italy, Beyond Inhabitation Lab and Radical Housing Journal*

‘Building Back Better’: How urban regeneration and post-pandemic recovery processes remain racialised

Dr. Hannah Haycox, Dr Emma Hill, Professor Nissa Finney, Professor Nasar Meer, Dr Sharon Leahy
In March 2021, the UK government encapsulated its approach to post-pandemic recovery with a simple refrain: to ‘Build Back Better’. Urban regeneration projects were thus posed as a panacea to existing inequalities, processes that were further legitimised by de-racialised assertions of ‘Levelling Up’ the UK. However, absent from such responses to place-based exclusions are the racialised discourses, structures and ideologies that are deeply imbricated in processes of urban development. Given the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on those racially minoritised, it is vital to shed light on the impact of such housing governance from the lived experiences of policy practitioners and minoritised residents. This paper compares and contrasts two different approaches to regeneration in the multi-scalar context of the UK. Drawing on interview data with policy practitioners and racially minoritised residents in Oldham and Glasgow, it identifies and evaluates the formation, justification and subsequent impact of urban development policy. The paper thus evidences regeneration as a racialised process where place is redefined both discursively and materially, with entailing consequences for those impacted. By exploring the narratives of minoritised residents prior to, and during, the COVID-19 pandemic, the paper demonstrates how inflections of ‘race’ and ‘class’ continue to condition housing access and experience.

Claiming the Right to the City: Social Movement as a Field of Contestation and Relationship

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The discourse of social movements is accompanied with the narrative of participation and struggles capable of delivering the city’s benefits, such as housing, to the marginalised and deprived groups. Also connected to the senses of struggles and participation, but often neglected, is the reality of power dynamics in the struggle for the rights to the city. Thus, an essential question, which guides this paper is: to what extent are social movements delivering right to housing to the deprived and marginalised communities in the face of

power dynamics? The paper argues that: social movement is a field of contestation and conflicts with underlying power relations and different levels of relationships in the struggle for the rights to housing. The paper draws on the literature of social movements and right to the city and two overlapping theoretical and analytical perspectives: Theory of fields and Strategic Action Fields. The paper empirically addresses the research question and advances its central argument through policy documents, interviews with civil society and policy actors, and insights from the grassroots mobilisation of the Nigerian Slum/Informal Settlement Federation (the Federation) in Lagos as a continuous response to the consequences of urban (re)development, which promoted urban commodification, forced eviction, spatial displacement, loss of livelihoods and accumulation by demolition. This paper investigates the dynamics of power relations in the everyday struggles of the deprived communities and how the Federation articulates injustices and demand the rights to housing. The findings reveal that social movement struggle is an arena of complex relationships and contestation in terms of cooperation, competition and conflict and vertical relationships between the dominant and the subordinate actors in which different actors strategically contend for privileges and rights within the governance and urban (re)development space, which often constrain the advancement of the collective actions of the grassroots social movements.

Housing Newcomers in Brussels: Infrastructuring cross-sectoral spaces of inclusion through coalition building

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Informed by a year of participatory action research in Brussels, Belgium, this paper examines the practices of alternative 'housing coalitions', made up of social housing organisations and grassroots organisations supporting refugees, to secure spaces of urban inclusion in the city. By advocating for an open urban citizenship claim (Oosterlynck et al. 2020), that transcends notions of legality and documentation, these practices confront the intersectionality of racialised market-driven city development and the exclusionary apparatus of bordering and securitisation. In doing so, they conceptualise housing as an emancipatory domain for newcomers (undocumented migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees).

Through two case-studies of housing coalitions, we first frame the hostile environments within which they operate, by on the one hand, outlining formal pathways for refugees to access housing in Belgium and their limitations, and on the other, highlighting obstacles to acquiring permanent space in the city for alternative housing coalitions, including gentrification and competing visions of diversity and inclusion. Second, we highlight the housing coalitions' proposed infrastructures that employ a 'politics of presence' (Darling 2017), where the presence of newcomers itself is considered a political claim, and emphasise cross-sectorality combining housing with other functions including arts and education. Finally, we reflect on the outcomes of the processes of coalition building and space-sharing and what these practices may imply for a broader understanding of urban inclusion.

We argue that the practices of these housing coalitions reveal the overlap of multiple and intersectional structures of exclusion. The everyday practices of pooling resources and manoeuvring into the small openings that exist in funding, policy, and planning spheres have wider implications. Following Lemanski's (2020) notion of 'infrastructural citizenship', we argue they are in fact negotiations, mediated through infrastructure, for an understanding of citizenship that is more inclusive, and enabling spaces for 'mobile solidarities' (Squire 201) among hybrid communities.

Housing Struggle as Feminist Struggle: The men are talking because everyone else is burnt out

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Drawing on personal experiences as activist-academics within UK-based housing movements, this paper makes visible the urgent need to attend to the gendered politics of organising. Movements for housing justice are traditionally organised by women, with the home itself being a key site of social reproduction (Currie, 2019). It is widely understood that working-class women and the queer community bear the brunt of austerity and the housing crisis, being most at risk of precarious or unsafe housing situations (Bassel and Emejulu, 2017; Fields, 2017). Working in Edinburgh and Liverpool, two cities that have seen the financialisation of housing decimate communities, our research and first-hand experiences show how housing organisations are currently failing to represent those most in need. We argue that if organisations within the movement fail to attend to these issues, they risk reproducing the very inequalities they seek to resist.

This paper outlines how men and others with privilege often platform themselves as experts in revolutionary struggle, undermining the work done by women, trans, and non-binary members to facilitate participation and democracy. Attending to these issues is vital during a time in which we are witnessing the relative collapse of traditional working-class organisations such as the Labour Party and Trade Unions. Historically, the decline of such organisations has led to activists turning their attention towards social reproductive struggles (Cowley, 1977). As housing is inextricably tied to all forms of inequality, housing movements on the ground must reflect this, drawing on the experiences of women when undertaking direct action. This requires organisations to be responsive to the politics of gender, moving beyond performative politics and ensuring the voices and experiences of marginalised groups inform direct action. Until such meaningful engagement occurs, the housing struggle will remain one in which women suffer the most, but are listened to the least.

Intersectional cartographies: multiple socio-territorial conflicts accentuated in downtown São Paulo

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Despite having already gone through several urban renewal projects typical of the neoliberal prescription of urbanism, the center of the city of São Paulo resists as a place of diversity: it is a territory with a large presence of black population, which shelters multiple groups of immigrants, important places for the coexistence of the LGBTQIA+ population, and which has a significant presence of popular ways of living - such as tenements, occupations and slums.

Currently, the center is once again the target of a renewal project that threatens this plural and popular presence, through the Central Sector Urban Intervention Project (CS-UIP), which has in the dynamism of the real estate-financial complex the main driver of intended transformations. This intervention project takes place at a time when socio-spatial conflicts are even more intense, due to two unequal and combined dynamics, the advance of the high-income real estate frontier over the center and the worsening housing crisis, both intensified by the coronavirus pandemic.

The territorial reading that underpins the CS-UIP proposal prepared by the City of São Paulo ignores the complexity of this conflict, as well as the pluralities that comprise the ways of living in the center. To counter this official narrative, we produced a series of cartographies that illustrate an explosive

juxtaposition of different dynamics: areas of concentration of new real estate launches that overlap with neighborhoods where occupations, housing evictions and the presence of homeless people have increased, which coincide with locations where there was an increase in complaints of LGTQIA+phobia and racism. The cartographies were used in public hearings by social movements to try to stop the CS-UIP proposal, and can serve as a basis for thinking about other forms of intervention, which have as a starting point the reproduction of life and the appreciation of diversity.

Migration, squatting and the temporality of housing struggles in Rome

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The paper analyses the entrenched and longtime relationship in Rome between migration and the temporariness of low-income housing solutions. In fact, contrary to what local mass media usually have been said, this interrelation is not a new phenomenon and it is not born with the so-called 2015 refugee crisis. Rather, it started during the post-Second World War period with the gradual development of a moral and racialized configuration of housing as a social trophy that has created some practices of exclusion towards the more 'diverse' sections of the population of Rome: in the past, the so-called *baraccati*, shantytown dwellers and internal migrants originating mainly from southern Italy; nowadays, mostly migrants in economic difficulty and housing precariousness.

The object of the paper is then to give answers to the following questions: how and to what extent this exclusionary idea of housing is based on a conception of citizenship and residence as goods with limited availability? Secondly, are there some grassroots political movements capable of giving immediate solutions to people in need and, at the same time, elaborate some political stances and future alternatives? This contribution will focus all these aspects through the analysis of a case study, a squat located in the Esquilino neighborhood of Rome, within which a Roman right to inhabit movement is trying to go beyond a mere practice of resistance and resilience in order to highlight the interrelation between housing (and the lack of it) and other forms of social welfare usually denied to squatters.

Paying for housing, paying for sex: Exploring the missing intersections of housing struggles and sex work

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Scholarly literature on both housing struggles (and disadvantage) and sex work is broad and articulated; however, the intersection among the two domains is not fully explored. Nevertheless, existent works already contain the seeds for further research. Narratives depicting sex workers' lives alternatively sketch the "home" as a place to run from, aspire to, fight for, and refuge in; a place of abuse, comfort, or active resistance. What these narratives are missing is to unravel what is specific about "being at home in the world" as someone who trades sex for resources.

Some researches significantly position sex work (and intimacy) at the heart of processes of globalization, yet most seem to be concerned with prostitutes solely when they step in the public space, with policies designed to contain their presence. This is a narrow view that avoids considering that prostitutes do not only live in high heels and fur on sidewalks; they also participate in the housing market or housing movements. They rent, buy, squat, get evicted, build commons and they do it from the positionality given from the intersection of issues of class, race, gender, frightening sexuality and the stigma attached to all and each of the above.

Missing this juncture leaves several questions unanswered. Some are descriptive – What difficulties do prostitutes face in entering the housing market? How does their job change depending on home's availability? Other questions are more stratified – What role do housing play in shaping solidarity, articulating rage and strengthening prostitutes voices? What these experiences say of stratified marginality in space and in the market? Are there interaction with housing movements, and, if not, why?

This paper intends to prepare the terrain to enable further research showing how housing and sex work theoretical frames, conceptualizations, and movement may be mutually interested in connecting.

Radicalizing responsibility: housing struggles at the intersection of care, accountability and political engagement

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Responsibility – as an analytic or topic of political debate – is out of vogue in critical housing studies. Rather than offering progressive potential, the concept has been seen to foster neoliberal governance, racial structural violence and forms of dependency (Trundle & Trnka 2017). Conversely, this paper posits that a radical, liberatory engagement with notions of responsibility can provide a domain for critique, everyday engagement and legal political struggle that allows to account for and fight against intersectional injustice: How does radical housing respond to injustices, suffering, and oppressions and how can one radicalize the modes of responsibility these responses entail?

To develop this radical housing responsibility we combine a multipronged theoretical approach with a discussion of housing struggles in different empirical domains. Theoretically, we draw from feminist (Federici, 1975; Hilbrandt and Dimitrakou, in review), legal (Singer 2000, Blomley 2013), sociological (Boltanski 1999, Pattaroni 2005; Ewald 2020), philosophical (Young 2011, Ricoeur, 2007) and critical race (McElroy & Werth, 2019) scholars to develop a notion of responsibility that promises to hold for an intersectional analysis and a propositional political approach. Our focus is on flagging how different conceptions of responsibility, ranging from strict liberal accountability, to political solidarity, to forms of embodied care, organize the intersection of economic, cultural, ecological and material interventions in housing. This perspective allows us to unveil the emancipatory and/or oppressive dynamics of various forms of housing production in two empirical domains. To operationalize how this understanding can guide a feminist, radical political practice we discuss housing struggles in post-squat cooperatives in Geneva (Switzerland) and financialized housing in Dortmund (Germany). In conclusion we bring these theoretical and empirical domains together into a discussion of how the multiple modes of responsibility as care, accountability and forward looking political engagement can be used to cause effective political change.

The politics of marginality in historical perspective: A meta-analysis on the knowledge production around Chile's 'Poblaciones Emblematicas'

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'Poblaciones Emblematicas' are settlements of urban poverty that emerged from the 1960s in Chile and who: were established through politicized collective action, were the territorial base of urban social movements, were politically repressed during the Military Dictatorship, and maintain a strong territorial identity. From a content analysis of almost 400 texts that studied 28 'Poblaciones Emblematicas' of Santiago and Valparaíso, we observed the trajectory of the knowledge produced on Poblaciones

Emblematic, identifying the theoretical-conceptual matrices, methodologies, research objects, and referenced authors, and seeking to unveil the historical-political moments that allow us to understand the continuities and discontinuities of this trajectory.

Theoretically, these settlements were analyzed under Latin America's concept of 'marginality' in the 1960s and 1970s. Later, they were studied under the concepts of 'social exclusion', 'new urban poverty', 'vulnerability', 'social disintegration' and 'advanced marginality' from the 1990s and 2000s, with significant influences from the Global North. In terms of subjects, in the 1960s and 1970s, the focus was on the political action of residents and their struggle for the Right to Housing. From 2000 onwards, most studies refer to territorial inequality, exclusion, and social fragmentation, given the emergence of crime and violence in Chile's public agenda. From 2010 onwards, territorial stigmatization emerges as a topic along with the progress of this field in the social sciences.

There is scarce literature on the role of women in grassroots politics and everyday life, and analytical tools for gender studies are not used, which is partly explained by the low participation of women in the production of documents. We reflect on the relationship between knowledge production and sociopolitical contexts, and on the Anglo-Saxon theoretical colonization of recent decades to interpret Chile's urban poverty.

The Right to Stay Put in One's Neighborhood: The Houses of Pons i Gallarza

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Gentrification and evictions have dramatically increased in Barcelona, for which the problem of access to housing has been raising public awareness and social mobilization. However, both the Right to the City and the Right to Housing fail in challenging displacement and enabling the full and complete 'usage' of urban spaces. Many people accept to leave their homes without putting up any resistance, which is known as 'invisible evictions'. And only about 24% of total evictions between 2018 and 2020 have been publicly announced by the housing movement. Recently, however, the use of the word 'neighbor' has been reborn in the discourse of the fight against evictions to unite the multiple realities affected by the increasing financialization of housing. But the crux of the matter is that this discursive phenomenon points to another 'space' that has been left out of the scope of the Right to the City today: the Right to Stay.

A case study that serves as an example of this is the 'victory' achieved by the 'neighbors of the houses of Pons i Gallarza'. After four years of intense social struggle, under the slogan "We Don't Leave", they have managed stay put in their neighborhood. They believe to be part of a collective memory, and an everyday life of proximity and trust. This leads to the central question to be addressed: to what extent does the Right to the City require to go back to the 'roots' of a Right to Stay Put? I intend to examine how dwelling relates to the production of locality, and how it is being affected by the global dimension of the neoliberal city. I aim to go beyond the right to housing by placing at the center the 'radical' need of invoking the right to stay put in one's neighborhood.

The struggle for problematising housing (in Italy): reflections from Naples, Turin and beyond

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Italy is an outlier vis-à-vis recent Southern European (and global) trajectories of housing struggle. While housing has become a central issue in the public and political debate in countries like Portugal, Spain, Greece; in Italy, despite a longstanding tradition of housing conflict and the recent emergence of new mobilisations, housing remains at the margins of national discussions. In terms of Foucault's problematisation analysis (see also Gusfield on political issues vs. social problems), despite fierce conflict, housing has not become a "problem" in Italy. Reflecting on the peculiar patterns of politicisation and problematisation of housing in Italy in contrast with the experiences of other Southern European countries, then, has a twofold value: it contributes to a multi-scalar, relational exploration of housing struggles in Europe; and, it helps to conceptualise the causal determinants for the scaling up of urban struggles to the national (and supra-national) arena.

In this paper, I will build from two case studies on housing politicisation carried out in Turin (2019) and Naples (2021), two cities characterised by very different patterns of housing struggle. While in Turin housing movements have suffered from a decade of so of criminalisation of activism (linked with the No Tav environmental conflicts) and migrants have been the actors of the recent relevant housing conflicts; Naples is characterised by a complex landscape of conflicts, both organised (activism) and semi-spontaneous (especially in squatted public housing). These differences are mirrored by radically different patterns of engagement between conflictual and institutional actors. By comparing these two cases, and placing them within broader national and regional dynamics, I will offer some takeaways on crucial factors for the problematisation of housing: the role of housing policies and informal "solutions"; coalitions of struggles; and forms of engagement with institutional actors.

Which struggle? Multiple forms of resistance to eviction programs in Abidjan

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Socio-economic exclusion only exceptionally implies the unequivocal banishment of a group from systemic resources (Castel 1995). Urban expulsion processes alike, while aimed at eradicating people from their living environment, most of the time unfold as de-facto opened game where social interventions are at least possible (Aguilera 2018). Acknowledging this, many studies arose documenting the successful campaigns of the civic groups and organisations who struggle for the preservation of housing rights from global "logics of expulsion", to quote Saskia Sassen (Martinez 2018).

In this paper it is advanced a broader definition of the notion of "housing struggle". Building on ethnographic research in Abidjan (Ivory Coast), emphasis is put on the ordinary socialising practices involving communities concerned with mass eviction policies. The thesis is proposed that radical housing struggles are only one of the possible culminations for those practices. And that less antagonist social initiatives, carried out at the individual or sub-group level, and mostly informally, as they trigger substantial changes on initial policy plans, should be also referred to as "struggles".

The paper takes into consideration the two Abidjan's precarious neighbourhoods of Adjouffou and Boribana, simultaneously hit by eviction programs in 2020-21. While residents from Adjouffou responded fiercely and collectively to their displacement, in Boribana the same option was mostly discarded. This

difference could be relatively explained by looking at these neighbourhoods from three main observational points: the social composition of each community, the degree of politicisation instigated by the eviction program in place, and the kind of political opportunities at hand from the community members' perspective.

A home for me. Women empowerment through homeownership in developing countries

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For millions of women owning a home has different implications and meanings. For some, it represents security, economic stability, independence, and inheritance they can pass on to their children. For others, it can be a haven, a place where women thread their network of community support and protect themselves from different forms of aggression. A home can also empower and provide a sense of accomplishment and self-worth. However, various conditions limit housing access for women, such as financing availability, income, class, and race, In addition to affordable housing availability.

In this study, we seek to assemble a collective memoir of what it means to be a woman homeowner at this moment in time. This qualitative study uses a digital platform to recuperate the experiences of women who have achieved the objective of homeownership. We focus on testimonies where women share the trials and tribulations of reaching that objective, as well as the symbolic value they assign to their home. We carry out our pilot in Mexico, and we wish to extend it to other countries in the developing world.

With this exploration, we seek to make visible persisting inequalities in housing provision and the different means through which women access homeownership in developing countries. This collective memoir is an initial exercise in a broader exploration of gender intersectionality in the urban space, where we wish to further the knowledge on women empowerment.

Assemblies in radical housing projects: challenges and contradictions of the micropolitics of collective living

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The assembly is the organisational structure adopted by many radical housing projects. It plays a fundamental role in the collective life of these spaces, as this is where many of the decisions that affect their inhabitants are made, from the shares of reproductive tasks and financial management to the involvement in external political causes. Adopting an assembly is usually related to its prefigurative efforts; it seeks to experiment with horizontal, non-hierarchical decision-making aimed at self-management and the construction of more egalitarian ways of life.

In this paper, I ask how the politics of everyday life in these spaces are marked by intricate power negotiations that materialise in the dynamics of the assembly. I delve into how these negotiations are shaped by the intersections of different categories of experience, specifically class, gender, race, organisational networks and affective circulations. Based on immersive ethnographic work conducted in a radical housing project in Berlin in 2020, I discuss the role of entry barriers to active participation in the assembly and the existence of hierarchies that shape the dynamics in the discussions.

By focusing on the assembly discussions and the inhabitants' accounts, I argue that their attempts to address structural discrimination in radical housing initiatives are in constant dialogue with the capacities and limitations of the collective. Here I pay particular attention to the emotional labour necessary to address oppressive dynamics in the home. This paper is situated in the debate around the prefigurative

capacities of radical housing, shedding light on some of the challenges and contradictions present in the construction of solidarity and horizontal spaces.

Engaged fun. Ordinary struggles and uplifting sociality from Port Elizabeth backyards, South Africa

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Port Elizabeth is still deeply marked by the urban planning and the social policies of apartheid. As apartheid regime explicitly hindered the creation of spontaneous, uncontrolled socialisation spaces other than churches, public halls or bars, the Ibhayi area, where former black township were located, is characterised by a lack of public socialisation spaces.

In Ibhayi, private houses supply to the lack of gathering places. Courtyards, backyard rooms and garages are transformed into shared and easily accessible spaces, where young and adults, gathered in either improvised or planned and advertised meetings, make music and poetry slams, create cultural associations, hold talks.

However, art and culture are not the focus of these gatherings, but rather they are used as a marker for a specific sociality being performed. The backyard gathering are opposed to the street sociality, which is perceived as often violent and revolving mainly around alcohol, and they stand as an alternative to institutional public spaces, where opportunities and inclusion are still very much linked to origins and skin colour. In the words of their users, backyard gatherings are 'safe places', not only because they provide shelter from locations' physical and symbolic violence, but also because they are based on shared values, such as antiracism, anti-patriarchy, mutual respect and trust, and are 'comfortable' because they are welcoming towards the use of multiple languages and the performing of sexual identities. Ultimately, backyards are places where desegregation is practiced by forging an idea of urban well-being from within the locations, different or even antagonistic to the one of the suburbs.

This paper draws from interviews and participant observation I conducted before the onset of the Covid pandemic and from an in-depth interview with Xolisa Ngubelanga, a playwright and cultural activist, that question the present¹ and the future of backyard gatherings.

Gendered struggles around pursuing social reproduction under the threat of displacement

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In this paper, I investigate low-income women's experiences of living under the threat of and contesting displacement. I approach gentrification and displacement as the social and spatial manifestation of the 'crisis of social reproduction' as coined by Nancy Fraser (2017) and analyze material as well as affective aspects of social reproductive work required to survive in gentrifying neighborhoods. Based on a longitudinal study of state-led gentrification process in Tarlabasi, Istanbul, I zoom in on the scale of everyday life to grasp the everyday experiences, struggles and contestations around continuing social reproduction. The findings show how gentrification and displacement function as tools to displace the 'crisis of social reproduction' differentially on to low-income populations in gentrifying neighborhood. It discusses how women tackle with increasing material and emotional burdens of social reproduction living under the threat of displacement. Shedding lights on intersecting dispossessions experienced and contested by different groups of women undergoing displacement, this study contributes to intersectional feminist understanding of dispossessions as well as contestations against dispossessions. It nuances the concept of housing struggle with its focus on everyday struggles of women to pursue social reproduction of

households and communities under the threat of displacement, at the center of which lies defending their houses.

Secondly, through gentrification and displacement, gender norms and relations are contested in the neighborhood. The renewal project not only helped to restore heteronormativity displacing the gender non-confirming residents of Tarlabaşı, but also curbed the possibilities for intersectional solidarities among different groups. In the process of place un-making and heavy dispossessions, the importance of queer spaces in disadvantaged neighborhoods becomes clear as daylight. In a context, where gentrification redefines emancipation and queerness in market terms (Curran 2017), this finding shows the importance of engaging in everyday feminist sociology and praxis of queerness and emancipation in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Housing, Home, Displacement: Understanding the commodification of social rental housing through the lens of (struggles for) social reproduction. Everyday alienation, precarisation and resistance to financialized housing governance in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

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In my contribution to session 17, I would like to share my activist-research experience from Frankfurt am Main, Germany and discuss how a critical-feminist approach to researching and collectively contesting housing financialization in ›situated solidarity‹ with marginalized communities can help grapple with the challenges involved in navigating the researcher/activist relationship and positionality in the field. From once having served as good-quality below-market housing, social rental units in Germany have become the new »frontier of financialization« (Belotti and Arbaci, 2020, p. 1), today serving the needs of institutional investors rather than those of low-income tenants it was originally built for. In my PhD, I approach housing financialization in Germany ›from below‹ through the lens of (struggles for) social reproduction. Focusing on how marginalized subjects experience and cope with their »liquid homes«, I sought to ›demystify‹ how the abstract dynamics of global property markets (macro-level) have reshaped rent relations, tenants' everyday experiences of home and their struggles to stay put in a neoliberalized urban context (micro-level). Following the long tradition of radical and feminist scholars fighting against dispossession in cities around the world, I understand my activist-research as a political praxis that is both ethically and methodologically committed to a »form of situated solidarity« with marginalized, low-income communities, hence seeking to work what Loretta Lees and Michael Herzfeld call »beyond the academy« (Herzfeld and Lees, 2021, p. 291). This refers here to my aim of focusing on the lived experiences and making the voices heard of those social groups who hold a marginalized social and economic position, and are thus more prone to being exposed and suffer from »urban trauma« (Pain, 2019), hence the »slow violence« (Nixon, 2011) of neoliberal urban politics, austerity regimes and housing commodification that »means violently destroying lives.« (Reyes et al., 2021, p. 3).

Intersectionality and creative resistances in urban peripheries. A research action in City of Mexico, and Buenos Aires

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Slums and especially peripheral districts of “auto or self-constructed popular neighborhoods” (autoconstrucción popular) have been presented many times through stereotypes that construct discrimination, criminalize, and finally ghettoize entire areas within the city with the aim of supposedly protecting the inhabitants. These discriminative urban and social policies (Wacquant) were especially intensified after the destruction of the Twin Towers and the “Washington Consensus”, and much more in the context of the pandemic. In the Metropolitan Area of Mexico City and Great Buenos Aires any of these neighborhoods, which have been largely built by their own residents without intersectional discrimination, have fought significant battles to prevent organized crime of parastatals within them (Petropoulou). Especially those that resulted from a social struggles occupation of land, for the life, including those who were displaced by the prevailing housing policies. Nevertheless, they have suffered racial, ethnic, social discrimination not only from the dominant policies but also from many Eurocentric colonial left urban planning approaches.

During the pandemic for a short time (at first only) they emerged from the press as places of solidarity, which quickly changed. In fact, these characteristics of inclusion and solidarity coexisted with each other even before the pandemic.

The research focuses precisely on these social initiatives (social cultural self-organized centers), which had already established important networks in the suburbs of Mexico City (Nezahualcoyotl, Ecatepec) and Buenos Aires (Avellaneda, Quilmes) giving important political battles with anti-capitalist anti-patriarchal anti-racist characteristics, and highlights the intersectionality of their creative resistances and the rhizomes (Deleuze y Guattari) from which they were created then as well as the multiplicity of worlds within them which is very similar to a “ch'ixi” world (Rivera Cusicanqui). The methodology followed is action research and video or audio interviews between 2017-2022.

Muslim Neighborhoods: Between Peripheralization and Informality

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Muslims in India form a religious minority that stands at the social, economic and political margins. The 1947 Partition, followed by the subsequent rise of Hindu Nationalism led to recurring episodes of communal violence and a rise in systematic bias against Muslims. These practices and events have strong spatial repercussions. It redefined the apparent residential choice patterns and altered the geography, especially of urban areas. The dynamics of residential self-selection, choicelessness and ghettoization among Muslims reflect the push, i.e., entry barriers in mainstream housing and the pull, i.e., safety in numbers.

This paper highlights the intersection of such Muslim homogenous neighborhoods with informality. Informal areas which are legally ambiguous and/or hazard prone provide the flexibility for the processes of regrouping and consolidation. Thus, a “dual crisis” is created, of peripheralization and of dealing with informality. For this purpose, the paper traces the spatio-temporal narrative of the formation and construction of Jamia Nagar, Delhi. Firstly, it explores the temporal role of institutions in fostering and anchoring the Muslim identity. Secondly, it evaluates the dimensions of informality in housing. It demonstrates the everyday struggles and tradeoffs of the residents. The study is phenomenological. It employs recollection and reconstruction via anecdotal evidence through primary sources.

The results demonstrate an inflated real estate market despite the majority of the area categorized as “unauthorized”. The housing prices indicate a lack of correlation with the quality of life factors: natural light, ventilation, density etc. Rather the “use value” of housing in this peripheral life space is determined by collective identity, freedom to practice culture and accrued as the risk premium for safety.

This study contributes to shaping new Indian forms of urbanity at the intersection of stigmatized identities and informality along with new understandings of negotiation from the viewpoint of social and cultural capital.

Rejecting crisis, reclaiming agency - On the simultaneity of rupture and familiarity in times of (climate) crisis

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Although Greece was once again hit by extreme heat, fires and floods all summer of 2021, daily life in the city of Athens does not seem to follow logics of what is widely understood as 'aftermath of crisis'. Instead, with the decade-long state of crisis, both insecurity-producing events and the political mismanagement thereof became integral parts of people's everyday lives, and thus elements of familiarity, routine and normalcy in the face of constantly emerging extremes and urgencies. The paper explores this simultaneity of rupture and familiarity in Athens and the coping strategies and forms of collective agency (re-)forming within. It shows that 'crisis' as a term and as a practice is largely rejected in people's daily lives, as it is assigned to be an external, political tool intervening into daily life to amplify existing precarities and inequalities. Rejecting 'crisis', however, does not include negating the crisis nature of these events and its implications, it rather aims at letting new experiences of rupture blend in with existing insecurities, narratives and practices. That way, they become part of the everyday and its existing struggles, ultimately enabling people to take 'caring for insecurities' into their own hands. We argue that these practices can be understood as acts of 're-coding' and 'naturalization', performed and implemented in order to reclaim and preserve one's own and collective agency in the face of multiple, intersecting insecurities.

The role of black women in urban housing struggles in Brazil: a case study of a land occupation in the state of São Paulo

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This article aims to analyze the role of black women in a land occupation in the city of São Carlos (state of São Paulo, Brazil), between 2018 and 2021. The land occupation began in 2014 and achieved part of its fighting goals in 2020, conquering the legal possession of the land and its urbanization, although the population continues to live in shacks. Such achievements are directly linked to the role played by black women in leadership positions in the occupation. Based on ethnographic incursions carried out between 2018 and 2021 and in-depth interviews with residents and local leaders, I highlight the trajectory of three black women:

- Denise, coordinator of the MTST - Movement of Homeless Workers -, an external leader who had her political training within another land occupation, while fighting for her housing. Then she decided to become a militant and coordinator to help other people. It is important to point out that the MTST is today one of the largest urban movements fighting for the right to access land and housing in Brazil.
- Juliana, resident and coordinator of the occupation. Initially, she did not accept the rules established by the MTST, but over time, she became a militant of the movement and now aims to act as coordinator of an occupation by land next door.
- Jaciara, resident and leader of the occupation. She seeks to control discourses and narratives about land occupation, aiming to produce a legitimate and homogeneous image of the movement.

Based on these trajectories, I discuss the development of land occupation itself, the struggle for housing, forms of politicization and party affiliation, forms of institutionalization of social movements and the achievement of social rights related to housing, as well as the challenges of struggle imposed by the covid-19.

PANEL No.18: Law and Ordering the Urban

Conveners | Sahil Sasidharan, *Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, United States*; Gaurav Mittal, *Ambedkar University, Delhi, India*, Chetan Anand, *Department of Education, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India*

‘Illegalities’ and accretive displacement in Delhi, India

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This paper illustrates how the ideals of ‘world-class city-making’ and the attendant counter-discourse of obstructive ‘illegalities’ frames the organization and discourse about urban space in the Jangpura-Bhogal locality of Delhi, India. In 2011, state authorities demolished the Noor Masjid, a mosque built by a now absent slum cluster (removed in 2006). Following public outrage by the city’s Muslims and opposition political leaders, the state sanctioned the rebuilding of the mosque close to the original site in 2012. However, the mosque’s legality is still questioned by the local resident association and frames public discourse around it. The paper charts the pre-history and aftermath of this demolition to examine the entangled nature of urban imaginaries, ‘middle-class’ urban politics, and their spatial manifestations, leading to an unintended process of accretive Muslim erasure.

First, it traces the legal strategies of Jangpura-Bhogal’s middle-class residents through a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) to establish the mosque’s illegality. Citing violations of the Delhi urban Master Plan’s intended land-use and the site’s attendant ‘encroachment’, residents mobilise state and judicial authorities leading to the material displacement of the mosque. However, the legal resolution of the conflict and the mosque’s reconstruction initiates new narrative strategies to disavow the space. Secondly, the paper traces the afterlife of this event to show how residents employ common xenophobic tropes, the site’s origins in the material space of the illicit but now absent slum, and the community needs of present and propertied residents of the neighbourhood. Thus, its contested history emerging out of the practices and spaces of the unpropertied, and resident articulations of ‘illegal’ migrants and squatters, relegate the mosque’s presence to an elsewhere, outside the spatial imaginary of Jangpura-Bhogal.

Desired landscapes of order in Danish public housing

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In 2018, the Danish Social Housing Act L38 was adopted that has become known as “the parallel society law” or “the ghetto law”. Key in L38 is the state’s annual categorizing of selected public housing areas as “hard ghettos”. To classify as a “ghetto”, a threshold must be exceeded in the percentage of tenants in five political categories that are based on ethnicity, education, income, employment and criminal record. The legislation is politically motivated by a claimed deficit in democratic values and active participation in society amongst tenants in these areas. Promoted as a strategy to change this, L38 legally enforces a number of regulations on “hard ghettos”. One of the regulations engage architecture and urban space design by enforcing a decrease of family public housing units to 40 % in classified “hard ghettos” by 2030 to change the demography of tenants.

Based on an ethnographic fieldwork with architects and urban planners, my research examines how L38’s biopolitics emerge in the creation of architecture and urban space design for the desired social life of the areas. I am particularly interested in the ethnic-class nexus in the way that L38 regulates privatization, forced evictions, demolitions, and “social mix”. I am inspired by Heatherton’s (2018) inquiry into how local states use urban planning regulations as predictive policing to discipline bodies and enhance neoliberal accumulation. I try to grasp these material and structural entanglements with Rajaram’s (2006) notion of

aesthetic landscapes of order as dominant and desired colonial state representations of space as known, predictable and thereby governable. This is sustained by identifying dystopic spaces and naming the bodies that do not fit. My overall question in this panel is how illegality of bodies and spaces surface in architecture and urban design responding to regulations of L38 in (re)ordering the Danish urban public?

Education, Urban Order and the Informal-Illegal continuum

Prof. Jyoti Dalal¹

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This paper is based on a study in a state-run school that caters to the children of an urban JJ cluster basti (slum). The school is located on the peripheries of the basti, which is an informal settlement. A clear class difference exists between the teachers and the children in the school. By demonstrating how schooling unfolds at the margins of the city, the present paper is interested in examining the mechanisms that determine not only how urban is ordered, but how this order making function of the state is realized. The educational discourse is a potential site to capture the rationalities and the practices through which the margins that are rife with illegalities and informalities are disciplined and ordered in the ways of the urban. Law as Foucault argued already always have its rights based function alongside its regulatory-biopolitical matrix. This paper will show how education while directly is at a distance from juridico-legal ordering of the city, indirectly gets implicated in the regulatory-bureaucratic functions of law.

If on one hand, the lives of children living in the informal settlements take the shape of illegality for the teachers and the bureaucracy that runs the school, on the other hand, the parents and the children find school as a point that legitimises their right to the city. The paper will argue that an aesthetic-legal complex is built through the categories of order, beauty and hygiene, with teachers being at the fulcrum in which the disciplinary and biopolitical characteristics of the state meet. This pedagogic process of ordering the margins cannot be carried out only through the frame set by law, and needs the constant backing up from the biopolitical discourse that not supports this legal frame but in the contemporary times, is also acquiring a life of its own.

Imagining the city through legislation: plans and projects for the city of Rio de Janeiro since the enactment of the Brazilian 1988 Constitution

Prof. Ana Paula Soares Carvalho¹, Prof. Maria Alice Rezende de Carvalho¹, Dr. Taísa de Oliveira Amendola Sanches², Mrs. Renata Thomaz Vieira Leite¹, Mrs. Ligia Thomaz Vieira Leite¹

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The Brazilian 1988 Constitution is a known landmark for democratic urban planning. Its chapter on urban policy allows for participatory mechanisms and tools to promote the social function of property. The enactment of the City Statute in 2001, a specific federal urban legislation, consolidated these possibilities. It determines that municipalities with more than 20 thousand inhabitants must elaborate and periodically revise a city master plan (CMP). A consistent research body was dedicated to analyzing those plans in the past three decades. It focused mainly on the implementation of the tools mentioned above in city planning. This research, albeit dedicated to Rio de Janeiro's CMP's and other urban legislations that emerged after the Constitution, departs from a slightly different angle. Understanding legal documents as symbolic artifacts that express a particular imagination and normative ideals, this study identifies and presents which city and urban development ideas are at the heart of Rio de Janeiro's urban legislation. It focuses on two main axes: the importance given to public spaces in these legal documents; and the direction of growth and development envisioned in them, i.e., in which direction investments in urban infrastructure should be concentrated. This study establishes elements that denote the intent to promote public spaces, such as

incentives for the emergence of parks and squares and multi-purpose buildings (buildings that mix public and private uses). We depart from discussions on public spaces developed by Shaftoe, in *Convivial Urban Spaces* (2008) and Miller, in *Designs on the Public* (2007). The same goes for identifying the axes of development (incentives or disincentives to construction in certain areas, in which direction are concentrated plans for roads and tunnels, etc.). Departing from these definitions, we examine these laws and plans and present how those elements appear in them.

Law and Labour: Domestic Workers and the State in India

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Domestic workers in urban India constitute an essential part of the workforce. Despite their importance, the Indian labour laws do not recognize them as workers. Mainly women from the most marginalized caste and class backgrounds, they lack social security and possess little to no bargaining powers as citizens and as workers. There exists a complex relationship between law and domestic workers in India. The paper explores this relationship and argues that the absence of specific laws regulating paid domestic workers does not mean their absence from the legal landscape. Due to want of formal legal structures, they might lie outside the scope of legal protection and social security, but the Indian State firmly entrenches domestic workers within its legal purview of control and surveillance. The paper investigates the role of the Indian state in constructing the contradictory legal framework by analyzing relevant judgments, bills, parliamentary debates, existing laws and policies (or their absence, as the case might be) in post-colonial India, and borrows observations from the author's ongoing fieldwork in the Delhi NCR region for her doctoral research thesis.

Law, order, and securitization in South Africa's exclusionary cities

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Scholars have shown how the role of policing and security has shifted away from the state and into private hands, or into the realm of a plurality (Shearing, 2001) or a network (Dupont, 2004) of security actors. South Africa has arguably one of the largest private security industries in the world, relative to its GDP (Diphorn, 2015). Private security and public police have a complex relationship, encompassing competition and collaboration. Both are players within a multifaceted security network which is responsible for law-enforcement and maintaining public order.

South Africa is known for its high crime rate, and security networks continue to grow. Both crime and securitization are likely to play important roles in constructing the social order. As argued by Caldeira (2000: 20), "the talk of crime... symbolically reorders the world". In democratic South Africa, the ways in which urban spaces are created and policed is often a continuation of South Africa's settler-colonial and apartheid history (Diphorn, 2015). At the same time, South Africa's new socio-economic trajectory towards increasing economic neoliberalism is also reflected in its urban environment, where security networks play a key role (Clarno, 2017).

This contribution investigates the order-making function of the security networks in South Africa, answering the following questions: "In Johannesburg, to what extent has increasing securitization led 'order' to be read as 'law'?" and "what role does the conflation of order and law play in reproducing apartheid's spatial patterns?"

This contribution will build on my master's research conducted in 2019 in two suburbs of Johannesburg, in which I investigated the legitimacy of the security networks. Amongst other conclusions, I found that a narrow concept of security (Bauman, 2001) is a dominant tool of maintaining exclusionary urban spaces – while the conflation between legality and morality serves to legitimise securitization.

Shrinking Public Mandates of Social Infrastructure in the Delhi Master Plan: Planning Regulations in Changing Land Markets

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Modern planning emerged as a professionalised state response to manage epidemics, regulate land speculation and plan infrastructure to cope with growth in cities. In India, Master Plans are statutory documents, associated with Eminent Domain powers and police powers. Master Plans, as statutory documents, draw their regulatory legitimacy from the concept of Public Purpose, to ensure a minimum and equitable quality of urban life. This paper examines how public mandates for social infrastructure facilities in Delhi have changed through subsequent rounds of Master Plans. As pressures on land in Delhi have deepened, along with urban inequalities, Master Plan norms for social facilities have also shifted. These reveal not only shifting goal- posts of what comprises acceptable minimum standards for social infrastructure, but also changes in the regulatory envelope, and changes in modes of delivery within the city's land markets. The paper takes a three- part approach. The first part examines changes in health, education and recreational facilities' standards across Master Plans, particularly those targeting the economically weaker sections (EWS) and low- income groups (LIG) . The second part analyses how implementation modalities for social infrastructure have changed, in terms of land allocations, inter- governmental roles and role for the private sector, with a focus on understanding how these relate to Delhi's land markets and changing role of actors other than the DDA, in providing for the city's social infrastructure needs. The third part reviews how these changes are affecting the profile of social infrastructure facilities and what they reveal about changes in the Master Plans' approach towards social infrastructure provision, with implications for equity and access. The intent is to understand not only how the Master Plan, as a statutory planning instrument is implicated within these politics, but also how it emerges as an active terrain for structuring these politics.

Urban informality, Property Rights, and Citizenship in Delhi's Elite Informal Settlements

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In the year 2019, the government of India identified and listed 69 affluent unauthorized colonies in Delhi. The government defined category of "affluent unauthorized colonies" presented us with an officially quantified picture of elite informality in Indian cities. The residents of these extra-legal settlements built by the urban elites in Delhi share a paradoxical relationship with the state. While these "elite informals" are able to exercise relatively complete citizenship rights through an intricate nexus of speculative property brokers, property lawyers, and government officials, they are in constant tension with the law as represented by several court cases, selective and episodic demolitions of unauthorized structures, and lack of access to basic services such as water, electricity, sanitation, and roads.

This paper examines the claim that the propertied class is able to practice full citizenship whereas the rights of the non-propertied class is constricted, eroded and conditional. It seeks to understand how elite informals are able to exercise a relatively complete set of citizenship rights despite the state's ostensibly ambivalent posture towards their settlements. Through analysis of two cases of elite informality, Sainik Farms and Anant Ram Dairy Unauthorized Colony, in Delhi, it highlights the role of the informal property markets in conferring relatively complete citizenship rights to elite informals. It uses Pellissery and Lødemel's (2020) emphasis on property rights as a "bundle of rights" and Holston and Appadurai's (1998) distinction of formal and substantive citizenship to suggest that property rights and citizenship rights are intricately related. It further argues that this relationship exposes distinct urban experiences of, on the one hand, the vulnerable and insecure urban poor, and on the other hand, the property-owning elites with formal rights to land and property. In other words, property is the basis of determining how the elites seek to exercise their citizenship rights.

PANEL No.19: Migration and the right to housing: Racial capitalism, dispossession and contested urban space

Conveners | Sophie Gonick, *New York University, New York, United States of America*

How the struggle of working-class migrant women granted housing rights

Prof. Miguel A. Martinez¹, Dr. Javier Gil¹, Dr. Angela García, Dr. Inés G. Cueli
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The 2008 financial crisis had a greater impact in Spain than in other countries. The strong real estate boom of the 2000s increased real estate construction and mortgages, which led to a massive situation of credit defaults from 2008 onwards and resulted in a severe housing crisis and hundreds of thousands of home evictions. The government's response was to side with the financial sector - bank bailouts and policies to facilitate evictions. In this context an outstanding housing movement emerged, led by the Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca (PAH). This organization managed to halt thousands of evictions, squatted empty homes owned by banks, and initiated legislative changes.

This paper investigates the social composition of this housing movement and asks for whom the outcomes produced by the movement were beneficial. It is assumed that working class migrants were the most vulnerable clients of the banks during the real estate bubble and therefore the most affected by the crisis. They were subject to mortgage scams, bought houses when the prices were at their highest peak, and had the most precarious and unstable jobs.

Here we first explain why working-class migrant women, within a broader intersectional membership of activists, led the housing mobilization against the financial and state institutions managing the post-2008 crisis. Second, we identify various types of outcomes produced by this housing movement in order to assess to what extent working-class migrant women benefited from housing activism. Finally, we discuss their larger effects in terms of granting housing rights for the Spanish society at large.

Our research is based on both qualitative and quantitative methods. On the first place, it results from a survey which was distributed to all PAH groups (94 responses). On the second place, over 50 semi-structured interviews have been carried out.

Identities of Dispossession: Immigrant Political Subjectivities at the Intersection of Deportation and Displacement

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Immigrants with precarious legal status living in capitalist cities are positioned at the intersection of two forces of dispossession: ethnonational deportation and displacement from gentrification. These forces structure the everyday lives of immigrants. Immigrants adopt routines and tactics to avoid deportation, contend with rapacious landlords, and witness the installation of amenities designed for gentrifiers. This paper uses the case of Boyle Heights – a neighborhood in Los Angeles, California – to assess how activists construct political identities within these spaces of dispossession. The working-class Latino barrio of Boyle Heights has become a battleground whereby community groups with varying interests engage in multifront battles to stay in the city. The paper draws from interviews and observations of first and second generation Latinx activists organizing in different groups.

The paper shows that nearly all activists constructed a political identity that fuses displacement and deportation into a single overriding threat. Gentrification, housing, detention, and deportations reflect particular instances of the machine of dispossession. As one activist notes, “If you displace me from my hood, you might as well deport me.” Though the paper documents the formation of an “identity of dispossession” across diverse activists, it also suggests that this identity varies by activist networks. Activists associated with a progressive community development corporation conceive of dispossession as a threat but also believe that there are viable paths for upward community mobility within the capitalist city. The prospects of achieving the “American Dream” are narrow but possible with sufficient mobilizations and the right policy tools. In contrast, activists associated with the radical network, Defend Boyle Heights, view dispossession as a bulldozer intent on cleansing working class people of color from the city. They see themselves embedded within a life-or-death struggle with no path for inclusion or assimilation. The only path for radical organizers is revolution.

Racialisation and profit accumulation in asylum accommodation: navigating Britain’s housing logic and the refusal to be silenced

Ms. Aleksandra Hall¹

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The literature in housing and urban studies in Britain has extensively analysed the housing crisis and housing dispossession through the class lens (Elmer and Denning, 2016), despite the fact that these processes have disproportionately affected racialised people (Gulliver, 2016). My paper is an attempt to bring race into discussions about housing injustice, through the specific focus on housing provision for people seeking asylum. Rather than seeing the asylum housing as an issue of migration management, I propose to approach it as an extension of the housing system that is informed by deregulation, profiteering and racism (Hall and Hall, 2021)

Building on the insights from postcolonial studies, critical race theory as well as literature on racial capitalism, I argue that the struggles experienced by residents in asylum accommodation are interconnected with wider housing struggles and reflect state-sanctioned racial discrimination and segregation in Britain (El-Enany, 2019) that disproportionately places racialised people at risk of harm and premature deaths (Gilmore, 2006).

The empirical core of this paper draws on my ethnographic research with residents in asylum accommodation: hotels, shared flats as well as former military barracks run by the Home Office and its numerous private contractors.

I will analyse how systemic provision of unsafe and inadequate homes is not only about profit accumulation but also racialises residents and constructs them as inferior and undeserving.

Far from passive victims, residents in the asylum accommodation refuse to be silenced and I will shed light at the practices of resistance of those subjected to degrading conditions as they form mutual aid groups, go on hunger strikes and take on legal challenges.

PANEL No.20: More-than-human urban politics

Conveners | Rivke Jaffe, *University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*; Francesca Pilo, *Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands*

‘Show stoppers’ or actors with agency? Animals in planning practice

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Animals become increasingly urban – as a result of urbanization processes and because animals nowadays often find better living conditions in cities than in rural areas. How animals in the city are perceived and how they are treated is normatively decided according to the degree of their usefulness for humans. Thus, animals in urban space are classified as beneficial or pests, as domestic or wild, as familiar or alien, as invading enemies of urban people, up to the understanding of animals as infrastructure (Jaffe, 2019; Philo and Wilbert, 2005; Voigt et al., 2020). In the planning discussion, the contrast between humans and animals as well as between city and nature nevertheless persists, and studies on how spatial planning may re-conceptualize the perception of, and interaction with, animals are rare (with the notable exception of Houston et al. 2018).

Therefore, we will show in our contribution, how municipal planning professionals see, and engage with, animals in their everyday planning practice and how changes in conservation law and the building code influence urban planning practice with regard to animals. In particular, we want to show to which extent planners perceive animals as passive objects or as subjects with own agency and potential ‘show stoppers’ that impede planning processes due to their protected status.

In doing so, we mobilize existing planning, urban design and geography studies on multispecies relationships and rely on 23 semi-structured expert interviews with planners from municipal planning authorities in the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia/ Germany.

“Repair is worse than a fire”: the technologies of major repair of mass housing estates in Kaliningrad, Russia

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Repair is not perceived as an uncomplicated and routinized procedure anymore but rather a choice (Jacobs and Cairns, 2012), a technic and knowledge (Denis and Pontille, 2015), and a process of negotiation (Bovet and Strebel, 2019). This paper explores repair at its large scale and wonders how different human actors and materialities reimagine the meaning and pace of capital repair in Kaliningrad, Russia.

The study is based on ethnographic research on Major Repair Fund in Kaliningrad. Such Funds were established by the federal decree across the country to endorse rapid interventions to support deteriorated infrastructure of mass housing, mostly prefabricated, built mostly in the Soviet period. The deterioration rates vary across different types of infrastructure which sustain the everyday life of mass housing and its residents: water and sewage system, electricity, gas, façades, roofs, cellars, elevators. However, it is significant across all the pieces of materiality and thus, puts the engineers and specialists of Major Repair Funds into a tricky position: in a situation of limited data, financial and human resources, they are to define which piece of materiality should be repaired first and what is the sufficient state of repair.

The paper is based on the study of the overall Major Repair program on a city level and the case of a particular mass housing estate built in 1990, located in the city outskirts. Through the analysis of documentation, in-depth interviews, observations made by following the workers of the most financed Major Repair Fund in Russia, this paper explores two directions. First, it studies how workers navigate between the two poles of “functional” and “dysfunctional” materiality. Second, it shows the navigation process between the workers and residents of mass housing by the means of materiality establishes certain technologies of capital repair and influences the urban agenda.

Contested Coastal Urbanization in Muttukadu, India

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The story of Muttukadu, a suburb along the East Coast Road in the South Indian city of Chennai, has been characterized as one of urban sprawl and spatial transformations along the city’s peripheries. These spatial transformation narratives make visible the growth of the leisure economy and the influx of second homeowners but occlude the traditional fishing community’s relationship to this region. The dispossession of the traditional fishing community along the coast must be seen in the light of private capital’s demands, state-led coastal policy, and performances of regulation, that splinter resource-dependent communities and boost the commodification of land and water as disjointed resources. This paper attempts to trace the networks of human and non-human relations within which these traditional fishing communities embed themselves in their negotiations with State actors, environmental activists, and the media to produce and simultaneously be produced as political subjects by Muttukadu’s post-tsunami (post-2004) socio ecological landscape. The major informants of this study are the traditional artisanal fishing communities of Karikattukuppam, a fishing village in Muttukadu. Their continued articulation of a language of oneness in reference to the sea, land, and body challenge traditional notions of property and motivate the study’s second objective of reading power, history, and questions of value and scale into the urban landscape and ‘seascape’ of Muttukadu.

Do contracts have politics?

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The tenants of the Esso-Häuser in Hamburg got worried when their housing complex was sold to an investor. Their building was not in the best condition, but it was their beloved home. The new owner reassured that not much would change, but asked them to sign ‘updated’ contracts. When community organization GWA heard about the new contracts, they checked the documents and soon discovered that the tenants would lose rights and could be evicted from their building. Soon it became apparent that the investor aimed to demolish the building and build a new housing complex.

Contracts are entities that play an important intermediary role between neighborhood residents and governance actors. In the case of Esso-Häuser, they provided protection to the tenants. These contracts would become politicized in the conflict between the residents and the land owners. While the tenants were fighting for the preservation of their houses, the Esso-Häuser became an object-in-action. The walls started to shake. People knew that the construction was bad, but now it seemed that the situation got dangerous. This forced civil servants to make the decision to evacuate and demolish the building. In the aftermath of the demolition of the Esso-Häuser, the residents claimed a position to negotiate development contracts. Contracts played again a central role in the debate about rights of citizens. This shows the ability of contracts to bind actors to specific goals and stabilize relationships. Research has shown that contracts are mostly drawn up behind closed doors without public debate. Contracts seem to distribute agency in a way that benefits urban elites. However, when residents mobilize support – from politicians, media and courts – they can bend contractual relations towards their goals. As the residents of the Esso-Häuser show, they can also be tools for empowerment.

Governing the Contaminant: Politics of Tap Water Crisis in Tokyo

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The material foundation of urban ordinary, such as water pipes and water purification plants, is often invisible, unconscious, and black-boxed in everyday life. However, in the urban disaster which is one of the exceptional events, the materiality of urbanity will be unblack-boxed partially and become political. Based on a case study of the Tokyo tap water crisis in a disaster situation called “The Great East Japan Earthquake”, this paper will reflect on more-than-human urban politics. After the big earthquake, tsunami on 11th march 2011 around East Japan, and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident, on 23th march 2011 Tokyo Waterworks Bureau released that radioactive iodine-131 was detected twice as much as the limit for infants at Kanamachi water purification plants. At the same time, they requested for most of Tokyo residents to forbear from feeding infant tap water. This “contaminant” had caused plural chain of reaction by numerous human actors, ranging from public sector to private sector: Chief Cabinet Secretary of Japan government, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Japan Water Works Association, National Institute of Radiological Sciences, private medical companies, companies of home delivery water business, anti-nuclear civic activism and so on. Through the chain of reaction, technology and device of detection has played ambiguous roles. The one is to reinforce the formation of governing the crisis through which stabilize water supply system. The other is to effect of destabilization. In this case, despite of early retrieval of waterwork, many civil associations have kept on measuring radioactive substance in tap water. This civil scientific activism is questioning who and how can decide whether tap water is safe or not. Reliability of water supply system have been contested.

Leaf blowers, live streams, viral disease, and burning dumpsters: How non-human entities shaped protest dynamics during the George Floyd uprising in Portland, Oregon

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The field of social movement studies and more specifically, the study of urban social movements fails to incorporate non-human entities into its analysis of how movements form, interact, maintain themselves,

and reshape political, economic, spatial, and socio-ecological relationships. This project seeks to expand our understanding of protest movements by analyzing how non-human entities, such as infrastructures, materials, technologies, plant and aquatic life, and viruses impacted the George Floyd uprising in Portland, Oregon. Portland's racial justice uprising lasted for more than 100 consecutive days and garnered international attention when federal agents were deployed to quell the unrest. This project will use primary sources including newspaper articles, live streams, social media posts, and participant observation of many of the nightly protest events to construct a more-than-human case history of the uprising. This case history will examine the following questions: How did non-human entities contribute to the development of the movement and help sustain it over a months-long time frame? How did the incorporation of different objects shape the tactical dynamics between protestors and police forces? How were non-human entities simultaneously used as tools of repression and resistance? What symbolic meanings were attached to the use of various materials, technologies, and infrastructures throughout the uprising, and how did those meanings impact movement dynamics and redefine both human and more-than-human relationships?

Making a building political: unpacking more-than-human arrangements of built forms

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In the paper, we examine building's political effects, as well as the more-than-human arrangements that lead to their becoming political. Our inquiry draws on empirical explorations in and of the Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA) to investigate how a cultural institution thinks about museums. The position of this institution makes it a case in point for those interested in studying the Arab world and its integration into Western society. Created to promote cultural dialogue on the global stage and challenge the hegemony of Euro-American culture, the IMA is not only a cultural institute serving as an imprint of politics. Rather, it can be viewed as infrastructure conducive to studying politics as more-than-human arrangements. Despite its reputation for cultural diversity, the institution fails to cultivate and capture Arab arts, identities, and memories in a building that is both a built form layering politics through its architecture, and a container for arranging cultural expressions of the political.

We build here on a variety of studies that discuss ontological approaches to studying the materiality of urban politics and cities. As part of the research, we examine the material iterations and political implications enacted through the IMA's more-than-human arrangements. By considering them as assets for upholding the IMA's mission and politics, we explore how the building gains political qualities but also how its architectural elements bring forth cultural expressions that makeup worlds. By shifting from universalistic conceptualizations and discussions between the representation and vitality of buildings, we establish a theoretical repertoire for thinking through and with more-than-human arrangements of built forms. We offer an examination of the enduring politics and trajectories by which pan-Arab imaginaries are framed, cultures are shaped, and values are inscribed into a building's arrangements of existence.

Materiality as a tool to shape sectarian identities? The municipalization of an electricity mini-grid in South Lebanon

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From drastic rationing to a total blackout in October 2021, the electricity sector under the monopoly of Electricité du Liban epitomizes the failure of the Lebanese State, disrupting the citizens' daily lives and the national economy.

To overcome these shortcomings, private entrepreneurs and municipalities have been developing mini-grids based on diesel generators since the nineties. In Nabatiyeh, a medium-sized predominantly Shia city, the municipality has been trying to take control of the generator sector for five years by negotiating with private owners. The municipalization of the local electricity grid results from the strategy of the two Shiite governing political parties, Amal and Hezbollah. Though illegal, these technological artifacts are locally regulated and embedded in power and patronage relationships.

Indeed, in Lebanon the distribution of territorial resources on a sectarian basis is part of the political game, even for informal services. Lebanon is a multi-confessional society, and sectarian identities result from everyday socio-material arrangements through human agents but also material ones (Nucho, 2016). At the crossroads between Science and Technology Studies, urban political ecology, and Lebanese literature on urban infrastructures, this communication will describe how diverse electrical configurations are politicized and instrumentalized by socio-political groups, beyond the networked model. The case of Nabatiyeh illustrates how energy autonomy is a first step towards political autonomy. In that regard, we aim to highlight forms of geographic and sociopolitical differentiation and understand what local socio-political order is produced or contested through electric infrastructures.

Furthermore, we argue that the emergence of intermediaries in the provision of services erodes the relationship between State and citizen. The territorialization of electricity configuration participates in the construction of increasingly exclusive and excluding territories, raising issues of territorial and socio-economic fragmentations.

Repairing the Newtown Creek with Rain Gardens, Cemeteries and Bacteria

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Infrastructural, geological and landscape repair are underway in and around the Newtown Creek, a waterway separating Brooklyn and Queens, New York City, that was recently declared a Superfund site in 2010. Repairing the creek means adding complexity to an already complex choreography of living things and inorganic matter. It currently means enlisting – in different infrastructural flows, geologic morphologies, and landscape transformations – oysters, aerobic bacteria, the 19th century cemetery belt of Queens which acts as a giant patchy bioswales, aerobic and anaerobic bacteria, oil degrading bacteria, rain, early 20th century municipal sewers, green roofs, stormwater catchment basins, and rain gardens. Repair work currently consists of trial and error plans, unstable materialities, infrastructural upgrades, enlisting of non-charismatic species (bacteria), removal of matter accumulated in the past (coal tar or oil, for instance) and addition of new matter. Drawing on participant observation carried out in 2018 among environmental activists, I focus in particular on access points to the creek's shoreline, where environmental activists have created spaces of interspecies care and hospitality through biotic and material-semiotic interventions. Yet, because of the intransigence of past sewage infrastructure, many actors involved, and the complexity of material interventions, such spaces are often in suspension. Generating what looks like imperfect, unfinished ruins of the future within the creek means living with the Anthropocene and overcoming it with some of its own materialities. Unlike the techno-futurist, magic-bullet visions of farsighted energy experts, such access points seems messy, populated by set-backs and contingencies, as well as breakthroughs.

River and drain: the ambiguous politics of drainage infrastructure in Accra

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In the Ghanaian capital of Accra, the city's primary drains have been constructed along naturally occurring waterways. These drains have been the focus of many studies seeking to understand the risks and causes of annual flooding in Accra, which often blame poor infrastructural governance. In this paper I take a step back to understand the transformation of natural waterways to drainage infrastructure. I conceive of this transformation as the result of the process of urbanisation, through which social and ecological processes are intertwined, a key insight from urban political ecology. I follow one such drain as it makes its way from upstream tributaries to the sea, describing how practices in and around the drain illuminate the interaction between nature and social processes. As I follow flows of waste water, it becomes apparent that the interstitial space of the drain is both a site of risk management and a source of income generation for low-income urban residents through irrigation and sand-mining. The ambiguous function of the drain and its flows blur the distinction between urban and rural spaces, natural and social processes and, risk and resource, binaries that prevent a full understanding of its political ecology. Efforts to transform the drain into infrastructure by lining it with concrete highlight its function as waste water channel, while making the livelihoods of those dependent on the drain as resource riskier or impossible. My analysis of the urbanization of drainage channels as a process shows its ambiguous politics: even as this transformation of nature exacerbates marginalisation, the infrastructure's connecting qualities also mediates some of its most polarizing effects.

That (Extra)Ordinary Object of History: Aesthetic Politics of Brick in Lithuania

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Appearances of built environments gain more and more relevance in cities globally. Aesthetics concern not only a limited group of professionals, but state officials, investors, international organisations, and ordinary citizens, all interested in making urban space as aesthetically pleasing as possible. But why do aesthetics matter? To answer that question, I focus upon Klaipėda in Lithuania, where the aesthetics of built environments have particularly high political stakes. Built under German rule, seized and rebuilt under Soviet rule, and later reconstructed as 'European', Klaipėda demonstrates how and why material aesthetics of architecture are so efficient in making individuals embrace particular political projects. Using the case of red clay brick, this paper traces how one ordinary construction material can serve towards distinct political projects, from enforcing the vision of Klaipėda as a 'modern' Soviet space that is 'tied' to history to asserting Klaipėda as a 'cosy,' 'authentic,' and 'European' city that needs to be 'cleaned' from 'ugly' remains of the Soviet architecture. Drawing on the archival research, go-alongs, and interviews with more than fifty state officials, architects, planners, and activists in the city, this paper examines how exactly red clay brick has been politicised following WWII. I combine insights from cultural sociology, geography, and science and technology studies to argue that urban materials' political relevance lies in their ability to give a 'seductive' or 'repulsive' substance to people's visions of urban pasts and futures, and to render these visions self-evident and salient. By doing so, the paper advances our understanding of how urban materials produce politics by aesthetic means beyond their hermeneutic significance.

The Politics of Technology among Street-based Sex Workers in Bangalore

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This paper illustrates how body politics and the politics of technology compound one another for female street-based sex workers (FSSWs) in Bangalore city, India, in their experiences of three technologies – mobile phones, CCTV surveillance, and television media. Mobile phones have emerged as an integral part of street-based sex work in Bangalore as a result of FSSWs abstaining from public spaces that have been overwhelmingly eroded due to urban transition and gentrification over the last two decades in Bangalore, as well as due to their inherent advantages. Simultaneously, intensified CCTV surveillance of city spaces keeps watch on them, while native-language television media, a techno-cultural predator, routinely conducts self-assigned gentrification operations covertly or overtly discovering and publicly disseminating information on immorality and delinquency. All three technological experiences understandably have had complicated fallouts for FSSWs, a result of the politics of technology that are at the foundations of these experiences.

The rat, the weed and the urban clean: how to coexist with the unwanted?

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This paper questions the integration of non-human organisms in urban planning and public space management in the global North. This perspective will expose the renewal of boundaries between acceptable and non-acceptable more-than-human agents, which can be characterised as new socio-politically constructed “nature baselines” (Ureta et al., 2020).

A transition towards a more integrated management of vegetation within cities has been identified over the last past decades (Wachsmuth and Angelo, 2018), embodied amongst others by zero-pesticides policies, citizen-led sidewalks planting or informal urban greening (Gandy, 2017). However, the connection between this political momentum and daily urban management practices has yet to be unveiled. New acts of urban care and ecological policies have come along with tensions regarding public space management and especially urban cleanliness management. Traditional practices of space ordering and cleaning must deal with untamed, sometimes smelly, rotting and slippery vegetation that can even damage historical urban infrastructures. This Janus-faced public space management entails new socio-political and material arrangements between its various stakeholders, including conflicts and frictions.

Based on an in-depth investigation of urban cleanliness policies in three French cities, following ethnographically the labour practices of people enacting urban cleanliness management, this chapter illustrates three categories of tensions, all questioning the reality and intensity of an ecological turn in urban /public space management:

- An operational tension, where ordinary maintenance activities of urban cleanliness are confronted to alternative forms of everyday urban management, including laissez-faire, transforming their missions and practices.
- A socio-political tension, where the expertise of public bodies is contested and negotiated through new participatory tools.
- An ontological tension around the frontier of the acceptable (and reversely unwanted) more-than-human in urban cleanliness management, where tolerance of the vegetation can be tempered by the rejection of wild animals (like rats, pigeons or seagulls) still considered an ecological “problem”.

PANEL NO.21: Negotiating the pandemic city: the precariously housed and their practices of inhabitation during COVID-19

Conveners | Ratoola Kundu, *Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai, Mumbai, India*, Paroj Banerjee, *Development Planning Unit, University College London, London, United Kingdom*

Cooperatives as Agencies to Provide Livelihoods for the Refugees in Istanbul During the Covid-19 Pandemic

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The war in Syria has resulted in one of the greatest displacements in modern history. According to the UNHCR (2022), there are 6.7 million internally displaced persons in Syria, where 6.6 million people fled away. Currently, with more than 3.7 million, Turkey is the country that hosts the largest number of refugees worldwide (UNHCR, 2022) and Istanbul is the city where the refugee population is the highest in the country (DGMM, 2022). One of the most critical problems that the refugees in Istanbul are confronting is their shrinking access to safe and secure food in a sustainable way, as the food is getting more and more challenging to afford and is not equitably distributed; yet, solidarity networks among refugees, both empowers the displaced and “recreates a home in exile” (Gabiam, 2021, p. 32).

Food and agriculture cooperatives serve as a solidarity network for the displaced, especially women refugees. Basically, regarding refugee cooperatives, they “work for refugees, with refugees and can be established by refugees” (Katajamaki, 2016). They provide them livelihoods, decrease their precarity level, and allow them to access safe and secure food. The cooperatives in Istanbul create socio-economic agencies for the refugees who live in the peripheries of Istanbul by bringing them together for income-generating activities in solidarity.

The aim of our presentation will be to discuss the cooperatives as socio-economic agencies for the refugees, which provides them with a sense of ‘home’ and contributes to their livelihoods and food security. Our research question is “How do food and agriculture cooperatives in Istanbul contribute to the livelihoods of the refugees during the Covid-19 pandemic?”. In the presentation; the case of the agriculture cooperatives in the peripheries of Istanbul will be analyzed with the displacement, livelihoods and social inclusion literature perspectives combining authors' experience in the refugee response in Turkey.

Housing as Care Infrastructure: Pandemic, Urban Poor and Inhabitation Practices in a Small Town

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The current COVID-19 pandemic situation forces us to reflect on the embodied, relational and affective cartographies of the space in our inhabiting practices in the urban. Along with vaccination, home quarantine and isolation as standardized ways of fighting the infection highlight the necessity of housing as an important hub of care practices and relationships apart from hospitals and health centres. The space of the home thus gets established, firstly, as a central location for care work, and secondly, as space and locus of meaning that informs the performance of care. India has the largest inadequately housed population in the world with around 35% of urban dwellers living in slums. Most of the urban poor engaged in various kinds of economic activities house themselves in such precariat housing arrangements. While the

inhabitation practices of the urban poor during the pandemic have gotten attention from the practitioners and academicians in the context of large cities, scant attention has been given to the lived experiences of the urban poor in the small and medium towns of India. This study attempts to document care practices during the pandemic in precariat housing arrangements in a small town. Housing, including both individual houses and the broader housing system, support or hinder the capacity of households to care in different degrees. However, a broader articulation between care and housing remains substantially under conceptualized. Through the study, an attempt is also being made to foreground care as a relational practice while recognizing that it is central to human existence and vital to the maintenance of life. In doing so, it argues for a framework as well as a policy push that reimagines housing as an infrastructure of care. The idea is to forge connections between care and housing through centring care within an analysis of the house-as-home.

Locked Down: Home-based workers, housing precarity, and the politics of “self-reliance” in urban India during the Covid-19 Pandemic

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When India went into its first pandemic lockdown in March 2020, media coverage exposed the plight of urban migrants returning to their home states, localities, and villages. The lockdowns exacerbated vulnerabilities already inherent in the migrant condition as workers struggled to make rent, access entitlement schemes, as well as recover back wages from employers. This research shifts from the plight of migrants returning home in 2020, to those who had no choice but to remain in cities. As central government unveiled new policies aimed at national “self-reliance”, individual migrant households were often left to rely on their own networks and informal strategies for survival. Based on research conducted in Gurugram’s urban villages between 2020 and 2022, this paper investigates the survival strategies of home-based workers. Gurugram’s outsized migrant labor force is often associated with construction, manufacturing, domestic service, or office work. Home-based workers, engaged in small-scale textile and craft manufacturing, fundamentally challenge the notion of “working from home” as the domain of the privileged. Such workers receive limited attention, but constitute some of the most precariously employed and housed urban migrants in Indian cities. Already confined to the home for long hours, earning low wages without protections or evidence to demonstrate their employment status, what recourse have these (predominantly female) laborers had during the pandemic? How have they negotiated with landlords and sought assistance, and from whom have they received it? Ultimately, this paper argues that by assuming migrant households “make-do” or “self-rely” through access to land, kin, and entitlement programs in distant locales, we fail to acknowledge the precarities of landless, low-wage migrants locked down in places that serve the double burden as home and source of livelihood.

Migrant workers and the carceral logic in Singapore: Governing bodies in/through home spaces

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In 2020, the dormitories housing migrant workers became the epicentre of the COVID-19 pandemic in Singapore, as outbreaks rendered these already cramped living quarters unsafe. While the home was, for many, said to be the safest place to retreat from the virus, this was not the case for many migrant workers. Rather, construction and shipyard workers were forced to live in confinement with others who were

contagious, while some domestic workers were restricted to living and working in households where they experienced continued abuse; unable to leave and seek solidarity or support. As such, this paper will argue that while the state enforced circuit-breakers (or lockdowns) and utilised a carceral logic of 'confining to protect', it governed bodies in/through the home, creating safety for some and unsafety for others. More broadly, this paper will interrogate the carceral logic in Singapore and the means by which the home was brought to the fore in the COVID-19 pandemic, shaping the everyday lives of both citizens and non-citizens. It will also address the afterlife of this 'emergency' governance, and the ways that migrant workers still continue to experience more limited mobility in the city-state.

Negotiating urban infrastructure during pandemic: Incongruity and fragmented linkages among Bengali-speaking Muslim migrants in Mumbai

Ms Debangana Baruah

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With the recent pandemic in India, infrastructure has developed a structural incongruity in urban spaces, especially among disenfranchised Bengali-origin Muslim migrant community. At this juncture, there are fragmented bureaucratic linkages; the gap between migrant workers and the state's bureaucracy is also sparse. Set in Mumbai, this paper, therefore, argues how these state's authorities exercise discretionary power at the municipality level, but often contradict with the state's planning of the city. While the gap further became apparent during India's nationwide lockdown, the migrant workers went into a 'state of exception'. This led to systemic problems in availing urban infrastructures-such as using of housing, public toilets and safe drinking water. Breakdown of infrastructure has forced members of the community to use their social network to avail these services. This paper examines how urban infrastructure is negotiated by a certain class of citizens, who are ordinary, yet have to depend on their networks. Furthermore, this discretionary power has created diverse forms of social exclusion based on religion, caste and class. To this end, the paper delves deeper into the structural loopholes and sought to explore the 'fuzzy' relationship between migrant workers and state.

Pandemic in the Rain Baseras: Exploring the Politics of Shelter & Shelter Homes in Delhi (India)

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The salience of shelter homes in Delhi's urban planning and housing rights landscape was pointedly evidenced during the Covid-19 pandemic. Government orders, welfare provisions and civil society initiatives meant for the 'houseless' were essentially geared towards and limited to those living in shelter homes - which are locally termed in Hindi as 'rain baseras' or night shelters.

Drawing on interactions with the shelter-dwelling people of Delhi in midst of the pandemic, along with secondary data on policy, media and advocacy, this paper will uncover the fraught tension between meanings of being sheltered and of living in shelter homes. Focusing upon how one associates notions of safety, dignity and belonging with a 'home', but is unable to fully associate these with a 'shelter home', this paper would be a critical exploration of the gaps and overlaps between 'shelter' as a fundamental right which guarantees a certain safe and dignified condition of living, and 'shelter homes' as a physical space which become the primary mechanism through which the said right to shelter is pursued and seemingly protected. Furthermore, the paper will demonstrate an exacerbation of this tension under Covid-19 rules

and lockdowns, especially in relation to people's understanding of safety as it unfolds across categories of home, shelter and rain baseras.

Tracing its emergence as a developmental solution to historical challenges of urban poverty and migration in Delhi, this paper would argue for a conceptualisation of shelter homes as a reconciled form of housing within dominant policy and advocacy framework. This would crucially call upon a re-examination of shelter homes as a biopolitical strategy of urban planning and housing advocacy, while also contributing towards a more nuanced framework of locating and defining houselessness in urban cities.

Safe in, unsafe out? Perceptions, reactions and implications of the pandemic among the residents of an asylum centre

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What does 'stayhome' mean and entail, when home takes the functional and temporary shape of an asylum reception centre? Based on a four-year ethnography in Northern Italy, I explore the impact of the pandemic on the lived experience of the centre and on residents' interaction with the outer city. On the inner side, within a segregated environment of parallel normality, social distancing was systematically less implemented than outside. While the pandemic made the centre empty of social initiatives, inaccessible to external visitors, and perhaps unsafer for caseworkers themselves (who strictly limited their visits to the residents' rooms, unlike fellow residents did), facemasks have been rarely in use. It was as if the centre, as a home of sort, was protected by a tacit regime of familiarity – or indeed, of mutual lack of care. Once the interactions with the outside were constrained, what happened inside, including covid infections, was a secondary concern. However, the economic and relational price to pay for asylum seekers has been remarkably higher than the health-related one. On the external side, their presence in the public urban space was initially discouraged or outright stigmatized, feeding into a deep-rooted sense of suspicion towards people perceived as out-of-place. More fundamental though, to the eyes of residents themselves, are the long-term consequences of the pandemic. These involve less contrasting attitudes or values around vaccination, as in the mainstream public debate, than the further erosion and precarization of job opportunities, hence of their long-term chances of local integration. Overall, my study invites acknowledging not only the inherent ambivalence of the stayhome rhetoric, but also the fundamental aftermath of the pandemic. In that respect, the lived costs (and perceptions) of covid among displaced migrants do not necessarily overlap with those of the majority society, while being equally or more severe.

Some reflections on the humanitarian tragedy of national containment in India, its apprehension and research practice

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In India, as elsewhere in the world, the Covid 19 epidemic, or more precisely the measures put in place to combat its spread, have highlighted social and spatial inequalities. The implementation in 2020 and 2021 of two national lockdowns, embodied by the mantra "Stay safe, stay home", has catalyzed structural inequalities that call into question the uniformity of the response to the health crisis. Our presentation extends Michel Agier's questioning: "What about containment as health protection for populations already experiencing a first type of containment?". (Agier, 2020). Methodologically, we have looked at the effects of the crisis on two marginalized neighborhoods in Pondicherry and Delhi, two areas that are far from each

other, but whose characteristics and, above all, situations in the face of the pandemic tend to bring them closer together. Through telephone surveys, facilitated by previous contacts within these spaces, our observations show how the realities of daily life in marginalized urban spaces (promiscuity within housing, the need to find income and food every day lack of water and soap) have made confinement much harder to survive than for middle-class residents who have had to adapt (better housing, 24/7 essential services, access to "confinement services" such as online food delivery). For precarious populations, the uncertainty of being able to provide for their families' daily needs went beyond fear of the virus. Moreover, in addition to the dysfunction of the state, the crisis also questioned our own place as researchers. Indeed, the study quickly became more complex as the health crisis turned into a humanitarian crisis which obliged us, as direct witnesses, to activate different relays (friendly, civil, political) to best help the inhabitants. How to act as a researcher? How to maintain an axiological neutrality when the empirical situation calls for an intervention and a necessary action?

Urban governance, pandemics and the vulnerable: lessons from the past

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The Corona pandemic has painfully amplified existing socio-economic inequalities in cities across the globe. While the better-off could confine themselves in comfortable dwellings and work from home, significant segments of the population were forced to continue working in the city or got stuck in what Pitter (2020) calls 'forgotten densities': social housing, poorly maintained rental housing towers, prisons, homeless shelters, shanty towns, overcrowded apartments, group homes for the disabled, long-term care and retirement facilities, etc. where the virus met optimal spreading conditions.

In pre-vaccine times, city authorities responded to epidemic outbreaks such as cholera or the Spanish flu through massive infrastructure works, a range of hygiene measures, and new architectural and design languages that introduced 'modernity' in the city. Today, all hope is invested in defeating the virus with multiple vaccine injections so that cities can return to an undefined 'normal'. But no virus with the exception of smallpox has been defeated with vaccines alone (Snowden, 2020). Dramatic changes in urban governance, planning and architecture, once a crucial factor in fighting epidemics, are not discussed today. The once so intimate connection between urban planning and public health has been lost and the vaccine has become a vehicle to prohibit shifts in urban governance and pursue the urban status quo.

According to author Arundathi Roy (2020), "nothing could be worse than a return to normality"; the Corona pandemic is a portal to imagine our world and our cities anew, as we have systematically done after earlier epidemics. It is argued that urban governance and planning should move away from their role as a supporting toolkit for economic growth and be mobilized again to pursue public health.

PANEL No.22: Neighbourhood residents in vulnerable circumstances: Crisis, stress and coping mechanism

Conveners | Peer Smets, *Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*

A crisis is an opportunity, at least for those at the top - Assessing vulnerability and adaptation to the Covid-19 crisis in formal and informal neighbourhoods in Brazil

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The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic brought to the foreground the interacting character between external, natural shocks and social systems. This pandemic is also unedited in its global reach, intense short-term impacts and yet not fully understood long-term consequences. This set of outcomes provides potential insights into the impacts of future crises (e.g., climate change, biodiversity collapse). This investigation seeks to frame this crisis against the social vulnerability background of Brazilian cities. It asks, therefore, how the coping mechanisms used by different population groups in Brazilian cities improved or reduced their resilience capacities – that is, how the crisis was an opportunity or traded current survival for reduced future resilience. To answer this question, we propose the hypothesis that Covid-19 sparked choices between contradictory options (trade-offs) between short-term coping capacity and long-term resilience (e.g., trading short-term exposure to keep income, while risking long-term health losses or even death). A secondary hypothesis is that social, economic, and environmental factors imposed trade-offs on more vulnerable populations, while less vulnerable ones had better options. To evaluate these hypotheses, we are going to research 4 case studies at the neighbourhood scale in São Paulo and Porto Alegre based on qualitative empirical data from ongoing field research. One case in each city is from an upper-middle-class stratum and another from a low income, informal one. These cases will provide dissimilar socioeconomic conditions and urbanization quality, offering insights from comparison grounded on environmental, economic, social, and demographic background information. We expect this investigation to result in relevant contributions to the interacting effects of crises on social vulnerability at the intra-urban scale. These findings are relevant for urban and social policies that strengthen resilience and provide recovery and coping capacity against present and future hazards.

Children’s play and the pandemic in India’s informal settlements

Dr. Martina Maria Spies¹

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Since 2019, India has gone through a particularly deadly wave of COVID-19 cases. Major cities including Mumbai have been under strict lockdown. Schools are closed and movement is restricted. In this scenario, children have been isolated from their peers and have only constrained access to socialization, play, and even physical contact, critical for their psychosocial wellbeing and development (Childline & UNICEF India 2020). Children have undergone tremendous emotional and psychological distress and are also losing out on the foundational development of their social, emotional and cognitive skills. The situation is even more dire in the informal settlements of Mumbai where cramped conditions coupled with the lockdown have further shrunken the life worlds of children with virtually no opportunities for social interaction, play, exercise or learning. Alternatively, cities with ample space for recreation and interaction have seen the better management of the public health crisis as they provide opportunities for physical and mental release

and respite. Thus, the need for adequate and freely accessible child-friendly spaces for play cannot be understated. Such spaces offer a safe third realm for children, outside of their homes (in which they are trapped) and their schools (which they can no longer access).

Against this background, the paper aims to develop an innovative policy for play WITH and FOR children, contributing to the development of children and their neighbourhoods in informal settlements in megacities, specifically in Mumbai (to begin with). The paper gives leeway for creating safe, hygienic and sustainable play spaces, open to all children irrespective of their upbringing and background.

Coping and Emotional trajectories in an unequal city: Gendered insights from the Pandemic in Mumbai

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Our paper draws on qualitative inquiry and ‘reflexivity’ to highlight the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, its socio-economic crisis and stress on residents across low-income and better-off neighbourhoods in Mumbai, one of the worst-affected cities. Here, we present cases from the city’s ‘M’ Ward, which displays a mix of highly marginalised spaces, vulnerable poor groups in high-density informal settlements and better-off residential neighbourhoods. Our study analyses diverse viewpoints through personal narratives, conversations and the authors’ lived experiences, thoughts and behaviour. We begin with how different income and class groups interpreted this public health crisis and its outcome on their everyday lives. Second, we illustrate how the varying nature of concern and responses in the affluent and poor settlements of the ward produce different coping practices. The examples focus on individual and collective grounds-up initiatives, for example, community kitchens, health set-ups and communication efforts. Finally, in our analysis of mitigation measures, we carefully consider notions of estrangement, ‘dignity,’ ‘gendered emotional processes’ attached to dealing with a pandemic, as diverse actors (state and non-state) negotiated resource provision and access, control in relief efforts. Instances across neighbourhoods demonstrate solidarity and a collective spirit in fighting the crisis. However, we note how they differ in relation to established patterns of deprivation and socio-spatial exclusions often produced by systemic state policies, reflecting the city’s fractured urban fabric. Seeking to contribute to a growing body of knowledge on the pandemic in cities, we show how vulnerable groups found ways to facilitate crisis care. In addition, the lessons one can draw to work on more inclusive policies to manage such unprecedented disruptions in the future.

Ethnic Residential Segregation in Milan: the Inaccessibility of Urban Spaces for Migrants

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The study of the physical separation of two or more nationality groups within the urban environment is a classical issue within the urban studies literature. Although it is known that the European model of residential segregation differs from the American one, whereby, compared to the latter in which ethnicity plays a major role in shaping residential pattern in the urban setting, the former is more driven by the socioeconomic dimension, many Italian metropolitan settings are characterized by an uneven migrants’ distribution. This implies the inaccessibility of the most valuable places – in terms of liveability, attractiveness, access to services, and housing quality – for the majority of ethnic groups living in the urban

context. Basing on updated data from the civil registry, we empirically assessed the spatial allocation of foreigner families in the municipality of Milan, with the aim to map their concentration in socioeconomically disadvantaged neighbourhoods. People from the ten most represented countries (Egypt, Philippines, China, Peru, Romania, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Ukraine, Ecuador, Morocco) stand out for different settlement models, yet with a common trait: the exclusion from the historic center and its immediate surroundings. The only exception is represented by some subjects belonging to those groups traditionally employed in domestic labour (the Filipinos, the Sinhalese and the Ukrainians), who, despite living in the central areas, are not integrated in nor they benefit from the characteristics of the public space in which they are located. Thought not being the reproduction of segregation processes the outcome of explicit racially discriminatory institutional dispositions (e.g. ghettos) the issue represents a neglected topic in the urban policy agenda, being justified as the result of socioeconomically driven forces. We propose some hints of possible mechanisms involved in the persistence of segregation patterns in the city, framing the weight of individual choices and social constraints.

Finding refuge in a warming world

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Cities around the world are devising programs, policies, and plans to adapt to the risks and effects of climate change. Such actions include reclaiming streets for bikes, improving coastal flooding defences, and increasing green areas for temperature regulation. A prominent initiative that aims at adapting cities to extreme heat is the creation of “climate refuges”, spaces where residents who are particularly sensitive to heatwaves can take shelter during episodes of extreme heat. Barcelona presents an emblematic example, with over 150 spaces designated as “climate shelters” during specific times of the year. Nevertheless, are these spaces meeting the needs, experiences, and expectations of the city’s most vulnerable residents? Are they addressing the compounding, overlapping, differential vulnerabilities of historically marginalized residents? How can we ensure that they are not mere aesthetically pleasing, gentrification-prone, new green areas in the city? Are there further purposes that these urban spaces could serve beyond punctual cooling centres? Ultimately, what can we learn from these often silenced, invisibilized, and disenfranchised residents in regards to coping strategies? To answer these questions, we survey 380 residents of a working-class neighbourhood of Barcelona, Spain, and analyse their responses through an “intersectional climate justice” lens (Amorim-Maia et al., 2022). This perspective allows us to understand the situated needs of those residents, thus visibilizing their struggles and demands, and designing policies that are more inclusive, empowering, and transformative. We complement these findings with semi-structured interviews with multi-level and multi-sector city stakeholders, including policymakers, public servants, and members of neighbourhood associations. This study informs scholars and policymakers that aim to confront extreme heat with policies that are progressive in essence and address intersecting social-environmental inequities.

Help thy neighbour. Neighbourhood relations, subjective well-being and trust during the COVID-19 pandemic

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Neighbourhoods and neighbours are important sources for people's life chances and well-being. Their importance is highlighted in times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic: Neighbours helped vulnerable and at-risk groups by providing small services and a sense of community. Using panel data from

Switzerland, this study investigates how and for whom relations with neighbours changed to the better or worse during the pandemic. In a second step, changes in subjective well-being and trust in other people, both of which dropped considerably during the pandemic and while social confinement measures were in place, are linked to changes in neighbourly relations. The results show that the negative impact of the pandemic on people's subjective well-being and trust was much less pronounced for those who improved their relations with neighbours in that time, stressing the importance of local networks for community resilience. At the same time, people with more resources prior to the pandemic were more likely to improve neighbourly relations. Consequently, this study finds evidence for a social gradient in subjective well-being and trust during the crisis that partly works through changes in neighbourhood networks. Robustness analyses by means of placebo regressions further show that the documented effects are indeed attributable to changes induced by the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding social confinement measures.

Il Tesoro di Gratosoglio. Exploring the neighbourhood with their citizens

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Gratosoglio is a neighbourhood located in the southern periphery of Milano; developed in the 60s as a pluri-functional mass housing estate with a modernist architecture design. As you walk through the area, the outdoor space looks empty even when the area is full of green fields.

Il Tesoro di Gratosoglio, was a one-day activity aimed to rediscover common spaces of the neighbourhood to teens and young adults participating in the summer school organized by the primary school together with the church. Through this treasure hunting, activities were performed in the outdoor space to make children rethink their neighbourhood and imagining different scenarios in various core spaces, attracting the attention of other residents, too.

The project, was launched by the Department of Architecture of the Politecnico di Milano (where I was doing my internship) in July 2021, as part of the project Scholè. This activity, was one of the first steps to develop future actions in the upcoming years.

Informal Systems in a Southern European Urban Setting: Horticultural Practices as Urban Commons Inhabited by a Gift Economy

Prof. Paula Mota Santos¹

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Building a city depends on how people combine the traditional economic factors of land, labor, and capital with the look and feel of cities reflecting concepts of order and disorder. Traditionally, the 'rural' is not expected to be an element of the 'urban'. This paper takes an anthropologically informed approach to urban form, in particular to a very specific terrain (ie, a space and its social world): the so called hortas (horticultural patches) located in Porto, Northern Portugal. These are small sections of land that are cultivated outside any legal frame by local neighbours thus producing informal, working class, horticultural growers communities. These are places that are invisible to most of the city, being liminal places in permanent danger of being destroyed by the advancing dense city. Some of these communities have been in existence for 30 years and the majority of the produce is for self-consumption. The analysis will focus the social agents related to these specific forms of living the city arguing that these hortas are not mere 'survivals' of past stages of the city's evolution and growth. They are in fact an essential element of change in today's city where the morphology of the place and the group of actors take power into the urban

landscape, starting a new, albeit permanently precarious “paradigm” of urban commons (Harvey 2012) and urban community life. This new paradigm is seen as inhabited by a gift economy (Mauss 1929) through which several (material and immaterial) resources circulate. The role of Portugal’s 2011 financial bailout as well as the effects of the present day pandemic in these informal practices will also be highlighted.

Interactional bubbles and interstitial territorialities. The use of public space among university students

Dr. Alice Brombin¹

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One of the more visible consequences of Covid19 pandemic and social distancing measures is the erosion of public space that seems to lose its value as a context of collective interest.

This paper is based on an ongoing ethnographic research on the changes of social interactions and use of public space among the university population in the city of Padua (Italy). In particular, the emergence of interstitial territorialities (Brighenti 2013) meant as bubbles of social contact is pointed out as a strategy of re-appropriation of public space performed by young people, which becomes an opportunity for them to avoid the anxieties connected to the pandemic and regain possession of their own bodies. This dimension of social interaction entails a reframing of the use of public space meant as a sort of safe place and as zone of oblivion as well, relevant for its social value rather than for its functional, economic or commercial use. This seems to confirm the literature that acknowledges the importance of public space during the pandemic and the increase of creative appropriation and use of open spaces such as parks and green areas (Hatuka 2021; Krzysztof and Drozda 2021). The landscapes haunted by university students perform this function, becoming relational bubbles in which different groups of social contact move through the city adopting specific aggregative and temporal codes which imply a more fluid territorialization and a de-commercialization of public space.

Making new urban subjects through redevelopment — — A Case Study of Resettlement Housing Communities in Chengdu, China

Mr. Liubing Xie¹

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Under the state initiative to redevelop dilapidated urban areas, a frenzy wave of redevelopment of urban villages sweeps over China in recent years. The Urban entrepreneurialism thesis has suggested that the redevelopment urban villages facilitates land appropriation and contribute to the “demolition and displacement economy”, which creates demand for commodity housing consumption. However, in Chengdu’s case, villagers are offered in situ resettlement housing as compensation, therefore demand for housing is not generated, and the vacant land after redevelopment remains vacant rather than undergo transaction to developers immediately. Without totally rejecting the urban entrepreneurialism thesis, I argue that the redevelopment of urban villages is also a scheme of social control by producing new urban subjects from rural villagers and migrants. The resettlement housing is offered as a benevolent compensation for villagers, and the same time to relocate villagers and migrants in an enclosed place where surveillance and control of mobility is easily placed. Following James Holston (2008)’s provocation that homeownership is a technology of social control, this article explores how the resettlement housing as a type of homeownership serves as a technology of social control in Chinese context. Firstly, the enclosed and gated physical environment of the communities obstructs mobility of migrant workers, the high rises have weakened previous social relations between villagers. Moreover, the space of resettlement housing is

also productive in producing desired urban subjects by remolding the villagers and the rural migrants alike through programs of cultural activities, environment improvement and public education for the village and migrant children.

Mapping informal settlements as transition zones in the rural urban continuum - Case studies from Coimbatore, India

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This paper is a part of the ongoing doctoral research project on the entanglements of the social and material ecologies of informal settlements in Coimbatore, India. Despite the negative notions they carry and the numerous frictions they encounter, the urban poor constantly struggle to overcome and survive crises in cities by exploring all possible coping mechanisms of life making through both informal and formal arrangements. Informal settlements are transition zones often located along the peripheral waste lands of cities as places of survival by the vulnerable groups. They are also the places of the encounter of formal and informal arrangements and amalgamation of rural and urban processes. What are the conditions, processes and practical solutions that operate into slums as transitional zones of encounter and survival? The paper aims to expand such knowledge drawing upon observations from empirical work carried out recently in the informal settlements of Coimbatore (India). The research main goal is to map socio-spatial networks intertwining settlement patterns and diverse forms of social organization, demographic profiles and access to health, education and transport, and redevelopment/resettlement projects, policies and schemes. A preliminary outline of such mapping will be illustrated in the paper.

Micro-segregation and social mix. The case of four apartment blocks in Athens

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The aim of this presentation is to discuss the changes of tenure patterns and the ethnic and social composition of the typical apartment blocks in the densely built neighbourhoods of central Athens, and to connect them with the harmonious or conflictual cohabitation of their residents. The evidence presented will be based on four apartment blocks I investigated thoroughly in the past few months (May 2020-May 2021) located in four neighborhoods of the Municipality of Athens with relatively different social profiles (Ampelokipi, Ano Kypseli, Ano Patisia and Agios Konstantinos-Plateia Vathis).

These apartment blocks are among the 28 I have already worked on, in the context of the project "Apartment blocks in Athens—The structure of the housing stock and its impact on the city's social geography" funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (ELIDEK/HFRI). The project is focused on the high-rise areas of Athens, where there are different and sometimes contradictory testimonies about the forms and conditions of cohabitation. These high-rise areas are characterized by micro-segregation (i.e., social hierarchies in the micro-space of apartment blocks and, in particular, among residents living in upper versus lower floors). However, in Athens and in general in cities of South European countries, deprivation is often micro-segregated in socially mixed areas. The question is whether changes in tenure and micro-segregation forms have significantly affected (in a positive or negative way) the ways different social and ethnic groups are living together in close proximity and cope with everyday life.

Proximity healthcare during COVID-19: the experience of women caregivers in Zambia's informal settlements

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Formal healthcare systems across the globe often present barriers of access for people living on the margins of society. This relationship is mediated by factors such as distance, cost, and availability, as well as more complex elements such as cultural beliefs, stigmatization, embodied experiences, and colonial histories. For slum communities, the COVID-19 pandemic worsened the already blatant spatial segregation through unrealistic lockdowns and social distancing policies. This further strained insufficient healthcare infrastructures where testing, contact tracing, hospitalization and even vaccination were scarce and difficult to access. This frequently drives slum dwellers to alternative, informal and/or community healthcare providers.

This research concentrates on proximity healthcare, defined as all forms of healthcare provided within a given settlement. It may or may not be state-sanctioned or provided by members of slum communities, community health workers, faith-based organizations, indigenous healers and alternative medical practices, among other options. We focus our analysis on women caretakers that live in self-built urban settlements because their interaction with healthcare systems is twofold: they must tend to themselves and to those they care for. While there is ample literature on the relationship between informal settlement dwellers and healthcare systems, there seems to be a gap in knowledge about the situation of women caretakers. Our research aims at understanding what lessons can be drawn from this relationship during the COVID-19 pandemic to improve healthcare systems for people living on the margins of society.

The analysis presented is based on semi-structured interviews and participant observation with female caretakers in two slum communities in Zambia to understand how they perceive and experience healthcare access for themselves and the people they care for, and what factors drive their decisions to seek healthcare.

Reviving the terraces: the case of Ciutat Vella district (Barcelona, Spain)

Dr. Ana Belén Cano-hila¹, Dr. Montserrat Simó¹, Dr. Marc Pradel-Miquel¹

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This contribution presents and describes the Reviure els Terrats project (Reviving the terraces), awarded in the 2021 call for extraordinary grants for research and innovation projects in collaboration between the Barcelona City Council and La Caixa Foundation.

The main objectives of the project are to co-design, prototype and assess the applicability of low-cost solutions in the community space of the terraces, to improve the quality of life during the ageing of residential communities, from a perspective of gender and care as a central axis, as well as from the collaboration between the institutional fabric, civil society and university.

In coherence with the objectives set, an interdisciplinary and mixed methodological strategy is proposed, by means of which the terraces of the Ciutat Vella district will be analysed on the basis of three dimensions: community, accessibility and typology. And the proposals to be developed, combining the needs and opportunities of the neighbourhood, are articulated around 6 areas of action: a) care and health; b) habitability; 3) safety; 4) resilience; 5) inclusion; 6) sustainability.

The main contributions of this research are, on the one hand, to make visible a catalogue of micro-projects and prototypes of integral solutions to the revitalisation of community rooftops as spaces for socialisation, from a bottom-up and participatory perspective. And, on the other hand, to value the capacity of the

smaller scale of socio-architectural intervention, exploring its potential and limits in relation to the impact on the quality of life of older people and their communities.

Slum Archipelago: from spatial imaginary to social reality

Sr. Rodrigo Limoeiro¹

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After this brief introduction of the events and contextualization of the emergence slums, especially in the city of Rio de Janeiro, this work intends to discuss the housing process witnessed in favelas in the light of the concepts of double dwellers (Bodnár, 2001) and islandness (Baldacchino, 2006), where through constructed scenarios the author will analyze the perspective in a context of migratory flow from other states from Brazil to the city of Rio de Janeiro and, on the other hand, the change of place of residence located in the central area of the city to more remote areas. In order to complement the understanding, the concept of islandness will be discussed in order to seek a brief understanding of the “hill-asphalt” dichotomy.

Social Cohesion in Ethnically Diverse and Low-Income European Neighborhoods: The Importance of Inter-ethnic Ties.

Mr. Rui Carvalho¹

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European cities have been receiving growing numbers of international migrants in the last decades. This has led to a rising number of studies examining the effects of migration-driven ethnic diversity for the livelihoods and cohesion of European neighborhoods. Many such works have found a negative association between ethnic diversity and social cohesion, especially in low-income and socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. Importantly, such works have also shown that these negative effects are moderated by the quality of social and especially interethnic contact with neighbors. Yet, extant works usually consider only one dimension of social cohesion, and measure interethnic contact as casual (weak) ties or using attitudinal variables. I expand on this literature by uncovering what types of interethnic contact (intimate ties, casual ties, conflictual interactions) affect which dimensions (belonging, solidarities, safety and collective efficacy) of social cohesion. I use data from a survey applied to the migrant and autochthonous residents of fifteen ethnically diverse, low-income neighborhoods located in five European cities (Bilbao, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; Rotterdam, Netherlands; Thessaloniki, Greece; Vienna, Austria). Computing logistic regression models predicting various dimensions of social cohesion, I find that: (a) casual interethnic ties are positively associated with a stronger neighborhood attachment, whereas having no impact on feelings of safety; (b) intimate interethnic ties have a positive effect on neighborhood attachment, as well as on collective efficacy and attitudes towards safety; (c) conflictual interethnic contacts are associated with lower neighborhood attachment, but do not impact feelings of safety; (d) the effects of intimate interethnic ties on cohesion vary more across sociodemographic features (who you are), whereas the effects of casual ties depend more on one’s practices (what you do). These results highlight the importance of viewing interethnic ties and social cohesion as multifaceted concepts, shaped differently by demographic, cognitive and behavioral aspects, as well as by neighborhood characteristics.

Towards a Sense of Community in the Fringes of Cities: a Qualitative Study in Almere Poort, the Netherlands

Ms. Francesca Ranalli¹

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With the increasing urbanization, the development of the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam (MRA) has extended the city's demographics and gentrification processes out of its physical borders. Almere is among the main cities in MRA and one of the fastest growing cities in Europe. As a land reclaimed from the sea, the pioneering feeling that started Almere is less prominent nowadays and its character is still symbolically and socially developing. Every district has its own features, reflecting particular socio-cultural space production and Almere Poort is the space in-between urban and suburb, being the first district entering Almere from Amsterdam. Seeing the increasing polarization between centres and peripheries, makes significant the problematization of Sense of Community (SoC) under contemporary socio-political conditions. This abstract reflects a PhD research, analysing the way a SoC can develop through participatory planning and urban design in Almere Poort. Those elements play a key role in activating social ties, especially in the absence of historical community roots, typical of core-cities and historical satellite towns. The article presents the results of an extensive qualitative and ethnographic study through 40 interviews and four walk-along discussions (in-person and online) with professionals and diverse groups of residents, alongside ethnographic and artistic research methods on commons with local schools. The research has been funded by the local government to develop community-building policies. The results show tension between the urban and peri-urban that manifests through a contested need for a village feeling, emphasized by the poly-nuclear structure, and a recognizable urban vision, to enable place attachment. The analysis of residents' emotions indicates that certain participatory approaches can address the needs of specific age-groups and vulnerable people. Additionally, the increasing social diversity resulting from the socio-spatial mix planning and the migration from the core-city, underlines the importance of inclusive spaces of encounter for overcoming marginalization.

Why poor people leave state housing in South Africa: getting along or getting on?

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Since the end of apartheid rule in 1994, South Africa's governmental has significantly invested in the provision of low-cost housing as a means to fight the legacy of apartheid and an ever-increasing urban housing shortage. The delivery of 'free housing' and the related promotion of homeownership among non-white urban poor should not only fight informal housing and historical inequality but also promote socio-economic progress of so-called beneficiaries. However, many people have left state houses leading to anger among state representatives, confused about beneficiaries throwing away their most valuable asset while moving back to shacks. From a conceptual perspective, indeed, scholars have raised doubts whether people would move upwards if they sell or let state houses. Rather, they expect them to be forced to accept worse living conditions as a result of inappropriately located and inflexible state housing and the related inability to sustain a living inside the house (cf. Lemanski 2011; 2014; Charlton 2018; Cirolia and Scheba 2019).

However, so far hardly any research has looked closely at the experiences, rationales, and strategies behind people's decision to leave 'free housing'. What does motivate them, where do they move, and why? Do they leave to survive or because they aspire to something better? In this paper, I analyse 'leaving' from people's perspectives, based on biographical interviews with 27 people that sold or let their state houses in

the Gauteng City Region. I argue that for many people, 'leaving' can connect to long-term life and housing ambitions while simultaneously being a means to cope with shocks, mass poverty, and persistent inequality. Stressing the macroeconomic and societal embeddedness of housing projects, 'leaving' may be understood as people-led reconfigurations of social policy, challenging normative dualisms of downward vs. upward mobility and progress vs. failure.

PANEL No.23: Nurturing urban solidarities in exceptional times

Conveners | Stijn Oosterlynck, Lise Dheedene, Elisabet Van Wymeersch, *University of Antwerp, Antwerpen, Belgium*

(Dis)cohesion in urban neighbourhoods – negotiating solidarities in daily encounters

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Which forms and figurations of solidarity do exist in urban neighbourhoods and how do they come to play in (extra)ordinary times? We conceptualise neighbourhoods as socio-spatial entities functioning as places for establishing weak ties as lived, learned and felt cohesion experienced in and through encounters. As contingent sites, neighbourhoods do not offer constantly given solidarity as they change over time – in aspects of quality, accessibility and availability of infrastructures as well as in composition and distribution of residents. Therefore, we assume that neighbourly cohesion is a negotiated, situated, and contested form of solidarity; politically intended and nurtured by questions of welfare and analysable as micro level interactions, which manifest contexts and constellations of encounter at the locale scale. With that said, the construct of social cohesion in contemporary world society is a priori seen as cohesion of the unlike – varying regionally and culturally. Looking at super-diverse surroundings residents are more often confronted with otherness what makes feelings of uncertainty, insecurity and narratives of schisms more probable. Taken this into account, we embed our empirics in a mixed-method-approach by comparing two contrasting districts in the city of Hanover, Germany. Focusing on the emerging forms and figurations of (dis)cohesion as kind of solidarity we present findings on the facilitating role of indifference as urban habit of expectancy and continuity between (un)known others. Perceiving and interacting with others in predominantly ephemeral encounters helps to negotiate (new) norms of neighbourly togetherness as solidarity and to get along with each other in a more functional pragmatic way. This attitude creates, what Talja Blokland and Julia Nast once called public familiarity within a comfort zone institutionalized by acquaintanceship. As developed in integrated or (re)arranged routines, conviviality and conflict represent an unagitated normality which can be activated in times of crisis.

Central movements and peripheral organisations of food sovereignty in Hungary

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Localised food production prevails in Central and Eastern Europe to a higher extent than in Western Europe, yet these practices are less incorporated in civic action related to food sovereignty and are rather a means to overcome household income shortage. While urban projects of food system transformation are labelled as progressive, backyard farming – being characteristic to many households – is rather seen as outdated and fall outside of movement interest. In Hungary, the reasons for that partly rests in the particularities of post-socialist development of civil society. After the 2008 crisis, formerly missing holistic and system-critical features of the green movement began to unfold. More recently, in response to the global pandemic, emergent civic mobilisation fostered self-organisation and mutual assistance to arising problems stemming from the many layers of the crisis – climate and ecological crisis, global economic insecurity, precarious livelihoods and housing, and an increasingly widespread care and food crisis. Addressing these issues, the forming Budapest-based HerStory collective intends to integrate the ideals and criteria of environmental protection, issues of food, care, feminism, and social solidarity in a complex way. Combining experiences of both civic action and academic literature, the members of the collective intend to explore urban-rural connections and divides between typically Budapest-based civic groups playing an important role in the food sovereignty movement, and rural local initiatives facilitating environmental education, permaculture, community farming (CSA), and the formation of basket communities. The present study is based on 28 in-depth semi-structured interviews, focusing on women’s perspective in these local initiatives with the aim of strengthening the voice of (rural) women residing in the more peripheral fringes of green movements. Results reveal structural constraints that women experience with small-scale food production and hierarchies among the agents of the movement that shape the path of collective action.

Failed Solidarities: Crisis, Corona, and Networks of Mutual Aid in Turkey

Prof. Begüm Özden Fırat¹

¹*Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, İstanbul, Turkey*

In this presentation, I look at the the predicament of neighborhood-oriented pandemic solidarity groups that emerged responding to the social urgencies created by the COVID-19 pandemic in Turkey. I hope to open up a discussion concerning when and where this form and level of organization, gathered around the ideals of direct democracy, reciprocity, and solidarity, failed by considering pandemic solidarity networks established in the first wave of the pandemic, which understood local everyday space/scale and everyday life as a political ground. I focus on the social, cultural, and political contexts in which movements emerge and argue that such local movements cannot fulfill their potentials due to structural conditions. I put forward six dynamics paving the way of ‘failure’: the first two factors are related to the organizational forms, demands, and repertoires of solidarity networks (Politics of the scale of the neighborhood and The omission of the gendered relations of the household), the other four are related to the emergence of populist authoritarian regimes and the socio-historical structuring of urban neighborhoods and the entrenched culture of cooperation (The politics of Kulturkampf and organizing among ‘strangers like me’; the populist politics of the state and local governments; The pressure of already existing local networks of ‘solidarity’; Blurring of conceptualizations of charity and solidarity).

These factors, related to the restructuring of the state and the formation of authoritarian populist regimes in the last decade, have been present since before the pandemic started. The ways in which the state has dealt with the consequences of lockdowns and social distancing seem to have reinforced the effects of

these factors on the neighborhood level. While the practices of solidarity include powerful practices and ideals set forth by our movements, I argue that they run the risk of being 'incorporated' by populist regimes and their opponents alike.

From Above, but Bottom up: Faith Based Solidarity Initiatives in the City

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In many countries national and municipal authorities increasingly recognise the importance of bottom-up solidarity initiatives in building a care system operating in closer proximity to their citizens. However, governments also struggle to adequately capture the field of actors currently providing these forms of support and care. Faith-based solidarity initiatives (FBSIs) are prominent among these actors, as they often go beyond restrictive rights-based criteria in their aid work and provide care to those most in need. Yet they often struggle to get recognised as actors that play an essential role in the welfare system. This paradox is both embedded in and sustained by the welfare system and its instruments. Our paper draws on perspectives from sociology, social work and religious studies to explain how this paradox affects the identities and practices of FBSIs. We focus on the interactions between welfare state actors and FBSIs in the urban context of five Flemish cities. By analysing how FBSIs perceive (1) subsidies from the municipalities and (2) the impact of (local) social maps - two instruments used by governments in their interactions with solidarity organisations, and constitutive for the struggle for recognition of FBSIs. Based on interviews and group meetings with representatives of FBSIs and welfare state representatives, we show how social maps and public subsidies pressure FBSIs to adapt to the logic employed by formal actors of the national welfare state. While both instruments are commonly used by governments to recognise and support bottom-up solidarity initiatives, they also fail to recognise faith-based solidarity workers as experts and partners in the welfare system. This lopsidedness limits opportunities for collaboration and complementary, while keeping FBSIs' fruitful practices of care and support unseen and ill-understood. By making this paradox visible we give both municipal governments and faith-based solidarity initiatives the tools for better future collaboration.

From Athens with "Love, Offerings, Solidarity": Scales of Religious Aid in the Urban Context

Ms. Hannah Howard¹

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In Athens - a city home to a third of the Greek population and the headquarters of the Orthodox Church of Greece - religious solidarity is not so much emerging anew as re-emergent. Nearly 80 years after the establishment of the Organization of Christian Solidarity (Organismos Christianikis Allileggyis), both individual parishes and the Church's various organizations increasingly rely on the language of solidarity to describe their charitable projects around the city. From liturgical homilies to poster advertisements, distributions of food, clothing, and care writ large are explained as expressions of a solidaritarian love rooted in theological instructions to "see all people as brothers," as one interlocutor explained. Through an ethnographic lens, this paper looks at the daily, nearly banal, realities of multiple parish-based meals programs (sussitia) in Athens in order to tease out the limits of such brotherhood. I ask, to what extent do

workers, volunteers, and parish priests link this provision to their faith and on whose behalf? How, or how not, are people brought into a collective through this provision? By studying these parish centers in relation to both the larger secular and the more specific state faces of solidarity in the city, I highlight the ways in which the Church may seek to simultaneously influence and set itself apart from systems of social solidarity through varying scales of ritual practice.

Just filling the gap? Pro-migrant volunteering and the emergence of solidarities between majority society's members and immigrants in Milan

Dr. Maurizio Artero¹

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Phenomena like the establishment of 'sanctuary cities' in North America and the mobilisation of people in European cities during the 'migration crisis' underscore, once again, how cities are favourable sites for the emergence of majority society's pro-migrant initiatives that contribute to the battleground of migration (Ambrosini 2021). In particular, as observed by a growing number of scholars, such initiatives represent forms of solidarity that transcend the national dimension and its logic (e.g., Hamann and Karakayali 2016; Glick Schiller 2016; Nowicka, Krzyzowski and Ohm 2019; Schwiertz and Schwenken 2020).

This presentation deals with the initiatives of pro-migrant volunteers active in organisations of Scuole Senza Permesso (translatable as 'Schools without Permission'), a network of voluntary groups founded to provide language education to immigrants in Milan, Italy. Milan is the major Italian city with the highest share of non-Italian residents, and during the 'migration crisis' was particularly affected by the arrival of asylum-seekers (Artero 2019; Bazurli 2019; Sinatti 2019). Its institutionalized welfare sector often fails to address the needs of the immigrant population, especially of its most 'marginalized' segments. Against this backdrop, civil society organisations often step up to fill the gaps concerning welfare provisions in domains such as education.

Based on in-depth interviews with volunteers of Scuole Senza Permesso, the presentation explores the meanings of their volunteering. In particular, it aims to show tensions and ambiguities characterising their operation vis-à-vis the institutional governance of migration. Indeed, whereas such initiatives take on integrational tasks for the benefit of the State, and thus can be accused of allying with the State in the governmentality of migration, against a background of growing nationalism, volunteering appears to develop people's empathy and solidarity beyond national belonging, questioning the division between citizens and non-citizens, and provide important resources of local citizenship.

Muslim Women and the Mosque Space: Ethnographic case-studies around Jamia Nagar Locality, Delhi.

Ms. Sobia Hamid Bhat¹

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Mosques are important sites for the organisation of the Muslim urban life-scape. In the Habermasian sense, Mosque can be understood as a 'Public Sphere' where Muslims from all classes, castes, ethnicities come together not just to pray but in discourses, not just about religion but politics, social life, business, sports, market etc. Increasing scholarship has highlighted the way mosques have often emerged as frontiers for the formations of solidarity and networking in the exceptional situations of political or social order. Sadly, in the case of South-Asia mosques have mostly been studied only from the architectural or historical perspective. There is an absolute dearth of sustained academic scholarship on taking them as

objects of sociological study, especially the ones that centre women's experiences around these spaces. Women's access to the ritual spaces has been limited to studying their relationship with the mazaars and dargahs and accessibility to these spaces has been conflated with the general accessibility to the religious spaces within Islam in South Asia. This has led anthropologists to overlook the tapestries within which the gender imagination in Islam is constructed around the mosque space. Using the examples from the ethnographic fieldwork that I conducted around some mosques in the Jamia Nagar locality of Delhi and also relying upon my own experiences as a Muslim woman, I try to bring attention to the ways in which women live their lives around the mosque forming bonds of sisterhood and solidarity. I delve into the ways in which Mosques in this area are hugely gendered spaces in which women are often marginalised /excluded limiting their religious choices in the public space.

Reconsidering religious solidarity in the secular city. A historical analysis of catholic urban solidarity in Brussels (1965-1970)

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After the Second World War, European societies became increasingly secularised, causing religion to lose its place in public life and retreating into the private sphere. Instead of conceding to this less visible role, religious authorities turned their gaze to the city as a place par excellence where the Church still had a public role to play, especially in solidarity actions. In Belgium, a highly urbanised country where Catholicism enjoyed a quasi-monopoly, this urban turn of the clergy was clearly noticeable. While in the first half of the twentieth century the Church was primarily concerned with the religious countryside, after the war it started working on a new connection with the 'secular' city. Two simultaneous events in Brussels show both the theoretical thought process and practical implementation of this urban gaze. Theoretically, the Brussels Vicariate dedicated its pastoral meetings from 1965 until 1970 to aligning the Church's mission with the new urban reality in Brussels, making community building and (interreligious) solidarity the core of Catholicism's public face. Vicar Jacques Van der Biest put these ideas into practise: he strengthened community ties in the Marolles neighbourhood by identifying the uniqueness and common values of the Marolles, and by launching pluralistic solidarity-initiatives connected to the Marolles (e.g. an Arabic-Muslim reception centre). This approach bore fruit when, in 1969, the city government decided to destroy the Marolles slums out of solidarity with the poor inhabitants. Instigated by the Marolliens, Van der Biest countered the city's nationally implemented solidarity for the poor with a locally anchored solidarity with the poor, focusing on the preservation of the community. Through an analysis of documentaries, interviews, newspaper articles and meeting reports, I will show how religious actors remained active in the secularising public sphere by countering the metropolitan logic of the state with small-scale, customised forms of solidarity.

Regulating the civil urge to care: tiny houses for the homeless

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Over the past decade, tiny houses emerged as solution to housing problems including homelessness and in the US there are now more than 100 tiny house villages for the homeless (Evans 2020). While drivers and functions of these new places are yet unclear (ibid.), this rapid development speaks to a growing civil urge to care to address welfare state failures (Lancione 2014). Homeless advocacy organizations, charities, and various non-profit and faith-based organizations claim tiny house villages as alternative form of civil

solidarity with and for the homeless – but the question remains how such places of community care and self-help can challenge the managed persistence of structural homelessness or just create new niches of confinement that complement and thus stabilize punitive homeless management (Speer 2018). The paper addresses these questions by examining the conditions for establishing tiny house villages through a comparative analysis of cities in the US and relates findings to Berlin's similar tiny house experiments (Lutz 2021). Using theories of commoning and poverty governance, the paper traces how this contested homeless service and illegal land use advances as immediate, low cost alternative homeless service recognized by local government. The analysis examines local regulations as struggle between local stakeholders and develops a typology differentiating conditions of location, access, and use to show how resources of civil society (e.g. land - often provided by churches-, material, donations) are mobilized into networks of solidarity that produce and operate these places. The self-help of homeless communities is central to sustain these places but their autonomy and self-government is integrated only selectively. Discussing these tensions and compromises between logics and possible solidarities of self-help, charity and the welfare state, the conclusion argues for more nuanced and relational analysis of such ambiguous experiments to identify transformative potentials of incremental solidarity practices (Huron 2018).

Religiosity in the making: An ethnographic study in a modern mass housing project in Kayasehir - Istanbul

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Despite modernism's expectations of religious disenchantment, urban residents are increasingly drawn into religious ways of life. The women's mosque movement in Egypt (Mahmood 2012) and the popularity of the Catholic broadcaster Radio Maryja in Poland (Poblocki 2020) are some reflections of the occurrent religious solidarities-cum-ways of life. In contexts where secularism was an intrinsic part of modernization reforms in national liberation movements, an increasing number of religious organizations have induced public dispute over the normative principles organizing society. This study aims to deepen our understanding of the increasing appeal of religiosity in rapidly urbanizing and historically secularized societies through a case study from Turkey. Following the Islamist parties coming into power in the last two decades, first in Istanbul and then in Turkey, various forms of religious solidarities (eg. Islamic sects) have become more influential as a way of life. Studies on socio-political change in Turkey have focused on the broader structures of capitalism and repressed ideologies for the explanation of increasing religious solidarities, while ordinary experiences of religious urban residents have not been scrutinized. This study seeks to understand how religiosity becomes an organizing principle of contemporary everyday life by focusing on the norms, moralities and subjectivities that underpin the particular ways of living together. With its identical high-rise apartment blocks, Kayasehir mass housing estate in Istanbul follows the spatial organization of 'modern' housing that has long been associated with secular middle classes. The social relations that come about in this place, however, contrast the secular social practices by its Islamic tone. With an ethnographic study of the neighbourly relations, religious organizations and Islamist political parties in Kayasehir – as the carriers of norms, moralities and subjectivities - this study will examine how religious solidarity came into being in a modern housing project constructed in the last decade.

Seeing the visible and the invisible: Homelessness, poverty and community care in medium and small sized cities

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The paper explores, through case studies in medium-sized and small cities, alternatives in welfare provision and care for homeless people at the local level, focusing on the transition from public intervention to the involvement of civil society. The study draws on the Greek experience and the South European welfare state which, mostly affected by the economic crisis and austerity policies, curtailed the access of vulnerable low-income groups to public services and, to some extent, justified the emergence of welfare chauvinism, especially after 2015, when immigration flows and the detention centres emerged on the city peripheries. In this context, community-based alternatives emerged to address visible and invisible poverty. Practices of community care, such as emergency shelters, special treatment centres and solidarity kitchens are some of the community initiatives at the local level. Collaboration or competition between different local actors and agencies are some of the contradictions and risks of local experiments. The involvement of civil society organisations, local or trans-local networks and private donors all play a diverse role which involves some risks, especially when local public authorities resort to a passive role in the provision of local welfare policies. In many cases, the roles of charities and the Church, as the traditional local welfare provider, are elevated.

In methodological terms, the article considers three case studies in order to identify the different institutional and policy responses to homelessness; these studies give rise to different forms of social care and community innovation. The empirical material is based on ethnographic fieldwork, interviews with welfare authorities, community-voluntary organizations and homeless people. Greek census data was also used for the population and housing conditions. The study denotes the erosion of state welfare provision and the growing localized responsibility for welfare delivery, and reveals potential areas of solidarity and protection of diminishing social rights.

The community as a source of resources and not of conflict? Ways of allocating social spending and forms of solidarity action in the Milanese metropolis (2010-2021).

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In recent years reflection on local welfare has become very mature. Cities, finding themselves having to deal with the continuity of social problems, the effects of the economic and social crises of 2008-13, and the profound transformations in the organisation of work, lifestyles and demographic structure, have developed the capacity for public funding of services provided by non-profit organisations, created new forms of budget control, and stipulated co-financing devices involving philanthropy and the varied world corporate social responsibility. Some steps have also been taken to open up market conditions for services with a higher social and standardisation component aimed at the middle class and for more automatic governance based on the use of IT platforms. In this context, many authors have insisted on a perverse negative effect of hysteria and withering away of local civil society. Instead, the pandemic seems to have spotlighted the importance of voluntary participation, solidarity, and conflictual nature, more youthful, taken up in direct action, without fixed organisational perimeters. Is this return changing, how the political and bureaucratic-administrative spheres view and interpret the wealth of the local community?

To answer this question, we have conducted a research in the metropolitan area of Milan, which considers both the city of Milan and three territories in the immediate peri-urban area (70 interviews, three focus-groups, 12 participant-observations). We found very rigid interpretations attributed by the actors to voluntary action and community mobilisation as a repository of knowledge and skills to be used and not as a political process of challenge and re-addressing to be confronted. In this sense, the paper develops a neo-Weberian approach to solidarity, neo-mutualism and local welfare to explain the weakness of the learning process, low reflexivity, selective innovation, and the organisational centrality of the allocation of monetary resources over the provision of services.

The Production of Place-Based Solidarities in Urban Markets: The Case of İstanbul Fatih Çarşamba Street Market

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Abstract: Street markets are significant urban places to examine alternative forms of place-based solidarities. The temporal rhythms of these places generate unplanned and bottom-up organized forms of mutual support among street vendors that differ explicitly from its institutionalized forms taking place within the boundary of national and local systems and policies. By analyzing what street vendors do at the local level, one can comprehend how urbanites navigate through different trajectories by not following the paths presented to them. In this study, I focus on the alternative forms of place-based solidarities produced by the everyday practices of street vendors working at the FÇM (Fatih Çarşamba Market). Based on ethnographic fieldwork from 2019 to 2021 and in-depth interviews with street vendors, I will analyze in this paper how street vendors act and construct their narratives in accordance with their ‘invisible’ moral values that become the constituent of the place-based solidarities. More specifically, I seek to address how street vendors create distinctive forms of solidarities narrated with the image of “family” isolated from its tensions and contested practices that transform the market into an emotional atmosphere.

Conceptualizing the solidarity among vendors as mandatory market practice, I will illustrate two alternative place-based solidarities: a) ‘unplanned solidarity’ generated by everyday practices at the market, and b) economic solidarity that strengthens the social relationships of street vendors.

Key Words: Street markets, street vendors, everyday practices, place-based solidarities, the Fatih Çarşamba Market.

Transnational space of (non)autonomy: the case of Iranian feminist and queer activism

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This analysis draws on feminist and urban geography literature to examine formations of transnational solidarities among Iranian feminist and queer activists inside and outside of the country. It interrogates practical and discursive issues faced by these activists in the context of increased state repression and growing geopolitical conflict in the Middle East. Under the condition of intensified nationalist discourses, political dissidents including feminist and queer activists are perceived by Iranian authorities as threats to national security and political stability. As such, feminist and queer activists are challenged by two broad issues: establishing long-term strategies to confront the Islamic State’s violence against women and gender

and sexual minorities' rights, on the one hand, and addressing legitimacy concerns that associate them with opposition groups in diaspora with alleged financial and political ties to Western states. Despite the hostile political environment against feminist and queer activism, in the past couple of years digital and physical platforms have been utilized in creative ways by activists to assert their rights claims. While digital and social media have been effectively used for establishing transnational solidarities that challenge state's discriminations against subordinated groups, studies have also shown users have to deal with platform biases (Alimardani and Elswah 2021), such as content removal and account restrictions as well as emerging forms of "networked authoritarianism" (Mckinnon 2010) that undermine democratic and liberating characteristics of social media. Drawing on discourse analysis of "hashtag feminism" (Conley 2021) circulating on Twitter and Instagram platforms, this study analyses how content manipulation and appropriation as well as technical glitches and interventions by local and global actors within the digital sphere have posed serious challenges to advance feminist and queer urban and virtual forms of activism in the Iranian context.

Urban Solidarities and Migrants: An Encounter, Aspirations and Contradictions

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This paper is a part of my PhD dissertation titled 'Refugee, Agency, City,' which grew out of an ethnography conducted in Milan, Italy, motivated by a search for collective claim making projects of refugees in the years following Europe's 2015 so-called refugee crisis. The research engages with some of the projects formed in the encounter of self-organizing solidarity groups from social movements and associations in the city and migrants, organized around principles and practices such as migrants' protagonism, mutual aid, welfare from below, and the commons. These practices have strived for putting solidarity against structural racism, racial capitalist exploitation, colonial legacy, methodological nationalism, and the refugee governance which has been managing migration in keywords of crisis, humanitarianism, and assistentialism. In light of these principles and endeavors, I put forth some of the conditions under which these solidarities in the encounters with migrants were being incarnated into the materiality of projects of claim making around issues such as housing struggles, claiming asylum seekers' rights in refugee camps, claiming regular jobs and social recognition. In doing so, I look from two perspectives; one, the relationships that these self-organizing projects make with institutions. Second, the internal dynamics of those projects. With regard to their relations with institutions, I look at the alliances they make with other groups, as well as the strategies they choose in relating or avoiding relations with institutions, and the challenges, opportunities, and obstacles they face. With regard to internal dynamics, I look at some of the tensions in an encounter which, in se, is situated within and against asymmetric power relations. By bringing up some of the tensions and contradictions from the ground, I try to unpack some of the aspects which in a dialectical way, are shaping the panorama of self-organizing solidarity for migrants' protagonism in the place.

PANEL No.24: Ordinarily Massive: Revitalizing Approaches to Large Scale Urbanization

Conveners | Abdoumalig Simone, *The Urban Institute, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom*

Dismantling the Urban "Public": The Simultaneous Decline of Public Space & Active Citizenship in Contemporary Chennai

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The modern megacity of Chennai is seen as one of the great centres of urban life in the Indian subcontinent. A city of cultural, economic and political significance, Chennai has undergone tremendous “growth” and transformation in the Post-Independence era. This process can largely be attributed to two consequential yet opposing forces—the state and the squatter—each of which has appropriated and eroded the city’s public realm. In this process, the city has prioritised (and continues to prioritise) the growth of its physical infrastructure which is seen as the ultimate symbol of “progress” in the modern city. As a result, contemporary Chennai has countless buildings, vehicles, flyovers and elevated railway lines. Yet, it has little space for its actual citizens within its urban fabric.

Over time, public spaces within the city have been gradually and systematically eroded away and replaced by pseudo-public spaces like malls, theatres and restaurants. Citizen interactions are thus highly programmed and/or surveilled, especially in the case of marginalised citizens who are not afforded equal access or agency. The disintegration of Chennai’s urban fabric has significantly impacted its social fabric, now characterised by fragmented social networks and deteriorating citizen engagement. The citizens have developed a passive resilience to the myriad of civic issues plaguing the city and this may be attributed to the lack of opportunities for collective dialogue and action.

Within the above-mentioned scenario, this paper explores the role of public spaces as key infrastructural elements in the city and their relationship to citizen engagement and action. Furthermore, it traces the transformation of urban spaces in Chennai through history to establish the local context, based on which, it will present alternative conceptions of localised and decentralised public spaces that catalyse community participation. This paper is a result of the studies carried out during the Local Pathways Fellowship (2021).

Engaging ordinary materials: Racialised assemblages in an expanding city

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The dramatic expansion of African cities in the form of “new city” development has become the object of much scholarly literature. These projects have been criticised for reproducing urban inequalities by favouring elitist visions that draw funds away from the poorest to support the desires of the wealthy. These critiques have leaned heavily on the proposed oneiric reorganisations of the built environment that imply the substantive remaking of urban life. Elided, however, by the awe and revulsions that these images evoke are the repetitions of longstanding subtle practices of city-making that have shaped not only African cities, but cities across the Global South. This paper approaches new city development as caught between its aesthetic pretensions of dramatically remaking space while in fact reproducing the imperial formations that have long informed official practices of city-making across much of the African continent. It does this by showing how historically racialised notions of design, place, and materials are imbricated in contemporary

practices of planning and new city building in Luanda, Angola. Understanding the urban worlds produced by specific assemblages of materials and designs enables the possibility of recognising master planning and new city building in the Global South, not as a radical departure from the status quo but a moment along the spectrum of historical practices of city making. Massive urbanisation whether in the form of officially sanctioned projects or everyday unofficial construction finds itself regulated by nested micro-patterns of ideological and material reproduction, revealing logics of ordering across scale and form.

Expanding Cairo at Times of the “Maybe”: Massive Urban and Financial Incompleteness

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In the global South, the state engages in (in)calculable sensibilities with massive development projects, where the obscurity of growth becomes an atmospheric volume for control, dominance and the remaking of the state at large. This paper examines the register of incompleteness through investigating Cairo’s new administrative capital (NAC). Precisely, I focus on how the state is using a tabula rasa project of 175,000 acres (estimated to inhabit 6.5 million) at the desert edge, divided in improvised and sporadic parcels, is helping the “new republic” of Sisi to figure out how to manage the city and its population. Rather than a definite implementation of the new masterplan, there is an inherent tenet of incompleteness and break with every stage and agreement since the inception of NAC in 2015. I argue that the attribute of incompleteness aids a struggling regime to buy time to gain legitimacy and rethink a set of issues related to: 1) re-positioning the state within a broader South-to-South regional alliances, 2) extract maximum conversions for further military control with respect to civilian issues of land, architecture, planning and economic engagement in real-estate, and 3) re-arrange the inner city’s pockets of revolt in a post-revolutionary era. I conclude that massive projects are intended for (in)completeness, where they are built complete or not, they serve as an art of governmentality at a time of the maybe.

Métropolisation: Getting to Grips with the Axiomatic City-State From the Periphery

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In our attempt to arrive at a material understanding of the production of urban peripheries as a space, we will need analytically, politically, and geographically credible re-conceptualisations capable both of explaining the political economic generation of urban peripheries and of articulating experiences of urban peripheralization. The epistemic reappraisals of Critical Urban Theory, the heuristic objectives of Public Geography, and the decentring proclivities in Critical Geopolitics, all make this endeavour particularly demanding. They challenge us to fashion our analyses between the deconstruction of extant sociological categories and the need to establish a more formal framework for analysis to be communicable, purposive, organised, and useful. The task then is to find the conceptual tools for analysis of urban peripheralization that are both epistemically sophisticated and practically useful for reconstituting critical discourses beyond mere deconstruction.

Through the concept of the ‘axiomatic city-state’, I want to approach the phenomenon of ‘métropolisation’ in a way that can help us to grasp critically the ways in which spatial peripheries are produced and reproduced. By ‘systematically revising’ the city-state concept, within the problematique of planetary urbanisation, the reworking of the city-state as an ‘inherited concept’ can contribute to a more protean,

reflexive, and epistemologically sensitive spatial analysis of peripheralization in advanced capitalism, but in a way that is practically useful for critique from the subordinate position of the periphery.

The 'axioms' of métropolisation – neither theoretical propositions nor ideological formulas, but operative statements that constitute the semiological form of capital and that enter as component parts into assemblages of production, circulation, and consumption – will allow us to understand how the city exceeds the urban form or the built environment. Crucially, it allows us to shift focus away from the centre to peripheries in a way that the infinite extension of the 'urban' prevents.

(See also... <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Global-Cities-in-the-History-and-Politics-of-World-Ecology>).

New forms of metropolitan governance developed in the Global South: metropolitan governance and planning in Bucaramanga, Colombia

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In the Global South, the way that voluntary metropolitan agreements operate in specific geographic contexts to solve large-scale issues has been overlooked in current literature. Metropolitan governance agreements, such as inter-municipal cooperation schemes, are an important part of the associative mechanisms that have arisen in Latin America to address metropolitanisation phenomena.

This research seeks to understand why and how metropolitan planning practices operate in the context of metropolitan governance in the Global South. The reconstruction of the trajectories of metropolitan issues in Bucaramanga, Colombia, in the last two decades, is the entry point of this study using qualitative methods in a case study approach. This study considers the interrelation between New Municipalism, metropolitan governance, and planning to examine the evolution of civic capital and political opportunity structures through metropolitan issues and metropolitan planning practices.

Preliminary results suggest that the evolution of different local coalitions forged by metropolitan needs to address metropolitan issues have been a consistent strategy over time. The local coalitions have created concrete strategies for spatial development motivated by shared environmental protection goals related to erosion on the Bucaramanga plateau.

In some cases, actions around metropolitan issues have not progressed as expected because power imbalances in the territory represent a challenge for communities; this imbalance affects community access to participation in political opportunity structures.

However, these challenges are being addressed in part because of access to legal instruments that allow for collective action, thereby facilitating the inclusion of community claims in the metropolitan agenda.

Understanding new, locally-produced forms of regional governance would help us understand how urban governance structures adapt to socio-spatial and political constructions as interventions that could shape city futures. Accordingly, the way these practices operate could bring insights into how metropolitan issues have been addressed locally through planning and governance structures in the Global South.

'Only a tricycle can reach'. Popular economies, infrastructures and urban mobility in Tamale.

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Focusing on urban space, popular economies and infrastructures the article discusses the tricycle business in Tamale (Ghana) and its ramifications for the city itself. Tricycles fast growth over the last decade allowed them to overtake taxis and trotros as main mode of urban transportation, posing both challenges and opportunities. Drawing on ethnographic research that focus mainly on various tricycle stations, among drivers and owners, the article argues that although tricycles are seen as a 'transient' business by institutions, drivers, owners and passengers, they are an essential service for the daily life of the city. Finally, I wish to go beyond the concept of informal infrastructure related to this mode of transportation in favor of a more broad 'popular infrastructure'.

Ordinarily Massive Urbanisation in Peri-Urban Lahore: Reassembling Access to Land amidst the Ravi Riverfront Urban Development Project

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On 31st January 2022, the Supreme Court of Pakistan suspended the Lahore High Court's decision to halt the Ravi Riverfront Urban Development Project (RRUDP), permitting the government to resume construction work. In August 2020, the Lahore Development Authority had launched of the RRUDP in the northern and western peripheries of the city of Lahore, Pakistan second largest city. The RRUDP is a massive urban planning project stretching over 46 km and covering ca. 414 km² of land—almost the size of present day Lahore's built up area. The 2015 draft of the RRUDP Strategic Development Plan already envisaged the displacement of dozens of villages, affecting more than 15,000 households, and 100,000 people. This makes the RRUDP the latest manifestation of massive urbanisation in Pakistan, that is leading to the engulfment of peri-urban lands and pre-existing rural settlements. If we consider Lahore's rapid, complex, and messy spatial transformation as an 'ordinary atmospheric condition', the focus necessarily shifts towards the embedded manifold operations and sensibilities that play a role in the dynamic and large scale reconfiguration of Lahore's peri-urban region. From this perspective, the RRUDP case raises questions around the in- and exclusionary role of planning in fostering or constraining people's access to land, housing, and services. Drawing upon insights gained from intermittent periods of fieldwork and the follow up of the case in the media, this paper explores the potential of an 'access-assemblages' approach to conceptualise and explore how access to urban resources is envisioned, experienced, disputed, and negotiated in the rapidly urbanizing peri-urban fringe of Lahore in general and in the RRUDP area in particular. Unfolding practices that enable or hinder actors' ability to access resources sheds light on the operations assembled in large scale urbanisation in Lahore and can serve as basis to rethink planning towards more inclusive approaches.

The Extended City in the Planetary Age

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A rich terrain of scholarship, emerging over the last decade and a half has contested the ideas of ‘cityness’ (Robinson 2002; Pieterse 2010) and ‘metrocentricity’ (Bunnell and Maringanti 2010) through extending the fabric of critical urban analysis ‘beyond the [world and metropolitan] city’, thus unsettling the rural-urban, and agro-urban binaries (eg., Schmid 2018; Castriota and Tonucci 2018; Balakrishnan 2019). Concomitantly, the rich and generative field of ‘southern urban theory’ has attempted to reclaim the city as a scale and site of southern practice (eg., Watson 2014; Bhan 2019). As the state and powerful actors attempt to unsettle existing ‘ordinary cities’ (Robinson 2006), pirate towns (Simone 2006) and ‘subaltern urbanisation’ (Denis, Mukhopadhyay, and Zerah 2012) beyond the metropolitan peripheries, it casts a pervasive uncertainty not only on the communities it attempts to unsettle, but also on its own project of extension. Thus, in extending the lens of urban analysis beyond the city, it is the modes of practice that embrace uncertainty, extensivity, and eventualities (Simone 2021) that need to be brought to the centre of critical attention. The framework of the extended city, attempts to do this through bringing critical urban theory into a postcolonial encounter, precisely through dwelling upon the notion of ‘cityness’ and ‘southern practice’ under extended urbanisation. Unlike the evolutionary or developmental projections such as the megacity, megalopolis, 100-mile city, the extended city doesn’t refer to the ‘increase of spatial volume and structuring effects’ (Simone 2021, 354) through the extension of agglomeration, or physical contiguity, but rather to how contradictory and irreconcilable processes are held together as a web of relations in extended territories. This contribution explores how uncertainty becomes a central constitutive feature of the extended city through discussing the dwelling, land tenure, ecological, and infrastructural uncertainties under the extended urbanisation in the Delhi Region.

PANEL No.25: Ordinary urban political institutions and the multiple exceptionalities of our times

Conveners | *Eduardo Marques, Center for Metropolitan Studies/University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil;*
Walter Nicholls, University of California Irvine, USA

Delhi 2019 – 2022. Shocks and institutional reactions in an (extra)ordinary global city.

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In the last three years, the metropolitan area of Delhi has seen the occurrence of multiple exceptional events, combining global, national, and local issues. The pandemic hit the city at a time of nationwide recession and months-long unrest due to discriminatory regulations on citizenship and religion. From the states of Assam and West Bengal, the protests have been spreading around the nation, culminating in the Capital at the beginning of 2020. After having hosted weeks-long peaceful protests, Delhi became a theatre of institutional violence and inter-religious riots in February 2020, with an overlapping of local and national ultra-conservative right-wing forces. The protests were further curbed by the institutional response to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in a sudden lockdown.

While most of the activities were shut down across India, leading thousands of precarious urban workers to move back to their villages, a large-scale urban development project was declared of national importance by the ultra-conservative forces: the Central Vista Project, a redesign of the Parliament of India and its surroundings. In September 2020, Parliament was at the core of a further shock hitting the nation and the city: the approval of three contentious reform laws for the farming sector. As a reaction, farmers from large parts of India marched towards the city and settled at its margins, in a sign of protest. Despite the attempts to repress the protests, the farmers have been resisting for more than one year now.

Based on ten-year-long research work on the relationship between urban development and the rise of right-wing ultra-conservative forces in India, and on recent in-person (2019) and remote interviews (2020-2022), the paper analyses the last years' shocks experienced by the (extra)ordinary global city of Delhi, the institutional responses to them, and the symbolic value of a redevelopment of "national importance".

Economic recession, political changes and shifts in 'urban regeneration' policy

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From a sociological point of view the concept of governance can be used to describe processes that regulate and mobilize social action. From this perspective, the central question in politics is that of which forms of governance to pursue in a particular instance in relation to specific concerns.

The aim of this paper is to analyse how – in a context of unprecedented economic recession, and amid changes in urban politics – new forms of governance were introduced in the field of urban regeneration.

The combination of factors that led to the economic crises in Portugal that followed the 2008-9 Global Finance Crisis is well known: high public debt reached unusually high levels during the period of the financial crisis; risk aversion increased, which in this context displaced capital flows to other core countries in search of greater security; and the Troika imposed harsh adjustment requirements imposed for a bailout loan. Yet the effects that this had on new forms of urban regeneration governance, policies, and practices in Portugal remain insufficiently explored.

This paper aims to fill a knowledge gap by describing:

- i) The effects – in terms of processes and policy outcomes – of the shift from 'non-market housing' led regeneration to a market-led approach based on fiscal incentives and loans to private investors.
- ii) How area-based regeneration initiatives and partnerships between actors within formal government and between formal government and the economy were used in an instrumental way to remove legal constraints (i.e. to make it possible to terminate a lease in order to undertake major renovation works); and
- iii) How these types of governance arrangements – with a project-based logic framed by specific strategies and goals – have led to diverse and at times conflicting results (involving trade-offs between social and economic objectives, and between sub-municipal scales).

How the urban matters: assessing the place-based social innovation capacity of urban civil society in Europe

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The relationship between cities and (national) states is a recurrent concern in European urban studies. Over the past decades, national states have found it increasingly difficult to wield power over organisations, practices and processes taking place at supra- and supranational scales and regulate societies. This declining 'scale dominance' of national states creates room for manoeuvre for cities to assert more autonomously political strategies, interventions and practices and structure and regulate urban societies. This increased scope for cities to acquire collective political agency and social regulatory power has been analyzed through very different, often opposing lenses such as neoliberal urbanism or urban age narratives. In this paper, I aim to assess the claims about the resurgence of the urban over the past decades by analyzing the role of European cities in addressing poverty and the challenges of living in diversity. I argue that the degree to which European cities have become effective collective actors can be assessed by focusing on their capacity to wield innovation. However, if we want to properly assess this capacity, we need to move beyond a reductionist focus on the agency of mayors, city councils and urban state bureaucracies and center on urban civil society and the multiple ways it has been experimenting – often with support of state institutions – with place-based strategies of social innovation against exclusion and initiatives that build solidarity across ethnic-cultural boundaries. On the basis of ten years of empirical research on cases of local social innovation and welfare state restructuring in different European welfare regimes and place-based practices of solidarity in diversity in different local contexts, I conclude that the urban does matter in regulating urban societies, but that this requires a perspective that focuses on the social innovation practices of urban civil society in relation to multi-scalar state institutions.

Institutional Creation as a Local Governance Response to Syrian Refugees: The case of Turkish municipalities

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External shocks constitute ideal moments for exploring the creation of new institutions as well as changes within existing ones. This paper treats the influx of Syrian refugees into Turkish urban centres as a critical juncture moment and investigates the changes in the local governance bodies as a result. Based on interviews, focus group discussions, and surveys with administrative and non- governmental actors involved in the local response to refugees, we explore the factors that contributed to the emergence of new institutions within municipalities and their institutionalization as bodies able to resist changes of municipal mayors across elections. We investigate how the newly created institutions matter for refugee policy response in looking at various host cities before and after 2019 local elections. We argue that actual change within the way institutions operate takes place in municipalities (and their respective departments within) that have managed to institutionalize their refugee response through innovative and sustainable policy initiatives that can spill over to areas of policy making other than refugee response, which invest in building capacity and multi-level partnerships.

Localism in Action? – A case study of Queen’s Park Community Council in London

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Decentralization / devolution has been a world-wide trend for the last 20-30 years. In the case of England, the decentralization discourse took a particular form of localism which highlighted the importance of local identity, economic efficiency, and good governance in a local and neighborhood scale. Localism Bill in 2011 has given “general power of competence” to the local authority and ensured a degree of local autonomy, but at the same time, made it possible for the local community to exercise more independent power against local government bureaucracy. The Local Government and Public Health Act in 2007 also allowed new parish council, the lowest tiers of local government and hence the closest to the local people, to be established in London.

Against this backdrop, Queen’s Park Community Council (QPCC) was born in North West London in 2012 as a new parish council. This paper reviews the way in which it was planned and conceived in a particular local economic and social context. Although Queen’s Park is located in the City of Westminster (Figure 1), which includes the rich and famous section of London, the area actually has a high deprivation rate and suffered from several social problems. QPCC

was established after the long and hard work by Paddington Development Trust and Queen’s Park Community Forum, a voluntary group by the local residents to improve the local environment. The paper explores how QPCC empowers local residents by acting a “hub” of local services, for instance organizing the local summer festival (Figure 2). It also investigates more recent challenges such as Brexit and Covid-19 global pandemic and examines how neighborhood community cope with such enormous and disproportionate challenges, and argues if the localism can make a positive contribution.

Refugee integration through housing innovation: Under what conditions do local responses on refugee integration succeed in a multilevel governance context?

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This paper draws on a case study of a municipal housing project located in Helsingborg in the south of Sweden. Sällbo is the only municipal housing project in Sweden which is bringing together people of different ages and nationalities with the purpose of enhancing social integration. The target group of the project is people over 70 years old, refugee youth (age 18-25) and Swedish-born youth (age 18-25). In our analysis we employ a multilevel governance theoretical framework in exploring how local actors navigate and interpret in their rationales the national and local policies on integration. The local turn on multilevel governance of migration has been growing further in the aftermath of the so-called refugee crisis of 2015. We aim at contributing by bringing a successful example of refugee integration through housing innovation. In Sweden the dominant narrative of the politicians and the media point to the continuous failure of integration regardless of all the policies initiated after 2015. This trend is not only fueling the populist anti-immigrant debates but also runs the risk of overlooking the cases when integration works. For the case of Sällbo this is even more important as housing is yet another highly politicized issue in Sweden. Our case study shows under what conditions a small-scale local project can enable integration. We do so by studying the vertical relations between levels, the horizontal relations in the local context as well as its integration outcomes through qualitative interviews and document analysis. The main findings point to the importance

of a participatory approach with multiple interactions between the management and the inhabitants. Also, the strong political will at the local level as well as the personal engagement of street level bureaucrats proves to be key for the implementation of the project.

The EU's Urban Agenda: a case for conceptualising global sustainable development as an emerging transnational political field

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As governments struggle for sustainable development, the rising transnational urban agenda promises to address complex emerging governance problems through cities' diverse practices. Thus, the Global Sustainable Development Goals include a specific urban objective (UN-SDG no. 11, 2015), followed since 2016/2017 by the Urban Agendas of UN-HABITAT and the EU. As part of the European Union's (EU) contribution to the UN-SDGs, urban policy has been evolving from the local margins of territorial development toward a transnational approach for integrated multi-level governance. The EU's 'soft' urban focus has been gaining dynamic particularly since the mid 2000s, connecting regional cohesion policy with wider 'sustainability' objectives at a time when the EU has been confronting multiple global crises and internal political stagnation. In particular, the EU Urban Agenda (UAEU1, 2016) has introduced a new stakeholder instrument for including cities in transnational cooperation on - so far - 14 urban themes. Thus considering the wide spectrum of new experimental practices crossing sectors, organisations and countries, the formal cooperation of EU and states has been opening to local governments, stakeholder organisations and expert networks engaging in informal policy coordination and learning. But whilst European planners welcome this 'soft' urban policy approach as fostering cities as well as EU, globalisation critics warn of power relations, interest conflicts and exclusion thwarting the diverse urban potential for societal innovation and democratic change evolving from local bottom-up contentions in a connected world. So how can urban stakeholder participation contribute to transnational governance? Enquiring into the various institutions, actors, and conjunctures in the case of the EU's urban agenda, this paper contributes to conceptualising urban sustainable development as emerging transnational field of interacting policies, politics and polities.

The Right to Have Rights: Strengthening a European City Network on Migration through Learning from the Charter of Palermo

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In recent years, migration has contributed to increasing political conflicts on transnational, national, and local levels. While cities are the first to systematically manage incoming migrants, they play a limited role in policy debates and decision-making processes regarding migration. The City of Palermo, however, is an exception. In 2015, the capital city of the Italian region of Sicily officially declared itself a "city of hospitality" within the so-called Charter of Palermo. As a visionary document, the charter asks for the abolition of residence permits in the European Union as well as for a radical reorientation of European Union (EU) refugees and migration policies. According to the Charter of Palermo, access to personal rights ranging from housing to the right to move is an inevitable goal for migrants to be pursued through political measures that require European and national efforts, but also local and non-governmental organizations' efforts.

Drawing on the research framework of easyRights, an EU Horizon 2020 project, and a qualitative dataset of 30 interviews, this paper examines the growth impact of the Charter of Palermo as a small-scale resistance yet institutionalized political action by Palermo Mayor Leoluca Orlando. The challenges associated with its implementation against the national Italian government Security Decree (Salvini Decree in 2019) are also explored. Through empirically grounded research, this paper sheds light on how a city network can mobilize the implementation of the Charter of Palermo more strategically and to what extent this city's vision makes it possible to look at rights from the point of view of the obligations to guarantee them. In short, the paper argues the potential for reinforcing a European city's network on migration as a community of practice, which must go hand-in-hand with more integrative thinking at local, national, and international levels.

Undoing Democracy?: Restructuring Urban Governance through Exceptions

Dr. Seda Yukse¹

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Since the 1980s, in Turkey and many parts of the world, the urban has become the privileged scale of politico-economic restructuring of global capitalism, turning municipalities into important sites of local development strategies and urban entrepreneurialism(s). Through an ethnographic analysis of two cities located in contested south-eastern Turkey, this paper aims to understand the continuities and the ruptures within the urban governance regime in Turkey in the last decades. Examples from Russia (Domanska, 2017), Hungary (Schultheis, 2020), India, and Turkey show a recent trend toward a forced centralization of urban governance and increasing interventions by the central governments to dismantle the decentralization policies that characterized the revival of the urban since the 1980s. The urban has been rediscovered under autocracies once more. Local state institutions have become sites of experiments of the political and legal interventions by the autocratic governments to grab power at the local level and tame the political opposition in diverse ways through exceptional legal tools. This paper analyses the highly disputed legal category of “appointed trustees” in Turkish civil law used to manage the properties of firms and missing people. In the last five years, the Turkish government has “transplanted” this category from civil law to urban law under exceptional measures and appropriated more than 100 municipalities in Turkey. The paper situates these exceptional legal tactics in the urban governance regimes in Turkey since the 1980s. Going beyond the Turkish case, the paper asks why the autocratic governments need to grab power at the local level and shows how they do it through “legal inventions.” The paper, then, revisits the discourses on development and urban entrepreneurial strategies (Harvey 1989) and discusses how urban entrepreneurial coalitions based on neoliberal agendas and centralization attempts by the governments are reconciled under these exceptional local governance regimes.

PANEL No.26: Peripheralisation: The production of ex-centric places as an ordinary process of extended urbanization

Conveners | Christian Schmid, Metaxia Markaki, *ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland*

Territories of Peripheralisation

Being Urban in the Periphery: the Urban Process of the Yi Ethnic Region in China

Ms. Yinglei Chen¹

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This article reveals the spatial logic of the urban process in Liangshan Yi ethnic society within the context of the socialist politico-economic system and the ethnic structure of China.

This research is a case study on Zhaojue county, the hinterland of Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in Southwest China. This article organises around four major periods in its urban history: the 'old Han Chinese town' in the late imperial era (1800s-1910s), the last headquarter of the Kuomintang during the Republic era (1911-1949), the prefectural capital of socialist (1949-1978) and the abandoned Yi ethnic town during the market period (1978- 2015). Four themes provide the framework: geopolitics, spatial structure, population and social stratification, and urban economy.

It draws out the urban features of Zhaojue as a city in the periphery of the state. Zhaojue has been constructed and maintained mainly as an administrative seat and garrison to control the Yi people and integrate the ethnic region into state territory. The urban structure demonstrates that nation-building, border stability and ethnic solidarity are prioritised over economic performances. In terms of social stratification, Zhaojue is a migrate enclave governed by airdropped Han officials. The urban economy highly depends on the transfer from the central government.

Using this case study, I reveal the urban experience of Zhaojue as the result of the interplay of the redistributive system, the bureaucratic hierarchy, the ethnic structure and the mobility of the urban elites. The redistribution system functioning as a principle for organising the socioeconomic system from imperial to socialist China is the key to understanding the spatial logic of a peripheral ethnic urban. The hierarchy is the essential mechanism that coordinates between the state redistributive system and the market logic, as well as the politico-economic structure and the everyday urban life in Zhaojue.

Peripheralization processes and the emerging of new landscapes of conflict: between the Yellow Vests movement and the George Floyd rebellion.

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How does peripheralization processes relate with the spatial reconfigurations of social conflicts?

The processes of peripheralization that lead to the emergence of new "centre-periphery" territorial patterns imply new forms of struggle.

A look at the struggles and spatial dynamics in which they form themselves is crucial to construct a non-reifying conception of peripheries. It means, therefore, adopting a peripheral perspective, without

crystallising the periphery, grasping in urbanisation an open process harbinger of contradictions, of dispossession and emancipatory impulses.

Planetary urbanisation has led to the dissolution of the city and its political centrality. In the planetary metamorphosis of the "ville", it is no longer (or not only) the "historic" city centre that is the arena of politics, but a galaxy of decentralised and fragmented territories.

The practical grammar of conflict is rearticulated by acting on the spaces of logistics (and circulation), which are often pervasive in those exurban territories resulting from the processes of suburbanization. At the same time, subjectivities are recomposed based on a peripheralization, that is socio-spatial, material and symbolic.

The proposal is to point out how the territorial transformations linked to the processes of extended urbanization have produced a constellation of peripheries that recompose themselves in movements-moments. Is crucial keeping the two aspects together, because events in which struggles explode, help not only to read the contradictions of current processes, but also to foresee their trends.

A look at the geography of the uprisings of the French "Yellow Vests" and the ones that swept across the United States from 2014 to 2021, can help us to understand the relation between peripheralization processes and the spatial reconfigurations of social conflicts.

Focusing on the regions of St. Louis (MO - USA) and Bordeaux (FR) makes it possible to highlight certain relations under discussion.

Productive Soil. The Planning of Activity Sites in the Peri-urban City

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"We were stripped of our ties to the soil - those connections that framed action and thus made practical virtue possible - when modernisation cut us off from the land, from labour, from flesh, from soil and from the grave. The economy into which we have, willingly or unwillingly, been absorbed, often at great cost, turns people into interchangeable chunks of population governed by the laws of scarcity" (Ivan Illich, 1990). With these words, Ivan Illich denounces a territory that has been made illegible by its progressive separation into 'pieces', in which productive functions dominate the organisation of space and productive activities are disconnected from the soil.

In France, from the 1960s onwards, a tool for productive territorial planning was put into place: the Zone d'Activité Économique (ZAE). As sites reserved for the establishing of enterprises within a given perimeter, outside inhabited centres, the ZAEs have grown steadily and have become one of the major factors responsible for the peri-urbanisation of the French territory (Lejoux 2015). Their impact on soil artificialisation and the fragmentation of agricultural land forces us today to question their ability for a sustainable development of the territory.

After introducing the ZAEs, the communication will analyse the planning strategies proposed by the Italian School of Territorialists, which aims to establish a synergistic relationship between production and local resources. In the territorialist perspective, it is necessary to return to local development systems: forms of development rooted in endogenous characteristics and territorial specificities that focus their specificities on the production of sustainable and perennial wealth (Magnaghi 2017).

What is the role of the soil in these practices?

Can the soil be considered the 'active operator' of productive processes, a heritage to be maintained and valued within the economic process?

The Dialectics of Operationalization and Peripheralization across the US corn and soybelt

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This contribution aims to unpack the complex dialectics between peripheralization and operationalization that characterize the specialized agricultural landscapes of extended urbanization across the US corn and soy belt. Building upon the agenda of Planetary Urbanization and focusing on the state of Iowa, this paper discusses how the industrial restructuring of agriculture over the past century has created a dual and simultaneous tendency towards demographic decline and productivity growth. As modes of agricultural production became increasingly automated and capital intensive, and less and less labor intensive, demographic transitions, together with the intensification of land use, created a paradoxical condition across the US corn and soy belt: Less and less populated operational landscapes, which are more and more productive, more and more intensively utilized. This tendency has reshaped the fabric of urbanization across Iowa, from a rather decentralized system of small agricultural settlements, to a polarized structure characterized by the concentration of population around few major agglomerations zones, surrounded by a depopulated, but highly productive, sea of corn and soybean monocultures. Thus, the research aims to foreground a paradoxical proposition. The less inhabited certain operational landscapes, the more productive and more interconnected they become to the global system of agglomerations, and thus the more urbanized. Through historical research and geospatial analysis the project investigates the unfolding of the dual process of operationalization and operationalization, and its social and ecological discontents on local communities and environmental systems.

Infrastructure and Extended Urbanisation

“Silk Road here we come”: Post-disaster politics, speculative infrastructures and the shifting urban geographies of Nepal

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In this paper we explore how China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), as an exemplar of infrastructure-led development, drives urban transformation in Nepal reconfiguring geopolitical and geoeconomic relations and remaking the sociopolitical, cultural and material fabric of hitherto peripheral spaces. Given that infrastructural projects materialize in parallel with Chinese-funded reconstruction projects, we also pay particular attention to the role of post-disaster politics with the goal to unravel how ongoing urban transformation affects not only the present and the future but also attempts to reconfigure people’s histories and memories. Empirically, we draw on fieldwork that lasted from December 2019 to April 2021 and involved on the ground and virtual ethnographic research focused on local communities’ stories and experiences, in-depth interviews with key policy makers, including state officials, and civil society actors. In line with an emerging strand of urban theory that reworks the Lefebvrian notion of generalized urbanization and by building on the work of Harvey, Lefebvre and Massey, we adopt a broad understanding of the urban that is not confined to urban agglomerations stressing the need to approach city and non-city landscapes, or hinterlands, as dialectically co-produced. We, therefore, adopt a broad analytical and empirical lens that encompasses but also exceeds the terrain of the city by placing at the epicenter of our analysis both Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, and Kathmandu Valley, as well as rural places strategically linked to Kathmandu, like Rasuwagadhi, where infrastructure projects are either ongoing or projected to soon begin. We argue that Nepal offers a paradigmatic example of the way BRI-driven urban infrastructural

development incorporates peripheral urban areas, hinterlands and places that are undergoing a rural-to-urban transition, into circuits of capital establishing new spatial frontiers of global capitalism that increasingly perforate the classical urban-rural divide.

Liquid urban extensions: the planetary remaking of La Plata estuary

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This presentation offers a view of ordinary processes of extended urbanization by discussing the transformation of waterways in Latin America's Southern Cone. It specifically considers the remaking of La Plata estuary as global route that connect the "remoteness" of Latin America's inlands (being the estuary the terminal of Paraná and Uruguay rivers) with planetary areas of urban concentration (Brenner and Schmid 2015). In particular, but not only, Paraná waterway is one of the most important global routes for soybean (Zuberman 2016), a crop that is central for Argentina's and Brazil's export economy (Giraudó 2019; Svampa 2019). The presentation explores two interconnected elements that articulate the (re)making of this planetary space of "extension".

First, it discusses the "geopolitics" of extensions. Since the early 2000s, China has rapidly a crucial economic partner for Latin American countries which aimed to build novel "South/South" geopolitical relationships (Jilberto and Hogenboom 2010). However, this seemed to rearticulate (post)colonial socio-spatial inequalities, creating new socio-environmental conflicts. Soybean's "liquid" geographies can certainly represent one iconic case in this sense.

Second, the presentation analyzes the "materiality" of extensions. The mentioned geopolitical project relies on a logistical net that could support a smooth and rapid transportation of commodities. This has meant a progressive proliferation of maritime and fluvial infrastructures (Lardé 2016), being water an essential way for the global circulation of goods (Cowen 2014; Khalili 2020). In addition to a progressive reinforcement of port infrastructures along the rivers' banks, several projects of dredging are transforming La Plata's waterways into a major planetary highway that sustains the new configuration of the global economy. Thus, by exploring the geo-political and material articulations of La Plata's waterways, the presentation discusses the "liquid" expression of extensions, that is, the remaking of "peripheral" spaces that are actually constitutive for the incessant rearticulation of planetary urbanization processes.

A Swiss Valley in the Remote Mountains of China

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Mountains, lake, meadow, chalets, sculptures of cows, Swiss flags, the Haituo Valley creates the impression of being in a Swiss resort. However, it is not located in the Alps but in the mountainous region 90 kilometers northwest of Beijing, where the 2022 Winter Olympic Games will be held. In anticipation of the Olympics, a new round of extended urbanization based on tourism and massive state and private investments has been promoted along the Beijing - Zhangjiakou corridor, charting an exciting path where peripheralization meets financialization.

Zhangjiakou, a notoriously poor and marginalized periphery of Beijing, faced continued economic decline and massive depopulation before 2015, with mining and power generation as the main economic sectors. National policies aimed at balancing uneven geographic development and a successful bid for the 2022 Olympics have transformed Zhangjiakou from a remote landscape into a new destination for tourism, leisure, and speculation. Besides infrastructure and competition venues, numerous ski resorts and vacation homes have been built, commodifying the mountains along the corridor.

This study analyzes the tangible and intangible changes triggered by the extended winter Olympics corridor. Taking the Swiss-designed Chinese-made "copycat" valley as an ordinary urban area, the research will investigate its transformation from a remote periphery to one of the global economy centers. Through several study trips and in-depth interviews with Chinese and Swiss experts involved in the project, the study argues that the production of Haituo Valley involves several vital participants in a conspiracy: 1) developers waiting to speculate on the mountain landscape; 2) local governments looking to attract external investment; 3) urban elites from Beijing desiring a superior living environment, and 4) western companies anticipating a lucrative entry into the Chinese market. The study will also examine the social tensions between locals, investors, and tourists.

Ecologies of Peripheralization

Assemblages of technology, community, and (geo)politics in the expansion of renewable energy infrastructures

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The transition to models of renewable energy production is an urgent necessity on a planet suffering from a still expanding exploitation of resources. In its current form, the process of energy transition follows the logic of an extensive urbanization, where the burden of production to fuel cities, industries, and other energy-devouring uses falls with rural areas. These places, labeled 'remote' or 'unused', often hold high emotional or use values for human actors and other forms of life. Coalitions of affected and concerned communities act to expose the damage caused by the increasing expansion of renewable energy infrastructure (Fig.1). Research in geography (Bresnahan, 2021) and anthropology (Howe and Boyer, 2015, Knight and Argenti, 2015) shows how the infiltration of neoliberal agendas in state-led energy policies impedes a fair transition that would prioritize 'peripheral' places- often, the first to be impacted by climate change. Building on my doctoral research on spatial planning for energy in small places in Greece, Scotland, and the Netherlands, this paper maps the spatial hierarchies created (or reproduced) by the implementation of renewable energy projects in the three countries. In post-crisis Greece, renewable energy planning follows the rhetoric of investments and development, often overlooking natural or cultural values. In the Netherlands, a country with a strong tradition in planning, but also a tax-heaven for tech corporations, the general consensus on the necessity of renewable energy is counterbalanced by objections on plans for wind-fueled data centers. In Scotland, branded as the Saudi Arabia of renewable energy, big and smaller projects activate dormant discussions on commons and land ownership. The paper concludes with a discussion on acts of local agency or resistance that create networks of innovation and solidarity to overcome dualities between centers and peripheries; creating patches of hope for a successful and fair transformation of this global project.

Belonging by confrontation: living next to a mine in Skouries, Greece

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This paper aims to discuss a major socio- ecological conflict, taking place over the last several years in Skouries, Greece. Local activists across 16 villages in the municipality of Aristotle are confronting a mass scale gold extraction project. In sharp contrast to them, pro-mining actors, mainly miners working in the

extractive company, are demonstrating their indispensable bonds with their work and place by supporting the project. This mixture creates an antagonising, conflicting and confronting framework of living in the area. We, therefore, question if social conflict and confrontation to a mega-project creates a new sense of place, a new feeling of belonging in an area or community. We also research if and how belonging by confrontation is the only way of belonging in areas and communities with such socio-environmental conflicts that cut across the social, economic, political, and everyday life. In parallel, we advocate for a radical re-understanding and reconceptualization of peripheries that are in a long-lasting socio-environmental conflict. How is such a periphery (re)formed while experiencing constant and deep socio-economic and ecological restructuring? To support our arguments, we rely on qualitative research, interviews / informal conversations with local key players, pro and against the mining project, and participatory observation.

Peripheries in the center. Views from the distant loci of new energy battles.

Ms. Constantina Theodorou¹

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With urbanization processes unfolding unevenly across the planet, networks of metabolic counterparts of concentrated & extended urbanization are dynamically produced across all scales, the latter being economically and ecologically ravaged as extraction sites for natural and human resources. Despite being enmeshed in urbanization processes, with increasing connectivity, infrastructural capacity and participation in a global urban culture, places like remote mountain tops or small islands are once again seen as the “terra nullius” of the post-fossil-fuels expedition, ideal locations for the installation of massive, land consuming, renewable energy (RE) infrastructures. Deployed at a rapid pace, these infrastructures are disrupting delicate socio-ecosystemic balances in a critical moment when no more such sacrifices can be sustained; in the escalating emergency of climate crisis every place becomes critical.

Howbeit, beyond passively gaining a critical importance for the planet’s future these places are actively engaged in energy battles, gaining a central role in designing and discussing energy futures. Spurred by the pandemic’s turn to online, remote and dispersed modes of organizing and participating, there is a proliferation of rhizomatic formations, mountain assemblies, island committees and unions of them that are putting forth the most pressing issues for a fair transition to a zero CO2 emissions world, through activist, judiciary or other advocacy means. Their agency is still nascent and in the short time allowed for the energy transition, they may not prosper to deploy their transformative potential. Yet, it is exactly now, when RE networks are laid out at planetary scale, that remote communities should be acknowledged and attributed their fair share of urbanity as a share of political participation too, in an extended understanding of urban climate justice.

The presentation draws on inputs from empirical research on networks of local –translocal movements that have emerged in Greece recently as opposition to big RE projects.

Planning and land policy for weather and climate extremes

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Compound weather and climate extremes have become more frequent, intense, and prolonged. Hot extremes have affected extensive areas. This paper deals with planning and land policy procedures, exceptional and ordinary, that have followed wildfire events in Attica and Evia, Greece. Classified by the

National Observatory of Athens as an extreme wildfire event of the highest category 7 based on fire behaviour and capacity of control, and resulting in 103 confirmed civilian fatalities, the wildfire that broke out in Eastern Attica on the 23rd of July 2018 has been the second-deadliest wildfire event in the 21st century, after the 2009 bushfires in Australia, and the second-deadliest weather-related disaster in Greece, after the major heatwave of July 1987. According to the Copernicus Emergency Management Service, from the 3rd to the 18th of August 2021 the wildfire in Northern Evia had burned 50,887.6 ha and affected 5,513 individuals. The Special Urban Plan for the fire-affected area in Eastern Attica was commissioned to the Technical Chamber of Greece by the Ministry of the Environment and Energy in 2019 and completed in 2020, with a revision in 2021. The Reconstruction Plan for Northern Evia initiated in 2021 with the support of private sponsors and will complete through an Integrated Territorial Investment funded under Cohesion Policy (2021–2027). Planning and land policy have been conditioned by the Economic Adjustment Programmes under the Greek Loan Facility (2010–2011), the European Financial Stability Fund (2012–2015) and the European Stability Mechanism (2015–2018), the European Semester and the enhanced surveillance framework since 2018, and the Recovery and Resiliency Facility (2021–2026). This paper postulates a capital–land approach to attend to planning and land policy conditions of peripheralisation and property development with respect to weather and climate extremes and contributes to critical urban theory through a territorial lens.

Registration and promotion of the rural heritage of Amorgos: a tool to enhance identity and sustainable development

Dr. Katerina Kanakari¹

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The islands have always been autonomous and self-sufficient societies in Greece, while in recent years they have become fragile ecosystems directly dependent on the mainland, raising questions about their evolution. Primary production has declined significantly, giving way to the monoculture of tourism, while changes in the natural and cultural landscape and the social texture are noticeable. The aim of this research is to focus on the importance of promoting the cultural heritage of an island as a means of recognition and as a tool of its identity.

The study focuses on the island of Amorgos, with medium tourism development, where the environment and development are in relative balance, which is why it was chosen as a reference and study site. New methodological tools were applied to highlight the rural heritage and enhance local social and economic development: a complete inventory of rural buildings (photographic, geographical, historical) and their classification with quantitative and qualitative criteria took place, revealing the identity of the island, documenting its history, providing an important asset to the tradition.

The key to this process is the receptivity of the local community to recognize the importance of capturing its image with the elements recorded and to follow their protection and promotion, preventing their deterioration through oblivion, destruction and abandonment.

The inventory of the rural cultural wealth and social interaction are essential elements for the preservation and long-term development of the islands. They highlight and formulate the conservation and implementation framework for an integrated management and responsive approach on islands' development.

Urban Struggles at the Edge

“We Don’t Have Else To Go”: Engaging with the Fractal Geometries of Peripheralization, Infrastructures and Everyday Life on the Outskirts of Belgrade

Dr. Stefan Janković¹

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An emergence of “informal” settlements on the outskirts of Belgrade (Serbia) immensely paced up after the Yugoslav wars. Either with poor or even non-existent urban infrastructure, these provisional urban additions primarily have hosted urban novices with refugee experience who have enforced a wave of improvisatory, vernacular construction on former agricultural land in a peculiar institutional setting. After a quarter of century, a continuous peripheralization of these urban additions seems particularly challenging for territorial imagination, since it infuses dynamic and fractal geometries of metropolitan habitation and instigates a contingent “peripheral negotiation”. In what follows, we engage into multidimensional framing of popular urbanization and multiple peripheralization in several settlements located on the northern outskirts of Belgrade (Altina, Plavi horizonti, Belarice and Busije). By immersing into ethnographic material collected during 2019, accompanied with various secondary sources, urban plans and official documents, we discuss how distinct urbanization process was deposited upon loose territorial and administrative regulation, eventually resulting in distinct spatial outcomes such as lack of urban infrastructures and adapting to improvised networks of agencies which mediate and distribute a vast amount of socio-economic and material relations for the inhabitants. While following the general scrutiny found in postcolonial assessment of urban theory, we first argue that peripheralization in studied cases has been tacitly engendered by the state and thus has to be considered outside formal-informal dualism. After describing the morphogenesis of these settlements, by following contemporary discussions on material assemblages and urban infrastructures we assess how the temporal gap in infrastructural provision incited various aspects of “peripheral negotiation” and DIY strategies. Lastly, we describe the everyday life as heavily orientated towards social infrastructures provided in immediate environment. Namely, we conclude that peripheralization largely narrows down the everyday activities to networks of agencies such as relatives and neighbours, thus disentangling them from metropolitan circuits.

Eviction of the Consent: Politics of extended urbanization in Turkey

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Through a case study of Istanbul, this paper explores the transformation in Turkey’s statecraft from entrepreneurialism to neo-extractivism by looking at how housing the urban poor is coupled with the reproduction of the precariat at the frontiers of the metropolis. Examining the urban projects initiated by the “Urgent Expropriation Procedures” (UEP) through the lens of extended urbanization, this research explores how state deploys extralegal executive and legal powers, such as UEP, to accelerate the land-confiscations for the real estate and construction companies, and to intensify the extraction of labor from urban precariat in the metropolitan frontiers for the global corporations. According to the new redevelopment model, state and private companies transform a municipally expropriated land into a residential and commercial area, transfer the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods into the newly built block, then demolish the already emptied neighborhood to initiate the eviction for the nearby neighborhoods. I analyze the urban redevelopment project in the multiethnic neighborhood of the

Bayrampaşa District of Istanbul, which resulted in the commercial and residential displacement of Albanian, Kurdish, and Syrian communities. The inhabitants lost their access to the “informal” economy which they collectively produced at their house/workshops, and this led them to move to the urban periphery. Scrutinizing the extractivist governance of the poor and their housing, I argue that the figuration of labor and housing in cities are forged with the production of spatial violence (Lefebvre 1991) instead of consent as Tuğal’s (2009) passive revolution thesis contends. I propose that this new theoretical framework might explain the spatially attuned forms of hegemony where the state inculcates new forms of citizenship through coercive apparatuses.

Exploring Up Town: an ethnography of the "smartest and greenest district in Italy" in a peripheral context of the city of Milan

Dr. Filippo Borreani¹

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This contribution focuses on the construction and gradual settlement process of new residents in a residential district in the north-western suburbs of Milan, called "Cascina Merlata/Up Town Smart District". The district bases its business strategy on smartness (domotics, neighbourhood apps), greenness (green spaces, sustainable houses) and the prospect of becoming the residential part of an important hub dedicated to technological and bio-medical innovation. This area is built next to a large peripheral neighbourhood, consisting mainly of public housing. The neighbourhood was built during the Italian economic boom years as an experimental development plan for working-class families, but also 'new middle class'.

In this empirical context, the research investigates the relationship between two peripheral spaces that are spatially close but distant in terms of social composition and designed at two different moments in the complex relation between capitalism, space, and the city.

On the one hand, the urban development of the historical area is linked to the social compromise and conflicts between capital and labour typical of the post-war period, and is now facing processes of impoverishment, loss of social cohesion, but also generational change. On the other, the smart district has characteristics that can be ascribed to soft forms of "smart-and-green gated communities", is equipped with "global" infrastructures and inhabited by a population less historically and socially linked to the city of Milan.

In addition to these elements, the empirical case study can be seen as a privileged point of view to develop some critical reflections on the centre-periphery relationship (in terms of dependence and independence from the centre) and on the possibility of analysing peripheralization processes also as political outcomes of social contracts, in a dynamic relationship with the cultural and economic transformations of capitalism.

Research Methodology: interviews, participant observation, a one-year stay in the research area.

Processes of Peripheralization: Toehold and Aspirational Urbanization in the Gauteng City-Region

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This contribution examines the processes of peripheralization shaping the Gauteng-City Region (GCR) of South Africa, or the specific ways in which extended urbanization reinforces structural spatial inequality in the urban fabric. The case reveals how peripheralization is a product of the everyday interactions, routines,

forms of mobility, and temporalities (Simone 2020) that, in their specificity, require new terms for their urbanization processes (Brenner & Schmid 2015). In the GCR, toehold urbanization is the transformation of spaces primarily by people, exercising their own agency to build and finance dwellings in order to access centralities and opportunities (cf. Caldeira 2017; Streule et. al 2020). Aspirational urbanization is the production of geographically peripheral areas by private developers, who create large-scale, mortgage-backed housing settlements for people “aspiring” to secure their place in the middle class through property ownership (cf. Butcher 2020). Linking these concepts to a transscalar analytical framework unveils the distinctive mode of territorial production operating in the GCR, in which the regulated production of housing by an “agentful” state (Robinson et al. 2020) on the geographic peripheries and people constructing their own environments in precarious central locations both serve to further ingrain structural spatial inequality. The introduced terms of toehold and aspirational urbanization are derived from this context, but have a broader relevance beyond the GCR. Many urban areas around the world exhibit similar phenomena—pockets of poverty and affluence, the production of large housing settlements on geographic peripheries, a heavy reliance on transport, regional and seasonal circuits of migration—which have broad socioeconomic and ecological implications, from both negative externalities to new opportunities. These peripheral spaces, and conceptualizing the processes that shape them, thus contribute to decentering urban theory and indicate a promising future line of urban research (Meth et al. 2021).

The Power of Public Participation: Socioeconomic impacts of urban development projects in Egypt

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By monitoring Egypt's urban history, the centralization of urbanization in modern Egypt will clearly emerge. The centralization of services had caused the centrality of urbanization in the capital, Cairo, with a population exceeding 21 million for the year 2021.

Naturally, with the increasing pressure on Cairo's urbanism, informal urbanization, or what is known as slums, appeared. Much effort has been made to limit its spread and address its negative effects on the quality of life for its residents. However, there is a huge gap between the efforts of the government and the requirements and satisfaction of people, and that gap is growing despite the recent implementation of many social housing projects. These projects did not reach the same success as some non-governmental efforts done by architects and urban planners, who followed different methods of communicating and working with society to achieve better constructions.

Therefore, this paper consists of two main parts, the first part presents two different experiences of tens of years of successful distinguished efforts for dealing with informal housing areas, whether by developing these informal areas to make them safe residential environments, like Hany El Miniawy's experience in Egypt and Algeria, or by caring for the countryside and marginalized areas to reduce the migration of people to the capital, like Ramses Wassef's experience in Egypt. In the second part, it explains the reasons for the lack of success of the social housing projects in Egypt, by using the concept of socio-economic impact assessment as a tool to measure the satisfaction of the targeted communities with those projects. At the end of the paper, we lay the conclusions and the most important recommendations learned from presenting various project ideas and analyzing them using the socio-economic impact assessment, with the aim of improving the quality of life in housing projects.

Peripheralization by Dispossession

At the margins of the Mediterranean: agro-urbanization, racial capitalism and the politics of inhabitation in the “migrant ghettos” of today

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Drawing on preliminary data from a qualitative research conducted at the margins of the Mediterranean, between “rural” and “urban” Southern Italy, this intervention seeks to bring into focus and interrogate the emerging, often provisional, and yet increasingly more fixed geographies of Europe’s “migrant ghettos” from the geographical and epistemic perspective of the Black Mediterranean, which interlocks the formation of places under racial capitalism with the (seasonal and non-seasonal) displacement of labour, bodies, and lives from Africa to Europe. Through an instrumental exploration of the rapidly changing processes of “agro-urbanization” in Southern Italy, this intervention explores the workings of a geography of extended urbanization that is stretching beyond the city to embrace new forms and politics of inhabitation connected to the agricultural food supply chain and its exploitative regime of caporalato (gang-master system), increasing global migration, and the management of bodies, territories, labour, and national/supra-national borders in an epoch marked by the resurgence of Fortress Europe as a geographical technology of control and expulsion. What are the so-called “migrant ghettos” that are emerging in the marginalized geographies of Europe, especially at the thresholds of the Mediterranean? Are they peripheral to, yet part of, the city where the dwellers of the “ghettos” cannot afford to live? Or are they peripheries of the rural world, to which their labour is linked and, by virtue of it, also their dwelling? And to which extent can these new spaces of inhabitation be considered peripheral at all, given the dubious presence of a centre in their spatial formation and the centrality of the workforce embodied by their dwellers in the socioeconomic present and future of the EU? The paper approaches these questions from an epistemic perspective informed by preliminary fieldwork data and based on recent critical studies on migration, borders, racial capitalism, and everyday urbanization.

On Being Urban and Agrarian: Peripheralization in the Global South

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Periphery is a capacious and dynamic social-spatial category. In countries of the so-called Global South, unprecedented urban expansion outside the confines of the city has drawn attention to the complex and multi-scalar processes and sedimented politics that have propelled peripheralization. The pace and scale of peripheral urbanization have not only questioned the conceptual relevance of familiar binaries of core-periphery and rural-urban, but it has also, as the energetic discussions in planetary, extended, or unacknowledged urbanization, and global suburbanisms have argued, reworked the repertoire of urban theory. In the spirit of the proposed panel, this paper focuses on the emergent spaces that are simultaneously core and periphery, urban and agrarian; alternatively, they are neither urban nor rural. Instead, they illustrate a social-spatial-political-aesthetic assemblage that Doreen Massey has described as a ‘co-existing heterogeneity.’ (2005)

Drawing from over fifteen years of fieldwork in and around Gurgaon, located at the edge of New Delhi, the paper takes the case of rural-agrarian settlements, also known as ‘urban villages,’ that persist/linger in the middle of a rapidly urbanizing frontier. Through stories of community, caste, cattle, tenure, and honour, it examines the overlapping trajectories of land, property, possession, and exclusion that coproduce peripheral spaces. It shows how competing aspirations and imaginaries of modernity, urbanism, and mobility collide with entrenched caste, class, and land politics. It situates peripheralization in the context of

growing agrarian unrest, the rise of Hindu majoritarianism, and changing caste politics. It considers the peripheries as a critical analytic to grapple with the new agrarian-urban subjectivities and reflects on entangled land-based politics of urban and the agrarian. The peripheries, it argues, offer a point of entry to revisit the proverbial disciplinary silos and revitalize our methodological toolkits to understand the uneven and heterogenous processes of urban transformation in predominantly agrarian societies like India.

Peripheralisation Conflicts: Urban and Political Dynamics in the New Space for Elite Reproduction in Santiago de Chile

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Addressing the question about the ways in which peripheries form is frequently associated to the location of most vulnerable groups (Hidalgo and Borsdorf, 2010), especially in areas where the land price has been historically lower. This has been particularly frequent in the literature on Latin American informal urban development (Inostroza, 2016; Sabatini, 2003). More recently, interest in the role played by the most affluent groups in society in reshaping the city and the development of new patterns of urbanization, has been more visible as research on financialization of the urban space (Aalbers, 2008) and secession of self-segregation (Méndez and Gayo, 2019) has become a pressing topic as economic accumulation of the most privileged becomes a wide spread concern (Piketty, 2014).

We explore the configuration of new peripheries in Santiago de Chile that have been conceived and designed by the real estate markets (in accordance with the public sector) to allocate the upper middle classes and younger elites. We provide evidence (georeferenced data of the last three decades, survey data and interviews) of the ways in which urbanization goes hand in hand with the cultivation of certain political and cultural repertoires (Lamont, 1992) that help justifying and enhancing the decisions of pulling away (Savage, 2021) or reconfiguring the dynamics of control and distance with long term residents of these areas (Andreotti et al, 2015; Bacque et al, 2015). These new and uneven territories of extended urbanization involve processes of accumulation of resources, ecological restructuring, relocation of economic activities, resulting in evident tensions of more vulnerable residents of formerly rural areas. However, the results of our project also show how these socio-spatial re configurations have impact in the diametrically different political preferences of both kinds of inhabitants, which –so far- has lean the scale to more progressive views of local authorities.

Youth agricultural cooperatives in the Palestinian central highlands (West Bank): a model emerging from the contradictions of peripheralization

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The countryside in the Palestinian West Bank is a peripheral space in multiple respects. The West Bank has been incorporated as a peripheral economy to that of the colonizer (Israel) since its occupation in 1967.(Samara 1989) On a closer scale, its countryside forms a periphery to the colonial urban centers, as well as Palestinian urban centers within the West Bank (Rabie 2021,4).

In the past two decades, peripheralization (and related proletarianization) of the countryside around the city of Ramallah have risen, largely transforming villages into dormitory towns. A majority of their workforce now works as wage laborers in the colonial economy, while the others mainly work in the service sector in Ramallah. Their lands are undergoing a process of titling, by the Palestinian Authority, leading to commodification.

Peripheralization and proletarianization operate here according to the imperatives of capitalism and the settler-colonial logic of elimination.

Yet these very processes have generated a small but growing counter practice.

Proletarianization, and other colonial policies, marginalized agriculture. Commodification led to land speculation. Fallow lands thus emerged. Alienation arising from proletarianization, along with a belief in the imbrication of these patterns with the settler-colonial project, propelled a sector of youth to seek alternatives. In fallow land they found possibility and founded agricultural cooperatives.

Calls for utilizing the contradictions of peripheralization through cooperative production go back to the 1980s. Their goals have been delinking from the colonial economy, countering colonial land confiscation, and thus sustaining a liberation movement. (Arafeh 2018) But it is now that such practices are materializing more widely on the ground.

Do these cooperatives indicate a possibility that could solidify along with the rising proletarianization and peripheralization?

This paper follows the cases of youth agricultural cooperatives in Ramallah, studying their practices and sentiments, and contextualizing them within the broader geographical and socioeconomic trends aforementioned in order to begin to answer this question.

Theories of uneven development and peripheralization

Degrowth: Starving Capitalist Urbanization from the Outside

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The extended urban fabric is formed through manifold processes of uneven development—of decline and efforts to recapture neglected and marginal spaces to restore social, ecological, or economic capacity. This dynamic produces evolving centers and peripheries in cascading acts of value creation and destruction. Underlying the machinations of the system is an ideology of progress—a set of beliefs and practices that views the planet as a perpetual growth machine—which can be understood as a life-force of capitalist urbanization. Taking the theme of this panel as a starting point to re-envision these processes, we propose to examine peripheralization through the framework of Degrowth to open radical understandings of how landscapes at the margins might be envisioned through a different developmental approach. To this end, we foreground the Degrowth Movement as a particular catalyst that offers a critique of the basic structures and functions of capitalist urbanization—of these cyclic processes of valuation and uneven development that play out across the urban fabric with particular attention paid to the role of the periphery. In taking a decentered approach to the urban, the theme of Peripheralization is thus mobilized in two senses: (1) as both spatial location, and (2) as the opportunity to apply the still nascent conceptual framework of Degrowth in this context, to open alternative strategies for revaluing land in cultural and ecological terms outside the capitalist logic of perpetual growth.

The Production of Urban Semi-Peripheries: A World-Systemic Perspective

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This paper argues that primary or "primitive" accumulation, as an integral process of the capitalist world-economy (CWE), produces urban semi-peripheries by altering and connecting local socio-spatial structures

with capital enclaves. The paper rethinks the semi-periphery concept to capture new spatial forms of urban connectivity and conflict, reflecting the paradoxes and potentials of financialized economic development. The empirical demonstration includes two case studies. The first examines two zoning initiatives for property redevelopment created by local ethno-racial elites and other governmental and nongovernmental actors in Manhattan's Chinatown and the Lower East Side (LES), NYC. Their attempt to alter and connect the seemingly isolated "periphery-like" socio-spatiality of Chinatown and the LES with Lower Manhattan's Financial District results in a semi-peripheral spatial structure that embodies diverging class relations. The second case looks at the transformation of wetlands, flood flow zones, and agrarian lowlands by regional power brokers and real estate-based elites in the eastern periphery of Dhaka City, Bangladesh. Recent urban development projects creating enclaves of "core-like" commercial and residential areas align elite segments, brokers, and state officials via a process where local socio-spatial structures are altered through multiple moments of displacing agrarian tenants, informal settlers, and the working poor. The semi-periphery category captures both the space-making and hetero-temporal features of "primitive" accumulation. At the periphery of the CWE, "primitive" accumulation transforms local spaces to shape new capital enclaves, whereas at the core of the CWE, the process alters local spaces to shape new forms of connectivity with existing capital enclaves.

The world exterior of capitalism

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"The most important division of material and mental labour," said Marx and Engels, "is the separation of town and country." In towns, "the division of the population into two great classes" is first manifested, "directly based on the division of labour and on the instruments of production. The town is ... the concentration of the population, of the instruments of production, of capital, of pleasures, of needs, while the country demonstrates just the opposite fact, isolation and separation." For Marx and Engels, town and country form an interdependent dialectic, not a dualism of opposite geographies. When fixed capital and mental labour are monopolized, a concentration of political and economic power is generated at the expense of its uneven distribution. In this way, a centre-periphery relation is born. This is a logical, as well as historical, understanding of geographic development: 'town' cannot exist without 'country', they are each other's necessary contradiction; if one is abolished, the other will perish. Therefore, understanding these two entities from their strictly formal appearances, or static individual descriptions, is misleading. Urban cores and dependent peripheries are equally integral to urbanization. They result from competition in capitalist markets and hence they are in constant reconfiguration. Their relation of contentious reciprocity, driven by domination and dependance, can take place at the scale of the state or the planet, at which point it becomes a function of imperialism. At this level, we are no longer facing a simple dichotomy of nature vs. culture, but a massive system of international wealth transfer and division of labour. This is why 'planetary urbanization' will never produce a 'world interior of capital'; urbanization always requires an outside. This is also why, from a relational perspective, the Swiss Alps are 'urban', while metropolitan Lagos is 'peripheral'; these terms only make sense dialectically.

Urban theory from Latin America: rethinking peripheral urbanization under financialized dependency

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¹Universidad De Chile, Santiago, Chile, ²Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico

The concept of peripheral urbanization is receiving increased attention in global urban theory. Building mainly on Caldeira's (2017) postcolonial approach, most authors relate the concept to autoconstruction, popular agency and informality, emphasizing people-led urbanization in the Global South. In this paper we argue that to reach its full analytical and political potential, it is necessary to expand the concept of peripheral urbanization through reconnecting it to its origins in Latin American dependency theory. While postcolonial urbanism has significantly advanced urban theory, peripheral urbanization must also be conceptualized as embedded in the political economies of peripheral capitalism to grasp the full complexity of urbanization in the Global South. In this sense, we first reconnect peripheral urbanization to its origins in Latin American dependency theory, conceptualizing it as a form of dependent urbanization and presenting the key debates of the time. Second, we take up recent debates in international political economy and critical geography, identifying the (continued) super-exploitation of labour and neo-extractivism by Latin American dominated-dominant classes as key characteristics of peripheral capitalism in the age of financialization. Based on this, we draw out the ways in which the uneven but combined urbanization processes in Latin America are dialectically related to contemporary peripheral capitalism. We conclude with some reflections on recent advancements in decolonial urban theory, pointing out future directions of the conceptual development of peripheral urbanization.

PANEL No.27: Queering Urban Space – Instability, Displacement, Resistance

Conveners | Christian Haid, *Technical University Berlin and Poligonal Office for Urban Communication, Germany*; Lukas Staudinger, *POLIGONAL Office for Urban Communication, Germany*

Commoning through queer socialisation, sex and nudity: the case of the gay beaches of Attica, Greece

Dr. Phevos Kallitsis¹, Dr Loukas Triantis²

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The paper aims to explore the embodied practices of commoning, through a qualitative analysis of the ephemeral community, which forms in urban cruising areas. It uses the cases of nudist beaches in the suburbs of Athens, which during the summertime become the epicentre of urban cruising. We suggest that within the greek context -where the beach seems to be surrendered to tourism, family spare time or commercialised activities for young people- the naked bodies disrupt this normative standardisation and the intensifying privatisation and commodification of the beach as public space. The commons offer an alternative to state and private property and a frame of belonging through resources with nonexclusive rights of access. We argue that the beach, as a space with nonexclusive rights of access, is transformed by the naked bodies of men who engage in a plethora of intersectional encounters and practices and where desire, sexuality, conversation, queer socialisation, and body fluids co-exist in these temporary spaces of

freedom. The body is our most intimate geography (Simonsen 2003) and in a world where bodies are always limited and controlled, these cruising beaches are places where the naked bodies produce a common, which in the words of Hardt and Negri (2009: 282) means that it “exists on a different plane from the private and the public, and is fundamentally autonomous to both”. Through qualitative interviews, the research aims to define the nudist/cruising beach as a place, which is shaped by the active entanglement of bodies and practices (Lefebvre 1991) and to map the different practices, from the large scale movement from the city to the beach, the stroll among the bodies, to the formations that allow socialisation, sexual encounters, the crossing of gazes or discussions through apps and reveal that cultural topography of commoning through co-existence and symbiosis.

Glitches in Platform Urbanism: Theoretical Play on Queer Solidarity

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In the digital era and in exceptional times, coming together in solidarity occurs within the interstices between gender, sexuality, and the logic of platform capitalism. But how do urban digital platforms allow for—as well as restrict—queer solidarities? While research on the topic has emphasised platforms’ both emancipatory and exploitative potentials, it remains unclear whether forms of resistance within digital political arenas can promise any hopeful futures. The goal then is to understand patterns of engagement and displacement that digital platforms enforce, and to transform those towards non-capitalist and non-heteronormative geography free from hegemonic structures. In this paper, we turn to the notion of glitch to explore its powers for connecting queer and urban theory in the age of platform urbanism. We do so through the combination of two genres—theory and theatre—that we suggest terming the theoretical play. By narrating how three fictional characters navigate the glitchiness of urban digital platforms—that is, their tendency to produce errors and Eros—we capture how exactly these technologies negotiate the contours of the solidarity among chat-bots, algorithms, humans, and other types of cyborg creatures, and what effects it has for their queer politics. This presentation is a genre non-conforming piece that attempts to highlight how platform urbanism can be approached from a queer intersectional perspective. The ‘glitch’ cracks out the dilemma between the emancipatory potential of individuals’ anonymity and the effects of the macro-scale data mining of people’s personal intimate desires. At the core of this three-act theoretical play are our intimate relationships with urban digital platforms and the deep secrets they know about us: our bodies, our habits, and our desires. This is a real struggle in mundane life, stuffed with tactical and glitchy choices.

Queer(ing) in the Ordinary. Aachen’s queer commons as innovative reactions to 50 years of crises.

Mr. José Miguel (Pepe) Sánchez-Molero Martínez¹

¹RWTH Aachen University/independent research, Germany

What is there to learn from Aachen, an "ordinary" city in the western border of Germany, constantly behind the gay shadow of Cologne?

Which kinds of safe commons is a town able to offer its queer population, constantly struggling to find “their scene”?

How have Aachen’s “queer commons” navigated the last 50 years of economic, social and health crises? Aachen’s queer spatial productions – which have constantly been emerging and disappearing in the last half century – might not be regarded as groundbreaking trailblazers from a global or metropolitan POV, but

they never intended to be. Creating different types of commons by and for themselves, queer actors found their ways around heteronormative oppression, while facing emerging challenges by creating, reinventing and innovating spatial productions, forced into resourcefulness and resilience.

This presentation analyses the past half century of queer spatial production (1970-2020) and considers four coexisting and complementary processes of queer commons creation:

- “In the closet” – hidden/illegal commons
- “Out of the closet” – mobilized/solidary commons
- “Out of the closet and into the city” – temporary/scheduled commons
- “In and out of cyberspace” – virtual/hybrid commons

By closely examining individual examples of queer spaces we see how each of them has been constituted in unique ways by specific queer actors. Queer commons assume specific roles by providing a series of uses that offer urban and social values. Queer commons prove to uniquely react to crises in form of spatial innovations.

The author's Master's Thesis “QUEERING AACHEN. State of the art and potential of queer spaces in Aachen” is the basis for this abstract. It summarizes fifty years of queer spatial production and has resulted in a digital mapping, a scientific paper and several essays.

Pepe Sánchez-Molero (he/they), works internationally in academia, architecture, activism, urban- and exhibition design.

Territories delimited by subjectivities or body-territory: from ghetto to contemporary gay territories

Mr. Miguel Da Cruz Mermejo¹, Mrs. Paul Santoro¹

¹São Paulo University, São Paulo, Brazil

This article delves into studies on identity territories, taking up classics that are little known and not yet organized in an evolutionary reading of urban thinking about gay territories in the studies of segregation, its processes and spatial expressions. It presents international studies on the concept of “ghetto” and “gay ghetto”, from the sociology of the Chicago School, listing criticisms and new approaches from recent North American and European studies. It revisits studies of contemporary gay territories relating them to processes of urban transformation: San Francisco, in the United States (Castells, 1983); Oxford Street, in Sydney, Australia (Rusting, 2008); the Chueca neighborhood in Madrid, Spain (Boivin, 2013). Visit the Brazilian anthropological literature on the gay ghetto and homosexual sociability in São Paulo, Brazil, which reviewed the fixity, identified becoming around moral codes and the co-existence of physical and virtual territories. It intends to signal an international and national evolutionary process in studies on segregation.

The Women's College, Between Queer Utopias and Heterotopias: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives from Delhi's Indraprastha College

Ms. Nivedita Tuli¹

¹Independent Researcher, Delhi, India

In this paper I argue that women's colleges have the potential to function as queer utopias. This potential draws from the near-absence of men, which allows students to express themselves in ways which do not conform to heteronormative expectations. I use as a case-study, Indraprastha College for Women, which was established in 1924 as the first women's college of Delhi University. I build my argument using voices

of queer students, past and present. The contemporary account draws from my own experiences and interviews with other students. I also bring out voices from the college's students' magazine which has been published annually since 1937.

My aim is not to romanticize women's colleges, and I complicate the narrative using Michel Foucault's framework on "other spaces". According to Foucault, "utopias" are perfect spaces which cannot exist in the real world. What exist instead are "heterotopias" – sites with utopic elements that have been shaped by societal hierarchies, these act as mirrors in imperfect societies. In women's colleges of South Asia, queer self-expression and community is often limited to those with certain caste, class, and cis-gender privileges. Moreover, to gain acceptance, queerness often must be performed in accordance with hegemonic Western ideals. Ultimately this paper is a critical examination of women's colleges, I highlight the ways in which they function (and have historically functioned) as queer utopias, but also the forms of gatekeeping that limit their emancipatory potential to particular groups, making them into heterotopias.

Indraprastha College and the possibilities it offers are under threat today due to the right-wing government's onslaught on institutions it deems "progressive". The existing threat was intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic; the college has been closed for offline learning since March 2020. I explore how this space is being experienced virtually by students, and their attempts to regain access.

PANEL No.28: Reimagining Urban Infrastructure through Spatial Occupation

Conveners | Raktim Ray, *University College of London, London, United Kingdom*; Ufaque Paiker, *Ashoka University, Sonapat, India*

Alternative space movements in the global sixties: Comparative urban studies of London, Tokyo and New York

Mr. Hideaki Sasajima¹

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The conflicts between liberals and conservatives—whether political or cultural—intensified sharply after the “culture war” of the early 1990s. Now, during the Covid-19 pandemic, the conflict appears to be deepening rather than resolving. In times of crisis, how can we think of urban cultural movements as an opportunity for a new era? This paper examines alternative space movements in the global sixties from a comparative urban sociological perspective. “Alternative space movements” refer to artists' activities mainly in the late 1960s, in pursuit of art venues while avoiding any reliance on commercial galleries and museums. These activities ranged from direct criticism of existing art worlds to performative actions without necessarily a direct purpose. Alternative space movements have been creating social and cultural bases in urban areas, such as non-profit organizations and alternative spaces, since then. Those organizations and spaces have been creating opportunities to protest urban spacial issues during the times of entrepreneurial urban settings. Although alternative space movements are significant for urban environments, there are few urban sociological studies. This paper will compare the movements that developed in London, Tokyo, and New York in the late 1960s and clarify the context of such movements, the mechanisms that drove them, and their potential—especially the community arts movements in London, the Bikyoto and Bigakko movements in Tokyo, and movements led mainly by the Art Workers Coalition in New York.

Defending against abandonment. Infrastructure and social reproduction in the recuperation of spaces in the Old city of Taranto (Apulia)

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This proposal analyses the practices of recuperation of urban spaces and how they reflect social meanings and ways of organizing settlements and relationships. The research-based on the context of the Old city of Taranto (Apulia, Italy), seeks to deepen the connections between an urban area affected by historical phenomena of abandonment and the industrial development of the steel industry and the consequent spatial expansion of the city. In the context of Taranto's environmental and economic crisis, the abandoned number of buildings in a state of physical decay in the Old city represents an opportunity to reconstruct a new space for living, relations, and work. Family units and social organizations resist abandonment, continuing to live and occupy the available spaces in the old city. These groups suffer both a form of social marginalization as they live in an area abandoned by the rest of the town and exclusion from access to services and opportunities to improve their conditions. For these reasons, the ethnographic investigation focused on the organization of recovery initiatives and abandoned spaces, promoted by an informal group called "I Ragazzi Della Città Vecchia" (The Boys of the Old City). These practices highlight the centrality and importance of space as a fundamental resource for the social reproduction of inhabitants, relationships and economies. Abandonment and the absence of infrastructures (services, supplies, roads) are addressed by reproducing specific social infrastructures based on the kinship and neighbourhood relations of the inhabitants involved in the recovery. The complex networks of connections, spaces, people of I Ragazzi Della Città Vecchia reflect a specific spatialisation of the social infrastructure. The inhabitants defend by recovering the Old Town's abandoned spaces' living dimension from resisting depopulation and spaces' abandonment.

Protest and Spatial Restructuring in the city of Kolkata: A study

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This paper looks into the spatiality of protests, how the restructuring of the city space hinders and reflexively modifies the medium and characteristics of protest especially in the Indian city of Kolkata. Theoretically, the paper explores the classical Marxian concepts to understand class conflicts, production of space and urban protests in an advanced capitalist, postmodern phase that we are living in. It intends to magnify the social relations, changes in political scenario, economic transitions, productions and utilization of space, the way the citizens' protest for their rights and survival and how the state utilizes catalysts like, "spatial reconstruction" and beautification of the city as a passive tool of controlling the territoriality of urban protests.

In the last decades, a sort of urban renaissance has occupied the cities across the globe. Neo-liberal policies have altered the characteristics and virtue of both the city and its population. Kolkata is undergoing a similar phase of beautification, historically it witnessed massive protests and the very site of power used to be the traditional sites of protest too. With the changing structure of the political-economy of the city, a new 'consumerist' class has emerged who imbibed a modern and globalized lifestyle with cosmopolitan aspirations. Common open public spaces are disappearing in their physical sense, since they are increasingly turned into commercial, corporate spaces dedicated to consumption and production. The city walls, streets, lanes, neighborhood parks and city spaces which once used to be the open canvas for artistic and aesthetic expression of dissent and shared feelings are fading away. This shrinkage of the city space is a

testimony of the dominance of a certain class and the restructuring of the urban space is driven by political power backed by the private endorsement of capitalist groups that forced it to lose its true essence.

PANEL No.29: Reorganising Work: On the spatial fragmentation of work and new flexible work infrastructures in small and medium-sized cities

Conveners | Janet Merkel, Dimitris Pettas, Vasilis Avdikos, *TU Berlin, Berlin, Germany*

Forms of population relocation and new workspaces in tourist areas in Italy

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Work patterns reorganisation has been accelerated by the pandemic, since the restrictions to personal mobility have led to a massive resort to forms of remote working, in turn implying patterns of population redistribution, due to the declining need to live in proximity to the workplace.

The post-lockdown situation will evolve in ways difficult to predict, producing multiple and diverse solutions in terms of living and working arrangements; at the same time some forms of population redistribution, that will possibly continue in the medium term, are already visible.

In Italy, for instance, we see forms of relocation within the country, concerning both the work sphere and the residential one. One interesting case concerns knowledge workers moving to peripheral locations to experience a higher quality of life: a phenomenon connected to forms of multi-residentiality involving the vast underused stock of second homes in tourist areas in the mountains or on the seaside. These examples, concerning lower density suburban areas, marginal and rural areas, tourist resorts, are certainly many and quite diverse. Their evolution trends are influenced by existing services and digital infrastructures, but they at the same time stimulate changes in service and infrastructure organisation, to meet the new needs, such as the diffusion of new types of workspaces outside from metropolitan cores.

Moving from this background, the paper will critically discuss the first results of an ongoing research project that identifies trends of relocation of different segments of the population, using digital connectivity data, as well as types of socio-spatial configurations, and links those trends to the emerge of new typologies of workspaces, using diverse sets of data sources. The emerging typologies of new workspaces will be discussed in relation to their location, functioning model, governance, actors involved, looking also to the possible effects in terms of local policies.

Has urban coworking become adult? On spatiotemporal detached coworkers and the(ir) boundaries of sharing

Mr. Malte Höfner¹, Mr. Nikos Gatsinos¹

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Our work sheds light on the professional alteration of coworkers who have left their former Collaborative Workspaces (CWS). What connects or separates them to their previous working environment? Are they still in contact with former deskmates or hosts? What happens to the established embeddedness in the past

when former coworking members leave? Which connections remain in the new and now dislocated spaces of their professional past? Why and where did the 'old ones' go?

To answer these questions, follow-up interviews were conducted with ex-members of CWS in the City of Graz, Austria. Exploring their professional alterations, they were asked to portray their current work-life arrangements addressing still existing connections to and networks of their (ex-)peers. In doing so, the interviewees' current positions have been juxtaposed with the ones emanating from their narratives in 2015/16.

Only ten years ago, a lot of research was carried out on self-employed and creative work to explain the phenomena of boundaryless work re-locating in CWS. Recently, there seem to be other trends such as rural coworking, co-living, co-workation, often decorated by the buzzword of sharing without explaining what sharing means. This chapter approaches urban CWS focusing on community-led CWS, where sharing is explicitly conceived as a social practice.

Revealing whether sharing emerges only out of economic threat to overcome precarious work at a particular stage of life, we raise the question if sharing – formerly anchored in routines of CWS – incorporates other spheres of life during professional maturity. We illustrate the possible tensions between practices of sharing and their interrelated effects on being-divided of/from (old) space(s).

Informality and local development agendas; developing creative hubs in small cities

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The presentation traces the process of developing four creative hubs in the Region of Western Greece funded by the EC Interreg Greece Italy program. The Region of Western Greece has around 1.870 creative and cultural enterprises (sole proprietorships or small enterprises), representing 3,72% of the overall Greek CCI domain and employing around 4300 employees. The four hubs were planned to be established in three small cities (Agrinio, Mesolonghi and Pyrgos) and in Patras, which is a medium sized city. The goal of the Creative@Hubs project is to provide the local economy with the economic as well as the social infrastructure to agglomerate the local creative forces and spark synergies between them. The partnership of the project consists of the RWG, the local chambers of commerce and two university partners. The presentation will trace the development of the four hubs and especially the ways that the partnership has evolved over the lifetime of the project, focusing on problems of coordination due to clashes between formal and informal processes, different needs and local development agendas. We see informality as a heuristic device that uncovers the ever-shifting urban relationship between the legal and the illegal, legitimate and illegitimate, authorized and unauthorized (McFarlane 2012).

Rethinking the value of proximity in the wake of pandemic: The changing entrepreneurship patterns and ways of operation of creative and cultural enterprises located in creative hubs in Tallinn, Estonia

Dr. Ingmar Pastak¹, Dr. Ragne Kõuts-Klemm¹, Dr. Helen Eenmaa¹, Dr. Eneli Kindsiko¹

¹*University Of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia*

Previous studies show that micro and small enterprises in creative and cultural industries (CCIs) tend to be attracted by physical co-location – the agglomeration. A high level of agglomeration is, however, in many senses the opposite to digitalisation: there is a contrast between operating an enterprise based on face-to-

face contacts and physical attendance and operating one based on digital contacts and a digitally managed value chain. Existing studies indicate two gaps in the research of the digitalisation of CCI experiencing crucial changes in digitalisation and especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. First, there is a lack of knowledge regarding how the two macro-trends of agglomeration and digitalisation in CCIs are related to each other, for example leaving it open whether agglomeration offers support in digitalising enterprises. Second, there is a lack of knowledge regarding how digitalisation and especially digitalisation in the context of the recent COVID-19 pandemic affects the strongly agglomerating CC enterprises.

This paper offers an account of the changing entrepreneurship patterns of agglomerated CC enterprises located in gentrifying urban neighbourhoods. We collected qualitative interview data on a case study basis from micro and small-sized enterprises situated in the creative hubs in Northern Tallinn in Estonia – a neighbourhood where old industrial buildings are converted into new office spaces and creative hubs – and observe a change in entrepreneurship patterns characterised by an increase in digitalised operation. The in-depth interviews with entrepreneurs show that the COVID-19 pandemic boosted the digitalisation in every phase of the value chain of enterprises. Surprisingly, the agglomeration of the CC enterprises in the creative hubs played a significantly lesser role than expected in the context where enterprises searched for solutions to their digitalisation challenges.

PANEL No.30: Resilience and research in ordinary cities during crises

Conveners | Nidhi Subramanyam, *University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*; Taru Taru, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, United States*

Ambiguity in action: Handling compounded uncertainty in spatial planning and humanitarian action in the unexpected floods in Wayanad, Kerala

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Increasing environmental crises due to climate change call for bridging the research and operational logics of spatial planning and humanitarian response. Spatial planning conventionally operates with the aim to reduce uncertainty, which creates a paradoxical relationship between planning and uncertainty; whereas humanitarian agencies tend to focus on short-term uncertainties with limited capacity to plan for long-term uncertainties. This article explores how long-term spatial planning and short-term humanitarian responses relate to three facets of uncertainty particularly relevant in developmental contexts, namely epistemic uncertainty, ontic uncertainty and ambiguity.

We explore these facets through a case study of uncertainty, that of unexpected monsoon floods in 2018 and 2019 in Wayanad, a peri-urban, spatially dispersed, relatively sparsely populated hill district in Kerala, India. In the absence of strong institutional planning mechanisms, community resourcefulness, decentralized governance and localized capacity in Wayanad contributed to contingency planning based on ad hoc, informal, spontaneous and heuristic decisions (Choularton, 2007). Through the case, we show that

compounded uncertainty leads to ambiguity in action, but that this ambiguity can be ameliorated with contextualised contingency planning.

The floods in Kerala underline the characteristic uncertainties of unexpected environmental crises and how these amplify challenges for planners who tend to theorize mainly from future predictions (Albrechts, 2015; Balducci et al., 2011). We therefore conclude the article by outlining a contingency planning approach in spatial planning that prioritises flexible and adaptable decision-making to enhance iterative organisational learning and action as well as cross-sectoral dialogue to deal with uncertainty in developmental contexts with weak institutional mechanisms, scarce resources and chronic vulnerabilities.

Climate Crises in Ordinary Cities: Policymaking for Transformative Resilience

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Although “ordinary cities” in Southeast Asia (SEA) suffer severe consequences of the climate crisis, they tend to have limited physical and civic infrastructure for anticipating or responding to these impacts. Metrocentric epistemologies (Bunnell & Maringanti, 2010) have resulted in a dearth of research about how the rapidly growing secondary cities of the region navigate the intersections between urbanization and climate change. While ‘climate justice’ approaches insist that efforts to build cities’ resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change must support poor and marginalized groups and transform, rather than simply ameliorate, their life conditions, resilience policy in SEA has focused more on climate-proofing infrastructures than advancing rights and equity. Climate justice researchers can play a role in advancing transformative resilience policy as ‘brokers’ (Ernstson et al., 2010; Pelling et al., 2008) between marginalized communities and governments. Yet, even where there is political will to address the social and economic effects of climate change, decision-makers often lack the training and background knowledge to understand and apply research on complex climate challenges. This paper presents the early findings of a participatory action research project that seeks to address this capacity gap in three rapidly urbanizing secondary cities: Battambang, Cambodia; Khon Kaen, Thailand; and Ninh Binh, Vietnam. Building on policymaker, researcher, and civil society relationships and knowledge developed through the Urban Resilience in Southeast Asia Partnership (UCRSEA), we are: 1) investigating policymakers’ knowledge needs, 2) designing capacity-building urban climate justice curricula for local researchers to deliver to policy stakeholders, 3) and assessing the impact of the trainings on policymakers’ knowledge, attitudes, and practices.

Confronting multi-layered crises and enhancing disaster resilience through data generation in Rio Branco, Brazil

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Operating in precarious conditions and with limited resources is a common reality for citizens and local authorities in disaster-prone ordinary cities of the global south. With the COVID-19 pandemic generating an additional set of challenges and threats, innovative modes of enhancing disaster resilience based on

community mobilisation, harnessing of local knowledge and establishment of new or strengthening of existing communication channels between (in)formal networks organically emerged. In this context, citizen generated data are capable of acting as a medium for facilitating dialogue, promoting citizen engagement, and enhancing disaster resilience through the processes of sharing, circulating, and flowing among urban stakeholders.

Our research empirically explores the potential of citizen generated data to contribute to the resilience building process through the example of the city of Rio Branco, an ordinary, medium-sized and very flood-prone city located in state of Acre, Brazil. In February 2021 a multi-layered crisis consisting of unprecedented floods across the state, exacerbated pressure by the COVID-19 pandemic, a dengue fever outbreak and a migratory crisis posed extreme pressures for the highly centralised and resource-limited crisis response apparatus, leading to its eventual overwhelming. Moreover, pandemic-imposed travel restrictions limited the capacity to physically assist crisis management and response efforts. In this context, community members, with the support of local students, orchestrated a digital mobilisation strategy, centred around an international remote mapping campaign in the OpenStreetMap platform and aimed at generating updated and locally relevant geospatial data for all impacted cities across the state. Such data was subsequently utilised to inform flood response, while training was also provided to citizens and state officers for combining it with existing authoritative datasets to enhance flood preparedness. This digital mobilisation stimulated the development of communication channels between previously disconnected urban actors improving existing disaster risk governance mechanisms and ultimately nurturing a collective spirit of resilience.

Getting Home During Lockdown: Circular migration and hyper-precarity in rural Tamil Nadu at the time of Covid-19

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This paper unpacks the fate of Indian circular labour migrants at the time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Based on detailed interviews with inter-state migrant workers employed in the textile industry of Tamil Nadu, we present their narratives of being stuck at work at the start of the first lockdown, their subsequent struggles to get home, and finally their plans to return to Tamil Nadu later in mid-2020. These accounts reveal how a particular labour control regime enhanced their hyper-precarity during the crisis. Employers activated various strategies – withholding wages, deducting food expenses, and promising future wage settlements and pay rises – to first prevent migrant workers from leaving, then dispose of them when they were no longer needed, and ultimately lure them back to restart production post-lockdown. Enabled by the spatio-temporal separation of migrant workers from their home-based kin networks and their lack of social and political support at destination, this labour control regime drew on the simultaneous disposability and unfreedom of migrant workers to produce unprecedented levels of labour exploitation. In conclusion, the paper argues that the Covid-19 crisis is an exceptional juncture which reveals the insidious operations of migrant labour control regimes so as to create possibilities for their gradual dismantling. This paper also reflects on some of the ethical dilemmas and challenges involved in conducting ethnography from a distance in times of crises.

High life in a high-rise: An ethnographic study of everyday life during Covid-19 in an urban community in the City of Colombo, Sri Lanka

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My study is based on ethnographic research and focusses on everyday life-worlds of urban poor communities resettled in a high-rise housing project in the City of Colombo, Sri Lanka. My main research objective investigates processes, relationships and means which afford resettled residents to construct a sense of home during a time of global and local uncertainty. This presentation concentrates on Covid-19 and explores the impact on urban poor communities in the global South. My field-site was situated in a densely populated, high-rise housing project in the City of Colombo, home to those from diverse ethno-religious and social communities. My research explores how communities living in waththas (local term used for informal settlements) in the City of Colombo were resettled due to state led urban regeneration projects. Although this urban regeneration project created material improvement and social mobility, resettlement had an adverse impact on their lives in terms of increased uncertainty and social isolation. I use ethnographic research in the form of a participant observation, a household survey, interviews, telephone and social media conversations to explore the “lived experiences” of my interlocuters. As fieldwork was initiated during the pre-Covid-19 stage, I observed that resettlement in government owned high-rise buildings affected their sense of home and created a sense of precarity to already uncertain lives of the urban poor. However, Covid-19 further exacerbates this vulnerability. My findings illustrate social factors i.e. class, ethno-religious differences, gender, age, health status and mobility, access to kinship and informal social networks created an impact on urban communities during Covid-19. State surveillance and control became increasingly repressive during Covid-19 in Sri Lanka. However, my interlocuters despite cyclic vulnerability and impoverishment, continued to manifest resilience relying on a variety of community based mechanisms and strategies in everyday life to cope with the impact of the pandemic.

Informal glass workers under COVID 19: coping with precariousness, negotiating assistance and framing the disease in Firozabad, India.

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This contribution analyses the social and economic consequences of the lockdown for the glass workers of Firozabad, India who live for a great part of them in precarious housing and are for the other part in nonetheless uncertain economic conditions in times of crisis, being all informal and precarious workers. It exposes their narratives and experience and, articulates these with the reinforcement of the disciplinary regimes and with the need to find solidarity networks, through and beyond labour relations. It interrogates the desirability of the forms of solidarity, and their adjuncts in terms of dependence rise or status loss. It puts into perspective the representation of the disease and the concrete resistances that happened after the second wave. I argue that though many workers stressed the lack of assistance that they face, old, vertical, structures of assistance were quite widely deployed while many representations of the disease in the form of denial or conspiracy theories, may be interpreted as weapons of the weak against a class and community-biased management of the pandemic. Lastly, social movements which may have been ignited partly by the pandemic’s social crisis but are embedded in continuing economic distress, show us how much the economic adjunct of this crisis is anchored in the longer, and worsening, inflation crisis.

Networked Governance and Hybridity for Better Pandemic-Response and Social Resilience – Insights from State Migrant Control Room, Jharkhand, India

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In India, the pandemic led to large-scale devastation in two key phases. First, the economic crisis that was deepened due to lockdown and its aftermath (March to September 2020), disproportionately affected the Migrant workers and the economically weaker communities. Second, during the Delta Wave (March to August 2021), the country was overwhelmed by the health impacts on unvaccinated local communities in ordinary cities, due to limited access to health care, socio-economic inability to quarantine, and continued disinformation.

In March 2020, as the pandemic spread globally, India declared a stringent lockdown. As a result, millions of impoverished, internal migrants found themselves unable to stay in place and survive. Alarmed by this desperate situation, a group of civil society workers, indigenous networks, and grassroots activists in the State of Jharkhand, India, working with the state government to set up a helpline to direct aid. In the space of a week, this helpline evolved into a hybrid institution called the State Migrant Control Room (SCMR), that brought together participants from the State, civil society, traditional networks. A hybrid institution is a mixture of multiple actors, where power is diffused across the various actors (Sorensen & Torfing, 2009). This paper will present the insights gained from eighteen-month-long participant observation (on-site during March to September 2020, and the rest co-working virtually), seventy semi-structured interviews, and results from an impact assessment survey designed and conducted by the author. It closely looks at the plural institutions and organizations working at the State Control Room, their role in managing an effective disaster response, and the challenges and barriers this institution faced. It also presents insights from fifty conversations with migrant workers to unpack the embedded structures of precarity that affect the everyday lives of the poor and that exacerbated the effect of the pandemic on marginalized communities.

PANEL NO.31: Shrinking but Livable? Local agency and bottom-up initiatives in shrinking cities

Conveners | Alla Bolotova, *Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland*, Maria Gunko, *Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow, Russia*

Local initiatives in shrinking small towns as acts of dignity?

Ms. Leona Sandmann¹, **Mr. Sven Messerschmidt**

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Unlike other disciplines, urban studies do not yet engage with dignity as a normative framework. Whilst spatial situations of indignity are well studied – e.g. peripheralization, marginalisation or segregation – the relational emergences of indignities remain unexplored (Großmann & Trubina 2021). To test its analytical contribution, we propose to apply a dignity frame in research on shrinking cities.

Shrinkage as deviation from growth as norm, is often understood to be “near-synonymous with urban distress” (Hirt & Beauregard 2019: 1). Discourse on shrinkage is thus marked by paternalistic terminology

and descriptions of dependence. According to Großmann and Trubina (2021), this can be understood as dignity violations that become tangible in feelings of shame and inferiority. Hence, we regard dignity not only as a framework of analysis but also as an alternative concept for researching places that “lose out” on the growth-agenda.

Empirically, we look at local initiatives in a German shrinking small town. Our hypothesis is that, affected by retrieving market, diminishing state support and stigma, actions of residents are acts to restore self-respect, recognition and autonomy. We show how local austerity policies have led to the closure of infrastructure and amenities. Outrage of residents is a first response, often followed by the formation of citizen initiatives, e.g. when the public pool got closed and only reopened through voluntary work (see Fig. 1). We frame this form of initiative as “acts of dignity”. Although we also detect dimensions of dignity violations in such practices, e.g. a lack of recognition on higher tiers of governance. We are looking forward to sharing our analysis and enrich it through collective discussion.

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Overcoming the limitations to co-production in shrinking cities: a comparative view on Riga (Latvia), Nevers (France), and Heerlen (the Netherlands)

Ms. Anastasiya Matyushkina¹

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Urban shrinkage is a widespread phenomenon that is not expected to cease in the near future. In fact, the prognoses predict that European member states will face exceeding demographic decline after 2030. In a context where most planning tools and strategies were conceived to accommodate urban growth, this demographic trend urges urban scholars and practitioners to develop efficient instruments for maintaining the quality of public services and innovative governance strategies in shrinking cities. Co-production has been proposed as an aspirational practice that benefits shrinking cities at two levels: service provision and policymaking. This paper argues that co-production should not be idealised as a solution to planning challenges in shrinking cities, because of the limited capacity of civil society and restricted financial resources. Proposing a reconceptualization of co-production as a practice of balancing the existing power asymmetries, we ask to what extent can co-production be implemented as a method of governance and planning in shrinking cities? And how can limitations to co-production be addressed? This paper presents in-depth analyses of three co-production projects in different national contexts of shrinking cities: Riga (Latvia), Nevers (France) and Heerlen (the Netherlands). The analyses show that even though co-production practices develop in diverse contexts, their efficacy is impaired due to four key limitations that urban shrinkage imposes. To overcome the limitations, several tools have been identified and discussed, namely the role of mediating actors, independent funding, leadership and civic empowerment, as well as the willingness of public authorities to regenerate power relations.

Pessimism as a way of life – Branding the “best worst’ dying town in Northern Finland

Dr. Johanna Lilius¹, Dr Alla Bolotova

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Place branding is often understood as a neoliberal concept aiming for growth in a place (Jokela 2020). Planners and local enthusiasts often follow the “branding tendency” (Kornberger 2010) in order to improve the image of the place. The aim is typically to find and present a place as distinctive and unique (Luccarelli 2017). Yet branding is not only oriented on external marketing and promotion, but can also make a place more attractive for the local population, providing new grounds for dignity and belonging. In this presentation we focus on Puolanka, a small shrinking town in northern Finland famous for being one of the “fastest dying municipalities in Finland”. The number of inhabitants in Puolanka decreased by half in last 30 years (2 524 inhabitants in 2020). The pessimistic focus on Puolanka in the national media drove a group of residents to form the Puolanka pessimist’s association. This association claiming that Puolanka is the “most pessimistic town in the world” organizes events in the municipality, make You tube-videos promoting a pessimistic view on Puolanka, and sell postcards, T-shirts and the likes representing the pessimism of Puolanka as a brand. Based on interviews and fieldwork, in this presentation we are interested in the stakeholder interpretations of the pessimists, and specifically the connections between policy-makers and the activists. How are the activities of the pessimists understood by policy-makers and politicians in the municipality? Which positionalities are expressed and how is the value of the brand perceived?

The Role of Urban Design in Creating a “Place”: Placemaking activity by residents of a social housing in Japan

Ms. Hanae Soma¹

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“Danchi,” suburban residential community with multi-family apartment blocks, became a symbol of modernisation amid post-war economic growth and rapid urbanisation in Japan through late 1950s to early 1970s. In reference to Relph's (1976) concept, a typical “danchi,” generally developed into homogenised forms, is more likely to represent “placelessness” than “place.” Today, many “danchi” across Japan face issues of weakened social structure and degraded physical environments due to ageing of population, buildings, and infrastructure; however, Kanazawa Seaside Town differentiates itself from these general trends, representing a “place.” Alongside being a pioneering “danchi” development in 1970 with emphasis on urban design, residents’ strong place attachment and active voluntary placemaking activities have been found.

The central question in this research asks what factors create a thriving “danchi” and the role of urban design in mass-produced housing developments that encourage a “place” to evolve. A combination of qualitative approaches (questionnaire survey to residents, interviews to residents/community leaders/architect, observations of resident activities) was adopted for the case study to analyse the identities of place, namely the (1) physical features or appearance, (2) activities and functions and (3) meanings or symbols, and its interrelation. Results found the variability in conditions of “place,” specifically of the roles of each “place identity” and its interrelation. Some activities (e.g., placement of flowerpots in alley spaces) followed the designer-intended functions and meanings of space while others saw residents’ activities (e.g., placemaking by residents) transform physical features, subsequently redefining its accompanied meanings. As found, semi-public spaces open to interpretation, spatially and literally, allowed residents to develop their own activities and redefine the “place.” This paper aims to offer some important

insights into the process of how “place” forms and the role of actors like architects and urban planners in creating housing developments that will mature successfully over the years.

PANEL No.33: The Challenge of Urban Poverty in Cities of the Global South and of the Global North

Conveners | David Benassi, *University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan*; Enrica Morlicchio, *University of Naples - Federico II, Naples*; Enzo Mingione, *University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy*

Defaming Narratives: Poverty, Territorial Stigma and Residents Pride of Place in Inner City Dublin

Dr. Lidia K.c. Manzo¹

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This paper analyzes the impacts of territorial stigmatization on the experiences and life strategies of residents of the Dublin’s Liberties Oliver Bond flats, ones of Ireland’s largest public housing estate. It centers on how the “defamation of place” constructed around marginality and reinforced by media coverage (as crime ridden, frightening, blemished, and even infamous) have served to justify the state-driven gentrification/financialization of social housing via estate regeneration.

The Liberties area of Dublin has a long history and contemporary reality of impoverishment, yet in recent decades has been a site of intense gentrification. Urban entrepreneurial policies have instigated the redevelopment and repackaging of the district’s old-fashioned shops, abandoned buildings and lower-grade functions into a powerhouse for creative industries and cultural tourism. New branding strategies specifically seek to co-opt these meanings of the city while simultaneously acting as a driver for the commodification of that very same poverty.

This study, part of a larger examination of urban transformations in Dublin (2015-18; 2021-22), combines oral history and memory studies with ethnography and participatory research to offer a counternarrative documenting how bonding social capital can offset the negative effects of place-related stigma in areas of ‘concentrated poverty’.

It reveals the extensive and multi-generational network of social ties and social capital, which have developed over 80 years. I demonstrate how these community networks have supported and reinforced each other, have developed schemes for self-help and created strategies of survival, producing solidarity, friendship, self-affirmation actions, sense of community and pride of place. However, I also show how these networks are being threatened due to gentrification and displacement pressures. This can have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable, including lone mothers, single women pensioners and single women without children.

Intersecting Vulnerabilities of Urban Poverty and Homelessness in India, with Special Attention to Delhi

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Official urban poverty estimates in the Global South are based on income measures, and are often lower than 'strong official' numbers of people who (i) live in inadequate housing and (ii) can't access basic services (Satterthwaite and Mitlin 2014:5)

Poverty in Indian cities is concentrated in areas that lack adequate housing, water, and sanitation in wealthy and poor states alike (Yenneti et al 2017). Therefore, identifying risks that people in diverse geographies with similar hazards experience to future poverty can more accurately frame urban poverty dynamics.

In India, residential proof in an officially recognized settlement authorizes public services. Three-fourths of Delhi's land is not legally recognized, compelling most poor people to rely on brokers to access critical goods (Heller et al 2015), a common practice in urban India (Berenschot 2010; de Wit 2017). In Delhi, the range of service inequalities and housing insecurities resulting from this planned settlement->legal citizenship logic produces a continuum of 'differentiated citizenship' (Heller et al 2015). Delhi's homeless are, largely, non-citizens without rights to basic services. The city's 200 shelters were intended to address their extant exclusion. However, official shelter capacity (~16,000) is just one-third of the homeless population (~47,000). Low official occupancy figures (~7,000/year) are due to a shortage of shelter space (18 square ft/resident) and indicates continued exclusion from shelter and exposure to risks to further impoverishment.

In this context, this paper utilizes a vulnerability framework devised by Howe et al (2013), to examine (i) the susceptibility of homeless people to future hazards relative to political, social and economic exclusions (Harris-White 2005) that groups in the population experience (i.e. migrant working men, single women) and (ii) their adaptive capacity to utilize relationships, with social workers and their communities, to access services and livelihoods required to mitigate vulnerabilities and survive (Moser 1998; Woolcock & Narayan 2000).

Spaces of social exclusion: socio-spatial inequality and urban change

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This paper discusses the development and nature of segregation processes in Czechia with a specific focus on the spatial concentrations of the most vulnerable population. Using the spatially detailed database about the recipients of social welfare benefits, the research maps the most pronounced spatial concentrations of poverty and social exclusion and evaluates intra-urban and intra-regional differences. The analysis of six-year period of 2015-2020 asks whether the economic growth, increase in well-being and substantial decline in the number of welfare recipients has also been reflected in the decrease of spatial concentration of the most vulnerable population. Or, whether, contrary to generally positive trends, the concentration of the most vulnerable continued into the localities of social exclusion. As the period under the investigation also includes the first year of Covid-19 pandemic, the paper also provides answer, whether there has been any distinct trend in the development of spatial concentration of social exclusion, and whether, and how, this trend differed from the previous period of 2015-2019. The insights from the analyses will be contextualized in terms of long term social and urban development in a post-socialist country and its cities, national and local policies and practices related to segregation and social exclusion, and narratives related to the populations threatened by the risks of social exclusion and segregation.

Street children of Naples and Palermo: the challenge of urban poverty in a spatial perspective

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This paper offers a spatial perspective on urban poverty through an ethnographic exploration of the experience of poor children in Naples and Palermo. It focusses on their responses to intensifying processes of spatial exclusion which urban change is breeding in both cities, with tourism being one of the main drivers. A renewed interest in the street scene of “porous cities” like Naples and Palermo is fostering the regeneration of traditionally deprived neighbourhoods: this includes the commodification of public space, narrowing the boundaries of what is the only space available to poor children and exacerbating their marginalisation from the city. Against this background, the paper presents two parallel case studies of poor children responding to spatial exclusion. As for Naples, it shows how children involved in street games and other informal spatial practices must negotiate public space with new social actors, such as tourists and gentrifiers. As for Palermo, it shows how the informal use of a historical water fountain where they used to find refreshment in the summer became matter of contention and was stigmatised in the media. In both cases, the public discourse wielded the trope of the street child to frame the children’s behaviour in terms of (their lack of) decency. In contrast, the paper argues that these are instances of a struggle for survival and self-development in which public space represents a livelihood asset for the urban poor navigating the informal opportunity structure of the city, other than the only space available to their children. In this sense, the issue of the spatial agency of the latter is paradigmatic of the limits and possibilities of the urban poor in general, calling into question different sociological concepts of urban poverty (the underclass; the subaltern; the truly disadvantaged etc.) vis-à-vis different epistemologies of the urban across the North-South divide.

Why is it so cold at home? Case of energy poverty in large Ukrainian cities

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Subsumption of the post-Soviet region under the global capitalist system and the dependent development dynamics that followed have strongly affected the socio-economic structures of the societies. Urban centres which under the top-down planned economy were privileged compared to other parts of the country now gradually become the spaces of the new urban poor: urbanites who did not manage to find decent places in the market labor market, internal and international migrants, groups for whom state is not able to provide decent social security and many others. This article will focus on energy poverty, the side of poverty, which manifests itself as underheated homes or unbearable spendings on heating and other utilities. The issue concerns various groups of population and is interconnected with other aspects of poverty such as unaffordability of housing, instability of labour markets, decline of the social infrastructure, as well as recent conditions produced under COVID-19 pandemic. Case of Ukraine provides a highly conflictual situation in the energy sector, as since 2015 communal services in Ukraine were rapidly commercialised. As a result the utility prices tripled, the bills came to comprise the larger part of the household budget for both homeowners and tenants, negatively affecting their respective quality of life. Based on the in-depth interviews, media analysis and survey data I address such questions. What are the dynamics of energy poverty as an everyday life experience of the urban poor in large Ukrainian cities? How does energy poverty affect other aspects of poverty? How does social conflict over the right for energy is embedded in the current stage of capitalist development in the post-Soviet region? This article contributes

both to understanding poverty as experiences lived in a broad variety of ways, including such as cold homes, as well as processes determined by dependent capitalist development of the region.

PANEL No.34: The right to housing in exceptional times

Conveners | Stavros Stavrides, *National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece*; Ioanna Piniara, *Architectural Association, London, United Kingdom*

Assessing Airbnb trends and impacts in exceptional times: The case of Bologna (Italy) before and after the Covid-19 arrival

Mr. Mattia Fiore¹

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In recent years, digital platforms for short-term rentals (e.g. Airbnb) have emerged as powerful tools capable of shaping housing production by commodification and market-oriented principles, spurring neoliberal exploitation of housing and favoring the production of enclaves of “exception” through gentrification and touristification processes. Therefore, the analysis of the composition and diffusion of the platform has represented a key element to understand the implementation of these strategies by the actors involved and to estimate their impact on the right to housing.

This contribution aims to investigate these aspects in the light of the pandemic to understand how they are reconfigured within crises. To do so, it proposes an analysis of Airbnb diffusion in the case study of the city of Bologna (Italy) through quantitative and georeferenced methodologies (InsideAirbnb data).

In the pre-pandemic period (2018-2020), results show how the local consolidation of the platform accompanied an entrepreneurialisation of the offer, through the entry of real estate capital and the expulsion of non-professional actors. In a saturated housing market, Airbnb has stimulated the production of tourist enclaves (downtown), and gentrification processes (historical suburbs) contributing to the housing crisis.

These processes have intensified through the direct effects of the pandemic (2020-2021). First of all, in the context of listings contraction (Fig.1), the internal distribution of properties and incomes has become further polarised, with small actors being increasingly excluded from earning possibilities (Fig.2). Secondly, this divergence has also been reflected in territorial terms according to the context specificities, thereby running the risk of exacerbating pre-existing inequalities.

Although these processes are still ongoing, and in-depth analysis could be useful to assess their specific impacts, Airbnb's case, therefore, appears as an excellent example of how the current pandemic crisis can drive a functional restructuring of the neoliberal urban logic, with the effect of intensifying embedded inequalities.

Contemporary housing policies: The ascendance of “naturally exclusive” clusters and the subsequent normalization of the excluded

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This contribution emanates from the premise that the impact of an architectural project is manifested not only in the organization of space and the social relationships established therein, but mainly in the structure and disposition of time in everyday life. Nowadays, the perception of time, increasingly fragmented and commodified, is deeply affected by the rhetoric and demands of the neoliberal economy. As a consequence, even the most ordinary practice that connects architecture with human beings –the inhabiting itself– is being compromised. This paper encompasses data from five year-long field research and seeks to demonstrate how megaprojects and modern housing enclaves are legitimized and promoted (administrative and market language, symbols, slots, etc.) in order to attract the desirable residents/consumers and exclude the undesirable population, increasing precariousness of inhabiting, social segregation and inequalities.

The study focuses on the waterfront of Douro River (Porto Metropolitan Area, Portugal) that is currently undergoing a process of urban transformation including massive residential construction that severely affects its natural landscape and topography. I argue that certain projects of Polis Program (2000) threaten the habits, rhythms and practices of the local communities that apart from their spatial proximity, share a common awareness of collective life and a history of mutual struggles for survival. To this end, I address to three key concepts regarding housing policies:

- a) the component of time and how it is implemented, reversed and translated into procedures that compose domestic and public life,
- b) the notions of exclusivity and exclusion, since capital possession is the main factor determining access to housing and,
- c) the effect of naturalization, according to which social hierarchies are expressed in physical space in such a way that certain differences produced by historical logic may seem as if they arose from the nature of things (Bourdieu, 1991).

Enclosure Practices in Small Towns as Reflection of Neo-liberal Housing Policies in Turkey: Case Study of Datça, Muğla

Dr. Sezen Savran Penbecioglu¹, Ms. Reyçan Çetin²

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In the last decades, since the middle and high-income groups have been willing to isolate themselves into wealth enclaves, many large housing projects are built through neo-liberal housing policies in Turkey. But with the increasing densities, metropolitan life became more challenging, so these groups began to seek new opportunities and new places to live.

Reverse migration movement from large metropolises to coastal towns in the west of the country was already a rising trend in Turkey. With the Covid 19 pandemic, small towns with lower densities became more attractive for people who work remotely from home. This migration cause a changing effect on housing and the everyday life of small towns in the west. Once, these groups discover a small town, the town becomes popular, and costs begin to rise. Ultimately, these groups transform small towns into inaccessible enclaves for local people and low-income groups.

Datça, is a small town with its natural richness, experiencing these processes and became popular in the last few years. As property and rental housing prices have increased enormously; tenants, students, and

seasonal workers are forced to move from their once-affordable homes. Besides, the current changes in housing, new large-scale projects such as hotels, a new marina, beach clubs, etc. are another dimension of an enclosure at coastal areas of Datça. All these pressures resulted in urban movements of the public and NGOs called “anti-marina” and “we can't accommodate”.

This ongoing study aims to analyze this new neo-liberal housing process in the case study of Datça. Qualitative data as population and house price changes are collected. And also media analysis, interviews with key actors will be important to understand different sides of the process. Results will be discussed in line with the concepts of neo-liberal housing policies, enclave urbanism, and enclosure practices.

Everyday-life spaces in exceptional times : Exploring the approach of Annie Vrychea to the refugee housing units in Thebes and Alexandras Avenue

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Exceptional times and states of emergency have historically enforced the implementation of specific policies, which intensified spatial injustice and social exclusions by creating enclaves of stigmatization, poverty, and marginalization in the urban fabric.

Nevertheless, in many cases the inhabitants have managed to create cracks in the borders of the enclaves, by producing inventive everyday life spaces, introducing common places of solidarity, communication and cooperation with the city.

Characteristic examples of such colorful and vivid spaces in Greece are the refugee settlements, either improvised or organized by the state, created after an urgent need for mass housing. The residents, through their diverse way of inhabiting their neighborhood as an ‘extended room’ and the reappropriation of the ‘transitional’ spaces in-between their inadequate housing units, managed to create rich everyday-life spaces.

We direct our gaze to the past, at the research work of the professor of architecture Annie Vrychea in order to explore the ways she approached such battlefields of antagonistic approaches, always in defense of the right to the city.

This presentation focuses on her innovative participatory design proposal for the regeneration of the refugee settlement of Thebes, and her contribution to the campaign for the rescue from the demolition of the refugee housing units on Alexandra Avenue. Against their potential erasure from the body of the cities, she claimed that these places keep traces of personal and collective experience, multiple experienced times, and histories, valuable for the prospects of the city. Finally, the following question is addressed: how could we relate the approach of Vrychea in exceptional times, the importance she gave to the everyday-life places and times, and to the collective memory, to the current situation where the dominant neoliberal, profit-led approach to housing produces homogenized exclusive spaces?

Housing affordability and the city. Disentangling the urban and spatial dimensions of housing affordability in Europe

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This paper deals with the multidimensional and contested notion of housing affordability (HA). In the past century, scholars have widely debated on definitions, measurements and problems related to HA. The result is an extensive often controversial body of literature with increasingly multidimensional frameworks to analyze HA at various levels. The attention on the urban and local - rather than on the national - scale of housing problems is one remarkably growing aspect. Recent research has discussed the so-called “global urban affordability crisis” (Wetzstein, 2017), which is increasingly affecting especially attractive and growing global cities. While studies have analyzed HA in connection to a variety of different issues, ranging from poverty and social policies to financialization and socio-spatial inequalities, its spatial and urban dimensions and implications are somewhat under-researched. The paper contributes to expanding this knowledge by exploring the European context and focusing on the spatial implications of urban HA, in terms, among other themes, of spatial filtering, suburbanization of poverty, spatial mismatch and accessibility to urban opportunities.

Methodologically, we draw on two main sources: 1) a literature review of recent contributions on HA and 2) an analysis of the contents of an online seminar series “Housing affordability and the city”. The series, that we jointly organized during 2021, hosted the contributions of seven scholars who explored HA through various theoretical and analytical lenses.

Our purpose is to draw a contemporary narrative of HA, as a concept and an urban phenomenon, with the following specific aims: (i) providing orientation between the different themes and issues connected to HA from an urban and spatial perspective; (ii) highlighting advancements, unresolved issues, and possible pathways for future research; (iii) breaking new conceptual ground for the analysis of HA (and HA policies) at the local level, especially aiming at scrutinizing its spatial dimension and outcomes.

Housing emergency or habitability crisis? Reflections from Rome’s housing squats.

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Since the onset of the current syndemic (Horton, 2020), growing attention is being paid by media outlets and even transnational research centres like Eurofound (2020), EuroStat (2021) and OECD (2021) to the emergency caused by the Covid-19 related ‘new housing crisis’. The latter is compounding pre-existing indicators of housing vulnerability (e.g. number of households arrears on mortgage, rent and utility bills; evictions and foreclosures rates; spike in homelessness). These institutions also acknowledge how the ‘housing crisis’ foments social and territorial disintegration. On the other hand, critical scholarship concerned with housing and social movements struggling for urban justice have been underlining how the housing crisis is consequential to the global hyper-commodification of housing (Aalbers, 2016) and the neoliberal reaction to the 2008 financial crash. This continuity is particularly evident if looking at those Southern European cities that have been ravaged by the intertwining of neoliberal urbanisation and austerity politics (Peck, 2012; SqEK 2013, 2014; Stavrides, 2016).

The presentation proposes to replace the reading of the ‘housing crisis/emergency’ with the interpretive framework of the ‘habitability crisis’, drawing upon the empirical materials collected during the activist-ethnographic project I began in 2015 inside the Movimento per il Diritto all’Abitare in Rome (Grazioli,

2021). The ‘habitability crisis’ is intended as an advanced stage of the housing crisis that jeopardises the existence of cities as it fundamentally alters their metabolism, economies and everyday life (Lesutis, 2020; Rossi, 2021). It proposes to do so through the analysis of the contentious politics and discourses activated by Housing Rights Movements (HRMs) and housing squatters in Rome since the beginning of the pandemic. These urban actors are indeed contesting the dominant discourse, and governance paradigm, of the ‘housing emergency’ in Rome, unearthing how it obliterates the structural character of the devastation of public, affordable housing in favour of real-estate valorisation.

Seeing Like a Central Bank: Housing as a Channel for the Transmission of Monetary Policy

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Central Banks have become an integral part of the housing crisis due to the effectiveness of interest rates in determining access to housing finance and as well as the ability to service household debt. As a result, the public has increasingly turned to central banks as the key institution for determining housing access, closely watching for signs of interest rate adjustments, associating these changes with the affordability of housing. Despite strong anecdotal evidence that the Central Bank’s policy decisions impact significantly on the housing market, banking officials remain adamant that housing affordability falls outside of their remit of low, stable inflation and financial stability. This is not to say that Central Banks are not interested in the dynamics of the housing market. Its impact on the effectiveness of monetary policy and maintaining financial stability means that Central Banks produce research and publicly comment on the housing market – often pushing for solutions at a government level, changes to tax settings and to infrastructure and planning policy. Using the Reserve Bank of Australia as a case study, this paper examines housing from the perspective of the Central Bank – arguing that Central Bank’s expansionary monetary policy over the last twenty years oriented towards achieving its mandate of low and stable inflation has concurrently spurred the appreciation of housing as a financial asset. As a result, and because of the need for affordable and secure housing, everyday citizens have become enrolled in the logics of macroeconomic policy and especially the logics of asset speculation.

Subaltern verticalisation: experiencing exception in a planned resettlement colony in Mumbai

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The rule of exception has widened in Indian planning since neoliberalisation in the 1990s (cf. Roy 2009). I examine the challenge that a subaltern community in Mumbai, displaced by a road project - and embodying a habitus of informal placemaking (Lombard 2014) in horizontal autoconstructed settlements - has faced in making a viable place for collective life out of vertical resettlement housing. ‘Subaltern verticalisation’ denotes the forced verticalisation of the marginalised across contexts like American project housing, Grenfell Tower in London, and planned resettlement in India. An interplay of logics of rule and exception marked the crucial 2005 road project in Mumbai. On the one hand, the road was part of the comprehensive Development Plan of 1967. Moreover, secure tenure and the planned nature of the resettlement colony underpinned the state(d) logic of formalising housing informality through resettlement. On the other, the architecture of resettlement housing springs from an exceptional regime of

development control rules that maximise density at the cost of health and hygiene for enabling profit in privatised slum redevelopment and resettlement projects (Pardeshi et al 2020). The resulting cluster of seven-storey RCC buildings housing a thousand families contrasts dramatically with the dense, horizontal, and often convivial, sprawl of the informal settlements from which the displaced were drawn. Verticality and the mandated management system (and unaffordable taxes and maintenance costs) have made it difficult for the community to make place, and poorer residents to survive. This has implications for thinking about subaltern placemaking across the formal/informal and horizontal/vertical conceptual axes in the neoliberal context of land commodification and peripheralisation (Caldeira 2016). The paper draws on qualitative, mixed-methods research including analysis of policy documents, interviews with planners and resettlement officials, as well as with residents of the resettlement colony and of the informal settlement of origin for many.

The neutralisation of residential space through housing enclaves in late-neoliberal Cairo

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In post-revolutionary Egypt, urban development housing projects are taking a leap in type and volume. Unprecedented urbanization and relocation is occurring since 2014 where thousands of people and whole neighbourhoods are relocated -with choice or without- to new spaces. Exceptional -often fortified- enclaving has become a dominant normalized typology. But something is rather qualitatively different above the volume and the neoliberalisation of urban development. It seems that design and spatial restructuring is instrumentalised to expand state urban control over spaces of relative autonomy and possible mobilisation. Hence, enclaving becomes about reconfiguring the relationship between people and space.

Through empirical cases of relocation and enclaving, I am approaching this issue from a citizenship and spatial politics perspective. Neoliberalism is context specific, producing spaces of exceptionalism and variegated citizenship (Ong 2006). It thus creates enclaves which are internally homogeneous yet externally differentiated. This homogenisation is in opposition with the political which is founded on the essential multiplicity of space (Massey 2005, Dodd 2019). Using these cases, I will demonstrate how housing enclaves 'disrupt and reduce' dense social and urban fabric into a singular controllable official narrative. I call this process 'spatial neutralisation'. In one case, it takes the form of the removal of people, houses and belongings which grew organically over generations, turning them into exchangeable statistics and tenures. In another housing project, it takes the form of a strictly controlled and surveilled space where residents have limited autonomy, even over their interior space, and where they are expected to be culturally 'reformed'. What I am reading is the utilisation of exceptional enclaving in housing design to foreclose socio-urban potentiality and plurality. I also show that the inhabitants of such spaces come to hold different degrees of rights and accesses, as they become either owners, or subscribers, or customers, or even inmates.

The Politics of Property in Land: Governmentality of Neo-liberal Housing and its Contestations in Bangalore, India

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Drawing on ethnographic research undertaken in the South Indian city of Bangalore, between 2018 -2019, this paper traces the extent to, and the manner in which neo-liberal land and housing policies actually materializes on the ground. Bangalore, known globally as the Silicon Valley of India, is located in the South Indian State of Karnataka. Since the mid-nineties, India's urban housing policies promoted by both the national and the regional governments, moved away from an emphasis on welfare towards extraction of surplus. The focus is on: real estate led growth, creation of Special Economic Zones, promotion of large scale development by private developers, public-private partnerships, and financialization of land. Amendment to existing land institutional laws and new laws such as the compulsory land acquisition and rehabilitation, land assembly, and land titling are being implemented to ensure a smooth transfer of land to large corporate developers for their gated housing complexes, luxury apartments and green residences. With the announcement of such policies land prices soared between 2005 and until 2014 but slowed down thereafter, similar to the trend observed in other Indian cities. However such projects were, and continue to be actively contested by land owners, low and middle income home owners. Exploring two case studies namely, Arkavathy housing project touted as Asia's largest housing project and squatter residents' struggle for claiming infrastructure and land titles in the North Western localities of the city, the paper illustrates how the fluid trajectory of the land politics has shaped the landscape at the city's' outskirts. In this light, it traces the role of and relationships between government agencies owning or regulating land and housing, land owners, low income house owners, brokers. It argues for a bottom up reading of neo-liberal urban governance and governmentality. The paper draws on anthropological studies on spatializing law.

The post-pandemic landscape of housing debt management in Greece

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Following ten years of social/ economic crisis and austerity policies, the COVID-19 pandemic in Greece rendered even more visible the immediate need of a functioning public healthcare system, as well as the access to adequate and affordable housing conditions, as two of the most crucial factors regarding social reproduction, collective and individual sense of security. At the same time though, the pandemic has acted as an accelerator of an already ongoing neoliberalization process of the Greek political reality, further blurring the lines between state, market and private actors.

We will attempt to analyze this notion by investigating the "Heracles" project, which is a scheme of providing a state guarantee in senior bonds of securitized loans, in exchange for a commission received by the State, which is calculated on market terms. The bill was introduced and approved by the Greek parliament in December 2019 and put into action in April 2020 by the current Greek government. Taking into account that Greece has a high percentage of home ownership (which is mostly acquired through family heritage), the sales and securitization of red loans, in addition to the management of the households' and small businesses' debt by banks, domestic or foreign funds and the subsequent auctions, are likely to dramatically affect the accessibility of the lower economic strata to housing.

This research holds a twofold objective. Firstly, it aims to highlight an ongoing shift from government to governmentality, a shift that implements the regime of "making the crisis an opportunity". In this framework, debt acts more as a form of governance, than a mere economic parameter. Secondly, to

underline a shift towards the financialization of housing, paired with intensifying relations between state policies and the private market, a shift where housing is perceived more as an investment than a social right.

The social housing dilemma. The neoliberal management of public assets in Mirafiori (Turin)

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The social housing legacy represents an intricate issue across Italian cities. Often in degraded buildings, managed by under-funded public bodies, and inhabited by population with precarious socio-economic conditions, they still embody a fundamental social asset within the welfare city. However, the political trend is going towards the progressive privatization of the social residential units, mining the already shortage of social accommodations.

The paper displays the case of a social housing complex built in the 1960s in the former industrial neighbourhood of Mirafiori in Turin (Italy). The residential complex presents social and structural problematic conditions, the socio-economic fragility index in that area results higher than the rest of the city in terms of the unemployment rate and of incidence of families with potential economic hardship (ISTAT Census, 2011). The social housing management body (ATC – Agenzia Territoriale per la Casa) is nowadays evaluating the possibility of activating a process of demolition-reconstruction, replacing the old buildings with a new development project including the regeneration of the surrounding area and considering the almost total privatization of the units. The project foresees also to displace the actual recipients in other social residential units around the city to contrast the social distress present in the area. Such condition is both controversial and paradigmatic of the current debate over the management of the social housing stock around the country. This case study intersects the problematics of social housing management, the unsolved social stigma around the marginal spaces, and the processes of privatization of the social residential units dictated by the neoliberal management structure. The discussion is oriented towards a reflection over the management of such a complex condition, both socially, economically and spatially. To what extent does the public housing stock represent a welfare legacy of the city to be preserved, maintained and renovated?

You cannot stay home if you don't have one

Ms. Tonia Katerini¹

¹*Unifying Initiative Against Auctions, Athens, Greece*

The pandemic has raised the issue of housing in compelling ways on many levels. The existence of an adequate housing significantly changed the way people experienced the pandemic.

At the same time, the conditions of exemption legitimized by the pandemic, as expressed in hundreds of institutional acts, continued to affect the housing management conditions of many citizens. Minor suspensions of auctions and evictions were followed by a large attack on the roof as soon as the pandemic measures eased. In 2021 1117 families in all Greece lost their home while in December 2021 43 homes were lost just in Attica. The economic crisis that follows the pandemic, as well as the increases in a number of basic goods with more important the energy, worsens the inability of the citizens to cope, while the heavily indebted state, and the greedy "investors" are attacking to them.

The impending attack on the roof mobilized the reflexes of the movements, as a result of which the discussion on the methods and tools of resistance is more intense today. In this context, the creation of an observatory for the evolution of the auctions that we started in September 2021 has given important data,

while we believe that an observatory should be also created for the evictions and the registration of housing needs.

Given that 15% of large debtors owe 70% of debts, it is striking that assets, even homes that are being auctioned off, belong mainly to small debtors. It is also interesting that cheap properties are being auctioned in degraded areas or areas that are in the focus of gentrification. These findings lead us to the well-founded view that auctions are not only related to a borrower's debts and loan repayment possibilities, but mainly to real estate strategies and development of specific urban areas.

PANEL No.35: The right to housing in exceptional times: struggles for more equitable housing

Conveners | Dimitris Balampanidis, *Harokopio University, Geography Department, Athens, Greece*; Dimitra Siatitsa, *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece*

From mobilizations against austerity to the struggle for the right to housing in Porto: protagonists, processes and continuities

Dr. Inês Barbosa¹

¹*Institute of Sociology of the University of Porto, Porto, Portugal*

In Porto, Portugal, the phenomenon of gentrification is relatively recent and may be associated with the period of crisis that gave rise to the intervention of Troika, when non-interventionist and neoliberal mechanisms were introduced in the housing sector (Antunes, 2019). We start from the hypothesis that touristification in Portugal and other southern European countries has specific traits related to low wages, generalized precariousness and the government's commitment to tourism as an axis of economic development, making it the “panacea for the social and urban crisis” (Mendes, 2017; Janoschka, 2018). If, on the one hand, tourism has instigated urban rehabilitation and the revitalization of the historic center, on the other hand, there has been an abrupt increase in the value of housing; mass evictions and pressure on residents; closing of associative spaces; exponential growth of hotels and local accommodation, in short, the commodification of the city. The pandemic seems to have only momentarily interrupted these processes, the struggle for the right to housing continues to mark the daily life of the inhabitants. This communication continues a PhD militant research on social mobilizations against austerity (Barbosa, 2016) and is part of a broader project on resistance to gentrification and touristification in Porto (Barbosa, 2020, 2021). From a review of published news and records collected by the researcher, we built a chronology of social mobilizations in the city, between 2011 and 2021, identifying continuities and ruptures, driving agents, triggering factors, constraints, periods of turmoil and stagnation. We intersperse this analysis with the mapping of collective agents (alternative spaces, activist groups, virtual channels) that emerged and disappeared in these ten years. Therefore, we seek to identify learning and contamination, weaknesses and contradictions. Although we focus on local history, we frame it in global movements for the right to the city (Colomb & Novy, 2017).

Implementing innovative collaborative housing solutions in the private rental market: The case of Yes We Rent! UIA project in Mataró

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Yes, we Rent! is a project held in Mataró (Catalonia) co-funded by the Urban Innovative Actions to tackle the right to housing in cities with straitened resources and limited competences tackling two challenges of the local housing policy: To mobilise private flats – particularly long-term vacant – and to boost the potential of cooperative initiatives to auto-generate affordable housing in alliance with local administrations (collaborative housing).

Hence, since 2019, the municipality of Mataró incentivises owners to cede their empty flats to an affordable housing scheme to be rented at below-market price.

It has also set-up a new agent to transform the rental market reshaping the balance of power between owners and tenants. Bloc Cooperatiu, the first tenant’s cooperative of scattered flats, was created in 2021 to rent collectively. They expect to obtain better conditions from property owners in exchange to an “upgraded” rental agreement by offering renovation, security and other added-value services. They also aim to draw on the potential for self-help and empowerment.

Yes, We Rent! Is a pilot for a replicable organisational and economic model to build up an affordable housing stock based on public-cooperative collaboration, connecting to wider debates on the co-production of affordable and cooperative housing between public authorities and citizens.

The contribution will detail those findings that can be transferable to local housing policies. Questions we would like to answer verse on:

- What potential for municipal control over privately owned housing for incrementing the affordable housing offer? How does it compare to other models?
- Can cooperation between municipalities and grassroots initiatives become a standard approach to affordable housing?
- What works best to attract owners? which relationship should and in how far is it possible to consolidate their cooperation?
- How to ensure that tenants with lower capacities for management can participate in cooperatives?

Local governments reconfigured? Struggles for affordable housing in Basel

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This paper takes the momentum of winning the popular initiative for a “right to housing” in the canton of Basel (Switzerland) in 2018, analyzing what lead to this majority decision and how it stays highly contested until today. We contextualize the new “right to housing” as a part of a cascade of successful popular initiatives (Volksinitiativen) all aiming for a stronger tenant protection and the creation of affordable housing, analyzing the alliances that lead to these institutional changes. By discussing findings of our ongoing ethnographic research and activist practice, we conceptualize the majority decision as a result of versatile, long-term, and often “unsuccessful” struggles against displacement. These were initiated by grassroot organizing of affected tenants, coalescing with tenant unions, social workers, pensioners’ organizations, and politicians. We then analyze how the decision led to a reconfiguration of local housing policy which in the last two centuries was put forward by an “urban growth coalition” (Harvey 1989) of (real estate) companies, politicians, state services, and architects. These policies were dominated by the

introduction of entrepreneurial principles, the attraction of real estate investors and the redevelopment of working-class neighborhoods. Scrutinizing how the popular initiatives have been implemented (or not) and what new policies and discourses the local administration tries to advance today, we then look at how the fight for affordable housing in Basel is far from being obsolete. We underline the importance of an ongoing pressure from versatile actors fighting with a variety of practices. Hence, the paper argues against the dichotomy of bottom-up movements and “reformist” practices for institutional change; showing how powerful private property interests can more sustainably be challenged via a modification of (local) housing policies, depending, however, on the pressure of a strong housing movement.

Harvey, D. 1989: From managerialism to entrepreneurialism. *Geogr. Ann.* 71B(1): 3-17

Out of the Defensive: a Strategy for a Tenants’ Commons in Berlin

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Like many other cities, Berlin has been subject to its own crisis of affordable housing. Over the past 15 years, this city which once had affordable and controlled rents has experienced a massive influx of real-estate capital. The result has been a doubling of rents on new apartment contracts, which has defied all attempts to regulate.

Deutsche Wohnen & Co. Enteignen (DW&Co Enteignen, “Expropriate Deutsche Wohnen & Co” in English) is a grassroots campaign in Berlin which is pursuing a strategy for a social-ecological / degrowth transformation of urban housing. The campaign successfully organised for its demands to be put to a citywide referendum on 26th September 2021. This was possible due to the existing direct democracy mechanisms which exist in the federal state of Berlin. Voters supported the referendum with 59.1% in favour of the campaign’s proposal. The campaign has gained support stretching well beyond the tenant activist milieu, to include major trade unions. The referendum was not legally binding, and the governing coalition is unwilling to implement its result. So despite the referendum victory, the campaign goes on. The campaign aims to take back into public ownership the entire stock of housing that belongs to corporations that own more than 3,000 apartments each. If the referendum campaign succeeds, this would involve about 250,000 apartments, thereby doubling the public housing stock. DW&Co Enteignen proposes to place the apartments in the ownership of a new public-law institution which would include tenants, staff and the public in administering the housing, enabling a radical expansion of democracy. Such a tenants’ commons would mark a ruptural break (in the sense of Eric Olin Wright) from housing dominated by private speculators. With rents no longer servicing the demands of the financial markets, the result would be a permanent decrease in rents across the city.

Post-crisis Right to Social Housing after the COVID-19 Pandemic: a Collective, Transdisciplinary Dialogue.

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This collective work aims to bring together scholars and practitioners in the fields of sociology, geography, anthropology, architecture, planning and policy, to confront European perspectives on social housing with that of other regions (India, Latin America, etc.) to raise a series of issues and conceptualizations underpinning the “post-crisis housing right” in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It stems from the IBA Research Lab organized by Vienna University in 2021: one year after the beginning of the pandemic which has radically challenged our certainties about how we live in and how we plan the city of tomorrow.

We use a mixed method design within a transdisciplinary research approach in order to generate synergies opportunities for the co-production of an integrated knowledge among scholars as well as various non-academic actors and stakeholders. Ethnographic observations, interviews, policy analysis, mapping exercises, gaming, surveys, GIS and statistical analysis were carried out by the 11 authors. A total of 13 urban study areas were taken into account into our rights of social housing reasoning, expanding the global north knowledge (Barcelona and Madrid in Spain, Dublin in Ireland, Ioannina in Greece, Milan, Padua and Turin in Italy, Zurich in Switzerland, Munich in Germany) with that of the global south (Bogota in Colombia, Mumbai in India, Quito in Ecuador and Mexico City in Mexico), which allowed for comparison between and within these contexts.

Results highlight five empirical and theoretical contributions that represent responses to the right to social housing in exceptional times. Starting from the tangible ‘global crisis’ of a post-pandemic social housing, our work draws new perspectives on how to improve access to affordable housing, expanding collective living, envisioning new forms of mixed use and more hybrid and open configurations of housing, planning following circular standards, and imagining new frameworks of care and community solidarity.

Re-narrating the right to housing: Exploring frictions in the landscape of alternative housing initiatives in Belgium

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A protracted housing crisis in cities worldwide is increasingly violating individuals' right to housing and to the city. In response to this, 'alternative housing initiatives' such as communal housing, community land trusts, housing cooperatives, informal housing and squatting have emerged. However, many such housing initiatives fall outside or collide with the regulatory frameworks and policies on housing and planning in place, once established under the welfare state in Western societies to secure a right to housing.

This paper presents avenues for a re-narration of the right to housing adapted to the reality of the contemporary urban housing landscape. Besides delimiting the distinct dimensions which constitute a right to housing as identified in literature and policy frameworks - such as housing quality, affordability, security and accessibility - additional dimensions linking such right to the right to the city are considered - such as property structure, housing management, agency and neighbourhood context. These elements are confronted with the singularities of the two distinct yet related housing landscapes of Flanders and Brussels, as separate regions in Belgium, each with their particular housing and planning frameworks. Thereafter, the paper centres on local alternative housing initiatives addressing the urban housing crisis as their main *raison d'être* by considering the various ways they have challenged the notion of such a right when faced with particular socio-economic and/or legal frictions and barriers.

Preliminary findings underscore the concept of 'commoning' in property structures, the wider neighbourhood scale when discussing housing quality and an awareness of the continuum between individual and collective housing governance as three important elements when aiming to re-narrate the right to housing.

Resisting and Reclaiming: Property Occupations by Homeless Mothers in Three US Cities

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Organized squatting has been well studied globally, but has been largely overlooked in the US. This research uses interviews and document analysis to compare three recent cases of organized housing occupations in the US to identify historical, contextual, legal, and tactical/strategic differences that have shaped each case and their outcomes. In Detroit in 2011, activists branching out from Occupy Wall Street tried to leverage a local ordinance to grant squatters legal title to the vacant homes they occupied. In dramatically-gentrifying Oakland in 2019, activists targeted a vacant investor-owned house, demanding the right to purchase it to hold as affordable housing for longtime residents priced out of the market. At the beginning of the pandemic, activists in Philadelphia began moving residents into homes left vacant by the Housing Authority as encampments were swept by private police in defiance of the city's Stay at Home orders and CDC guidelines. We borrow concepts from social movement scholarship to uncover the diagnostic and prognostic frames reflected in each case: these direct actions diagnose particular housing problems and suggest alterations to existing property relationships. We find that each case varies in terms of what kind of property squatters target, how these cities reflect broader structural problems in the US housing market, and what kind of property relations they envision or aim to realize with their occupations. Researchers have long attended to organized housing struggles in their varied manifestations, but by foregrounding resistance to and reclaiming of property, we draw out understudied problems and possibilities subverted within broader housing studies.

The right to housing as preliminary step for migrants' integration process: findings from an Italian case study

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The provision of adequate housing is the primary means supporting migrants' integration process, alongside opportunities to access employment, education and health services. Despite this, migrants' right to housing and how this influences their further integration path is still an under investigated topic. Trying to fill this gap, we present some finding that emerged from a qualitative research conducted in Bologna (Italy) for the H2020 MERGING project. Following a review of existing literature and housing policies and a mapping of local housing and integration projects, interviewing stakeholders, migrants and community members, we selected Housing First Co.Bo. as a case study. The project highlighted the importance of the house as a "springboard" - starting point - for the integration of marginalized people in the city. Housing First was developed for homeless, but shows itself as a replicable model to support the needs that vulnerable migrants will face once they leave the reception paths. In this sense, we found in the Housing First project an emerging idea of integration as a concrete possibility to promote empowerment processes towards autonomy and the enhancement of participatory processes within increasingly multi-ethnic societies. Recent scholarships have shown that social processes and services to the person provided by the sole public administrations are usually organized around functions (e.g., work, housing, health etc.) rather than problems (e.g., social exclusion) (Desmarchelier, Djellal, Gallouj, 2019). As a result, the integration process "organized around functions" is usually weak and limits the institutional capacity of intervening to provide effective responses to cross-cutting social issues such as refugees' needs and their social inclusion

into European societies. The effectiveness of public policies in this field thus requires a new mobilization of a plurality of actors and their cooperation on social housing meanings, models and challenges.

PANEL NO.36: The role of the spatial in struggles to belong for racialized and ethnicized persons

Conveners | Christine Barwick, Jean Beaman, *Europa Universität Flensburg, Flensburg, Germany*

Accounting for the Local Context of Race Relations: The Case of Mexicans in Los Angeles, 1930 and 1940

Prof. Maria G. Rendon¹

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Latinos' concentration in low quality housing in the United States is often depicted as a function of recent immigration of unskilled workers. Yet unaffordable, inadequate housing and persistent patterns of segregation are deeply interwoven with Latinos' long history of racial exclusion and displacement, particularly in the southwest. A deep body of scholarship documents how housing and segregation structured racial inequality for African Americans, but similar research on Latinos is scant, complex and reveals contradictions. We examine the housing experience and segregation of the Mexican-origin group as part of a long history of racial exclusion - one shared by Natives, Asians and African Americans who settled in the region. We do examining the residential patters of these groups Los Angeles in 1930 and 1940. Examining historical housing and segregation patterns in Los Angeles is critical for understanding the racialization of Mexicans in the city. In this study, we call attention to the relational nature of racial formation. Residential maps of the city reveal that examining racial and ethnic groups in isolation is limited, as non-whites in Los Angeles at this time lived in similar neighborhoods. In both decades, Mexicans experienced high levels of segregation from whites, as did Blacks and Asians. Foreign-born white's low levels of segregation from native born whites contrasts with the experience of racialized groups. As scholars note, East Coast and Midwestern cities had (white) ethnically diverse neighborhoods, but Los Angeles' diverse communities were racially distinct. We call for housing and segregation scholars to account for the local context of race relations as they incorporate Latinos and other ethnic and racial groups in their analysis.

Constructing Place, Culture and Community in a Post-secular City: An ethnographic study on the transnational daily routines of Turkish Muslim women in Berlin

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The concept of community is often taken for granted by common sense while referring to a group of people with similar backgrounds, localities, or common points such as beliefs, customs, or identity. However, such an idea of community offers very little to understand and even sometimes hides the diversity of those social groups. Moreover, considering community as a social unit obstructs the fluidity of

boundaries, and also urban inequalities. Regarding people with migration background, marginalization through homogenizing their identification in public discourses is a widespread tendency. However, transnational belonging can be found in various daily practices with a manifold of diverse places in the city. In my PhD dissertation, I conducted an ethnographic study that aims to analyze the transnational ties and practices of Turkish Muslim women in a post-secular European city: Berlin. The research was designed to inquire about religious practices and transnational identities in their various appearances and functions in constructing public and private spaces, qualifying a daily routine, identifying ties and building bonds and boundaries. The research reflects on urban encounters and social ties to discover how transnational belonging was constructed and sustained through community practices by Turkish Muslim women with migration background in a European city. Examples with cooperation among mothers in care practices throughout the city, wedding ceremonies, religious feasts and regular neighbor support were analyzed to better understand transnational belonging in the city. Together with thirty in-depth interviews and twenty-one go-alongs; ethnographic work with participant observation were done in two localities of Berlin: Wedding and Kreuzberg. Home and mosque visits constitute the large part of the field research while go-alongs took place in various parts of the city.

Keywords: migration, transnational identities, belonging, community, post-secular city

Planning the Anti-Policing infrastructure: CAPA and the horizon of struggle

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Planning and constructing egalitarian worlds necessitates thinking through what it means to study and engage in liberatory praxis. By emphasizing the horizon of struggle, I aim to push notions of planning through an abolitionist approach that intersects with a critical environmentalist ethic and is situated within racial capitalism. This includes reconceptualizing how alternative infrastructures can challenge specific ways of being, who is trusted and who is not, and how this intersects with landscapes of uneven development. These practices are create solidaristic bonds locally and globally, while drawing connections between the carceral landscape of policing and military practices "at home" and abroad. This carceral landscape surveils not only radical movements, but every day people. Against this backdrop, multiple pathways are made through various modes of resistance. Through analyzing the Coalition Against Police Abuse (CAPA) in Los Angeles, I analyze how both radical praxis and planning was situated against the carceral apparatus, as they created an anti-policing infrastructure which aimed towards building community and resisting state violence. Their work against state-sanctioned processes shifted development away from a Euro-Western discourse and align towards an internationalist, community planning and praxis. In analyzing their work, questions of community development leads to thinking strategically about manifesting material changes in peoples daily lives and movement alignment with marginalized and oppressed communities. Additionally, analyzing CAPA allows for understanding in what ways the creation of an anti-policing infrastructure was embedded in a larger movement for socio-spatial justice.

Tracing legacies of 'race', whiteness and the nation through a discursive inventory of Berlin's Wedding district

Dr. Christine Barwick¹, Dr Christy Kulz

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Despite the long-term presence of multiculturalism across the European Continent, whiteness endures as a key indicator of European belonging (Müller 2011, Beaman 2015). However, as scholars of postcolonial theory have pointed out, Europe's colonial past is central to current understandings of modernity, migration and who can belong to the nation state (Bhambra 2007, Mayblin and Turner 2021). We will explore how imaginaries of who belongs are spatially and temporally constructed by zooming into Germany and most particularly Wedding, a district in northwest Berlin. Wedding, one of Berlin's most multicultural areas, is home to white Germans, people from Turkish, Arabic, African, East Asian and Polish backgrounds, many of whom grew up in Germany. It is a site of struggle over gentrification and rising rents and it has a strong movement for the de-colonisation of the city (Kwesi Aikins 2012), aiming to re-name streets named after colonisers. Wedding's history illustrates the formative veins of 'race' and nationhood: in the early 1900s a local park in 'Afrikanisches Viertel' was a proposed site for a human zoo displaying Africans from Germany's colonies, while the adjacent streets of 'Englisches Viertel' were named after English cities in honour of King Edward VII. These enduring marks on the urban fabric highlight how nation building's ghosts remain embroidered onto present-day urban materialities. We will unpick the construction of this embroidery through tracing how 'race' and whiteness have discursively manifested. By taking a sociological inventory of key media, political and social interventions, and archival works, we will provide a socio-histoire of the neighborhood, highlighting crucial moments that display the relationship between past and current processes of categorization, marginalization and nation-building. Through zooming in on the local, we will also tease out how focusing on the micro context is essential to understanding processes on the meso and macro levels.

Urban locations in the AMS of Chile: spatializing the process of racialization of Afro-Latino and Caribbean migrants

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The presentation addresses preliminary findings of doctoral research in the Architecture and Urban Studies Program of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, developed in five communal districts of the Metropolitan area of Santiago de Chile during the year 2021-2022.

The growth of Afro-descendant immigration from Latin America and the Caribbean rearranges the socio-spatial hierarchies in Chile, allowing different social groups to construct a social distance under the idea of a supposed whiteness in a new process of racialization towards Afro-descendant migrant populations and ethnic groups. The reproduction of public discourses of national and local authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic by the national media amplifies the dissemination of xenophobic and racist messages that are anchored in specific territories of the city, intensifying the processes of racialization and the naturalization of inequality. Thus, urban spatial locations are configured as scenarios that allow us to observe, feel and experience the permanence of institutional racial projects of colonial origin and the renewal of everyday practices of racism of local and migrant populations.

The reflection indicates that, although the urban space was not designed for racial segregation, but for socioeconomic segregation, which has managed to be permeated with upward social mobility to and within the high-income cone of Santiago (Méndez and Gayo, 2019). This space is currently configured as a

resource to visualize and express materially and symbolically the process of racialization that is being experienced in the country towards Afro-descendant migrant populations coming mainly from Haiti and Colombia. On the other hand, the lower-income social groups with which the migrant population shares residence in the peripheral or popular communes of the Chilean capital have allowed the configuration of selective migrant belongings, not exempt from racial conflicts and symbolisms.

PANEL No.37: Towards new urban economies in the post-pandemic society? Digital and social infrastructures for the embeddedness of the urban economy

Conveners | Alberta Andreotti, *Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milan - Bicocca, Milan*; Ivana Pais, *Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan*; Laura Sartori, *Università degli Studi di Bologna, Bologna, Italy*

Cooperatives, digitization and the transformation of networks of urban areas

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Cooperatives are organizations bound together by ethical premises and common interests. These premises include voluntary and open membership, democratic procedures and the education and training of members. A characteristic of cooperatives is that the members are involved in the decision-making processes. However, they also promise members a financial benefit through the distribution of dividends. Digital literacy has become increasingly important in recent years. In view of the changes in the working environment brought about by digitization and the Covid 19 pandemic, the question arises as to how sustainable the cooperative model is. Basic knowledge of IT security, digital skills, and strategic management is also necessary for the various forms of cooperative enterprises so that they can help to shape these changes in the long term. Digitization offers companies the opportunity to expand their business areas or to establish platforms based on cooperative principles. One question is how network structures in urban areas are changing as a result of digitization.

Current research has so far paid insufficient attention to the economic strategies and measures that cooperatively organized companies can take to counter the restructuring of the world of work. To fill this gap a little, we designed two empirical studies: The first explores qualitatively (by means of workshops and interviews) the needs and requirements of digitalization among cooperatives and accompanies them in the digital transformation of the working environment. The second study uses questionnaires to explore the resilience of cooperatives in times of the pandemic, with the transformation of the working world through digitalization also being a central aspect here. At the conference, we would like to present the results of our studies with the focus on how these changes affect urban economies from a cooperative perspective.

Digital cities as innovation systems: data governance arrangements for social inclusiveness

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In the last two decades, several European cities started a process of becoming “smart” by implementing smart urban technologies (SMUBTs), like mobility apps for public transportation, digital identification tools for citizens to access public services and “geoportals” where land-use and cadastral information is available. What is new to SMUBTs is not only the technologies they are based on, but more fundamentally because SMUBTs are data-driven. A massive amount of citizen data (big data) is constantly collected through automated, algorithm-based procedures; data are the “raw material” of contemporary societies and essential for 21st century cities and neighbourhoods. Therefore, the analysis of the digitalisation of cities has to focus on how city administrations cooperate with (technological) private companies to use data to plan, develop and implement SMUBTs. Which data governance arrangements (most frequently) sustain the digital transformation of cities into “smart cities? Moreover, as SMUBTs are implemented to improve the quality of public services and the built environment, the analysis should also account for the degree of social inclusiveness characterising the implemented SMUBTs. To what extent have smart urban technologies contributed to satisfy the needs of diverse groups of citizens? The overall aim of the research is to “map” individual experiences and practices of digital cities as types of innovation systems, both within-city (different SMUBTs implemented in the same city) and cross-city (similar SMUBTs implemented in different cities), to examine which types of data governance arrangements contribute more to social inclusiveness. Digital cities can hence be analysed as locally specific innovation systems, and also patterns of digital innovation across cities can be identified. Qualitative empirical research is performed on a range of SMUBTs in a selection of European smart cities to comparatively examine their data governance arrangements in terms of social inclusiveness.

Dynamics of Social Innovation in Collaborative Workspaces: A comparative study from Athens

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Collaborative Workspaces (CWS) can be considered as urban ecosystems, similar to a coral reef, that facilitate the interaction among different actors and networks. Despite having transformative potential, threats of gentrification and exacerbation of inequalities are present within the areas in which they operate.

This paper aims at filling the knowledge gap in the CWS literature by demonstrating how CWS engage with social innovation (SI) and interact with broader circuits around them.

We draw from assemblage thinking and the concept of social infrastructure to develop a theoretical framework to identify the broader circuits engaged with SI in CWS.

Therefore, this study focuses on the potential social impacts of CWS through a comparative study of two different social spaces in the city of Athens that operate in socially neglected and deprived areas. In the last decades, Athens has experienced an influx of migrants and an economic crisis, which has resulted in various social needs being underserved. In response to this, many citizen-led initiatives have emerged. This study aims to cast light on two such initiatives.

Both spaces operate in the city centre (Omonia), and share the objective of empowering marginalized groups, albeit to varying degrees. Moreover, they are both engaged with local artistic movements and the

underground music scene of Athens, providing a social space which adds cultural value to the local community. Building on these elements, our study will make use of a qualitative approach through semi-structured interviews with the managers of both spaces, as well as with groups and individuals representing marginalised groups active with these spaces. Thus, we aim to contribute to the literature by offering an alternative narrative on CWS, which are not solely spaces of entrepreneurial individualism, but rather spaces that can foster SI by addressing social needs, improving social relations and supporting socio-political transformation.

Re-imagining healthcare: Wearable smart technologies, the role of medicinal commons and the hyperlocalisation of healthcare datasets

Mr. Alexander Carberry¹

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COVID-19 disproportionately affected those with these comorbidities: Diabetes, Cardiovascular disease and Cancer, expanding interest in preventative healthcare and continuous bio monitoring devices such as smart watches. Medical insurers are now offering smart watches improving their calibration of risk by leveraging collected big-bio-data.

Emergent personalised risk calibrated services are offered to customers based upon access to their health data, increasingly shifting the focus from disease management, to preventative, 'patient responsibility' centric healthcare.

There are troublesome implications:

affordability of these devices enables increasingly risk averse health insurers to offer better services to those who can afford the devices, consequently creating exclusion

improved tracking of health risk facilitates their increased calibration of health risk at the expense of customer's effective data-ownership

their datasets facilitate models of health behaviour which will later be applied to the wider society, these products and models having excluded the digitally impoverished will be utilised to model and shape healthcare policy applied to the digitally impoverished, reaffirming embedding inequality into the very fabric healthcare economic approaches.

Communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 often display high comorbidity rates, which often intersects with disadvantage.

We propose the application of 'medicinal commons' approaches enabling community-centric local disease profile, data gathering, ownership and knowledge-base development. Decentralising and democratising their healthcare approaches. This begins the transformation of healthcare economies, skewed in favour of statal and corporate entities which effectively own and control healthcare modes and paradigms. We see this as the beginning of digital medicinal commons hubs which provide a ground for disruptive health economy models emergence. This paper explores the need for a mature medicinal commons to develop increasingly antifragile healthcare economies and speculates upon what this should look like within urban settings.

The neighborhood as a platform for sharing space. The application of the NeighborHub pilot project in the public housing of districts of Is Mirrionis and San Michele in Cagliari

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The experience globally dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic has contributed to bring back to the center of the reflection on the mechanisms of regulation of public space both the interpretative scale of the neighborhood and the decisive role of the vast constellation of associations, sports collectives, voluntary groups, committees, small communities of exchange and mutual aid, professionals and small businesses, as bearers of innovation and positive resistance to the drift of growing social and economic vulnerability. Territorially widespread “social energies”, on a local scale, that have already demonstrated through networking strategies and digital translation to be able to project themselves in the long term as complementary devices to traditional economic and socio-cultural activities, assume also a decisive role in the dynamics of local development or in order to create new opportunities in terms of work, tourist attraction – for a city that is equally alive and lively for those who live in it and those who visit it. The present contribution proposes a pilot model of urban and social regeneration able to combine the demand of cultural operators and the supply of urban commons by activating a process of sustainable management of the goods. Through its application to the working-class neighborhoods of IsMirrionis and SanMichele in Cagliari (Italy), we can verify its potential and criticality, offering a significant case study defined from a participatory process of enhancement of urban commons. The entire module of the neighborhood is interpreted as a platform for sharing space, a NeighborHub that amplifies the concept of the traditional Community Hub. The contribution concludes by supporting the hypothesis that it is possible to offer an organizational and managerial formula of public space the most flexible as possible and antifragile – maintaining the guarantee of information transparency and the universality of access to facilities and services offered.

The prospects of the 15 minutes city in the Metropolitan City of Milan: discussion of their potentialities and criticalities

Dr. Simone Caiello¹

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Spreading as a response to the need to ensure safe mobility in the most difficult moments of the COVID19 pandemic, the 15-minute city model has recently attracted great attention. Based on accessibility studies, aimed at measuring the level of potential use of the opportunities present in the territories by people (Kwan, 1999), the model of the accessible city, in particular for pedestrians, has entered the political agenda in many contexts. the city of Milan itself, in the “Milan 2020” adaptation strategy, referred to the 15-minute threshold to reshape its neighborhoods. The plan, although conceived as a response to the current emergency, remains valid with a view to promoting the sustainability and resilience of the city, capable of responding (or anticipating, Adey, 2016) any other similar future emergencies. However, this principle must be balanced with the characteristics of the specific territories, and their different populations, to prevent proximity from becoming a limiting “cage”. As stated by Daconto, Caiello and Colleoni (2020), the pandemic has affected the right to (im)mobility in different ways, depending on the social position, roles, and degree of sovereignty over the rhythms and life practices of individuals . In an era in which urban development assumes at least a metropolitan scale, it is necessary to extend our gaze beyond the administrative boundaries of the municipalities, to question whether the principle of proximity

is valid for metropolitan populations who have made mobility an instrument of access to daily opportunities. This work questions the feasibility of the principle of the city at 15 minutes, and of the depolarization of activities, in the territory of the metropolitan city of Milan, through an analysis of pedestrian accessibility to services of daily use for its populations, through GIS methods, thanks to the use of highly detailed 2021 georeferenced data.

PANEL No.38: Transnationalizing Deindustrialization Studies: Causes and Impacts in Ordinary Cities

Conveners | Neha Sami | *Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore, India*; Seth Schindler, *University of Manchester, Manchester, UK*

Deindustrialization as a constitutive factor of real estate development in an East-European periphery

Prof. Eniko Vincze¹

¹*Babes-bolyai University, Cluj- napoca, Romania*

The contribution of my paper to what the panel calls transnational deindustrialization studies is twofold: on the one hand, it proposes to look at deindustrialization in an East-European periphery of global capitalism, a former socialist country going through deep capitalist transformations since the 1990s.

Deindustrialization in this country and in the prior socialist Eastern bloc had another trajectory and happened in different periods of time than in the Global North, playing a particular role in the globalized and financialized neoliberal capitalism of the 1990s. On the other hand, my paper addresses deindustrialization as a condition of possibility for the appearance of “real estate development” in Romania. I conceptualize the latter as a product of the dismantlement of really existing socialism and of the state-led processes creating market economy, as well as a constitutive factor of capitalism and neoliberal accumulation regime in this country. Among the processes that acted as conditions for the appearance of “real estate development” in Romania, the dismantlement of socialist industries was a key, alongside the transformation of the housing regime and the changing role of the state in urban development. My paper relies on the findings of the ongoing research entitled: “Precarious labor and peripheral housing. The socio-economic practices of Romanian Roma in the context of changing industrial relations and uneven territorial development” (NO Grants 2014-2021, 22/2020, www.precwork.ro); and “Class formation and re-urbanization through real estate development at an Eastern periphery of global capitalism” (<https://redurb.ro/>). The empirical research conducted in nine Romanian cities reveals the similarities and differences between these cities in what regards, among others, the transformation of the built urban environment into an asset for financial investment and a source of capital accumulation on the ruins of former industries, privatized and bankrupted during the 1990s and 2000s. Theoretically, my paper addresses de-industrialization in connection with concepts such as the urbanization of capital and the secondary circuit of capital (Harvey), a real-estate development-led housing regime (Aalbers), and entrepreneurial neoliberal governance (Branner, Harvey, etc).

Industrial Destabilisation: the case of Rajajinagar, Bangalore

Ms. Shriya Anand¹, Aditi Dey

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There has been a recent interest in expanding the focus of deindustrialisation studies to the cities of the Global South. Bangalore, with its long legacy of state sponsored industrialisation, as well as a substantial shift in its economy following economic liberalisation in 1991, presents itself as a suitable case to examine the impacts of industrial transformation. We study the decline of the engineering economy in one of Bangalore's earliest planned industrial suburbs, Rajajinagar, to understand how industrial restructuring at the city and national scale has affected and reconfigured local economies. Using this case study, we make two main theoretical contributions: one, we bring out shifts at a neighbourhood scale that go beyond the existing literature on neoliberal transformations in Bangalore as well as other Indian cities. Two, the case also allows us to assess the limitations of deindustrialisation as a framework to analyse these changes, and we suggest a modified framework, that of 'industrial destabilisation'.

Insecurity of Deindustrialisation: Making of the Security Worker in Millennial Mumbai

Dr. Maansi Parpiani¹

¹*University Of Copenhagen,*

This paper examines the after-effects of deindustrialisation from a securitisation perspective. By adopting securitisation as a lens, I show how the post-industrial moment in Mumbai came to be embedded in new frameworks of establishing order and predictability even as its industrial past retained an affective value within the new world.

According to the research on the Global North, state and capital framed deindustrialisation – and particularly the protests, riots or looting that followed industrial closures – as the emergence of the 'insecure city' in need of new technologies, labor and surveillance. In Mumbai, this discourse was not solely meant to delegitimise or displace the industrial worker but also served as a means of recruiting him. In the decade of the 2000s, after the closure of the century-old textile mill industry, the state government and political parties reframed former mill labour as familiar 'insiders' who could take over security jobs from the informally and privately-hired migrant security workers from North India and Nepal.

Though securitisation is often studied in the Global North in the context of the post 9/11 moment, by integrating it within the context of deindustrialization, I show how the disordering of social categories and industrial unpredictability lent endurance to the securitisation frame in Mumbai. In a decade of frequent terror incidents, it fed on a fear of the outsider and sought a disgruntled workforce to undertake new duties in service of the city.

Furthermore, even as a state employment bureau was formed for former local textile workers to enlist as formal security guards, who now had the exclusive right to guard all state institutions in the city, many undertook the work grudgingly. They found security work to be far less dignified than industrial work and security work remained affected by industrial expectations of pride and meaning in work.

When the post-industrial is not enough: gentrification through the re-building of a deindustrialised aesthetic in Turin.

Ms. Michela Voglino¹

¹*University of Milan-Bicocca, Milano, Italy*

This research analyses the production of a new post-industrial residential aesthetic in a deindustrialised neighbourhood of Turin, Italy. Unlike other global or globalising cities, Turin has only partially succeeded in attracting global investment flows, so that many of its deindustrialised areas remain 'empty' and negatively perceived. The economic crisis of being an ordinary post-fordist city has thus led to the total erasure of the industrial past from urban marketing. However, in recent years local real estate actors have started to take an interest in the land abandoned by factories, initiating a process of residentialisation of old manufacturing spaces through their romanticisation in the real estate marketing and, indirectly, in the storytelling of the city. This research thus studies the real estate transformation of the Aurora neighbourhood, dotted with industrial voids and old medium sized manufacturing spaces. Through the content analysis of real estate advertisements of new residential buildings and the use of the re-photography to investigate urban change, the research outlines the paradox of an ex-novo construction of industrial aesthetics, carried out by private actors who renovate spaces transforming them into residential buildings that resemble old factories, without ever really having been so, according to the typological visual canons of European factories of the late 19th century and the loft-conversion aesthetic of gentrified deindustrialised neighbourhoods in global cities. The visual analysis of this aesthetic post-industrialisation is based on the comparison of Google Street View images, which allow us to go back in time, and the renderings produced to market the buildings: the dual past of industry, as crisis and history, is flattened and resolved in the digital atmospheres of renderings as a romantic contemporary industrial landscape in which to live one's private life.

PANEL No.39: Twisting territorial stigmatization

Conveners | Cristina Mattiucci, *University of Naples "Federico II" - Dept. of Architecture, Naples, Italy*; Anke Schwarz, *Technische Universität Dresden, Germany*

Obfuscation and legitimation in the production of territorial stigma: representations and everyday practices in a central neighborhood of Athens

Dr. Ifigeneia Dimitrakou¹

¹*University of Zurich, Zürich, Switzerland*

Legitimation and obfuscation are key functions in the production of territorial stigma (Sisson, 2021). Stigmatizing discourses and dystopic representation of place obscure the political and economic sources of inequality and marginality in deprived neighborhoods and pave the way for the legitimation of punitive policies and urban interventions that reproduce injustice (Hancock, & Mooney, 2013, Slater, 2021). While studies have discussed the institutional logics and the representational techniques employed by the state and the market in these processes (Ghertner, 2010; Sisson, 2021), they pay less attention to how obfuscation and legitimation are reproduced in everyday life within stigmatized areas.

The contribution discusses modes of legitimation and obfuscation in stigma production by looking at the problematization of housing vacancy in post-2008 crisis Athens. The related stigmatizing debates and urban regeneration strategies that have been targeting the densely inhabited and socially and ethnically diverse neighborhoods of the city. Through an analysis of media, policy debates and interviews with residents, I examine modes of obfuscation and legitimation from two perspectives: First, I look at how vacancy, as a seemingly neutral and measurable spatial and land use category, became the part of contrasting neighborhood representations that invisibilized existing struggles in place by constructing place as undesirable and emptied after middle-class flight. Second, I examine ways in which stigmatizing discourses masked behind representations of emptiness shaped residents' justifications and practices of distancing and exclusion of households living precariously "next door". The findings reveal how the often underestimated internal polarizations within socially diverse, yet stigmatized, neighborhoods (Larsen & Delica, 2019) play into the obfuscation, silencing and depoliticization of symbolic and material dispossessions, and thus they impede contestations of stigma "from below".

*references can be provided upon request.

Race as productive of gentrification and as a vehicle to further stigmatization in three Black and Latino communities in Chicago, USA.

Dr. Carolina Sternberg¹

¹*DePaul University, Chicago, United States of America*

In US cities—but especially in Chicago—race has been an organizing principle within every period of urban development of the twentieth century leaving lasting geographies of inequality and stigmatization. These racial and stigmatized histories are legible in discourse, consumption, spatial practices, housing decisions, federal and city policies, and access and movement of capital. Yet since the end of official state redlining to restrict credit access in Black and Latino neighborhoods, urban property values have only become increasingly determined by their degree of association with race, or the presence of white population. In consequence, the value associated to the presence of white residents, also further stigmatizes communities of color in Chicago.

Here we interrogate the interrelations of race and gentrification in three Chicago neighborhoods of historical significance to Black, Mexican, and Puerto Rican residents. Our previous work indicates that historical legacies of structural racism and stigmatization mean that gentrification works differently in each area. Yet, the extant literature has not directly addressed how race- or the presence of white population- fuels local valuation regimes and, as a result, furthers stigmatization of communities of color. For each neighborhood we provide GIS mapping of 30 years of property parcel data and census block data on race, compared with a parcel level visual scan of material conditions in the built environment. Changes in value at the block level reveal value assigned to white population irrespective of material improvement and run counter to standard explanations of gentrification, but closely align with a model of racial capitalism that advances the stigmatization of communities of color. We argue that, while property values tended to rise in all three neighborhoods as they became socially recognized sites of gentrification, a more complex story is unraveled at the neighborhood and block level as local actors ascribed value to the built form.

Re-stigmatizing urban regeneration in Haifa

Dr. Ronnen Ben-Arie¹

¹*Technion, Haifa, Israel*

The Talpiot Market area in the city of Haifa was developed in the 1930s as part of the growing spatial separation between Jewish and Palestinian residents of the “mixed” city, and later became the primary commercial center of the evolving Israeli city. Later on, the area was neglected and stigmatized as a rundown part of the city, home to crime and deprivation. In recent years, the area is undergoing an urban regeneration process, led by a collaboration between the municipality, a public housing company, a private urban renewal impact fund, philanthropic foundations, and local social entrepreneurs, all working together to revitalize the neighbourhood.

This paper aims to analyse two interrelated trajectories that can be identified in the urban regeneration process that is taking place in the area. The first trajectory has to do with changing the way the neighbourhood is conceived. From a stigmatized neighbourhood it is being transformed into a desired location which will attract new residents and private investors. This is done with the well-known combination of municipal redevelopment of public space and private enterprise, mainly chic restaurants, cafes, delicatessens, and so on. The second trajectory has to do with awarding value to those who are part of the revitalization process and the stigmatization of those considered unworthy. Social entrepreneurs and “mission communities”, promoting initiatives to produce cooperative and affordable housing and venues for art and culture, are supported by the municipality and various philanthropic foundations and organizations, and are being considered as innovative and creative; while veteran residents are labelled as passive and non-productive, with no added value for the revitalization process, and are thus stigmatized as Others who are excluded from the process and its future outcome. This new stigmatization intersects with, and conceals, prevailing categorizations of race and class, and redefines the desired urban subject.

Security by design policies in the Brussels Region: unpacking the spatial valuation of spaces and practices by the state

Mr. Alex Govers Pijon², Ms. Lore Janssens¹

¹*KU Leuven, Social & Cultural Anthropology - Geography & Tourism, Leuven, Belgium*, ²*KU Leuven, Geography & Tourism division - Social & Cultural Anthropology, Leuven, Belgium*

This paper adopts an anthropological-geographical perspective to contribute to debates on the relationship between exceptionality and everydayness in the realm of the urban. We focus on the spaces and actors that are conceptualized by Brussels Capital Region (hereafter: Brussels) government in need of “protection” i.e. EU-quarter, in contrast to spaces and practices that are stigmatized by policing and preventive policies. To do so, we did policy analysis, field visits and interviews to unpack the security by design policy which the Brussels government developed together with the EU. This policy aims to integrate security into urban design and planning. In a first phase, the Brussels Region introduced the security by design policy as a reaction to exceptional threat of terrorism in regard of EU-quarter as heart of EU-sovereignty. In a second and current phase, this policy is mainstreamed through creating new spaces and practices of information and expertise exchange (i.e. creation of manuals, a working group, designation of good practices). By creating such spaces and practices, the Brussels Region moves away from threats of terrorism in exceptional spaces (EU-quarter) to more mundane forms of threats (e.g. theft) in everyday spaces (e.g. parcs). In this development, these policies also reproduce a spatial hierarchy between actors, spaces, and practices in their value and il/legitimacy. At the scale of the Brussels region, the identification of zones in need of protection generates an uneven landscape of value: the EU-quarter, EU-worker and EU-activities are valued higher than other actors, spaces, and practices that are the focus of preventive and police

policies. At a micro-scale, we observe that through mainstreaming security by design, the Brussels Region produces ideas about what actors and practices are valued (e.g. families) and il/legitimate (e.g. buglers) in public spaces such as parcs.

Stigmatised territories of southern Italy: between the spectacle of the otherness and the history of (sub)proletariat

Dr. Roberta Pacelli¹

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Wacquant's research has for over forty years been investigating urban marginality from two complementary angles. It moves between ethnography and historical studies on institutions (like police forces, welfare agencies, media, etc.). The first angle is centred on the phenomenology of the street through the point of view of the subjects; instead, the second angle is built from the upper and the outer side of the context that is at stake. This kind of approach allow the author to look at the relations between structures and experiences of urban marginality across borders while paying strong attention to spatial and social specificities of European and American environments.

By following this approach, this proposal would firstly discuss the historical production of territorial taint in Rione Traiano, the second Neapolitan's largest public housing estate.

The research was conducted between 2016 and 2018 and it was started during the protests over the death of a youngster shot and killed by police. An in-depth investigation was carried out (combining interviews and archival research) after about one year of filed work at a local association.

The individual and political agency of marginalized urban populations is at the heart of this research nevertheless much study was done to re-read the history of Rione Traiano in the light of both the institutional representations of the zone and self-representations of the inhabitants. Thus, the political history of local proletariat, the dominant discourses and policy solutions from the sixties to now, the action of criminal groups are all considered to reconstruct how the condition of territorial stigmatization has been being produced.

As to a more general purpose, this proposal would discuss the specificities of southern Italian periferie with respect to other urban contexts in north-European cities that are more affected by neoliberal policies, post-industrial dynamics of socio-economic transformation, post-colonial migration flows.

Territorial stigmatization as an urban continuum: dissecting stigma in Johannesburg.

Dr. Federica Duca¹

¹*Public Affairs Research Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa*

When discussing territorial stigmatization, marginalised spaces of the city, or considered marginal, often associated with poverty, and a lack of infrastructure come to mind. Despite a growing interest in urban inequalities, stigmatization is very seldom employed when looking at middle and upper middle class areas, often considered the norm. With this contribution I propose to extend the analysis of territorial stigmatization to the realm of the wealthy in the city, by considering territorial segregation as a continuum across time and space.

Taking Johannesburg (South Africa) as the basis for my observations, the paper fleshes out the various faces of territorial stigmatization (in which the social, the political and the infrastructural are embedded and co-produce each other) by asking if and how the same practices and actors are being stigmatized in

different spaces of the city and what might account for the different forms of stigmatization. In order to do this, I will adopt a relational approach to the study of territorial stigmatization, shifting and moving through the various parts of the city, as well as daily temporalities.

Looking at how two common practices in the city (in their various forms), namely walking and drinking alcohol have been policed during the initial COVID-19 lockdown, and taking as actors the residents of the city that live in its different spaces, this paper shows how the same practices are differently “stigmatized” in wealthy and less wealthy areas, though they inform each other and the way in which the residents interact with each other. This is determined by the intersection of class and race, and by the connected access to resources and infrastructure. In turn such continued territorial stigmatization contributes to crystalizing spaces of exception, unevenly contested, but which produce a particular configuration of the city, where continued stigmatization promotes increased fragmentation.

Territorial Stigmatization from Below? Countering Elites’ Informality in Rio de Janeiro

Dr. Frank Müller¹

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In public and academic discourse on urbanization in Latin America, territorial stigmatization is often associated with poverty, crime and clientelist modes of governance being located in informal settlements. Informality has hereby become a socially embedded signifier which is coterminous with urban low-income populations as culprits of economic decay. Less studied, however, are cases of elites’ active involvement in informal urbanization in Latin America, as when government officials or local representatives capitalize on their social position to bolster mutually beneficial collaborations with real estate developers. By focusing on cases of “green” crimes (Brisman et al. 2017) in the peripheral urbanization of Rio de Janeiro, I wish to draw attention to marginalized populations’ role in counter-stigmatizing elite territories as being produced through criminal activities. By calling out ecological crimes – such as unlicensed construction in protected forest – activist residents are pointing to the illicit, often intimate ties between politicians and private enterprises in the real estate sector. Building this argument, I respond to the session conveners’ interest in dissecting actors, practices and places of stigmatization by outlining the agency of marginalized groups as stigmatizing actors, and the involvement of formal institutions as stages to narratively perform such denouncement. Based on media outlets, session protocols of public hearings at Rio de Janeiro’s legislative assembly, federal state attorneys’ demands, personal conversations and interviews with activists, I show that stigmatization affects populations unequally, according to race and class of the denouncing subject. Despite activists’ “success” on those stages we need to acknowledge the structural conditions and historically established limitations of social empowerment when we speak about “who is affected by territorial stigmatization” (CfP to this session).

PANEL No.40: (Un)exceptional Neighbourhoods: Transforming, Contesting and Reclaiming the Socialist-Modernist Large Housing Estates

Conveners | Sara Nikolić, Sanja Iguman, Dušanka Milosavljević, *Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia*

Blok meets Polykatoikia: an enquiry concerning the principles of mass housing

Mr. Milos Nacic¹

¹*Faculty Of Political Science, University Of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia*

Athens, Greece and Belgrade, Serbia had entirely different social, economic and political paths after the ending of World War II. However, the dire need for large scale housing developments in these cities remained equally high, as the rural population influx into these capital cities was unparalleled. The solutions directed towards answering these urgent needs were different, but unquestionably relied on the principles of modern architecture and urban planning. In Belgrade, it was the development of the Blok, a large housing estate and in Athens, it was the development of Polykatoikia, an apartment building. The aim of this paper is to bring Blok and Polykatoikia into a critical dialogue, as part of a broader understanding of modernization processes occurred in the Balkans during the second half of the 20th century, along with the contemporary legacies of such processes. By highlighting the shift in perception of these urban elements from ordinary to exceptional through rising local and international interest into the context of their emergence, as well as their architectural, aesthetic and communal value, this presentation would offer potential ways into their long-awaited heritagisation.

Long and short-term transformations of the LHE in Czech cities: residents' perspective

Ms. Jana Kočková¹, doc. Slavomíra Ferenčuhová, Ms. Marie Horňáková², Dr. Petra Špačková²

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Since the 1990s, large housing estates (LHE) in post-socialist cities have been studied as places undergoing considerable transformations. They included changes in the socio-economic profiles and LHE's demographic structures, material transformations, such as revitalisation and aesthetic changes, changes in ownership, or shifts in the public image of LHE. Our presentation attempts to contribute to the debates about crucial changes in these quarters, yet does so through investigating the residents' perspectives. We depart from a qualitative analysis of sixty in-depth interviews with residents of four housing estates in Prague and Brno, collected within the collective research project on housing estates in cities in the Czech Republic ("History and Future of Housing Estates in Czech Cities", Czech Science Foundation, 2020-2022). Besides uncovering the variety of stories of residents moving to these LHE and their overall perception of, and relation to the quarters, we focus specifically on how they observe and interpret major changes that LHE have been undergoing since their construction, and we try to understand how these changes have impacted their satisfaction with their place of residence. Also, we confront residents' view of the long-term transformations of their quarters with the short-term, unforeseen changes brought about in 2020 by the covid-19 pandemics and the following restrictions issued by the government. Limitations to social contact,

increased time spent inside the flats, changes to the rhythms of the use of public spaces, all have influenced how residents perceive their place of living, both in their materiality and as communities. Finally, we position our findings in the context of the changes in the socio-demographic characteristics of LHE in Prague and Brno since the 1970s and of the results of the survey on residential satisfaction organised in 2021/2022 as part of our project.

Managing the identicals, creating identity. What makes the difference? Preliminary factors and differences in management systems of two LHE in Yekaterinburg.

Ms. Albina Davletshina¹, Ph.D. Elena Batunova¹, Dr. Carola Neugebauer¹

¹RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany

Khrushchev has revolutionized the distribution of housing by introducing mass housing construction programmes. Further leaders continued the same logic of mass housing construction to continue a defeat of shortage in housing provision. According to the Ural Real Estate Association, Yekaterinburg's housing stock is 60% represented by mass housing development between 1956-2000 among which 45% belongs to the period from 1980 -to 1991. Interestingly the change of era of one leader was bringing certain transformation in the social layout that required different forms of the construction approaches and management system. One of these unique social experiments was the grass-root initiative - Youth Housing Complex (YHC). YHC was initiated in the late 1970s by young professionals in desperate need of their own house. YHC brought self-governance and DIY approaches into the soviet realm, they were designing and constructing everything by themselves, but financially they were supported by the state.

This research is proposing a comparative study of the present management system of two similar districts in one microrayon of Large Housing Estate JBI in Yekaterinburg, which is composed, on one part, by Large house estate constructed by State and on another part by YHC "Komsomolsky-1" (a second experimental district in whole USSR). Methodologically we used a series of interviews with different stakeholder groups: representatives of municipality, property owners (inhabitants), territorial public self-governance organization and representatives of three forms of management organizations. We tried to answer several questions: Which changes management systems conditions are brought on a spatial level? How different predetermined conditions before construction influenced the transformation of space and did it bring the identity into space.

This paper is enriching the understanding of what factors help to create value from generic spaces and how to make these differences.

Post-Socialist Gardens in Workers' Neighborhoods. Cases of Moscow, Russia and Wuhan, China

Ms. Daria Rud¹

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Analysis focuses on green infrastructures in two socialist housing estates, built in the 1950-s in Russia and China. Moscow case served housing needs of the city aeration plant employees, Wuhan case – those of steel plant workers. Both estates are quarters of low-rise houses, accommodating several hundreds. Data is extracted from interviews, conducted with residents and urban experts; media, social media.

The flora of the estates – shady bushes, flowers, fruit and vegetables in the yards, rows of trees on the streets – is maintained and developed largely by locals, shown in photographs by flâneurs and journalists. Greenery and residents' enthusiasm about it are reported as undeniable advantage.

I see greenery, actions and representations concerning it, as a micro structure, influenced by macro structure, - Socialist ideology. Urban infrastructure maintenance activities could be viewed as a special field, which shows that not only does politics of infrastructure exist, but infrastructure itself represents urban politics (Amin & Thrift, 2017). While there is a consensus about the party responsible for the buildings maintenance, green infrastructure is a gray area in social relations, a fluid object, for which there is no precise responsibility prescription.

The landscaping work of residents can be seen both as community maintenance and heritage protection. This heritage is rooted, both literally and metaphorically, in the Socialist period. For some, post-Socialist heritage means the model (and its' successful result) of communal management. For hipster urbanism "post-Socialist" means authentic product for meaningful consumption (Zukin, 2008).

In the absence of a strong competitive narrative on the workers life in the past (especially in the Moscow case), the image of the green quarter, deserving protection, comes to the fore. Green infrastructure helps to "pack" Socialist image for the post-Socialist flâneur world and save the territory physically, but leaves some other discourses behind.

PANEL No.41: Up and around. Climate change, élites and ecological gentrification

Conveners | Magda Bolzoni, *University of Turin, Torino, Italy*

Going up! Real estate market and the pandemic Alps

Dr. Marta Tonetta¹, Professor Giovanni Semi¹

¹SPS/University Of Milan, Milan, Italy, ²CPS/University of Turin, Turin, Italy

The presentation will discuss an on-going project investigating possible processes of green/alpine gentrification in the (pandemic) Alps. The research is concerned with transformations in consumption and lifestyle preferences, housing and real estate markets broadly connected to the surge of platform capitalism, Covid pandemic and climate change. Indeed, the project questions the role of these processes in, possibly, redefining the relationship among traditionally urban and non-urban localities and, more generally, between spaces of production, leisure and consumption within the frame of planetary urbanization. One of the hypotheses behind this choice is the changing relationships and, potentially, hierarchies, between localities (i.e. traditionally urban and remote areas) and their socio-cultural and economic characteristics, connected to the broader transformations mentioned above.

Along with quantitative meso-analyses and critical mapping, the research adopts a in-depth case study approach, focusing on real estate actors and housing dynamics in prime locations in the Italian, French and Swiss Alps. Relying particularly on qualitative semi-structured interviews to real estate agents, public and private stakeholders, we will elaborate on the early results of the investigation along two lines of analysis: 1) ecological turn and green gentrification; 2) mobilities, second homes and temporalities.

Participatory foresight for a revitalizing and sustainable rural gentrification: a case study in Piedmont

Dr. Alessandro Sciullo¹, Dr. Claudio Marciano¹

¹*University Of Turin, Torino, Italy*

Rural Gentrification refers to a wide variety of social and economic processes that produce a deep change in the social fabric of the recipient local communities. A common trait of these processes is the substitution of the pre-existing socio-economic system, often relying on the traditional extraction of value from natural usage of land property, with a new service-based system aimed at hosting in-migrant middle class groups attracted by environmental amenities.

Rural gentrification is often criticized for its critical impact on territorial resilience. In the academic literature, phenomena like displacement of population and forced migration, aging, depletion of social capital, are well described, with a considerable number of case studies. However, rural gentrification might activate a number of processes whose effects can be uncertain such as the refurbishment of properties, shifts in the rural class structure, post-productivist capital accumulation, rural housing composition. All these processes are performed by different and site-specific systems of agents whose composition is based on a mix of local and in-migrant actors that varied over time. Potentially, this rural restructuring could evolve either towards a robust revitalization of the involved remote areas through the reconstruction of its social and economic foundations or towards an extractive gentrification able to sterilize the local social system.

In this paper, we present the results of a participatory foresight experimentation, carried out by the “Escartons Valli Valdesi Local Action Group (LAG)” in partnership with researchers of University of Turin and expert in foresight methods, where the local communities have been directly involved in shaping their own future by combining gentrification and restoration of the territorial systems through the active involvement and direct appropriation of value. Our main hypothesis is that a proper model of governance can be implemented to steer the evolution of repopulated rural areas towards a sustainable socio-economic model.

Repopulation of mountainous areas? And what is done with it?

Prof. Manfred Perlik¹, PhD Merve Altundal²

¹*Centre For Development and Environment, University Of Bern, Bern, Switzerland,* ²*Ankara University,*

For a long time, “depopulation” dominated mountain research. Meanwhile, urban-to-rural migration has become the dominant discourse. It is based on phenomena such as second homes, co-working spaces or the return in old age. With the pandemic, we see an euphoria to be a trend reversal of metropolisation. Indeed, we have examples of a more intensive use of mountain areas to avoid the risks of urban density (Alpine Arc, Taurus Range) with simultaneous population decline in large cities (diminishing school enrollment in Paris, Lyon, Marseille). However, the euphoria about a “revaluation” of rural areas seems to be premature. On the one hand, figures from New York already show that the exodus is likely to be temporary; in large cities real estate prices continue to rise sharply. On the other hand, it is questionable whether we see a revaluation of the rural (in its ancient integral function of production and reproduction). The Covid crisis has added another facet to the selective valorisation of mountain areas through temporary residences as symbolic capital: that of insurance against emerging agglomeration disadvantages – for those who have access to it. Peri-urbanisation is thus progressing, peripheral areas are becoming more differentiated.

This paper confirms the thesis that current upgrading efforts of so-called rural areas are again drivers of commodification of social practices in peripheral regions (urbanization). A real countertrend in the interest

of transformative social innovation would only be possible if the new interest in mountain areas is not be exhausted in the expansion of double residences, but if peripheral areas would regain parts of their lost productive capacity. This seems possible if new forms of cooperation, institutions and work models are developed.

Key words: commodification, multilocality, urban-to-rural migrations, transformative social innovation, Alpine gentrification, productive mountains

The Green Road Project: A Mobility-led Tourism Gentrification of Turkey's Eastern Black Sea Plateaus?

Dr. Meric Kirmizi¹

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The anti-urban trend following Covid-19 triggered a question of the end of gentrification in the pandemic city. Many urban citizens actually move away from crowded cities to rural areas, where they hope to live an isolated and healthy life even though experts, such as Todd Litman, reveal in their work the false belief that car-dependent suburban areas are safer in the pandemic.

These private escapes are observed in Turkish cities, whose wealthy inhabitants' demand boosted-up real estate prices in the tourism spots of the Aegean coast. These city escapers may unconsciously initiate a rural gentrification process. This study picks up a less obvious Green Road project from the Black Sea Region that aims to connect the region's remote plateaus for mainly tourism purposes. Being part of the Eastern Black Sea Project (DOKAP) of the Regional Development Administration and going back to around 2007, Green Road is basically a 2600 kilometre road construction project on the Eastern Black Sea's higher plateaus. Its piecemeal implementation continued despite certain legal decisions of a stay of execution. The Green Road is a highland duplication of the Black Sea Coastal Road, which caused massive apartmentalization in the region since its opening in 2007. The Green Road project and the zoning amnesty for the houses built on the plateaus make up the supply side of the Black Sea Region's rural gentrification. On the demand side, the pandemic and the wealthy Middle Eastern migrants have an influence. Simultaneously, the Black Sea Region is under huge attack for quarries, mines and hydroelectric plants that bring together opponents under platforms, such as "Karadeniz İsyandır!" (Black Sea is Revolting!) and Storm Initiative. By looking at the case study of mobility-led plateau-tourism gentrification, this preliminary study seeks to follow the thread of closely interconnected mobility and gentrification agendas.

Under the Clouds of Wildfires: Climate Justice and the Making of Urban Futures in Vancouver

Mr. David Champagne¹

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Over the last decades, Vancouver became a poster of climate sustainability worldwide. Yet, the more or less equitable impact of such climate adaptation efforts transformed into unprecedented social issues in recent years. Indeed, Vancouver's image of sustainable success is increasingly tarnished by unprecedented climate-related disasters such as the region's devastating wildfires. Yet, in understanding today's climate injustices, many scholars tend to associate urban sustainability with green gentrification rather than with its relation to climate disasters (Rice et al. 2020). In parallel, scholars of climate urbanism show that urban sustainability is the offspring of climate adaptation strategies that promote cities as the nexus of climate

action at the expense of other regions (Long & Rice, 2019). Overall, the effects of this governance scheme on climate justice remain under-explored in the social sciences, and particularly in the context of climate disasters.

To bridge this gap, I investigate the record-breaking wildfire seasons of 2017, 2018 and 2021, their heatwaves and smoke-related hazards in the context of Vancouver's Southeast False Creek neighborhood, a hallmark of the city's sustainability efforts. Southeast False Creek was the setting for the very first use of "sustainability" in the city's municipal policy as a whole. Since then, its proponents made considerable headways in sustainability innovation: in monitoring and planning sea-level rises, seasonal tides, heatwaves, air quality, and so forth. Using policy and planning documents, public and scientific reports of climate risks, and newspaper articles, I firstly trace the making of Southeast False Creek as a sustainable area. Secondly, I debate the effects of forest fires on the city and on the neighborhood in terms of climate justice. Lastly, in light of Southeast False Creek's relatively privileged position towards climate hazards, I question the impact of climate urbanism on climate justice.

PANEL No.42: Urban insecurity: illegal markets and informal governance

Conveners | Magda Bolzoni, *University of Turin, Torino, Italy*

Exploring a plural policing landscape in under-resourced neighborhoods

Dr. Faisal Umar¹

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As rapid urbanization and scarcity of resources continue to overstretch the capacity of states to adequately deliver security and justice services in many cities across sub-Saharan Africa, community-based organizations are increasingly involved in urban security provision particularly in under-resourced neighborhoods where formal policing is somewhat lacking. Although sometimes working alongside the dysfunctional state policing institutions, non-state actors have taken over much of the responsibilities of securing their neighborhoods, in addition to offering restorative justice whenever possible, thus forming a plural urban policing landscape that blurs the lines between legality and illegality, and between formality and informality, in urban policing practices. This urban policing arrangement is generally framed as a question of state sovereignty, and it is often viewed from Western-centric experiences as a precarious solution to addressing the issue of urban insecurity. Even though self-policing of cities could be linked to the myriad of operational challenges that continue to affect the operations of state policing institutions, it is in fact not a new practice in sub-Saharan Africa - it can be traced back to the pre-colonial African societies, where policing services were largely decentralized and entrenched in the social and religious structures of local communities. In this research, I examined the evolving power dynamics among multiple security providers in under-resourced urban communities and questioned how communities and young offenders in a typical second-tier Nigerian city perceive and experience the plurality of actors and practices in the delivery of security and justice services.

Extortion or taxes? Criminal leaders and fiscal authority in Kingston, Jamaica

Prof. Rivke Jaffe¹

¹*University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*

Through an analysis of the “fiscal” authority of criminal leaders, this paper seeks to draw new connections between illegal markets and informal governance. In Kingston, Jamaica, local leaders known as “dons” play a central role in the informal governance of low-income neighborhoods. While dons are generally involved in criminal activities, many residents of these neighborhoods consider them to be legitimate leaders, based on their provision of security, conflict resolution and welfare. In addition to income generated through legal enterprises, the economic basis for dons’ governance role derives from their longstanding involvement in illegal markets.

Where much attention has gone to the involvement of criminal governance actors in drug trafficking, this paper focuses on the centrality of extortion. Dons exact payments, known non-ironically as “taxes”, from small and large urban entrepreneurs, often in exchange for the provision of protection. Like the dons’ rule more broadly, many Kingstonians, including those who are subject to such “fiscal” demands, consider these financial contributions more or less legitimate. Dons, entrepreneurs and residents go to great lengths to narrate and perform these payments as other-than-extortion.

Drawing on long-term ethnographic research in Kingston, this paper explores how extortion can become legitimate and how dons become informal fiscal authorities. Taking seriously the framing in terms of taxation, I approach the performance of consent as an important enactment of the don’s authority. Like other forms of taxation – payments extracted and redistributed by political institutions – dons’ fiscal regimes function within a specific moral economy, within broadly shared normative understandings of who has the authority to tax whom, and what public goods they are expected to provide in return. While such understandings of fiscal obligations may legitimize dons’ power to extract payments, dons’ transgressions of the attendant norms can engender strong affective responses and directly undermine their authority.

The contrasted socio-territorial configurations of insecurity in the Paris metropolis

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We explore the socio-territorial diversity of urban insecurity, based on a large set of survey data on the Paris metropolis, evaluating every two years (2001-2017) both the experience and the perception of insecurity, combined with an analysis of the socioeconomic structure and change of neighborhoods.

A first set of variables covers the different types of victimizations experienced by the person interviewed or the household. A second set measures the fears of insecurity related to the use of public transport. A third set explores the fears related to insecurity at home and in the neighborhood. A fourth set covers the social preoccupations related to delinquency, poverty, unemployment, public health, pollution. The fifth set deals with neighborhood problems, evaluating the intensity of perceived problems of noise, youth gangs, vandalism, drug dealing. Overall insecurity is substantially higher than the average in France, but it has remained rather stable over the period. It varies according to gender, age, and to socioeconomic conditions and place of residence, that we examine more in detail.

We proceed by a series of statistical analyzes on a table aggregating the socioeconomic profiles, answers to the different measures of insecurity, for each municipality with more than 50 persons interviewed in the surveys. The results are summarized by the profiles of the eight clusters of municipalities. Some are

expected, like the secure upper class areas, or at the opposite, the working class and immigrant areas in the suburbs that are both highly victimized and highly insecure. Others are more paradoxical, like the mixed-upper middle status areas of Paris where (mostly young) people experience a relatively high level of victimization but do not feel insecure; or the outer suburban areas of mixed-lower middle and working class status with low victimization but high preoccupation of insecurity.

The urban insecurity as a market: an analysis on the participation of private agents on the regulation of car theft in São Paulo, Brazil

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In the year 2021, more than 47000 vehicles were stolen in São Paulo. In Brazil's metropolis, the largest among the Americas, state agents describe vehicle theft as a "public problem". An issue to be addressed by security enforcement and the production of regulatory instruments. However, not only the state produces such. The regulation of crime and illegal markets in contemporary cities is also an important source of accumulation for the private capital. Regulation, as we use the term here, is not simply imposed by the state in a top-down fashion. Rather, it emerges from everyday power disputes and the interactions between ordinary people and economic activities, laws, bureaucratic structures, documents, state and criminal agents. Therefore, we propose an analysis on crime management as a profitable market explored by private agents, in a context of expansion of socially legitimated narratives on "urban insecurity". This analysis is conducted through ethnographic research (since 2015) on the sale of stolen cars recovered by the insurance market through car auctions, and on the activity of car disassembly in São Paulo. These markets are attached to the car theft economic chain. Their management, despite the presence of state regulations, is conducted, on a practical level, by the protagonism of private agents, such as insurance companies and auctioneers. These agents occupy a strategic position, established and protected by laws and state regulatory instruments, which allow them to extract large profits and explore the "grey areas" sited in the boundaries between legal and illegal, formal and informal. Furthermore, the ethnographic view of this experience reveals the centrality of technological devices on the regulation of illegal markets. Through, for instance, the creation of tracking devices for used car parts; private and state agents blur the boundaries between politics and technology under the justification of a "fight against crime".

PANEL No.43: Urban migrant citizenship and (post)covid-19

Conveners | Tatiana Fogelman, *Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark*; Henrik Lebuhn, *Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany*, Nir Cohen, *Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*

Citizenship, Gender, and Class: How Mongolian Migrant Women Accessed Urban Spaces in South Korea during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Ms. Martina Vittoria Sottini¹

¹*London School Of Economics And Political Science, London, United Kingdom*

During the Covid-19 pandemic, South Korea has received international attention for its strict social distancing rules and track-and-trace measures. What was less discussed, was how these regulations affected its migrant population. Based on life story interviews that I conducted with two different groups of Mongolian migrant women in the Seoul metropolitan area, my presentation will explain how citizenship, gender, and class have shaped these women's access to urban spaces during the pandemic.

On the one hand, Mongolian marriage migrant women, who had been granted Korean citizenship in the past, were able to easily navigate these measures in urban spaces. On the other hand, Mongolian (un)documented labour migrant women had to become more cautious about what urban spaces they could enter without proper documentation.

Yet, the marriage migrants still had to abide to Korean gendered norms of 'desirable' married life (e.g., living in a suburb, prioritising housework and child-caring) and deal with occasional classed prejudice from Korean in-laws and acquaintances. These gendered and classed relations ultimately limited their access to urban spaces, in spite of their citizenship status and rights. Conversely, not feeling the pressure to fit into Korean gendered and classed expectations in the long-term, enabled Mongolian labour migrant women to use their time and mobility more freely. By doing so, they collaboratively created strategies with fellow migrants to find accessible urban spaces.

In conclusion, to assume that citizenship entailed more freedoms for migrants who had it, during the pandemic, is tempting. However, in the case of Mongolian migrant women in Korea, intersected gendered and classed relations also greatly influenced their ability to access urban spaces, for better or for worse.

From the national macrocosm to the urban microcosm: Local citizenship and Immigration

Ms. Sofia Ntaliou¹

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Has the new 'local turn' in immigration policies resulted in an enhancement of local rights of the un(der)documented residents of cities? This ongoing comparative multi-sited ethnographic research explores if and how local policies produce contingent (forms of) citizenship rights for the un(der)documented residents of Athens and Dublin. It utilizes the theory of local citizenship, referring to local residency as a source of rights, as its theoretical framework and the local governance of immigrant policies theory as an empirical tool. Two case studies in two highly centralized states with different socio-demographic characteristics of their immigrant populations, seemingly following the same immigration models, aim to provide a deeper understanding of the cities' choices and the rights provided to their immigrant populations. The article will present the theoretical framework of the project and some preliminary empirical findings for the cities focusing specifically on how the pandemic has affected the municipal policies and services provided to the immigrants. The aim of the project is to contribute both

conceptually and empirically to local citizenship theory as well as to European scholarship on the approaches of the urban governance of immigrant policies and their relation to the national policies. Furthermore, it will provide new comparative policy-relevant data for the two cities which will facilitate the discussions around the role of cities in immigration and how it changes in different contexts.

Homeless Migrants' Access to Resources in Berlin in the Times of Coronavirus Crisis

Dr. Fazila Bhimji¹

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This paper traces the everyday lived experiences of undocumented homeless migrants and 'asylum-seekers' in Berlin and their sense of citizenship in the city during the two years of the ongoing pandemic. Additionally, the study examines the role of various organizations during this time-period such as homeless shelters, Berlin Collective Action e.V. and solidarity networks which support homeless migrants in the city. More specifically, the study aims to interrogate the following questions: 'how do homeless migrants who have been consistently racialised and stigmatised survive economically in Berlin during the pandemic?', 'how do homeless migrants who rely on emergency shelters or amongst solidarity networks find shelter in Berlin?', 'how do limitations of adequate resources affect their mental health and their relationship with the city?', 'how and to what extent do homeless shelters accommodate migrants during the pandemic?', and 'which kinds of funds and resources homeless migrants come to depend upon?'

Much scholarship on homeless migrants recognize homeless migrants' vulnerability and comprehend that for various reasons it becomes difficult to 'exit homelessness' (Samari, Davood & Groot, Shiloh 2021). Furthermore, Sanó (2021) illustrates 'how the relationship between refugees and asylum seekers living as homeless in Trento and the local community is embedded in some areas of the city and presents some ambivalence that can be traced to the dichotomies visibility/invisibility, attraction/expulsion, tolerated/not-tolerated'. This study will trace homeless refugees' expressions of urban citizenship in Berlin during the pandemic when these dichotomies may have been exacerbated.

Data are drawn on long-term participation over several years in a solidarity group in Berlin supporting homeless migrants as well as interviews with migrants, solidarity networks and various municipalities in the city such as managers of homeless shelters and the Berlin Collective Fund.

Lived experiences of Senegalese immigrant entrepreneurs in Little Senegal, New York City during covid

Prof. David Monda¹

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This paper will examine, explore, and document the lived experiences of Senegalese entrepreneur immigrants in Little Senegal in New York City in the period of the covid.19 pandemic. Entrepreneurs in this context will be Senegalese immigrants who have started formal businesses in Little Senegal. For the purpose of this project, the period of the covid.19 pandemic researched is the nineteen-month period from the first lockdown in New York in March 2020, to the end of Summer in early September 2021. For this period, the paper will study the lived experience of the Senegalese entrepreneur immigrants under two themes. These are entrepreneur survival and entrepreneur networks. In analyzing the lived experiences of Senegalese entrepreneur immigrants, the paper will look to understand how these entrepreneurs survived the covid.19 pandemic and built networks in an increasingly tough business environment. I contend that, there is a need to understand the different Senegalese immigrant entrepreneur experiences in the period

of the covid.19 pandemic to grow social capital, provide access to financing for businesses, create jobs in communities and to create bridges between these immigrant communities and their hosts.

Living in Legal Limbo: Challenges and Opportunities to live in a "Refuge City" for Undocumented migrants

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Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Barcelona in 2021-2022, this article specifies urban citizenship as an overarching concept through its status, rights, and identity dimensions to understand the experiences of undocumented migrants in a self-declared refuge city. As the municipality of Barcelona declared Barcelona as a "refuge city" in 2015, it is chosen as a case study. Based on semi-structured interviews with both lawfully present (7) and undocumented migrants (25), participant observation, and informal talks with relevant stakeholders, this research aims to highlight the opportunities and challenges of living in a declared refuge city. Although data analysis via N-VIVO is still in working progress, conducted interviews with migrants from 4 continents and 15 different countries, show that their urban citizenship experiences vary based on their distinctly personal and social identities. While communicating in Spanish is an opportunity for those who came from former Spanish colonies, it becomes a challenge for the migrants coming from other countries. For instance, while African migrants have experienced every-day racism and discrimination in various circumstances ranging from public humiliation to the labor market, migrants from former Spanish colonies only sense discrimination in the job when their employee speaks with them in Catalan. Yet, the most common challenge for all is the exploitation in the black market owing to their precarious legal situation. All in all, while Barcelona as a refuge city facilitates their access to welfare state provisions, and provides a safe, and secure place to them, discrimination in many areas remained a challenge for migrants regardless of their legal status. In other words, marginality is reproduced not only through explicit policies of exclusion (e.g. deportation, surveillance or immigration documents), but also through discriminative practices in the society (e.g., keeping social distance even before Covid19 in the public transportations).

Migrants, COVID-19 and disadvantaged neighbourhoods – the unequal spatiality of health infrastructures in German cities

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The COVID-19-pandemic has revealed and arguably reinforced the existing socio-economic inequalities across the world. Less advantaged social groups are more likely to see their livelihoods affected due to the impact of the pandemic and the implementation of subsequent regulations. These consequences have an effect on many social spheres, including work, housing, mobility, and health, and reproduce a pattern of socio-spatial inequalities.

In Germany, media initially portrayed persons with a so-called migration background as drivers of the pandemic, reinforcing discriminatory stereotypes. Yet, the exposure of migrants to health risks (such as COVID-19) and the relationship with living in disadvantaged neighbourhoods were often not addressed. For Germany, the unequal distribution of health infrastructures and services and its relationship with migration is only recently being addressed by researchers. Our research is situated at the intersection of migration studies, urban studies and health geography. We conceptualise the social distribution of health

and illness as an embodiment of social inequalities, which is reflected in socio-spatial variations on the neighbourhood level. Our research aims at avoiding the migrantisation of the pandemic by contributing to revealing underlying barriers to just health services, including information and care and their inherent spatiality. Access to health services is considered an essential part of urban citizenship.

In an explorative project we analyse the relationship between migrant status, disadvantaged neighbourhoods and COVID-19 in four municipalities in the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Using a comparative research design, this paper uses the qualitative part of the empirical research and draws on interviews with relevant stakeholders in the case study localities. The findings show that the access to health infrastructures is unequal. Low socio-economic status, high housing densities or language barriers thus coincide with an over-exposure to health risks.

Urban Citizenship during times of COVID and Post Covid: Experience of migrant workers in Construction and Street Trade

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The image circulated widely in the print and social media in March 2019, of the mass exodus of migrant workers from India's major urban centres and hardships they faced in entering their native places is a stark reminder of the fragile citizenship status of migrants, especially those from poorer backgrounds. Those images of migrants held captive at the inter-state borders not only highlighted the devastating effects of the pandemic on migrant workers but also the hardships they faced both in the city they migrated to and back in their native places. Many such migrants depend on the Urban Informal Economy (UIE) for eking out a living in the city. The proposed paper summarises the findings of qualitative research, which explored migrant workers' experience of, and, responses to COVID-19 crisis during and after the pandemic. We focussed on migrants employed in construction work and street trade. Our paper illustrates the inter-sector differences between migrants in terms of their perceived and actual risks and vulnerabilities, coping strategies during the pandemic and resilience post the pandemic. Such differences are influenced by the interplay of different factors including gender, age, place of operation and the power relations in their native place. While the closure of public spaces to street traders affected predominantly women traders operating in the city centre, those operating in the established neighbourhoods of the city responded to the livelihood crisis by networking with potential clients through mobile phones, and mobile trade. Finally, the paper reflects on the methodological challenges of researching during COVID times.

Urban citizenship-making at times of crisis: How migrant-serving organizations in Tel Aviv, Copenhagen, and Berlin responded to the Covid-19 pandemic

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Recent years have seen a rising interest in how social groups make substantive claims for rights in cities they live in (Baubock, 2003). Referred to as urban citizenship, local level rights have been struggled for and attained by various marginalized groups through a fragmented contestation of national authorities (Blokland et al., 2015). With the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, these structures were significantly challenged. This presentation introduces our comparative research project on the social and political dynamics surrounding the management of the Covid-19 pandemic and their consequences in three different urban contexts. The project focuses on the role of migrant-serving organizations in Tel Aviv, Copenhagen, and Berlin as central points of access to resources for migrants and refugees during (and prior) to the pandemic. We investigate how different migrant-serving organizations in selected neighborhoods continued, expanded, adapted, or stopped their work and provision of services during the crisis; and what caused the different responses. The project is based on qualitative interviews with migrant-serving organizations, city officials, and other authorities in each site. It investigates the roles and relations between the local state, migrant-serving organizations, and migrant communities, exploring how the pandemic and its management affected dynamics on the ground and what long-term effects might remain after Covid-19. We will present our comparative approach to urban citizenship regimes, and preliminary findings from each case study.

Urban Migrant Citizenship in pandemic times in Italian small towns: a case study.

Dr. Alba Angelucci¹, Prof Eduardo Barberis¹

¹University Of Urbino Carlo Bo, Urbino, Italy

The COVID-19 syndemic hit hard on the most disadvantaged social groups, among which migrants stand out. Both labour market vulnerability and restraints and controls in asylum-seekers' reception facilities, worsened migrants' vulnerability (EU, 2021; Dessi, 2020; Zanardo, 2021).

Limitation of in-and out-flow mobility curbed migrants' opportunities to cope, weakening also their legal position: this was mirrored also in the exclusion from many emergency welfare measures.

Municipalities had to cope with these vulnerabilities, whose effects – although not totally new – were magnified, affecting migrants' chance to access urban spaces and social services. The ways in which local networks managed the emergency entailed different and layered scenarios of “urban citizenship” for migrants.

Therefore, this paper aims to shed light on the ways in which local administrations and networks dealt with migrants' vulnerabilities during the COVID-19 syndemic – with a focus on small-and medium-sized towns. Indeed, although these are usually deemed to be less endowed to cope with diversity, nonetheless they can be hotbeds of innovation, with fast, pragmatic responses.

Presenting the results of an empirical qualitative research conducted between 2020 and 2021, with interviews to policy makers and civil society actors in Marche region (Italy), we will show that new, emergency-driven responses and approaches, in which both public and private actors came into play, tried to overcome emerging impediments and old barriers.

In particular, municipalities (especially the small-and medium-size towns) relied on civil society in a growing number of services, especially targeting migrant groups. In turn, civil society promoted new social and relational resources, including neighbourhood and local practices of solidarity.

It is an open question if – in the long run - this will lead to the creation and consolidation of stronger and more effective territorial networks to adequately cope with an increasingly complex population with multi-factor and multilayered vulnerabilities.

PANEL No.44: Urbanization of the Commodities Boom: Across Local/Global and Urban/Rural Divides

Conveners | Giselle Mendonca Abreu, *University of California, Berkeley, United States*

Chilean Cherries for China. But how? Geographies of a commodity between extractivism and perspectives of socio-ecological transformation.

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Chile has exported fruit, first dried than fresh, for centuries, but only after the process of agrarian reform (Frei and Allende) and counterreform (Pinochet) in the 1970s, the Chilean fruit boom began. Nowadays, fruit export is a consolidated industry, playing an important role in the territories south of Santiago, with thousands of farmers and farm workers depending on it. Cherries are currently the booming product, driven by the demand of China's growing urban middle class. During an extended field research, I have observed different forms of production inside this industry. A completely export-oriented agroindustry in the Central Valley coexists with groups of small-scale farmers further south, among them Mapuche descendants, who export through the same channels. Production for export though is not the main focus of small-scale farmers. Instead they are inserted in a diverse and rich local agriculture and economy and consider cherries for China as an option to diversify their economy. At the same time their relation to export companies is problematic and often unfair and most state supported is direct to large-scale agroindustry. Studying these different models through the lens of degrowth, the latter model could suggest scenarios of socio-ecological transformation of global trade relations. A transformation that accepts limits of growth and thus, also, trade but without the illusion to eliminate any global connection. Rather the goal is to organise these connections and productions in fairer and more sustainable ways. In the case of Chile, this might include a fairer distribution of access to land and water, a prioritisation of production for the local market in the perspective of food sovereignty and support for small-scale farmers to organise to have fair possibilities to access remaining export markets, considered not as the main goal of production but as a means for economic diversity.

Exceptional Mines, Ordinary Cities: Extractivist Urbanization in Amazonia Beyond Urban/Rural Binaries

Mr. Rodrigo Castriota¹

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This intervention discusses two historical moments of extractivist-driven urbanization in the region of Carajás, Eastern Amazonia. The first one, in the 1970s and 1980s, comprises the discovery of large mineral deposits in the Carajás Mountain Range and the urban and regional transformations that followed the mining, energy and logistics developments of various sizes and functions. The second moment, in the 2010s, is centered on the construction and operation of the S11D, the largest open pit mine of human history and the drastic transformations induced by this fully automated mining project. While the first moment is assessed through geohistorical analysis, the second is based on fieldwork data from 2018 and 2019 conducted in Canaã dos Carajás, Parauapebas and Marabá right after the S11D started operating. On the one hand, the case of Carajás displays well known dynamics that are very familiar to “urban researchers”: migration flows, housing crisis, boom-and-bust economic cycles, speculation and real estate expansion and rural to urban land conversion; and also to “rural researchers”: dispossession and socioenvironmental destruction, fight for land, peasant struggles and mining-led agricultural suppression. On the other hand, in investigating emerging patterns and pathways of urbanization, I emphasize how the emergence and transformation of cities and towns, roads and railroads, pastures and indigenous lands, mines and environmentally protected areas blurry conventional understandings of urban and rural, while allowing for its overcoming. I attempt to look at these transformations not in terms of macro-logical processes and modern-colonial binaries but through everyday rationalities and dynamics that lies at the core of these processes. Ultimately, my goal is to reassert the importance of these ordinary, often non-city spaces and residents to understand pathways urbanization in Brazil and beyond, even though these are often neglected by industrialist and cityist conceptions of urbanization.

Land and Water for Export in “La Tierra mas Fina”: Contested Claims to Regional Resources and Futures across an Agro-Industrial System in the Mexican Altiplano

Mr. Samuel Tabory¹, Dr. Diane Davis¹

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Beer is Mexico’s top agricultural export. In 2018, AB InBev subsidiary Grupo Modelo opened a \$2-billion plant in the Apan region of Hidalgo, ninety minutes northeast of Mexico City. The largely agricultural and industrial region is spotted with a network of settlements ranging from a few hundred to tens-of-thousands of inhabitants. Major waterbodies in the area are disappearing under conditions of desertification, agricultural encroachment, and an increasingly depleted aquifer fueled by intensified industrial use and steady urban growth. The locally manifested “land and water for export” model—via their real and virtual exploitation to support global commodity production chains—is appearing increasingly tenuous for everyone involved. Smallholder ejido producers growing barley for the beer industry since the 1970s, who have long cultivated without federally recognized subsurface water rights (which industrial and urban uses have been granted in the region), are at the mercy of radically changing rainfall patterns, further exacerbating already precarious livelihoods.

Amid these contested claims to natural resources and regional futures, we present a study of shaping “interface zones” across a range of a-symmetrically empowered actors who do not necessarily understand their fates as entangled. We explore a multi-directional regionalism wherein pressure for translocal

coordination emanates both from “above”—via the mobilization (and eventually the politically charged cancellation) of international climate transition funds—and “below” from “local” actors agitating for alternative futures. We chart how such efforts attempt to narrow the politically safe operating space for the denialist postures being sustained by industry and federal actors regarding impending water and livelihood crises. We explore questions relevant to territorial resource conflicts and the (im)possibility of transition. What are the bounds of regional and sectoral solidarity that might permit collective action or, alternatively, frustrate prospects for territorial coalitional politics? How, when, and for whom do narratives of “crisis” emerge as salient, politically operative principles?

The Developmentalist past and the “Modern Cities” program in Colombia’s Amazon

Ms. Isabel Penaranda¹

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In 2016, the National Department of Planning (DNP) of Colombia launched the “Modern Cities” strategy. It was part of a broader trend within Colombia that echoed the developmentalist-era policies of the 1960 and 1970s; the technological optimism in progress, a celebration of centralization as well as a faith in the figure of foreign experts all evoked the past. It also included a particular interest in the internal peripheries of the nation, such as the Amazon. This paper traces the continuities and ruptures in how the Amazon region – specifically its cities – are framed in the developmentalist era and the present. I focus on Caquetá, which in the 1960s was the site of one of the largest state-directed colonization initiatives in the nation, and was – in alignment with the Cold War developmentalist policies - financed by Kennedy’s Alliance for Progress as well as the World Bank. I set this history in dialogue with the Modern Cities’ land use plan programs “POT Moderno” as they are implemented in Caquetá. By contrasting the techniques of now defunct developmentalist era agencies such as the Instituto de Crédito Territorial (ICT) with the DNP’s much criticized “POT Moderno” program, the paper explores the role of peripheries in broader national security and economic objectives, as well as the forms of subjectivity and contestation that emerged in their development. I argue that, instead of developmentalism representing an “anti-politics machine” (Ferguson 1991, Escobar 1994), it created new political subjectivities and relationships with the central state which strongly contrasts with the frustrated experiences surrounding the “POT Moderno”. Through this counterpointed exchange between past and present rooted in archival and ethnographic research, the paper contributes towards a genealogy of the center-periphery relations as they manifest themselves in the shifting concept of “territorial development”.

PANEL No.45: Variegated densities; politics of density discourse in peri-urban regions

Conveners | Vafa Dianati, *University College London, London*; Katayoun Karampour, *University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom*

Clash of Rationalities - Densification Policy and Informal Practices in Two Neighbourhoods in Cape Town, South Africa

Dr. Mercy Brown-luthango¹, Dr. Martin Magidi

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Cape Town's spatial form is characterised by fragmentation and low-density urban sprawl. Population densities in South African cities are low compared to other cities in the developing world. Densities in South African cities are also inverted; meaning they increase with distance from the central city where economic opportunity and employment are concentrated (Turok, 2011). The City of Cape Town's 2012 Densification Policy outlines reasons to encourage more sustainable urban development practices. Spatial fragmentation in Cape Town increases the cost of providing infrastructure and services to peripheral settlements. Densification is also required to support a viable public transport system, which is lacking in Cape Town. Local communities have responded in different ways to the call for higher density living. Some express resistance whereas others have embraced it, albeit in ways that run counter to the vision and ideals expressed by urban planners. This paper reflects on this clash of rationalities through a study of the everyday homemaking practices of residents in two neighborhoods in Cape Town. The first is located in the Western Area of the Voortrekker Road Corridor (VRC) where densification is a central pillar of the City's strategy to facilitate socio-spatial integration. Here residents, despite living in overcrowded conditions, express resistance to the idea of higher density housing. This contrasts with residents of Du Noon, where residents have embraced the idea of density to re-configure their living spaces. These practices however do not always comply with official planning standards. The paper argues for a need for transparent communication between city planners and residents to arrive at a mutual understanding of the motivations for and resistance to the idea of densification on both sides. This is needed to co-design neighborhoods and housing typologies which are environmentally and socially sustainable and respond to the needs, and everyday lived realities of residents.

Densifying Dwelling: Accumulation, Accommodation, and Affliction through formal housing in Megacity Mumbai

Mr. Rishi Jha¹

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Ordinary cities are the dominant sites of urban living, theorization, and debates. This presentation centrally situates the dimension of urban density to unfold a unique, however, ordinary aspect of urban contention. It situates the state's formal housing paradigm for the urban poor as the case of theoretical intervention from an ongoing research project. It aims to broaden the understanding of three inter-connected aspects of institutionalized spatial and housing density: 1) accumulation, 2) accommodation, and 3) affliction. First, in what ways does the density discourse acts as an exceptional policy and interventional site of novel accumulation across the state and market forces, or the economic and extra-economic actors, of urban accumulation? What typologies of densities constitute the surplus? While we usually encounter

accumulation associated with dispossession, this form of density within its dispossession allows residential accommodation of urban poor. Subsequently, what lived experiences emerge in these extraordinarily dense housing arrangements, and what pathologies, social and biological, are associated with these interventions?

This study critiques density as a site of excessive accumulation and crisis that is related to unlivable housing and living forms. Multi-scaler and multi-site examination of institutional intervention come from policy and planning document's analysis and critique. I juxtapose the official contours with instances from multi-site ethnographic exploration at dwelling units, neighborhood and township level experiences of living in these architecturally constricting and even life-constraining circumstances. Overall, exceptional density enables extraction and circulation of construction surplus and urban redevelopment. However, intolerable densities subject the poor to diseases, co-morbidities, and even deaths, as well as social dysfunction at the community levels. The paper speaks to the unattained utopia of formal housing-based graduated living and citizenship norms that, in their ordinariness, sprawl a distorted reality of the present urban condition.

In Densification we Trust – The day-to-day Politics of Urban Densification in the Alpine Rhine Valley

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Constituted by 26 independent municipalities with highly divergent goals, instruments, and capabilities to handle spatial development, the Alpine Rhine Valley in western Austria resembles an agglomeration of coincidentally assembled elements such as roads, industrial hubs, single-family-homes, and large-scale social housing. In this peculiar spatial context decade-long urban sprawl increased housing shortage and soil consumption and planning policies have since shifted from a laissez-faire approach to a policy of urban densification. However, due to the territorial fragmentation the governance of urban densification has often been labelled as “densification as it happens”. This paper wants to take up the structural characteristics of this ordinary region, namely dynamic urban growth, and territorial fragmentation, to argue that what appears as coincidence and planning failure from the outside is actually the result of the specific governance of urban densification within the region. Five urban densification projects in two different municipalities in the Alpine Rhine Valley are analysed to specifically look at the question of “who needs what from whom?”. It can be concluded that the apparently chaotic implementation of urban densification is the result of growth coalitions that are locally grounded and regionally flexible. On the one hand, the local knowledge of and trust in landowners and planning professionals is a precondition for a successful urban densification project, but on the other hand only networks located on a regional scale ensure all the relevant resources to get a project done.

In peripheral territories, when fighting sprawl through densification benefits the race for growth.

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By comparing peripheral municipalities around Lyon (France) and Rabat (Morocco), this proposal aims to highlight the way in which, under the guise of "sustainability", the fight against residential sprawl through densification has led to the massification of housing in a context of globalized suburbanization (Keil 2017).

The article is based on 100 semi-structured interviews with elected officials, urban planners and public and private real estate developers.

Within the two territories, this paper first questions the rise of densification as an unavoidable principle of development in ordinary peripheral territories and how it is politically legitimized by a "technical neutrality"(Offner 2020). Then, in response to this, we mobilize an analysis by the actors, in order to show the power relations, the oppositions, the negotiations, and the agreements that hybridize the injunction to fight urban sprawl through densification with local interests. The aim is to repoliticize the debate (Charmes et al, 2020). Finally, by focusing on the regulatory changes favoring the increase in building rights, the presentation shows the arrival of new actors in the production of these territories. Faced with the builders of small collectives, individual dwellings and even self-buildings, the regulations favouring densification are attracting national and even international real estate developers to the ordinary peripheral municipalities. In Morocco, as in France, the new projects are transforming the urban forms and the social composition of the peripheral territories, as well as their construction processes.

At the intersection of the rural and the urban and seeking to go beyond the consensual discourses that associate the fight against urban sprawl and densification, this proposal shows how residential densification is part of the neoliberal urban development model based on growth. In this context peripheral territories are then presented as new areas of capital renewal (Güney, Keil, et Üçoğlu 2019; Keil 2017).

Ordinary Infrastructure, Exceptional Cities: Unpacking the Narrative of "Ordered Cities" in the Hinterlands of Brazil

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Cities in the global South are typically framed, both in academic and popular discourse, through a language that emphasizes crisis, absence, and precarity — particularly when it relates to infrastructure. Certain small- and mid-sized cities in the hinterlands of Brazil challenge these framings. The process of urban growth of "soybean cities," as I call a set of cities situated at the epicenter of soybean production in Brazil, is typically characterized as "planned," "organized," and "ordered" by a variety of local actors, from poorer residents to wealthy businessowners, from recent migrants to municipal government institutions. These cities, with populations ranging from 40,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, emerged in the 1970s and saw a rapid urban growth in the first decades of the twenty-first century driven by the expansion of soybean production. In this paper, I unpack the main elements of a narrative of "order" emerging in soybean cities, demonstrating how infrastructure — paved streets, sidewalks, water — lies at its core. I then argue that these statements of access to "ordinary" infrastructure are mobilized to frame these cities as "exceptional" in the context of Brazilian urbanization. Taking these narratives seriously as both a form of expression and constitution of reality, I reflect on what is revealed and erased in narratives of "ordered cities" that focus on access to infrastructure. I suggest that they point to the rise of a more conservative politics that de-emphasizes justice or equality, and obscures the reproduction of socio-spatial inequalities, which is evident in the unequal access to land and high cost of living in these cities). This work is based on my ongoing doctoral research. It draws from ethnographic fieldwork and interviews conducted in June 2019 and January 2022 in Nova Mutum, Lucas do Rio Verde, and Sorriso in the state of Mato Grosso, Brazil.

Traded Densities: A study of Density regulations and Housing Supply outcomes in Mumbai

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It has become quite an accepted interpretation that higher buildings and more density allows more affordable housing. In economic terms, Glaeser's thesis argues for more high rise buildings to overcome the affordability of housing by increasing the elasticity of supply and removing constraints on the building heights. In this context, the paper uncovers the impact of density led regulations and policies on the net housing market supply and availability of affordable housing through empirical evidence.

The city of Mumbai offers a unique window into the correlations between housing supply and densities. The city allows, in certain circumstances, the development potential of a plot of land to be separated from the land itself and be made available to the owner in the form of Transferable Development Rights. These Rights (TDR) are utilized as commodities that can be traded in the market to be added as extra built up in upcoming projects, the costs of which are linked to the value of land. The city of Mumbai has long been criticized for its dependence on using density regulations and its trade as the primary planning mechanism of housing delivery. Amidst a skewed supply of housing units in the city, where unaffordability is widespread, such mechanisms are accused of creating supplementary markets of density trading leading to a scarcity of housing units.

Through the use of GIS and data driven analysis of the newly created (2016) Real Estate Regulation Authority's (India) large dataset of housing projects, the study exposes the spatial flows and patterns of density and housing units across the city. As more construction density is being consumed by ever fewer people, the research demonstrates the geographic signature of the competing aims of policy viz., Decongestion of the city versus Adequate housing.

Variegated: the need for temporally, socially, and spatially bracketed density discourses for urban field research

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The rapid expansion of Karachi, Pakistan's primate city, has been marked by morphologically and demographically variegated terrains of people and infrastructures. The city's urbanizing peripheries, as well as its densifying inner core, have opened up new ways of examining urban density. We posit that within Karachi, there exist multiple 'sites of exception': spatially contained within the urban domain, yet far removed from the city's broader socio-material ambit, these 'ordinary' sites, these fragments and vacuoles within the larger amoebic urban agglomeration, are nested within asymbiotic urban surrounds. However, these sites might be conceived of as relationally exceptional only; as, upon closer examination, they reveal themselves to be the default frames for the many lifeworlds of the urban majority, where the bufferzone is an ever-extant extension of the urban.

From our observations across multiple peri-urban, rural, and inner-city sites around Karachi, we bring to light nuanced understandings of density at various scales: the body, the plot, and the household. We dissect official discourses and numbers [such as national datasets, master plans, and Census figures], and integrate key findings from fieldwork on how the city is experiencing new kinds of densification and de-densification: through living spaces rented out to multiple family units, to maliciously flexible rental tenure arrangements not solemnized through official contracts, to the alarming densities of precariously housed

and employed migrants. We couple this with the examination of plot sub-divisions and ‘portions’ within more established residential neighborhoods, and explore how these differentiated densities interact with other urban indicators such as construction materials, power utilities, and water usage, to create distinct thermal experiences for various urban subjects. Based on these observations, we propose the use of disaggregated, scale-specific densities, which we suggest should be temporally and spatially bracketed for particular discursive purposes, rather than being framed by preconceived normative modalities.

PANEL NO.46: “What’s law got to do with it?”: the formal and informal regulation of urban dynamics

Conveners | Danielle Chevalier, *Leiden Law School, Leiden*; Michiel Stapper, *Tilburg Law School, Tilburg, Netherlands*

(Self)regulating boats as housing - an outlook from the UK

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Facing the ongoing housing crisis in the UK, boats become increasingly utilised as a form of permanent housing. Such use is filled with ambiguities. Legality and permanence of this solution depends on a variety of factors, such as: mooring location, approach of the local government and agency managing the specific waterway as well as the ability of boat owners to navigate complex constellations of regulations set out by these stakeholders. In this paper I present a portfolio of everyday approaches used by boaters to negotiate their right to stay put. Main strategies including (dis)compliance, advocacy and staying under the radar are discussed vis. a vis. regulatory regimes governing specific waterways. The paper benefits from a fieldwork realised in Oxfordshire and interviews with the local boating community and housing experts.

‘Legitimized architecture’ of Minsk-World: Endorsing primitive accumulation through housing in Belarus

Ms. Dasha Kuletskaya¹

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Investigating the contemporary housing development Minsk-World as a paradigmatic case of the authoritarian neoliberal shift in housing, this paper focuses on the entanglement between law and architecture. Although the interconnection between building regulations (e.g., building codes, zoning laws) and the commodification of housing is by no means unique to Minsk, practices of endorsing primitive accumulation through housing come in particularly exaggerated forms in the authoritarian context of contemporary Belarus. This paper makes two contributions to the debate on the neoliberal shift in housing. First, it shows how building codes and regulations controlling certain aspects of housing commodification can be offset through presidential legislation. It thus introduces the concept of ‘legitimized architecture’ to describe the spatial dimension of laws enabling housing commodification. Second, it highlights the role of architecture as professional practice in implementing and justifying such legal reforms. This paper argues for a critical engagement with legitimized architecture as an object of research. Detailed analysis of these, often neglected, sources, is fruitful on several levels: First, it illustrates the transformation of socially

accepted norms of dwelling under the pressure of financialization and profit maximization. Second, it shows spatial implications of apparently neutral legal details. Third, it provides evidence of the power relationships in the society producing these documents, which are especially revealing in an authoritarian context.

Hard consequences of flexible legislation in residential heritage management

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Three decades after the Soviet Union's dissolution the Russian legislation is still in transition, constantly introducing novelties or trying to adapt the legacy of the socialist legal system to the modern conditions. The profound transformation of the socio-economic formation has an enormous impact on the economic, social, and political life of society. Yet, intangible changes in written law and regulations caused "hard" consequences in urban development. Russian cities have transformed radically due to the privatization of land and real estate, commercialization of urban space, and the increasing role of non-state actors in urban development. However, the legal framework is still not able to cope with the increased complexity of urban issues. The existing housing stock requires regulation of different spheres, such as land and real estate ownership, building, and open space maintenance, preservation, re-use or demolition, and many others. These issues are addressed in a variety of laws whose evolution was uneven, and which are often contradictory or fragmented. Our paper addresses the challenge of residential heritage management, use, and preservation within the current legal framework. Based on research in cities of two Russian regions — Rostovskaya oblast and Sverdlovskaya oblast — we explore institutional practices applied to the residential urban fabric and their implications. We used a mixed-method research approach that includes the analysis of the institutional and legislative setting of control, management, and transformation of the existing built environment; analysis of the approved strategic, planning, and local regulatory documentation; observation and mapping of the existing practices of the residential heritage transformation; interviews with the local and regional formal and informal actors. Our findings demonstrate that the transitional context largely determines the existing practices to residential heritage use and management, and the local institutions cannot overcome the existing gaps and contradictions in legislation, property rights definition, and management.

Legal and Illegal; Ubiquitous and Invisible: The tacit governance and tenure regimes of Lagos

Dr. Lindsay Sawyer¹

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In Lagos, how things work on paper and “on ground”, in spaces of representation and everyday space, bear little resemblance to one another. Residents’ Associations perform many functions of urban governance that might be expected of the state, and Traditional landowners and titleholders play key roles in the provision of land, housing and tenure in what amounts to a long-held dual land regime (Karaman, Sawyer et al., 2020). While the Associations and Traditional Titles are formally acknowledged, the roles they perform are not. This paper focuses on this ambivalence, and proposes to understand what might be termed informal governance, tenure and planning to have the tacit consent of the state. The paper explores these tacit relations and questions the state’s role in the widespread and ordinary circumvention

of law that structures the everyday realities of Lagos. Through looking at the tacit governance and tacit tenure regimes in Lagos, it will show that the state both relies on informal and putatively illegal activities, and relies on denying it representational space to uphold its power. The paper puts legal pluralism, African urbanism and southern urbanism in conversation, drawing on fieldwork undertaken in Lagos between 2011-2019. Using the concept of the tacit, this paper understands urban “informalities” to be legal and illegal, allowed and denied, ubiquitous and invisible, ordinary and exceptionalised. In this way, the paper hopes to provide a conceptual handle for the ambiguity, contradiction and ambivalence that characterises many majority world urban contexts.

- Karaman, Ozan, Lindsay Sawyer, Christian Schmid, and Kit Ping Wong. 2020. ‘Plot by Plot: Plotting Urbanism as an Ordinary Process of Urbanisation’. *Antipode* 52 (4): 1122–51.

On crafting planning regulatory tools: law and regulation as gate keeper or closer in planning urban mixed-use public spaces

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Mixed-use public places are pivotal to urban life. They are subject to regulatory tools—law and regulation—in urban planning, as backbones in the process of spatial production and the use of spaces. The research uses the urban street market as a case to study the complexity of planning mixed-use public space. The role of regulatory tools that serve as structural conditions in shaping mixed-use public spaces are rather less discussed in planning scholarships than taking it as a given framework.

In this research, I propose the concept of the ‘governance regime’ as an analytical framework. It provides law and regulation a visible stage in the process of spatial production and further influential pillars on urban dynamics. The governance regime is defined as the network of organizations connected through institutions (such as law and regulations) at multiple governance layers which interact with mixed-use public spaces. The 10 months of ethnographic fieldwork investigated the operation of street markets and their governance regimes of the city of Amsterdam and Taipei, from both street and organizational level. The research specifically looks into how law and regulations play a substantial pillar in opening or closing certain possibilities in mixed-use public spaces from a comparative lens. In Amsterdam, rigid planning and design regulations paved well-functioned infrastructure of public spaces yet limited the flexibility and spontaneity of use of spaces. Meanwhile, in Taipei, legal and semi-legal street markets are regulated by separated laws which lead to completely different arrangements of spaces and social dynamics.

Unexpectedly the seeming chaos of public spaces is in fact highly negotiated among public and private sectors, to maintain particular order within certain grey boundaries. The findings suggest that crafting regulatory tools to maintain the subtle boundary between lively and chaos in mixed-use public spaces is an indispensable challenge for policymakers and planners.

Planning with Recognition: Three Frameworks to Ensure Urban Justice

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Urban theory and practice has been constructed through persistent exclusions and categorizations, including ethno-racial disparities, migration status, family type, and gender inequalities. Addressing such exclusions, we contribute to a debate on planning and recognition (Fincher & Iveson, 2008). Three frameworks centered on issues of recognition co-exist: multicultural planning, human rights cities, and

postcolonial planning, raising crucial questions for the future of planning theory and practice. We ask the following questions: can planning theory and practice address forms of legal exclusion through recognition? What is the role of law and critical legal theory in contending with discrimination and exclusions? What formal and informal norms address discrimination and claims for recognition?

We reflect upon the paradoxes of planning with recognition through case studies of four cities in Canada and the U.S. In Canada, multiculturalism has influenced planning practice since the 1990s while postcolonial planning focuses on indigenous planning and First Nations-settler relations (Porter & Barry, 2015; Qadeer, 2009). In the U.S., emerging postcolonial approaches to planning focus on racial injustices ingrained in the spatial politics of permanent housing insecurity and dispossession while the idea of human rights cities has gained considerable ground in planning practice due to a half century tradition of municipal human rights commissions (Grigolo, 2019; Roy 2019).

In this paper, we investigate municipal ordinances and human and civil rights commissions at the municipal level that regulate racial profiling, municipal stands on immigration status, and housing discrimination. We analyse resolutions on the rights of the homeless, gender neutral policies, and indigenous-colonial settler relations, among others, and conduct key informant interviews with advocates, planners and lawyers in the four cities. We assess the complementary or contested role that multiculturalism, postcolonialism, and human rights approaches provide towards planning with recognition to improve efforts to build solidarity and coalition-building in cities.

Regulating Public Space Through Mobile City Applications: Local Authorities Between Legal Obligations and Popular Demand

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Local authorities worldwide increasingly turn to digital, mobile and participatory applications to elicit information on the urban environment from citizens. Mobile city applications (Walravens 2015) allow citizens to make reports on incidents of urban disorder, such as potholes or malfunctioning streetlights; yet these same applications also allow citizens to make reports on incidents that constitute minor criminal offenses, such as littering, vandalism, graffiti, noise nuisance or illegal dumping. Despite the positive transparency promoted by mobile city applications, the digital elicitation of information from citizens does not necessarily result in a more effective, transparent and inclusive urban governance (Pfeffer et al 2008). Instead, it might lead citizens to develop higher expectations from local authorities, and can require overburdened municipal agents to assess, prioritize and handle a larger number of incidents.

This paper explores the municipal work process involved in the handling of minor offenses following reporting on mobile city applications. I examine where do municipal responses include a policing or punitive element, where not, and how do legal definitions shape the resulting interventions. Through a focus on FixMyStreet, a mobile city application used in Brussels (Belgium), this paper argues that in introducing such digital and mobile reporting interfaces, local authorities are walking a tightrope between the imperative to fulfil their legal obligation to police and prevent minor offenses and incivilities, and the popular demand to provide a quick fix to the incidents reported. I continue to propose that municipal responses to digitally-elicited reports on minor offenses are increasingly shaped by the desire to maintain an urban aesthetic devoid of 'anti-social behaviour' (Millie 2008), to the benefit of some residents and the detriment of others.

Rent as a Legal Dispute. An Exploration of Law amidst the Landlord – Tenant Conflict.

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The aim of the paper is to explore the role that law has in mediating conflictual housing-rent relationships. In the years after the 2008 mortgage-induced global financial crisis, rental housing has emerged as a new field of financialization (Beswick et al., 2016; Byrne, 2020; Fields, 2018, 2017). Urban land rent theory, and, in particular, residential rent relationships have gained academic interest after the re-emergence of the ‘rental housing question’ amidst a housing affordability and displacement crisis (Soederberg, 2018; Ward and Aalbers, 2016). In contemporary rent theory, property rights have been considered central to the realization and articulation of rent (Andreucci et al., 2017; Haila, 2016).

In spite of property rights being foundational and necessary pieces of the articulation of the rent relationship, legal processes have barely received any analytical attention, and empirical research of the articulations between property law, housing law and rent, understood as a social conflict, is absent in the existing literature. The paper addresses this gap through an ethnographic exploration of the tenant-landlord conflict in the city of Barcelona. Rent is interrogated from the perspective of both formal property and housing rights, and how those are affirmed, claimed and performed by the conflicting parties (tenants, landlords) and the actors that are involved in mediating the rent relation (lawyers, judges, public servants). The exploration of the current rental contentious field (judicial eviction processes, rental contract negotiations amidst abusive rent increases) is accompanied by a background qualitative analysis of the evolution of different legal texts which regulate urban land rental contracts. By way of conclusion, different ways of how to incorporate a critical analysis of legal processes and property and housing rights in to the theorization of rent, are explored.

The politics of informal urban land tenure between the papers, the courts, and the ground: an analysis of actors and policies in São Paulo

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Scholarship on Global South cities often argues that informal land tenure depends on political patronage for its tolerance or legalization. At the same time, the argument has been made that the state systematically uses the legal system to deny housing rights to the urban poor. Recent work, however, calls these arguments into question, underscoring the distinct interests among social and political actors and their role in shifting policy outcomes. This paper engages with this debate by addressing the question of how land rights are attributed in the case of São Paulo, Brazil. It discusses how fundamentally different state actions towards housing informality (legalization, elimination, toleration) coexist within distinct political arenas (the papers, the courts, and the ground) and are shaped by state and non-state actors. This study is based on qualitative research methodology, with interviews with key informants and documents as primary sources of data. The argument developed is that both policy rationalization and relational mechanisms shape the attribution of land rights. More specifically, the paper claims that the use of policy institutions in São Paulo has a significant role in defining the beneficiaries of tenure formalization. At the same time, it identifies the activity of three key actors in shifting policy outcomes: councilors’ intermediation of formalization policy delivery, public prosecutors’ monitoring of the same policy implementation, the advocacy of housing social movements and policy community in law enforcement. This article contributes to the urban law and policy literature by mapping out actors and identifying

mechanisms that help explain the allocation of land rights in a megacity of the Global South. It puts in perspective the political patronage or misuse of law as explanations for the politics of informal tenure formalization by providing a more nuanced and empirically grounded account, emphasizing the politics of public policy development.

PANEL NO.47: Youth's making, shaping and reclaiming urban spaces

Conveners | Ebru Soytemel, Yildirim Senturk, Ben Perasović, *Aston University, Birmingham, United Kingdom*

Basketball and 'heritage in-the-making' in Zagreb: Youth activism in public space and conflict with the local political and sports establishment

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We approach heritage as a dynamic category whose definition depends on the sociopolitical and socioeconomic context of society and the local community, as well as the structure of social relations towards heritage. Donnelly (1993) affirmed that the participatory dimension of sport as a human right is of great importance in promoting democratic values and affirming them in the local community. Sport thus has the capacity to transform and change both communities and society in general. The goal of our research is to explain the social activism of young people regarding heritage related to Dražen Petrović and the current state of KK Cibona Zagreb basketball club. The data for our research was collected in 2020 using the ethnographic method, which included both individual semi-structured interviews and group walking interviews in public space related to KK Cibona in the centre of Zagreb. These young people in Zagreb are socially engaged, adopting and using public space related to KK Cibona and its heritage. The observed group of youths, members of the 'Mi smo Cibona' NGO, consisted of 20 members. These youths emphasise the importance of preserving heritage related to Dražen Petrović. The heritage of KK Cibona is shaped by the formal and informal context in which the cultural knowledge of these youths develops, encouraging them to participate in intercultural dialogue and the struggle against corruption and clientelism in sports. What both connects and significantly differentiates 'outsiders' from activists in the walking interviews is the club identity and collective memory of Dražen Petrović. Their social activism represents an innovation in Zagreb as concerns basketball and related institutional practices. Research has shown that this space of youth cultural activity represents an important space of tolerance, intercultural dialogue, and the affirmation of the democratic potential of youth in Zagreb.

Building an Urban Commons: Toward an International Toolkit for Youth

Ms. Jade Mandrake¹, Ms. Francesca Ranalli²

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In the diverse and changing urban areas of Western European, North American, and South African cities, teenagers have no apparent right to co-modify public spaces and find their spatial dimension. Combining ethnographic and artistic approaches, this project introduces a toolkit for adolescents to build an inclusive and creative environment from the bottom-up. Through engagement with nature and art-making, youth

build their own safe spaces; opening up and developing their voice in relation to their local environments while learning from their global counterparts. The toolkit devised is open-ended and replicable for use in changing and peri/urban areas in different international contexts, with the commonality of a diverse young population struggling to find their community role. The sites are green spaces in two pilot contexts, Almere Poort, NL, and the South Bronx, NY; and second, in Amsterdam, NL, Brooklyn, NY, and Johannesburg, SA. In the context of a globalizing world, having the tools to co-create a commons - defined here as a space that is mutually used and governed, within temporary arrangements and changing conditions, means empowering youth at a critical stage of development for sustainable futures.

We've named this commoning process Hacking Urban Boundaries (HUB), with each site consisting of a group of 10-15 young people. Using our expertise in ethnographic and artistic methods to create HUB's laboratory, we guide the youth in methods to co-create the spaces, while building an interactive network with local institutions, nonprofits, and communities. In each context, the youth will temporarily reclaim local green spaces and create works of art of different kinds, rooted in the local and learning from their global counterparts. We will be presenting the results of this first phase of HUB, concentrating on the experiences of the youth, lessons learned, and the evolution of a replicable toolkit.

Carving out space for change: exploring the potential of youth-led collaborative place-making in (post)pandemic London

Dr. Katherine Stansfeld¹

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This paper contributes to scholarship that explores the importance of young people's ability to occupy and reshape urban spaces as well as their identities and geographies (Livingston et al. 2008). The paper is divided in two parts. Firstly, I present findings from an ethnographic and participatory research project that explored young people's relationships to urban space in a superdiverse neighbourhood of London. I argue that young people have diverse relationships to space and experiences of mobility which are shaped by different factors including class, housing, geographical location, gender, sexuality, race, religion and migrant status (also see Back, 1996; McCulloch, 2007). I reveal how for some young people in this neighbourhood, place-attachment, symbolic boundaries and territoriality are significant, with mobilities and social identity being tightly bound to the production of urban space (Pickering et al. 2012).

The second part, develops these findings through the discussion of a knowledge exchange initiative with a collaborative non-profit project that supports young people to create youth-led urban places and intervene on and shape processes of urban change. This process, defined by Tolstad et al. (2017) as the "amplifier effect", is "the co-joined effort of anthropologists, artists, and architects to experiment...to increase youth's well-being and enhance the participation and influence of youth on policymaking in cities". The paper reflects on this initiative, investigating how cultural activities manifesting through events and the arts inform this process and can facilitate collaborative place-making. I argue that these spaces and activities can enable young people to develop agency over ambivalent processes of urban change (Butcher and Dickens, 2016). Yet I question whether the "amplifier effect" can make meaningful change, reducing inequalities and increasing inclusion. I conclude by reflecting on how these collaborative place-making processes influence young people's complex relationships to place, their social identities and mobilities in the (post)pandemic context.

Exploring the urban impact of social and cultural currency amongst young African Creatives in Anglophone West Africa's Cultural Capitals

Ms. Carina Tenewaa Kanbi¹

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Cultural waves are transcending international borders and, in the process, shaping and reclaiming space within African cities. Predominantly led by young African creatives, this movement appears to speak to a global cosmopolitanism and is changing the landscape of these cities and shaping the identities of those within it. The interconnections are growing and significant, cities are transcending the locale into the global imagination.

This interdisciplinary paper will explore the creative habitus within and between the West African cities of Lagos and Accra amongst African creative and cultural leaders. To ascertain to what extent young creatives are shaping West African cities and its subsequent impact on their identities and connections to elsewhere. Exploring the habitus, this study will identify the tensions and struggles within identity formation and lifeworld's that often occur on the frontiers of the cultural habitus. Through the voices of West African creatives, this study will delve into the boundaries of place, exploring to what extent African cities are becoming reterritorialized and the subsequent impact on civic engagement, connections and urban imaginations.

Looking for a 'safe space': reproduction of social inequalities in young people's socialising practices in Coventry, UK

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The paper draws on research among young people in a West Midlands city of Coventry (UK) exploring their cultural practices and cultural identities. In the focus of this paper is a notion of 'safe space' as it is used by our participants to describe the places in the city which they utilise for socialising with their friends. The young people who took part in the research varied in their socio-economic and cultural background (along the class, ethnicity and nationality lines), this seemed to be reflected in meanings they attached to safety of their urban lives. At the same time, paper explores the emplaced sense of 'reputation' that renders some areas of the city as unsafe. The paper argues that this 'reputation' is part of the othering process, since it often implies also cultural and ethnic diversity of such neighbourhoods. Thus, while physical safety from 'dangers' of city's streets (related to gang violence and knife crime) is the main concern for young people from Coventry's deprived neighbourhoods, their counterparts from the city's more affluent parts might define safe space in terms of self-expression, experimentation with their identities and interpersonal relationship. In this respect, the research demonstrates that some institutionalised urban environments (such as museums, art and culture hubs, youth clubs) are used by young people for their informal socialising with friends if they are seen as safe. However, stigma of being from the neighbourhoods with a 'reputation' might make such 'safe spaces' inaccessible for some young people leaving them expose to risks they face while socialising in dangerous places. By looking at young people's narratives and practices of navigating in the urban environment, the paper demonstrates that notion of 'safe space' employed by our participants provide an important insight into mechanism how social inequalities are reproduced through informal peer socialising.

Neoliberal Urbanism in Post-Socialist Cuba: Youth responses to the dispossession of public space in Old Havana

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The process of neoliberal urbanism taking place in Old Havana is unprecedented in the Cuban context. The city marketing efforts that fuel the revitalization of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, demand the sanitization of public space, which relies on forms of social control that impact local young people in particular ways. The unique social needs of adolescents, and the material needs of these specific teens whose socio-economic situation limits their access to private space in the home, make public space particularly important to this group. The redaction and policing of public space that are key to the creation of heritage tourism in Old Havana can negatively impact the identity formation of local youth. Lefebvre's (1991) spatial triad for understanding the production of space can be mobilized to understand how young residents' place identities (Proshansky, 1978) are impacted through the spatial practices, representations of space, and representational spaces of the reimagining of Old Havana. This paper explores how the spatial practices involved in this mission dispossess local youth of places to be young, creating a missing 'backstage' (Goffman, 1978) for the work of identity formation; how official representations of space physically and symbolically exclude local youth from the reimagined Old Havana, communicating messages about their worth that impact how they see themselves; and how the representational space of the economically and geographically restructured city impacts the imagined futures of local youth by centring consumption in ways that can make them feel out of place in their own community, and changing the culturally promoted goals and criteria of success from those endorsed by the socialist state. This paper explores young peoples' adaptive and ever-evolving encounters with space in post-Socialist Cuba and draws lessons for urbanists interested in how young people shape space and how space impacts young people's identities.

Public space as an opportunity for young people: the example of young peoples (sub)cultural practices in the city of Zagreb

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In last few pre-pandemic years in Zagreb, subtenants faced rent increasement which was one of the reasons stated for organizing and squatting old school near city centre. Collective that squatted and opened BEK social centre, also criticized the insufficient number of free content offered to young people, homeless, migrants and others in the city capital. This form of solidarity and desire to help can be seen in some other forms of (sub)cultural practices among young people, such as street music ensemble Jeboton and their collective which brings together several bands of young musicians.

This paper is aimed to present our views on common ties between different examples of (sub)cultural practices of young people in the city of Zagreb. For this purpose, we present the results of two ethnography case studies: BEK squat and Jeboton music ensemble. BEK social centre was squatted by a collective of young people as a recognized need to organize a place where free activities could be offered: meals, free shops, workshops, etc. Jeboton music ensemble is a group of young musicians playing mostly in public spaces. It emerged as a part of a musical collective with the purpose of providing cooperation, instrument lending and other forms of collegiality and mutual help between bands that are part of the collective. In our two cases we could see how young people use (sub)cultural practices to show solidarity and intercultural dialogue, as well as contribute to DIY culture and alternative cultural heritage. This is achieved by

occupying public spaces or state property (temporarily or long-term) organizing different free activities and programs, inclusive towards others.

These two ethnographies were part of the CHIEF project (Cultural Heritage and Identities of Europe's Future). Each ethnography was conducted over a period of 8 months with the total of twenty six interviews.

Study Park: Youth Reclaiming Public Space in an Indian College Town

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Parks are generally designed for morning/evening walks, loitering with friends/family. In Lefebvre's 'production of space' conceptualization we can term this as 'Representations of Space' which is generally conceived by the town planners. In my ethnographic study on rural youth in college towns, I found one public park in a neighborhood, that's famously known as 'Study Park'. Though parks generally provide pleasant space for leisure reading, this space is used by college students and job aspirants for serious reading. They use this park to study for government job recruitment exams. They brought their own reading chairs and chained them to permanent structures or tree trunks as part of anti-theft safeguards. This study observed that these spaces are still gendered. Eerie afternoon discussions would be about upcoming job notification, strategies for exam preparation and their career plans. This 'Study Park' has another equivalent space, that is, a railway station in another small town. Job aspirants here proudly call themselves as platform students; they learn from each other and formed a community of their own in that railway station. This 'spatial practice' enabled it as a central place for mobilizing people for demonstrations that address student and unemployment related issues. This paper tries to locate how 'right to the city' argument is invoked by college students and job aspirants in these towns, who are from marginal communities and live in congested hostels or rented rooms.

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Urban Skate Zones: the 'right to the city' of urban youths or neoliberal urban entrepreneurialism?

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Skateboarding originated as a fringe youth culture, and in part it still is. At the same time though it has also diversified into a mainstream leisure activity that manifests itself globally with circa 50 million riders (Borden, 2019). Since 2020 it is acknowledged as an Olympic sport. Skateboarding is practiced in designated skate spaces, as well as in common public space. In the latter case, skateboarding challenges traditional conceptions of public space, redefining meanings through the bodily appropriation of the planned environment. Municipalities differ in their approach to deal with the rise of skating, ranging from outright banning to explicit facilitation by way of designated skating zones. The municipality of Amsterdam seemingly exemplifies the latter; it recently opened a €2,4 million, 3100 m² concrete lubricated public skate zone, adorned with art by a renowned tile artist.

Expanding on the Amsterdam case, this paper argues that multiple narratives can be built around skating, ranging from how a subculture has been colonized and commercialized by neoliberal urban politics

succumbing to the power of the free market in a post-industrial contest between cities to attract tourists and consumer citizens whilst alienating incumbent residents, to a hopeful utopian laudation on how an exclusive and excluding, territorial, white, male dominated subculture has transformed into an inclusionary practice that stimulates healthy movement for youths and instigates accessible social interactions between diverse users of the public realm. Building on ethnographic research into the Amsterdam skate scene and its various stakeholders, including a feminist and queer skating association, this paper addresses the question: can the 'right to the city' of urban youths operate in tandem with neoliberal urban entrepreneurialism?

Youth's Making of a Differential Space in Istanbul

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Maçka Park is one of the most favourite and unique public spaces for the youth in Istanbul. It hosts various gatherings and events appealing to youth, such as music festivals and dissident political forums. Youth with diverse social backgrounds, interests, and lifestyles use it for training, dog walking, consuming alcohol, making music, etc. As the park provides young people, women, and the LGBT+ community in the city with a liberated area, it becomes a "differential space," welcoming differences (Lefebvre, 1991), thanks to young people's everyday practices. In fact, public spaces do not always turn into a differential space spontaneously and quickly. Moreover, this space makes possible new encounters, negotiations, and learning about others from various social and cultural backgrounds. Based on the ethnographic fieldwork, the paper explores what conditions make it possible for a site to be a differential space by exploring the everyday interactions taking place among diverse social groups and institutions in the park and learning patterns of young people about others who have different backgrounds.