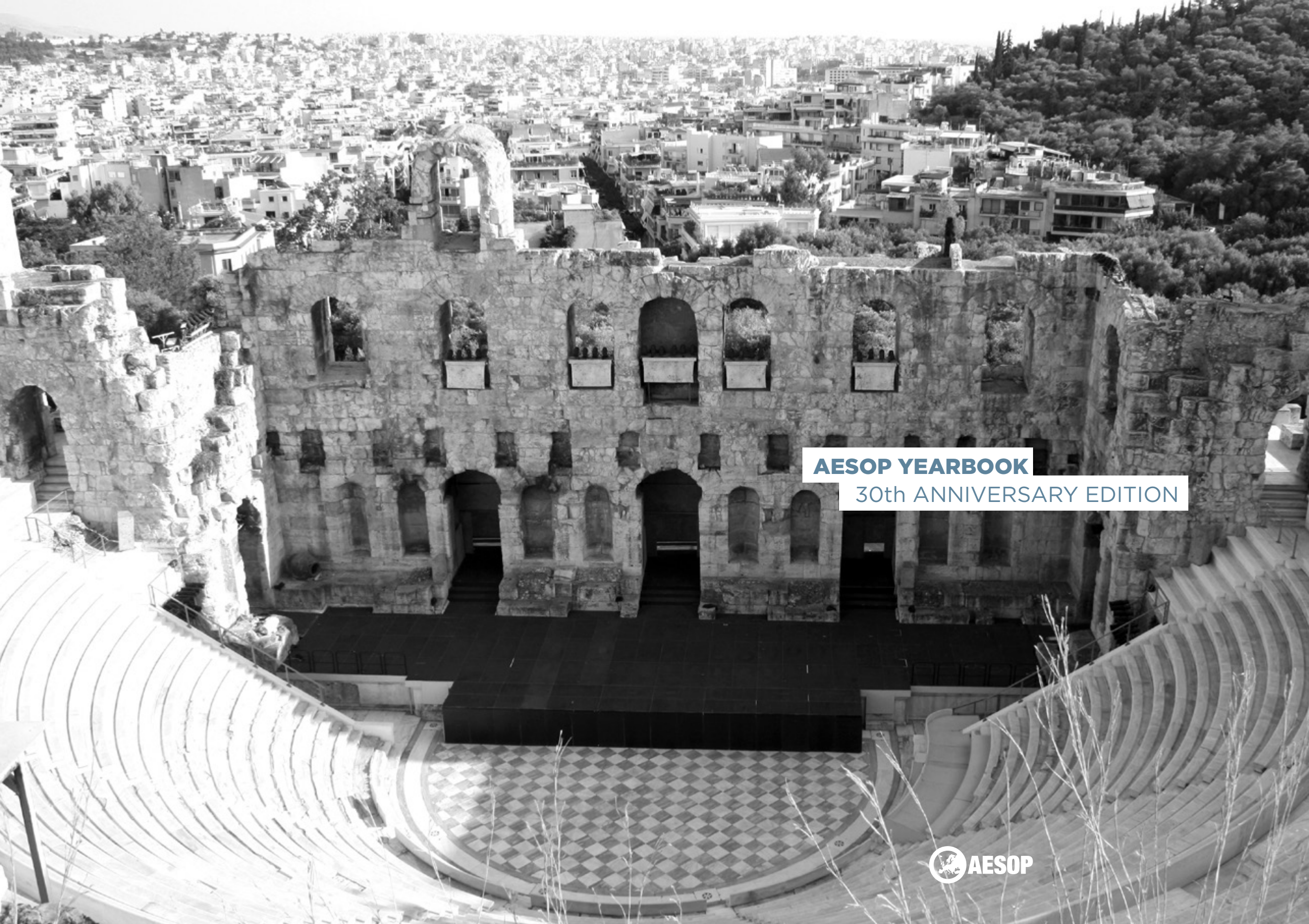




**AESOP YEARBOOK**

30th ANNIVERSARY EDITION





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30th ANNIVERSARY EDITION





AESOP YEARBOOK  
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Editor  
Paulo Pinho

Assistant Editor  
Joana Bailão

Designer  
Ricardo Moura  
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AESOP  
Association of European Schools of Planning

**Secretariat General**  
University of Porto, Faculty of Engineering,  
Dept. Civil Engineering,  
Division of Spatial and Environmental Planning  
Rua Dr Roberto Frias  
4200 465 Porto  
PORTUGAL

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4	<b>Foreword</b>
10	<b>Mission</b>
12	<b>Bringing an idea to life</b>
16	<b>Legal information</b>
18	<b>Planning Core Curriculum</b>
22	<b>Membership Categories</b>
26	<b>Honorary Members</b>
34	<b>Governance</b>
42	<b>Financial Management</b>
44	<b>GPEAN</b>
46	<b>Young Academics Network</b>
48	<b>AESOP Partner Organizations</b>
52	<b>Excellence in Education Board</b>
54	<b>Past Presidents and Secretary Generals</b>
58	<b>AESOP Events</b>
74	<b>Other Events</b>
78	<b>AESOP Awards</b>
82	<b>AESOP Excellence in Education</b>
86	<b>Thematic Groups</b>
100	<b>AESOP Publications</b>
104	<b>AESOP Partner Journals</b>
108	<b>Full Members</b>
114	<b>Associate Members</b>
116	<b>Corresponding Members</b>
116	<b>Affiliate Members</b>
117	<b>Individual Members</b>

## FOREWORD

### AESOP at Thirty

Anna Geppert, Paulo Pinho

*On a snowy weekend in January 1987, a small group of planning academics gathered at Schloss Cappenberg, a castle to the North of Dortmund. Inspired by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), they had decided to initiate a similar association in Europe (see section 2). The following autumn, the inaugural AESOP Congress took place in Amsterdam. This was a seminal event in the development of our discipline (Kunzmann, 2012). Two decades later, one of the founders observed, “looking back twenty years, the project we embarked on seems to have grown into something larger and much more vigorous than we could have imagined at the time” (Healey, 2007: vi). Today, AESOP is thirty...*

The most prominent of our activities remains our annual Congress. From Amsterdam to Lisbon, the AESOP flag has travelled some 50,000 km in Europe. From our inaugural conference in north-western Europe, AESOP venues have spread around the whole continent as our membership has grown. Since 1996, we have also been visiting other continents in partnership with our sister organisations, and our Congress is now attracting participants from the whole world. The first and continued aim of AESOP is the institutionalisation and the internationalisation of this planning academy (Massey, 2007).

Building the AESOP community has contributed to defining better planning as a discipline. In 1995, overcoming the diversity of planning cultures, languages and institutional frameworks, AESOP established its *Core requirements for quality in Planning Education* (see section 4). Against the multiplication of evaluation agencies and criteria which are sometimes inappropriate for planning, we discussed quality in a changing European Higher Education Area (Geppert & Cotella, 2010; Mironowicz, 2015). The next step, achieved thanks to the commitment of Francesco Lo Piccolo, was the creation of our own label for planning programmes (see section 18). The AESOP Certificate of Quality promotes the independence of planning as a scientific discipline, still often dominated by other disciplines such as architecture, civil engineering or geography.

As in medicine, the art and science of planning requires a strong connection between theory and practice, a position constantly reaffirmed by AESOP Presidents past and present (Ache, 2008) and often evoked in the *Lecture Series*. Our collaboration with planning practitioners gave birth to the European Urban Summer School, jointly carried out by AESOP, the European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP-CEU), the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) and the International Society for City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP). Another joint endeavour is the promotion of European recognition for the planning profession (Geppert & Verhage, 2008; ECTP-CEU, 2013).

AESOP strives to balance research and teaching activities. The breeding ground for innumerable research collaborations and projects, AESOP is promoting excellence in research through Awards (the *Best Published Paper Prize* and the *Best Conference Prize*) and through Thematic Groups, gathering academics and young researchers with common interests on specific topics and research areas. Overall, AESOP has become an ecosystem for planning research. Symmetrically, planning education





has its *Excellence in Teaching Prize*, its yearly “Heads of Schools Meeting” and its series *Planning Education*.

AESOP treasures the young generation of academics. Established in the 1990s, the PhD Workshop never ran short of volunteer scholars. In 2002, the Young Academics created, with the support of the community, their own network with a YA Conference, a number of publications and their journal *PlaNext*.

Over the course of time, AESOP has become more than a network, the voice of planning academia in Europe, addressing the challenges of our times. One of them is the dramatic change in scientific publication, increasingly concentrating on a handful of powerful international companies. While scholars, in particular the younger ones, are under pressure to *publish or perish*, the widespread development of open-access platforms has been accompanied by new financing models based on authors’ own contributions. The scientific value of the work of the researcher is denied. Researchers from universities that cannot provide financial support for publishing don’t have fair access to publication. Scientific biases become more evident, for instance the dominance of a narrow range of research themes dictated by the agenda of institutions financing national or European research programmes. Consequently, AESOP has undertaken the task of providing its own publication platform built on a non-profit model, where academic quality is the only condition for being published. After *Planning Education* (since 2008) and *PlaNext* (since 2015), we are proud to announce the birth of *Transactions* (see section 19).

Another challenge is related to the profound changes that are being made in the traditional organisation of teaching and research activities in our universities. These changes are fuelled by a new structure of university financing, in which subsidies, public funding and students’ fees are steadily losing importance in universities’ overall budgets. On the contrary, research revenues, especially from applied research and specialised consultancy, are rapidly gaining importance as new sources of university funding.

For an Association of Planning Schools, this is a topic which deserves due consideration. There seems to be a generalised tendency to reorganise the traditional planning departments of our universities on the basis of research areas and skills, often prioritising new organisations, the Research Centres, rather than the traditional education requirements centred on teaching programmes and courses which appear to be steadily losing their importance, but still constitute the basis of our Association’s membership.

Regarding membership, it is important to recognise that there are some European countries in which universities and planning departments are not yet represented in AESOP, and some others which are still clearly underrepresented, bearing in mind their population sizes and the importance of the respective national systems of planning education. A continuous effort has been made to attract new members from these countries, in particular from spatial planning departments at the most prestigious and influential universities.

The importance of establishing closer contacts with European institutions and partner organisations in order to influence education and research policies related to planning has already been emphasised. The complex political situation facing the EU, specifically the general recognition of the failure of austerity policies in recent years, the continual rise in national debts, the refugee crises, Brexit, which

seemed to take us all by surprise, not least the UK, and the alarming rise in populist ideologies in many European countries, some of which have decisive elections in 2017, makes our ambitions more difficult to realise, at least with practical and visible outcomes. Nevertheless, our current collaborations and close contact with partner organisations operating at a European level, such as EURA, ERSA and the ECTP, will be developed further.

When our founders were beginning this adventure, the world was coming out of the cold war. Everything was to build; European integration was a major challenge to be faced, as well as a great opportunity for spatial planning. Today, we are blowing our thirty candles out as a mature organisation. Many of us have grown up with AESOP naturally being here, and having benefitted from it a lot. Yet, in this era of globalisation, our world is again troubled, unstable, frantically racing forward, but where to? And what should we expect from planning in the future? In the simplest words, and more importantly than ever, making good places for people.



Anna Geppert,  
President of AESOP



Paulo Pinho,  
Secretary General of AESOP

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AESOP PRESENTATION



**MISSION**

The Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) is the only international representative of planning schools in Europe. AESOP mobilises its resources, taking a leading role and entering its expertise into on going debates and initiatives regarding planning education and planning qualifications for future professionals.

AESOP has the main aims of:

- Promoting the development of teaching and research in the field of planning within Europe.
- Instigating cooperation and exchange between planning schools in Europe, and encouraging the harmonisation and equivalence of degrees which they award.
- Coordinating initiatives which include other stakeholders in planning.
- Representing the interests of European planning schools at national and international level, and before both public and private institutions, particularly within Europe.





(extracts from Klaus R. Kunzmann' original text published in disP: The Planning Review no. 188, 1/2012) with an afterword, written in June 2017.

(...) in February 1987, with the help of Patsy Healey, I invited a small group of academic planners to Dortmund, to discuss, whether it would make sense to establish a European association of planning schools. Searching for a location with genius loci I selected Schloss Cappenberg, a castle North of Dortmund. (...) From 1824 to 1831 Freiherr von Stein, a Prussian statesman who introduced the reforms that paved the way for the unification of Germany in the 19th century lived in the castle. He promoted the abolition of serfdom and the establishment of a modern municipal system. I felt that the innovative and forward-looking spirit of this Prussian landlord and statesman had much to do with planning and cities.

(...) The representatives from planning schools across Europe, Patsy Healey and myself had encouraged to attend the meeting in Cappenberg were, **David Massey**, (Liverpool), **Dieter Frick** (Berlin), **Giorgio Piccinato** (Venice), **Dieter Bökemann** (Wien), **Willy Schmid** (Zürich), **Andreas Faludi** (Amsterdam), **Jean-Claude Hauvuy** (Paris) and **Luigi Mazza** (Turin). In addition **Michael Wegener** and **Gerd Hennings** of the Dortmund School of Planning joined the meeting, as well as **Kwasi Ardakwa**, who happened to be in Dortmund in the context of SPRING, the Dortmund-UST-Kumasi cooperation programme to train planners for developing countries, which I had initiated and established in 1984. They are all shown on the famous AESOP picture on the terrace of Schloss Cappenberg.



(...) A draft charter of the association and essential next steps to bring the idea into life were discussed. Faludi, an enthusiastic supporter of the idea, suggested that the first congress of the association could take place in Amsterdam. Obviously, his spontaneous invitation was unanimously cheered. One more name should be mentioned in this context. Richard Williams from Newcastle, who passed away much too early, has not been present in Cappenberg. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of AESOP from the very beginning, backing the idea of a European network of planners. Later he followed David Massey as AESOP Secretary, who, based in Liverpool, helped with all his institutional experience to get the AESOP project working.

In Cappenberg we soon agreed on the name **AESOP**, which I had suggested for the **Association of European Schools of Planning** to be established. AESOP is the name of a Greek philosopher (...) (who) wrote popular fables (AESOPICA), which we would call narratives today, *where he made use of humble incidents to teach great truths, and after serving up a story he adds to it the advice to do a thing or not to do it.* (...) Again, I thought this name is linked to ambitions of planners, to plan for people, to communicate with people, and to use narratives and story telling in planning and decision-making processes, not just plans and maps.

(...) My own aims and expectations 25 years ago were ambitious. In my memory they were:

- Given the fact that planning, maybe with the exception of Great Britain, have a kind of Cinderella status in their home countries, I expected that an association of planning schools in Europe could provide a transnational, respectively a Paneuropean academic community of scholarly exchange.
- Experiencing that the planning community in Germany was very much inward looking, I hoped that an international network could open the window to European wide perspectives of the discipline, and prepare the grounds for a next generation of much more international planning educators.
- Being strong a advocate of planning education as an academic discipline, independent from architecture, civil engineering, geography, and other more established academic disciplines, I had expected that a recognized international association would offer a Paneuropean support for planning education as a discipline in its own right.
- I was quite convinced that being a member of a European association of planning schools would strengthen the reputation and the status of a planning school within the home university.
- At a time when the ERASMUS exchange programme was just about to start I anticipated that the existence of a European network of planning schools could facilitate and promote the exchange of planning students.
- Last but not least, I hoped that the international community of planning researchers could benefit from the network by providing an exchange platform for joint and comparative research planning research.

Such similar expectations were expressed during the Cappenberg meeting and unanimously shared by the participants. Most of these ambitions have been achieved. In fact, more than that, the vitality of AESOP is represented by the many activities, which the association has successfully carried out since. The continuous commitment and passion of many planning educators across Europe makes the association an indispensable stakeholder of the paneuropean planning community. (...)

### Afterword

In 2017 Europe is not really in good shape. Migration from Africa and the Middle East, and BREXIT are dividing the continent. Security has become a prime concern. Nationalism is dominating politics and elections. Market-led policies support the privatisation of public services. Urban and regional planning is low on political agendas, unless driven by developers and smart digital infrastructure corporations. There is a hope: Donald Trump has succeeded in bringing Continental Europeans

closer together again. But at what price? By cancelling the Paris Treaty on Climate change? By asking Europe to spend more money on US defence equipment? Yes, Europe has promised to spend more money on defence, even though this money is required to support innovative development in peripheral European regions and funding is lacking in higher education. These are not favourable times for planning and planners, though their visions, passions and competence are needed even more than before to prepare cities and regions for the challenges ahead such as the widening of social polarisation and the digitalisation of life spaces and work environments.

In recent years, most planning schools have been placed under the umbrella of schools of architecture, geography or civil engineering. The advocates of independent planning schools have fewer and fewer allies. New undergraduate planning programmes have hardly evolved. Planning has become a post-graduate discipline on the shoulders of traditional disciplines. This will hardly change in the decade ahead. It is even more likely that *zeitgeist* urbanism and big data hypes will replace planning as a scientific label within universities and in wider socio-political arenas. Urbanism and the internet of things apparently sound sexier and more scientific in market-led economic environments in Europe than planning, which is always associated with naïve idealism, radical movements and control. Teaching idealism, passion, radical participation and control of untamed market forces alongside ethos and professional competence should be considered to be the mission of planning schools. Here, AESOP has a role to demonstrate and engage.

Potsdam, 08-06-2017





**LEGAL INFORMATION****Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP)**

The Association of European Schools of Planning, or AESOP for short, is established as an international non-profit association with scientific, artistic and educational purposes pursuant to the Belgian law of 25 October 1919. Since the law of 2 May 2002, the Association is governed by the law of 27 June 1921 concerning the non-profit organisations, international non-profit associations and the foundations.

**AESOP Charter**

AESOP was founded in 1987 and has been registered as a non-profit association under Belgian law since May 1992.

The formal charter establishing AESOP was signed in Dortmund, Germany in 1987 and has the following objectives:

- To represent the interest of European planning schools in national and international administrations and organisations, particularly within Europe.
- To promote the development of teaching and research in the field of planning.
- To facilitate co-operation and exchange between planning schools in Europe, and to encourage the harmonisation and equivalence of their degrees.
- To articulate a European dimension within planning education, as part of the process of institutional co-operation and integration within Europe, also bearing in mind the prospect of increasing professional mobility within Europe.
- To foster and enrich higher education in planning across Europe by mutual support, including facilitating dialogue, exchange visits and the spread of information.
- To defend the cause of expanding and enhancing higher education in planning and,
- To promote a progressive approach to planning education in schools of planning by employing experts with a balanced view in opposition to rival claims from historically-established academic institutions and from other disciplines and professions.

The AESOP Council of Representatives approved the AESOP Charter on 5th May 2012 in Oslo. Currently, the Charter is under revision due to recent changes in Belgian Law with respect to the statutes of non-profit organizations, and is likely to have its final approval by the end of the year.

**Registered Address**

Association of European Schools of Planning  
B 3001 Leuven  
Kasteelpark Arenberg 51  
Belgium

*There is no AESOP Office at the Registered Address.  
The General Secretariat coordinates all current  
management activities.*

AESOP Secretary General (2015-2019):  
**Paulo Pinho**

**Mailing Address**

Association of European Schools of Planning  
Secretariat General  
University of Porto, Faculty of Engineering,  
Dept. Civil Engineering,  
Division of Spatial and Environmental Planning  
Rua Dr Roberto Frias  
4200-465 Porto  
Portugal

[www.aesop-planning.eu](http://www.aesop-planning.eu)  
[secretariat@aesop-planning.eu](mailto:secretariat@aesop-planning.eu)  
Skype: AESOP.SG



Back in 1995, an AESOP working group on Planning Education established a set of common principles suitable for high-quality planning education all over Europe. Since then, these so called “core requirements” have been adopted by the AESOP community and constitute the reference guidelines for assessing applicants for AESOP full membership. Remarkably, twenty-two years later, these are still the common principles and values shared by our member schools. Here is the original text:

### **I. Preamble**

Stimulated by the process of the unification of Europe, which recently got even more memorandum due to the tremendous changes in the former countries of middle and eastern Europe, the 1980's saw two important initiatives to bring the various European planning traditions together in European wide organisations working on the international level. 1985 saw the foundation of the European council of Town Planning (ECTP), representing the planning profession. 1987 saw the foundation of the Association European Schools of Planning, representing planning education. Ever since their foundation both organisations have been working on the development and formulation of core requirements for planning education and planning professionals.

Common to both initiatives was a deep concern with planning education and professional standards in a situation in which national borders between the European countries were soon to become really permeable. Common to both was also the awareness that European countries to a large extent face the same kinds of planning problems concerning the future of their urbanised and metropolitan areas, their infrastructure, their rural areas and their economic development, whereas at the same time these European countries are becoming more and more aware that exactly their differences in cultural heritage, in their built up areas and in their countryside, are perhaps the most important assets of this continent. Thus the need was felt, not only to combine forces, but also to start discussion on the development of a common paradigm for European planning as such: both at the national levels taking account of specific variations and ‘couleur locale’ - and at the international, i.e. European, level.

### **II. The core of planning education**

Being an organisation of planning schools, AESOP's main concern is the advancement of planning education throughout Europe.

Planning in Europe has developed in a great variety of institutional settings and involves many disciplinary backgrounds. The ECTP already indicated in appendix A of its charter for town planners, that the activity of (town) planning is the work of researchers, practitioners, of proposers of policies and programmes for action, of designers of projects and of implementers. But whatever these varieties and whatever the different purpose, style, content and methods of planning in real life circumstances, planning as a generic activity is concerned with the advancement of optimal physical conditions for the needs of society giving due account to both the long-term socio-economic developments and environmental conditions. Planning's ultimate goal is to ensure sustainable development of society and environment.

Planning education then involves the scientific study of and training in creative conceptual and practical thinking on the relation between society and environ-

ment at various territorial levels and in the search, development and advancement of opportunities for purposeful intervention in that relation to ensure sustainable development.

The core of the curriculum of planning education is threefold:

- Theoretical and practical knowledge on the desirability of legitimacy of and conditions for purposeful planning intervention;
- Theoretical and practical knowledge on the preparation and advancement of such interventions and on judging the effects thus generated;
- Technological knowledge and skills to actually engage in planning activities in real life situations.

### **III. Core curriculum requirements**

As planning education varies so much over Europe, reflecting each country's specifics in planning practice, in dominant disciplinary backgrounds and in their understanding of the essential requirements of the planning profession, any statement on the core curriculum of European planning education must pay due respect to these variances, and can not and should not be elaborated in too much detail. However, there are common requirements to which every planning school should adhere. These concern the main fields to be covered and the length and intensity of the course.

As for the main fields to be covered, any planning education should be organized in such a way, that its students will get the opportunity to:

#### **A. Acquire due knowledge for:**

- the nature, purpose, theory and method of planning
- the history of planning as an institution and a profession
- the cultural differences in planning on a European and international level
- developments in the natural and man made (economic and social) environment and knowledge of the impact of men's exploitation, i.e. possibilities for sustainable development
- the political, legal and institutional context of planning practice both at the national level and at the (evolving) international i.e. European level
- the instruments and performance of instruments for implementing planning policies
- specialised fields in planning
- relationships across and between these fields

#### **B. Develop practical competence in:**

- methods for problem definition and collaborative problem-solving in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary settings
- thinking in terms of concepts, instruments and measures, and management of knowledge for practical application
- techniques for data collection, for data analyses and synthesizing, including modern information technology
- valuing and managing the built and natural environment
- anticipating future needs of society, including the appreciation of new trends and emerging issues in planning
- methods for generating strategic planning proposals and the advancement of implementation



- integrating aesthetic and design dimensions in planning proposals
- devising plans, programmes and measures and guiding the implementation policies
- written, oral and graphic communication

### **C. Develop an attitude i.e. a feeling for:**

- planning to be basically oriented towards solving the needs of society within the framework of sustainable development
- the cultural embedding of the man-made environment
- the value dimension of planning
- the ethical implications of planning

Next to these any planning education should offer its students opportunities to specialise in particular fields of planning such as housing, infrastructure and transport, recreation, land development and building, design and international i.e. European affairs.

In order to give due attention to the threefold core of the curriculum as elaborated in the above mentioned fields of knowledge, competence, attitude and specialisation, the education and training of future professional planners implies a rather lengthy and intensive programme.

A full time programme (undergraduate and graduate) will require a duration of at least 4 years of education and training. If the programme is at graduate level a 2 year course will be acceptable, provided the undergraduate programme is supportive to a planning education.

In case of a part time education a 3 year course on graduate level will be necessary, with the same provision on the undergraduate programme and provided the students are actually working in planning.

As for the intensity of the programme, the technological part of the core curriculum in particular requires regular exposure to and interaction with planning practice. Project work, confrontation with real life planning problems, preferably/ if possible with the participation of professional planners in the programme, multiple laboratory exercises in developing planning solutions, a period of intensive in-practice-training i.e. apprenticeship or placement and "learning-by-doing" are distinguishing marks of a fully fledged planning education.

### **IV. Advancement of planning education**

AESOP and especially its individual members will try to ensure that planning education in the European member states follows the core curriculum, giving due account to local and national differences in cultural and institutional settings.

AESOP will develop and maintain a directory of planning schools in member states that adhere to the curriculum and will promote the dissemination of planning thought on the European level.

AESOP will look for any opportunity to advance the requirements of the core curriculum to become the European standard and will take any step necessary to reach this end. Of special importance in this respect is the future accreditation of planners in the various member states. On this special topic AESOP will seek the collaboration of the ECTP to ensure that future European regulations will take account of their joint proposals.



## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

AESOP's Membership Categories are mainly Institutional and are divided into six categories:

- **Full Membership** may be granted to a European School running an autonomous programme in planning which meets the criteria defined in the AESOP core curriculum.
- **Associate Membership** may be granted to a European School, running courses or modules in planning.
- **Affiliate Membership** may be granted to an enterprise, company, institution, organisation, agency or other entity that is qualified on planning.
- **Corresponding Membership** may be granted to a non-European School, running courses or modules in planning.
- **Individual Membership** may be granted to a person involved in planning.
- **Honorary Membership** may be conferred to a person who has made a significant contribution to the discipline of planning.

FULL	EUROPEAN	EDUCATIONAL	INSTITUTIONAL
ASSOCIATE			
CORRESPONDING	NON EUROPEAN	NON EDUCATIONAL	INDIVIDUAL
AFFILIATE			
INDIVIDUAL			
HONORARY			

<b>FULL MEMBERS</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>AFFILIATE MEMBERS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>24</b>
Albania	1	Albania	1	Belgium	2	Australia	1
Austria	1	Austria	1	China	1	Croatia	1
Belgium	5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	Denmark	1	France	1
Bulgaria	1	Croatia	1	France	1	India	3
Czech Republic	2	Cyprus	1	Germany	4	Israel	1
Denmark	2	Denmark	1	Italy	1	Italy	1
Finland	2	Estonia	2	Kenya	1	Japan	1
France	11	Finland	2	Netherlands	2	Jordan	1
Germany	12	France	1	Russia	1	Kosovo	1
Greece	2	Germany	3	Sweden	1	Liechtenstein	1
Ireland	3	Greece	1	United Kingdom	2	Netherlands	1
Italy	9	Italy	1	United States	1	Norway	1
Kosovo	1	Latvia	1			Russia	1
Netherlands	7	Malta	1			Serbia	1
Norway	5	Netherlands	3			Switzerland	3
Poland	7	Norway	1			Syria	1
Portugal	7	Portugal	2			Turkey	1
Romania	1	Serbia	2			United Kingdom	1
Russia	1	Spain	2			United States	2
Serbia	1	Sweden	1				
Slovakia	1	United Kingdom	2				
Slovenia	1						
Spain	2						
Sweden	6						
Switzerland	2						
Turkey	3						
United Kingdom	16						

<b>CORRESPONDING MEMBERS</b>	<b>8</b>
Australia	2
China	1
Israel	1
Saudi Arabia	1
United States	3





## ● FULL MEMBERSHIP

### ALBANIA

· Tirana

### AUSTRIA

· Vienna

### BELGIUM

· Antwerp  
· Brussels (2)  
· Gent  
· Heverlee

### BULGARIA

· Sofia

### CZECH REPUBLIC

· Brno  
· Prague

### DENMARK

· Aalborg  
· Aarhus

### FINLAND

· Espoo (2)

### FRANCE

· Brest  
· Grenoble  
· Lyon  
· Marne-La-Vallée  
· Paris (3)  
· Pessac  
· Reims  
· Tours  
· Villeneuve d'Ascq

### GERMANY

· Berlin  
· Cottbus  
· Dortmund  
· Erfurt  
· Hamburg  
· Kaiserslautern  
· Karlsruhe  
· Kassel  
· Nürtingen  
· Stuttgart (2)  
· Weimar

### GREECE

· Thessaloniki  
· Volos

### IRELAND

· Cork  
· Dublin (2)

### ITALY

· Bari  
· Florence  
· Milan  
· Napoli  
· Palermo  
· Rome (2)  
· Turin  
· Venice

### KOSOVO

· Prishtina

### NETHERLANDS

· Amsterdam  
· Berlin  
· Delft  
· Enschede  
· Groningen  
· Nijmegen  
· Utrecht  
· Wageningen

### NORWAY

· Ås  
· Lillehammer  
· Tromsø  
· Trondheim  
· Volda

### POLAND

· Gdansk  
· Krakow  
· Lodz  
· Poznan  
· Warsaw (2)  
· Wroclaw

### PORTUGAL

· Aveiro  
· Lisbon (4)  
· Porto (2)

### ROMANIA

· Bucharest

### RUSSIA

· Perm

### SERBIA

· Belgrade

### SLOVAKIA

· Bratislava

### SLOVENIA

· Ljubljana

### SPAIN

· Las Palmas  
· de Gran Canaria  
· Madrid

### SWEDEN

· Gothenburg  
· Karlskrona  
· Lulea  
· Stockholm (2)  
· Uppsala

### SWITZERLAND

· Rapperswil  
· Zurich

### TURKEY

· Ankara  
· Istanbul (2)

### UNITED KINGDOM

· Belfast  
· Bristol  
· Cardiff  
· Edinburgh  
· Glasgow  
· Liverpool  
· London (3)  
· Manchester  
· Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
· Newtownabbey  
· Oxford  
· Reading  
· Sheffield (2)

## ● ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

### ALBANIA

· Tirana

### AUSTRIA

· Vienna

### BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

· Banja Luka

### CROATIA

· Zagreb

### CYPRUS

· Nicosia

### DENMARK

· Copenhagen

### ESTONIA

· Tartu (2)

### FINLAND

· Oulu  
· Tampere

### FRANCE

· Cergy-Pontoise

### GERMANY

· Darmstadt  
· Dresden  
· Munich

### GREECE

· Patras Dytiki Ellada

### ITALY

· Catania

### LATVIA

· Riga

### MALTA

· Msida

### NETHERLANDS

· Eindhoven  
· Rotterdam  
· Utrecht

### NORWAY

· Oslo

### PORTUGAL

· Caparica  
· Lisbon

### SERBIA

· Belgrade  
· Nis

### SPAIN

· Barcelona  
· Madrid

### SWEDEN

· Gothenburg

### UNITED KINGDOM

· Birmingham  
· Cambridge



**Prof. Klaus R. Kunzmann**  
*Potsdam, Germany*

**Prof. Andreas Faludi**  
*Delft, Netherlands*

**Prof. Patsy Healey**  
*Newcastle-upon-Tyne, United Kingdom*

**Prof. Louis Albrechts**  
*Leuven (Heverlee), Belgium*

**Prof. Rachelle Alterman**  
*Haifa, Israel*

**Prof. Willem Salet**  
*Amsterdam, Netherlands*

**Prof. Gerhard Schimak**  
*Vienna, Austria*



Professor  
**KLAUS R. KUNZMANN**

graduated from the School of Architecture at TU München in 1967 and received a PhD from TU Wien in 1971. Appointed as Professor by the School of Planning at Universität Dortmund in 1974, he was Director of Research of the Institut für Raumplanung until 1993. From then until his retirement in 2006, he held the Jean Monnet Chair of Spatial Planning in Europe. He is an honorary professor at the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London and a visiting professor of the Dong Nam University in Nanjing, China. He is an elected member of the German Academy of Spatial Planning (ARL) and an honorary member of AESOP and the RTPI in London. In 1994 he received an Honorary PhD from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in the UK. As a visiting professor he has taught at universities in Europe, the US and in China. In 1987 he founded AESOP and was its first president from 1987 to 1990. Since his retirement in 2006, he has resided in Potsdam, travelling frequently to China and relentlessly writing on territorial planning in Europe and in China, regional restructuring in the Ruhr, and on creative knowledge and smart city development.





Professor  
**ANDREAS FALUDI**

graduated and received his PhD from Vienna University of Technology. His academic career took him to Oxford Polytechnic, Delft University of Technology, University of Amsterdam, Radboud University Nijmegen before returning to Delft University of Technology, where he is now emeritus Professor of spatial policy systems in Europe and a guest researcher. He was a British Council Scholar, an Australian-European Fellow, a Fulbright Scholar, a Fellow of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in Social Science and Humanities, a European Fulbright Scholar and a Fellow of the Bellagio Rockefeller Center. Publications include 'Planning Theory' (1973/1984), 'Critical Rationalism and Planning Methodology' (1986), 'Rule and Order: Dutch Planning Doctrine in the Twentieth Century' (with A. van der Valk, 1994), 'The Making of the European Spatial Development Perspective' (with B. Waterhout, 2002) and 'Cohesion, Coherence, Cooperation: European Spatial Planning in the Making, 2010). In 1993 he became an Honorary Member of the RTPI and in 2008 an Honorary Member of AESOP. Blenkinge Institute of Technology in Sweden and the University of Groningen in the Netherlands both awarded him honorary doctorates. He lives in Delft in the Netherlands.



Professor  
**PATSY HEALEY**

is professor emeritus in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape at Newcastle University, UK. She holds degrees in geography and in planning from University College London, University of Westminster and the London School of Economics. She is a specialist in planning theory and the practice of planning and urban regeneration policies. She has undertaken research on how planning strategies work out in practice and on partnership forms of neighbourhood regeneration experiences. In recent years, she has been using a sociological institutionalist approach to explore spatial strategy making, urban governance and civil society initiatives. Books include *Collaborative Planning: Shaping Places in Fragmented Societies* (1997, 2nd edition 2006), *Urban Complexity and Spatial Strategies* (2007) and *Making Better Places* (2010). She was awarded the OBE in 1999, became an Honorary Fellow of the Association of European Planners in 2004, and was awarded the RTPI Gold Medal in 2006. She has been made a Fellow of University College London, is an Honorary Fellow of Oxford Brookes University and has honorary degrees from Chalmers University, Gothenburg, Sweden and Newcastle University, UK. She is currently vice-chair of the Glendale Gateway Trust, where she lives.



Professor  
**LOUIS ALBRECHTS**

graduated and received his PhD from the university of Leuven, Belgium. He was a full professor at the university of Leuven from 1987 to 2007, a visiting professor at a number of European Universities and a visiting research fellow at the University of West Australia, Perth.

Louis Albrechts is a corresponding member of the German Academy for Research and Planning, the founder and editor of European Planning Studies, a member of the editorial board of several international journals, chair of the first two World Planning Schools Congresses (Shanghai and Mexico City), chair of the third joint AESOP/ACSP congress in Leuven, second president of the Association of European School of Planning, chair of UN-Habitat HS advisory board and chair of the planning commission in his hometown. He was also in charge of the strategic plan for Flanders (1992-1996) and did the scientific coordination for the Flanders transport plan (1999-2000). He is the author/editor of 16 books, and has contributed some 90 chapters to international books and over 60 articles to leading international journals with blind peer review. His current research and writings focus on the practice and nature of strategic spatial planning, diversity and creativity in planning, public involvement in planning and bridging the gap between planning and implementation. He lives in Beringen in Belgium.



Professor  
**RACHELLE ALTERMAN**

is the Founding President of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law and Property Rights which evolved out of AESOP's first Thematic Group. With degrees in social science, planning, and law from Canadian and Israeli universities, Alterman specialised in cross-national comparative analysis of planning laws, land use regulations, land rights, and housing policies. Based at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, she currently holds emeritus (non-retired) status, and is a Senior Researcher at the Neaman Institute for National Policy Research. Her publications encompass several international books and 170 academic papers and reports. Alterman serves on the Editorial Boards of leading academic journals and she has been a visiting professor at major American and Dutch universities. She serves as a consultant and speaker for UN-Habitat, OECD, the World Bank, the Chinese government, academic institutions in China and a variety of other public or academic bodies in Israel and internationally. She is among the 16 academics selected for the book *Encounters in Planning Thought: Autobiographical Essays from Key Thinkers in Planning*, Ed. Beatrix Haselsberger, Routledge 2017.





Professor  
**WILLEM SALET**

is emeritus professor of urban and regional planning at the University of Amsterdam. He graduated in spatial planning and sociology. He was a researcher at the Dutch think tank, the Scientific Council for Government Policy (1980 -1995). Salet was a professor of governance at TU Delft from 1994 to 1996 when he was appointed in Amsterdam. He chaired the Program Group Urban Planning from 1998 until his retirement in 2016. From 1998 to 2003, he chaired the Amsterdam research institute of the Metropolitan Environment. Willem Salet chaired the AESOP academic prize paper competition and was the association's President from 2007 to 2009. In 2016, he was awarded an AESOP Honorary Membership.

Willem Salet is specialised in metropolitan governance and spatial planning. He takes an institutional perspective in planning studies, including cultural, political and legal aspects of place and environment. He published numerous books and papers and coordinated international studies into urban development, governance and strategic urban projects. He coordinated research on behalf of the European Science Foundation, National Scientific Organisation (NWO), Volvo Research, ministries, and professional agencies. In cooperation with an international group of researchers, he is calling for a turn in planning studies with 'Institutions in Action', a handbook and monograph, to be published later in 2017 (Routledge).



Professor  
**GERHARD SCHIMAK**

graduated from the School of Architecture and received his PhD in Spatial Planning from the Vienna University of Technology. He started his academic career there as research assistant at the Institute of Urban Design and Spatial Planning, later becoming Assistant Professor and Honorary Professor for Regional Planning and Regional Development. He was elected at UT Vienna as Deputy and Vice President (Rector), fulfilling the role from 1999 to 2011, with changing responsibilities including finances, infrastructure and university development. During a break from the university in 1991 and 1992, he worked as Deputy Head of the Planning Department of the projected World Exhibition Vienna – Budapest, which was later cancelled. Returning from the experience of this huge international project, he successfully established yearly international student planning projects as part of the planning course at his university, in close cooperation with various universities in Europe, the US and Israel. The fall of the Iron Curtain - also along the Austrian borders - gave him the chance to concentrate on research, lecturing and publishing on the issues of cross-border planning and endogenous development in these long-neglected border regions. He was a member of the AESOP Congress Committee between 2003 and 2007, heading the organisation of the AESOP Congress in 2005, and Congress Officer of AESOP ExCo from 2012 until 2016.

**GOVERNANCE**

The administrative and managerial organs of AESOP are: the General Assembly, the Council of Representatives and the Executive Committee.

The **General Assembly** acts as the association's formal means of consultation, discusses planning education, research and practice issues and considers the activities and general policies of the Association. It is open to individual members and representatives of institutional members, as well as to academics and students from all the schools represented in the Association.

The General Assembly takes place during the AESOP Annual Congress in July.





All AESOP powers rest with the **Council of Representatives**, which is a body elected by the Full Members. Among other functions, it defines the policies and programmes of the Association and elects the AESOP Officials.

**The following functions are exclusive to the Council:**

- defining the policies and programmes of the Association,
- defining and modifying the internal rules of the Association,
- setting membership fees and other payments,
- approving of annual financial statements and the budget,
- appointing financial auditors,
- ratifying the Association's membership in other organizations,
- ratifying membership applications,
- establishing prizes,
- electing and dismissing the Officials,
- deciding disputes between members of the Executive,
- expelling members,
- dissolving the Association.

The Council of Representatives consists of the following members:

- *the National Representatives;*
- *the Officials;*
- *up to three additional persons designated by the President.*

## National members of the Council of Representatives (2016-2018)

<p><b>Albania</b> Representative: Besnik Aliaj Substitute: Sotir Dhano</p>	<p><b>Ireland</b> Representative: Brendan Williams Representative: Brendan O'Sullivan Substitute: Enda Murphy Substitute: Hendrik Van Der Kamp</p>	<p><b>Slovenia</b> Representative: Naja Marot Substitute: Alma Zavodnik Lamovšek</p>
<p><b>Austria</b> Representative: Thomas Dillinger Substitute: Petra Hirschler</p>	<p><b>Italy</b> Representative: Barbara Pizzo Representative: Domenico Camarda Substitute: Giancarlo Cotella Substitute: Filippo Schilleci</p>	<p><b>Spain</b> Representative: Eduardo Cáceres Representative: José Miguel Fernández Guell Substitute: Lucia Martinez Substitute: Javier Ruiz Sánchez</p>
<p><b>Belgium</b> Representative: Luuk Boelens Representative: Tom Coppens Substitute: Jan Schreurs Substitute: Michael Ryckewaert</p>	<p><b>Kosovo</b> Representative: Edmond Hajrizi Substitute: Can Lulzim Beqiri</p>	<p><b>Sweden</b> Representative: Maria Håkansson Representative: Agatino Rizzo Substitute: Lina Berglund Snodgrass Substitute: Julia Fredriksson</p>
<p><b>Bulgaria</b> Representative: Milena Tasheva-Petrova Substitute: Angel Burov</p>	<p><b>Netherlands</b> Representative: Federico Savini Representative: Christian Zuidema Substitute: Stefanie Dühr Substitute: Vincent Nadin</p>	<p><b>Switzerland</b> Representative: Bernd Scholl Representative: Joachim Schöffel</p>
<p><b>Czech Republic</b> Representative: Karel Maier Representative: Jiri Palacky Substitute: Jakub Vorel Substitute: Lubos Frantisak</p>	<p><b>Norway</b> Representative: Marius Grønning Representative: Terje Skjeggedal</p>	<p><b>Turkey</b> Representative: Zeynep Meray Enli Representative: Ferhan Gezici Substitute: Bahar Gedikli</p>
<p><b>Denmark</b> Representative: Michael Tophøj Sørensen Substitute: Daniel Galland</p>	<p><b>Poland</b> Representative: Beata Banachowicz Representative: Tadeusz Strykiewicz Substitute: Iwona Pielesiak Substitute: Lidia Mierzejewska</p>	<p><b>United Kingdom</b> Representative: Richard J. Nunes Representative: Francesca S. Sartorio Substitute: Claire Colomb Substitute: Wesley Flannery</p>
<p><b>Finland</b> Representative: Kimmo Lapintie Representative: Raine Mäntysalo Substitute: Anssi Joutsiniemi Substitute: Marketta Kyttä</p>	<p><b>Portugal</b> Representative: Teresa Cáliz Representative: José Manuel Simões Substitute: José Antunes Ferreira Substitute: Sofia Morgado</p>	<p><b>Aesop Officials</b> Olivier Sykes (<i>Chair Of Award Committee - Excellence In Teaching</i>) Karina Pallagst (<i>Chair Of Award Committee - Best Published Paper</i>) Tuna Tasan-Kok (<i>Chair Of Award Committee - Best Congress Paper</i>) Izabela Mironowicz (<i>Lecture Series</i>)</p>
<p><b>France</b> Representative: Abdelillah Hamdouch Representative: Adriana Diaconu Substitute: Corinne Larrue Substitute: Thomas Perrin</p>	<p><b>Romania</b> Representative: Tiberiu Florescu Substitute: Florin Machedon</p>	
<p><b>Germany</b> Representative: Angela Million Representative: Karsten Zimmermann Substitute: Jörg Knileing Substitute: Nikolai Roskamm</p>	<p><b>Russia</b> Representative: Svetlana Maximova Substitute: Ekaterina Saveleva</p>	
<p><b>Greece</b> Representative: Elisavet Thoidou Representative: Aris Sapounakis Substitute: Georgia Pozoukidou Substitute: Konstantinos Lalenis</p>	<p><b>Serbia</b> Representative: Tijana Dabovic Substitute: Aleksandar Djordjevic</p>	
	<p><b>Slovakia</b> Representative: Maroš Finka Substitute: Zuzana Ladzianska</p>	

The **Executive Committee** holds the managerial and administrative powers of the Association. It operates with delegated powers on behalf of the Council of Representatives, and is subject to its authority.

### Current composition of the Executive Committee

#### Anna Geppert (President, 2016-2018)

Anna Geppert is Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Paris-Sorbonne and the current President of AESOP (2016-2018). She holds a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning, a PhD (1996) and a Habilitation (2008) from the University of Paris-Sorbonne, with theses on Intercity networks and spatial planning in Champagne-Ardenne and Towards the emergence of Strategic Spatial Planning respectively. With numerous articles published in international scientific journals and chapters contributed to books, her research interests are Planning Systems, European Spatial Planning and Planning Education. The RTPI lists her among The Planner's Women of Influence 2017, in its international category.



#### Paulo Pinho (Secretary General, 2015-2019)

Paulo Pinho is Professor of Spatial and Environmental Planning at the Faculty of Engineering at Porto University, Portugal. He is the founder and Director of CITTA, the Research Centre for Territory, Transports and Environment. He graduated in Civil Engineering with a major in Urban Planning from the University of Porto (1978), and holds a postgraduate diploma in Urban and Regional Planning and a PhD in Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK (1982, 1985). His recent research focuses on urban metabolism, low carbon cities, sustainable mobility and metropolitan dynamics.



#### Francesco Lo Piccolo (Vice President, 2016-2017)

Francesco Lo Piccolo (Palermo, 1966) is Professor of Urban Planning and Coordinator of the Bachelor and MSc Programmes in Urban and Regional Planning at the Department of Architecture of the University of Palermo. A Fulbright and Marie Curie TMR Fellow, his research is mostly directed towards social exclusion, ethnicity and diversity, identity and local communities and public and civic participation, with specific interests in ethics and justice. His recent international publications include *Knights and Castles: Minorities and Urban Regeneration* (Ashgate, 2003) and *Ethics and Planning Research* (Ashgate, 2009), and his articles have been published in *International Planning Studies*, *Planning Practice and Research*, *Planning Theory and Practice*, *Town Planning Review* and *Planning Theory*.





#### **Thomas Matta (Treasurer, 2014-2017)**

Thomas R. Matta graduated from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich (ETH) in 1972. From 1978 to 1991, he owned an office for architecture and spatial planning in Zürich. He has been commissioned by numerous public authorities and communities for assignments in the field of urban design and territorial planning, and he also consulted private developers. Having been appointed as Professor of Spatial Planning at the University of Applied Sciences in Rapperswil (Switzerland), he was Head of the Spatial Planning Department and a partner at the Institute for Spatial Development from 2000 to 2012. Since his retirement in 2012 he has run his own consulting office. He is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Business and Technology in Pristina (Kosovo). He is also engaged in various NGO-projects and initiatives, mainly in Switzerland, but also in other countries such as Mozambique and Kyrgyzstan. He lives in Elsau/Winterthur, Switzerland.



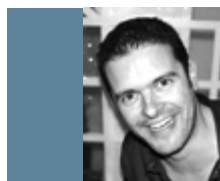
#### **Zorica Nedović-Budić (Conferences Officer, 2016-2020)**

Zorica Nedović-Budić is a visiting professor of spatial planning and information at the School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy at University College Dublin, and the Department Head of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her research is about planning, cities and technology, conducting studies on various scales in the US, Ireland and southeast Europe. She has published extensively in books, refereed journals and co-edited three volumes, including Planning for States and Nation-States in the US and Europe (2015, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy).



#### **Ela Babalik-Sutcliffe (AESOP Representative in GPEAN, 2013-2019)**

Ela Babalik-Sutcliffe is a member of the academic staff at the Department of City and Regional Planning, Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey. Her research topics include transport policy, sustainable mobility, public transport planning and operation, and planning education. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the METU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture, a member of the Permanent Scientific and Technical Committee of Cooperation for Urban Mobility in the Developing World [CODATU] and a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of European Schools of Planning [AESOP], acting as the association's representative in the Global Planning Education Associations Network [GPEAN].



#### **Daniel Galland (Chair of the Excellence in Education Board, 2017-2020)**

Daniel Galland is Associate Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU). He graduated from the University of British Columbia, Canada in 2004 and received a PhD in Planning and Development from Aalborg University, Denmark in 2012. Currently, he is AESOP's chair of the Excellence in Education Board. His primary research and teaching areas focus on the evolution and reorientations of planning conceptions, planning styles and planning roles in diverse geographical contexts and of different scales across Europe and Latin America.

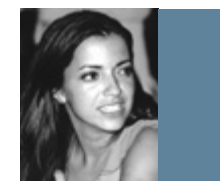
#### **Karel Van den Berghe (YAN Representative, 2016-2017)**

Karel Van den Berghe is currently a PhD candidate in Urban Planning at Ghent University, Belgium (BOF grant, 2014-2018). He holds an MSc. Degree in Geography (2012) and an MSc. Degree in Urbanism and Spatial Planning (2013). His Master's thesis in urban planning won him the 2013 Flemish graduation prize from the Flemish spatial planners' association. In 2014 and 2015, Karel won the annual prize for the 'best young planner in the Netherlands and Flanders'. In 2015, Karel became part of the AESOP Young Academic coordination team (YA CT). During the 2016-2017 academic year, Karel acted as the chair of the YA CT and, as such, represented the young academics within the AESOP Exco. Karel is currently a member of the editorial board of the AESOP international peer-reviewed journal PlaNext.



#### **Joana Bailão (Secretary General Assistant, 2015-2019)**

Joana Bailão is currently the AESOP Secretary General Assistant. Since 2015, she's been helping the daily management of the association, as well as assisting in the preparation of the ExCo and CoRep meetings. She is also the Executive Assistant of CITTA - the Research Centre for Territory, Transports and Environment, in Porto. She has a degree in Communication from the Porto School of Journalism and began her career at the University of Porto's Faculty of Engineering as an assistant at the Student's Office in the Civil Engineering Department.





Although AESOP is a non-profit organisation, it cannot manage without a certain amount of funds. Thanks to regular revenues deriving from annual membership fees and the capitation fees from the AESOP congresses, our association is able to offer a wide range of services to their members. Unfortunately, it has been a regular occurrence for some members to be suspended as a consequence of not paying their annual fees for a minimum of three years.

As basic rule the aim of AESOP treasury policy is to achieve a balanced annual budget. However, our finances are subject to significant fluctuations due to irregular expenses and revenues. But in the long run AESOP's financial situation is, all in all, very sound and steady.

The purchase of Money Market Funds has proved to be successful: the main objective is to preserve capital with a high degree of security, combined with high liquidity.

Some important decisions have been made in the last years regarding financial matters.

In 2012, a new Treasurer application was introduced, enabling the electronic management of invoicing and controlling of money transfers. This has proved successful and has led to an improvement in the payment procedure and, therefore, to improved financial conditions.

In 2013, two internal auditors were appointed by the Council of Representatives (CoRep) to execute a financial audit at the end of the year. Since then, they have regularly concluded that all account transactions have been accurate, according to the documents provided.

Since 2015, AESOP has been allocating funds for its own projects, with specific tasks intended to enhance and strengthen the activities of the Association.

These projects are financed by the sale of security papers (Money Market Funds) and the necessary funds are transferred to a new bank account, which was established for funding AESOP Projects. AESOP intends to limit security assets to a strategic reserve of two years' average incomes, investing the remainder in very carefully selected strategic projects. These have to be assessed and accepted by the Executive Committee (ExCo) and approved by the Council of Representatives.

Thomas Matta (Treasurer)



AESOP is one of the founding members of the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN), which was established during the first World Planning Schools Congress in 2001 in Shanghai. Currently, GPEAN has 11 member associations:

- AAPS: Association of African Planning Schools
- ACSP: Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, US
- ACUPP: Association of Canadian University Planning Programs
- AESOP: Association of European Schools of Planning
- ALEUP: Asociación Latinoamericana de Escuelas de Urbanismo y Planeación
- ANPUR: Associação Nacional de Pós-graduação e Pesquisa em Planejamento Urbano e Regional
- ANZAPS: Australian and New Zealand Association of Planning Schools
- APERAU: Association pour la Promotion de l'Enseignement et de la Recherche en Aménagement et Urbanisme
- APSA: Asian Planning Schools Association
- ASPI: Association of Schools of Planning in Indonesia
- TUPOB: Association of Planning Schools of Turkey

While GPEAN aims to facilitate greater communication and cooperation between these associations, one of the network's central goals is improving the quality of planning education and the visibility of the planning profession, by putting spatial planning and its education at the forefront of the global agenda. The network intends to attain this goal through a number of activities.

Together with its member associations, GPEAN organizes a World Planning School Congress (WPSC) every five years. So far, four WPSCs have been organised, bringing together planning educators and scholars worldwide: the 2001 Shanghai WPSC; the 2006 Mexico City WPSC, the 2011 Perth WPSC; and the 2016 Rio de Janeiro WPSC. Preparations are under way for the 2021 Congress.

GPEAN also publishes the Dialogues in Urban and Regional Planning book series in association with Routledge. Each volume of the Dialogues book series features selected articles that reflect outstanding scholarship from each member association, providing a glimpse into discussions and concerns regarding planning theory, practice and education in different regions of the world. The network is currently working on the sixth book of the series, titled "The Right to the City", to be published in 2017.

GPEAN is also actively involved in UN Habitat events and activities. It contributed a chapter to both the 2009 Global Report Planning for Sustainable Cities, and the 2016 World Cities Report. The Network and its member associations (including AESOP) have contributed to the Habitat III process, particularly the debates on the New Urban Agenda, which was adopted during the Habitat III Conference in October 2016. Both GPEAN and AESOP have become members of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP), a special initiative proposed by the World Urban Campaign (WUC) to serve as a platform for non-governmental partners in Habitat III. In addition to its involvement during the preparation process, GPEAN also had a strong presence during the Habitat III Conference, and organised a side event called "Capacity Building for the New Urban Agenda: Roles for Universities".

Ela Babalik- Sutcliffe (GPEAN Representative)



## YOUNG ACADEMICS NETWORK

The Young Academics (YA) Network was established in 2002 as a loosely-structured branch of AESOP. The YA provides a platform through which young academics can share their ideas in an open and inclusive environment, challenging and supporting one another with the support of senior AESOP members. The YA are managed by a Coordination Team (CT) of five democratically-elected YA members. Each CT member is elected for two years. Every year, two or three members are replaced, ensuring the necessary continuity. One of the second year members acts as the YA CT Chair and has an official place on the AESOP Executive Committee. As such, the Chair of the YA CT is the voice of the 'young' and watches over all of their concerns within AESOP. The last three YA CT Chairs were Lauren Ugur (2014-2015), Nadia Caruso (2015-2016) and Karel Van den Berghe (2016-2017).

The YA work on several initiatives and activities, managed in part by the CT, but mostly by enthusiastic YA members, organizing themselves into editorial boards or local organizing committees. The YA are the publisher of the international peer-reviewed open-access journal *plaNnext* and the YA Booklets. In general, *plaNnext* publishes two issues per year, one as an open-call issue and one as a special issue inviting paper authors who presented their research during the YA Conference. Since 2007, the YA has organised an annual conference, traditionally during the months of March or April. An AESOP member school hosts the conference. The last three conferences were hosted by the University of Palermo (2015), Ghent University (2016) and TU Munich (2017). Groningen University will host the 2018 conference. In general, the conference takes four days with two days of track sessions, one day of public debate or planning excursions and one day of workshops. The keynotes are spread over these four days. The fact that the host university covers the participants' fee is unique to YA conference. Strongly supported by AESOP, the idea behind this set-up is to support the YA members in their academic career. While most academic conferences charge a fee, the YA conference only selects on academic quality, not financial possibilities. Through this form of selection, the YA conference manages to maintain a relatively high level of academic quality every year. This is also because the YA conference can rely on the enthusiastic support of AESOP senior members every year, who act as Keynote Speakers and/or Track Chairs, actively helping participants to reflect on their academic research. The theme of the conference is, in general, broad, but traditionally the themes of AESOP Young Academics conferences are linked to the host cities' and universities' local challenges, programmes, and strengths. In addition to the YA conference, the YA also help to organize the annual AESOP PhD Workshop, which is associated with the annual AESOP conference. During the AESOP annual conferences, the YA organises round tables and social events, and invites both the YA and AESOP networks to come to the annual YA general assembly during the AESOP annual conference.

The YA also actively collaborates with the American young planners of ACSP, the Australian and New Zealand young planners of AECURN, and CORUM, the young planners network of the French-speaking APERAU association.

Karel Van den Berghe (YAN Chair)





## AESOP PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

AESOP counts on a significant number of partner organizations with common initiatives, such as congresses and workshops which are carried out to promote planning education, planning research and the planning profession. In most cases the articulation between AESOP and its partner organizations is established on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding.

### ECTP-CEU

European Council of Spatial Planners  
Conseil européen des urbanistes

#### European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP-CEU) MoU

The ECTP-CEU (European Council of Spatial Planners – *Conseil Européen des Urbanistes*) brings together 27 professional town planning associations and institutes from 25 European countries as well as corresponding members. It is an umbrella association providing its members with a common framework to promote the visibility, recognition of the important societal role played and the practice of planning and urban development in Europe and its teaching, continuing professional development and the definition of professional responsibilities.

[www.ectp-ceu.eu](http://www.ectp-ceu.eu)



#### European Regional Science Association (ERSA) MoU

The European Regional Science Association (ERSA) is the supranational grouping of national regional science associations across Europe. The main functions of ERSa, apart from promoting the field of regional science, are to organize an Annual European Congress, an Annual Summer School, the EPAINOS prize for young scientists and the EIB-ERSA prize to recognize outstanding regional scientists.

[www.ersa.org](http://www.ersa.org)



#### European Urban Research Association (EURA) MoU

The European Urban Research Association focuses on the promotion of urban research as well as the dissemination and communication of research findings in order to educate the general public. These aims are realised specifically through the organization of public conferences and lectures, the publishing and promotion of scientific results and an international exchange of experience and ideas.

[www.eura.org](http://www.eura.org)



#### International Academic Association on Planning, Law and Property Rights (PLPR) MoU

The International Academic Association of Planning, Law, and Property Rights evolved from a congress track on planning and law, held under the auspices of the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) in 1999, and from an AESOP Thematic Group on that topic, announced in 2003 at the AESOP congress in Leuven.

The main objective of the Association is to foster international academic knowledge exchange on the themes of planning, law, and property rights.

[plpr-association.org](http://plpr-association.org)



#### International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) MoU

The International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) is a non-governmental network organisation which brokers knowledge in the field of Housing and Planning. It aims to make better cities for people by implementing the New Urban Agenda with their members and partners by connecting the right stakeholders, curating information for the community-of-experts and by organizing tailor-made events.

[www.ifhp.org](http://www.ifhp.org)



#### International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) MoU

The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) is a global association of experienced professional planners. It was founded in 1965 in a bid to bring together recognised and highly-qualified planners in an international network.

Members are planners and other stakeholders involved in the development and maintenance of the built environment.

[www.isocarp.org](http://www.isocarp.org)



### **International Planning History Society (IPHS)** MoU

The International Planning History Society (IPHS) is dedicated to the enhancement of interdisciplinary studies in urban and regional planning history.

IPHS was inaugurated in 1993 as a successor association to the Planning History Group (PHG), a British-based organisation founded in 1974.

[www.planninghistory.org](http://www.planninghistory.org)

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### **Association pour la Promotion de l'Enseignement et de la Recherche en Aménagement et Urbanisme (APERAU)** MoU

APERAU brings together institutions of higher education in the French-speaking world that commit themselves to applying the principles of a quality charter in the courses and diplomas they offer in Development and Urbanism. The APERAU also promotes scientific research in the field of planning and urban planning, in all its forms.

[www.aperau.org](http://www.aperau.org)

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### **UN Habitat, The United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

MoU via GPEAN

UN-Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially- and environmentally-sustainable human settlements, developments and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. UN-Habitat envisions well-planned, well-governed, and efficient cities and other human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to employment and basic services such as water, energy, and sanitation.

[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

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### **The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)**

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning promotes education, research and outreach in the United States and throughout the world.

Members of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning are universities with departments and programmes offering planning degrees or programmes that offer degrees affiliated with planning.

[www.acsp.org](http://www.acsp.org)



### **Urban Affairs Association (UAA)**

The Urban Affairs Association (UAA) is the international professional organization for urban scholars, researchers, and public service professionals. The UAA is dedicated to creating interdisciplinary spaces for engaging in intellectual and practical discussions about urban life. Through theoretical, empirical, and action-oriented research, it fosters diverse activities to understand and shape a more just and equitable urban world.

[www.urbanaffairsassociation.org](http://www.urbanaffairsassociation.org)

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### **National Steering Committee of Urban and Rural Planning Education in China (NSCURPEC)** MoU

Authorized and guided by the Ministry of Education, the committee functions as an organisation of experts who are appointed and supervised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, taking responsibility for providing study, guidance, advice and services to the professional development and talent cultivation in urban and rural planning higher education.

[www.nsc-urpec.org](http://www.nsc-urpec.org)

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION BOARD

As part of the implementation process of the Quality Recognition Project, an Excellence in Education Board has recently been established, replacing the former AESOP Experts Pool. The Council of Representatives has been requested to select up to 3 members per country to take part in the Excellence in Education Board (EEB). The members of the EEB have been selected from people with experience in preparing and running educational programmes in planning with international cooperation, preferably with additional experience in evaluation.

In March 2017, the AESOP Council of Representatives approved **Daniel Galland** as the new **Chair of the Excellence in Education Board**.

### Excellence in Education Board Members

#### AUSTRIA

**Petra Hirschler**  
Vienna University of Technology  
**Thomas Dillinger**  
Vienna University of Technology

#### BULGARIA

**Vesselina Troeva**  
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and  
Geodesy, Sofia  
**Elena Dimitrova**  
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and  
Geodesy, Sofia  
**Milena Tasheva - Petrova**  
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and  
Geodesy, Sofia

#### DENMARK

**Daniel Galland**  
Aalborg University

#### FRANCE

**Roelof Verhage**  
University Lumiere Lyon II  
**José Serrano**  
University Francois Rabelais

#### GERMANY

**Pierre Böhm**  
Darmstadt University of Technology  
**Karsten Zimmermann**  
Technische Universität Dortmund  
**Max Welch Guerra**  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

#### GREECE

**Athena Yiannakou**  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
**Alexis Deffner**  
University of Thessaly  
**Konstantinos Lalenis**  
University of Thessaly

#### IRELAND

**Zorica Nedovic-Budic**  
University College Dublin  
**Enda Murphy**  
University College Dublin

#### ITALY

**Francesco Domenico Moccia**  
University "Federico II" Napoli  
**Silvia Saccomani**  
Politecnico di Torino  
**Laura Fregolent**  
University Institute of Architecture in Venezia

#### NORWAY

**Terje Skjeggedal**  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
**Nils Aarsæther**  
University of Tromsø  
**Elin Børrud**  
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)

#### POLAND

**Tadeusz Kudlacz**  
University of Economics, Krakow  
**Izabela Mironowicz**  
Wrocław University of Science and Technology  
**Justyna Martyniuk-Peczek**  
Gdansk University of Technology

#### PORTUGAL

**Artur da Rosa Pires**  
University of Aveiro  
**José Álvaro Antunes Ferreira**  
University of Lisbon  
**Pedro George**  
Technical University of Lisbon

#### SERBIA

**Tijana Dabovic**  
University of Belgrade

#### SLOVAKIA

**Maros Finka**  
Slovak University of Technology  
**Dagmar Petrikova**  
Slovak University of Technology

#### SLOVENIA

**Alma Zavodnik Lamovšek**  
University of Ljubljana  
**Mojca Golobic**  
University of Ljubljana  
**Alenka Fikfak**  
University of Ljubljana

#### SWEDEN

**Gunilla Lindholm**  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences  
**Anna Kaczorowska**  
Chalmers University of Technology  
**Peter Brooking**  
KTH – Royal Institute of Technology

#### TURKEY

**Nuran Zeren Guler soy**  
Istanbul Technical University  
**Cagatay Keskinok**  
Middle East Technical University  
**Yiğit Evren**  
Yildiz University

#### UNITED KINGDOM

**Georgia Butina Watson**  
Oxford Brookes University  
**Mark Tewdwr-Jones**  
University of Newcastle  
**Angelique Chettiparamb**  
University of Reading



## AESOP PRESIDENTS

KLAUS  
KUNZMANN1987  
1990LOUIS  
ALBRECHT1990  
1992GIORGIO  
PICCINATO1992  
1994PATSY  
HEALEY1994  
1996MARCEL  
BAZIN1996  
1998TADEUSZ  
MARKOWSKI1998  
2000HANS  
MASTOP2000  
2002ALESSANDRO  
BALDUCCI2002  
2004SIMIN  
DAVOUDI2004  
2006PETER  
ACHE2006  
2008WILLEM  
SALET2008  
2010KRISTINA L.  
NILSSON2010  
2012GERT  
DE ROO2012  
2014FRANCESCO  
LO PICCOLO2014  
2016

## AESOP SECRETARIES GENERAL

DAVID  
MASSEY1987  
1989ANTHONY  
RAMSEY1989  
1991RICHARD  
WILLIAMS1991  
1993MYRIAM  
JANSEN-VERBEKE1993  
1995GORAN  
CARS1995  
1998ANGELA  
HULL1998  
2002GERT  
DE ROO2002  
2007ANNA  
GEPPERT2007  
2011IZABELA  
MIRONOWICZ2011  
2015





## AESOP MAIN ACTIVITIES



**AESOP EVENTS**

Education and community building are among the key purposes of AESOP. These purposes are achieved through various channels – membership, publications, internal and external communications, and focused task forces. Even with new technologies playing an important facilitating role, nothing can replace face-to-face meetings and events where members participate in person. The annual congress has been the staple of AESOP since its foundation. For 30 years it has gathered planning scholars from across Europe and worldwide, offering opportunities to present and discuss new research, learn from each other, share ideas and entice collaborations. Every five years, AESOP has worked with other associations to organize the World Planning Schools Congress and a joint AESOP/ACSP conference. Complementing this meeting of all members, there is an annual assembly of heads of planning schools to address specific education and curricula-related issues.

Finally, AESOP places a premium on developing and integrating the new generation of scholars into its broader community. The annual AESOP PhD Workshop usually precedes the annual congress and provides a nurturing environment for understanding the research process and sharpening the methodological and theoretical tools. Mentoring, early involvement and integration of students in these academic circles ensures the advancement and continuity of planning scholarship, and interaction between the students and experienced researchers. Equally, AESOP events are essential for the association's strength and vibrancy.

Zorica Nedovic-Budic (Conferences Officer)





## Annual congress

Every year, usually in July, AESOP holds its Annual Congress, hosted by one of its member universities. Congresses enable a wide platform of exchange in the fields of research, education and practice in planning. They usually run around 20 thematic tracks and host outstanding invited speakers.

Every five years AESOP co-organises the World Planning Schools Congress, gathering planning schools from all over the world.

List of AESOP Annual Congresses:

1987 · Amsterdam, The Netherlands (Inaugural Congress)  
1988 · Dortmund, Germany  
1989 · Tours, France  
1990 · Reggio Calabria, Italy  
1991 · Oxford, UK (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)  
1992 · Stockholm, Sweden  
1993 · Lodz, Poland  
1994 · Istanbul, Turkey  
1995 · Glasgow, UK  
1996 · Toronto, Canada (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)  
1997 · Nijmegen, the Netherlands  
1998 · Aveiro, Portugal  
1999 · Bergen, Norway  
2000 · Brno, Czech Republic  
2001 · Shanghai, China (World Planning Schools Congress)  
2002 · Volos, Greece  
2003 · Leuven, Belgium (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)  
2004 · Grenoble, France  
2005 · Vienna, Austria  
2006 · Mexico City, Mexico (World Planning Schools Congress)  
2007 · Naples, Italy  
2008 · Chicago, U.S. (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)  
2009 · Liverpool, UK  
2010 · Helsinki, Finland  
2011 · Perth, Australia (World Planning Schools Congress)

2012

AESOP Congress, Ankara, Turkey

**Planning to Achieve/Planning to Avoid**

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2013

AESOP-ACSP joint Congress, Dublin, Ireland

**Planning for Resilient Cities and Regions**

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2014

AESOP Congress, Utrecht-Delft, Netherlands

**Spatial Planning - from Control to Co-Evolution**

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2015

AESOP Congress, Prague, Czech Republic

**Definite Space – Fuzzy Responsibility**

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2016

World Planning Schools Congress (WPSC), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Global Crisis, Planning & Challenges to Spatial Justice in the North and in the South**

2017

AESOP Congress, Lisbon, Portugal

11 » 14 July 2017

A joint endeavour by three University of Lisbon schools, IST (Instituto Superior Técnico), IGOT (Geography and Spatial Planning Institute) and FA (Faculty of Architecture).

**SPACES OF DIALOG FOR PLACES OF DIGNITY:  
Fostering the European Dimension of Planning**

*In an uncertain world, which is rapidly changing economically, socially and culturally, cities and territories have become the common ground for resilient breakthroughs in the policies and practices of planning and design.*

*These extreme times urge us to shift towards renewed actions in urban and less-urbanised territories. Societal changes, disparities in population growth and incomes and the consequential impacts on the sustainability of social services and labour markets, climate change and extreme natural events and complex social-economic trends challenge us to debate and seek paths that lead to a progressive common future.*

*The planning and urban minded communities are invited to join efforts under the flag of the congress topic – SPACES OF DIALOG FOR PLACES OF DIGNITY: Fostering the European Dimension of Planning.*

*A few of the ideas we may want to provide a platform for discussion of include developing people's wellbeing, promoting integrated and flexible planning approaches, encouraging collective engagement in urban and environmental management, inclusiveness and multiculturalism.*

*As one of the most western cities in Europe, we believe that we may address potential European urban futures and the need for opening effective dialogue and cooperation with other corners of the globe.*

*The programme is organized in 21 tracks tackling mainstream subjects as well as more ambitious and innovative ones. These 21 tracks are grouped into 6 thematic areas. This organization of the tracks is intended to offset the excessive fragmentation of the tracks' topics providing attendees with an indication of each tracks' relative affinities. It is also aimed at facilitating the management and distribution of the oral presentations in each session due to the late rearrangements that are always needed, deriving from last minute cancellations. The list of themes and tracks together with an indication of the list of co-chairs associated with each track is presented in the following table.*





THEMES	TRACKS & CO-CHAIRS
PLANNING THEORY AND EDUCATION	1. Planning theory: conceptual challenges and planning evaluation <i>Co-chairs: Tore Sager; Alessandro Balducci; João Cabral</i>
	2. Planning education: building up spaces of dialogue for places of dignity <i>Co-chairs: Kristina Nilsson; Andrea Frank; Artur Rosa Pires</i>
URBAN DESIGN AND PUBLIC SPACES	3. Spaces of dialogue for active, networked and responsible citizenship <i>Co-chairs: Camilla Perrone; Roberto Rocco; Lia Vasconcelos</i>
	4. Urban design, public spaces and urban culture <i>Co-chairs: Ali Madanipour; Gabriella Esposito De Vita; Pedro George</i>
	5. Green infrastructures: fostering dialogue across scales and policies <i>Co-chairs: Anna M. Hersperger; Stephan Pauleit; Isabel Loupa Ramos</i>
TERRITORY AND ITS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS	6. Territorial cohesion: a multiscale approach <i>Co-chairs: Stefanie Dühr; Giancarlo Cotella; Eduarda Marques da Costa</i>
	7. Dialogues in diverse, inclusive, and multicultural cities <i>Co-chairs: Willem Buunk; Inês Sanchez de Madariaga; Isabel Raposo</i>
	8. Regional economics and scarce resources planning <i>Co-chairs: Michael Getzner; Pantelis Skayannis; João Mourato</i>
	9. Bridging gaps in transnational planning <i>Co-chairs: Tuna Tasan-Kok; Thomas Dillinger; Paulo Correia</i>
EMERGENT LAND USES AND PRACTICES	10. Housing and urban rehabilitation and qualification for places of dignity <i>Co-chairs: Roelof Verhage; Ivan Tosics; Diogo Mateus</i>
	11. Healthy and liveable cities <i>Co-chairs: Tijana Dabovic; Pierre Laconte; Nuno Marques da Costa</i>
	12. Tourism, leisure and genuine urban cultures <i>Co-chairs: Jarkko Saarinen; José Manuel Simões</i>
POLICIES AND STRATEGIES	13. Mobility policies, transport regulation and urban planning <i>Co-chairs: Enrica Papa; Xavier Desjardins; Fernando Nunes da Silva</i>
	14. Policies for smart and co-creative cities <i>Co-chairs: Francesco Pilla; Paulo Morgado</i>
	15. Law and planning under societal challenges <i>Co-chairs: Rachelle Alterman; Leonie Janssen-Jansen; Beatriz Condessa</i>
	16. Urban metabolism and territorial efficiency <i>Co-chairs: Mendel Giezen; Sara Cruz</i>
THE FORTHCOMING CITY	17. Big data, open sources, generative tools <i>Co-chairs: Michele Campagna; Elisabete A. Silva; Paulo Silva</i>
	18. Unravelling complexity for planning <i>Co-chairs: Gert de Roo; Ward Rauws; Jorge Batista e Silva</i>
	19. Resilient and sustainable territories <i>Co-chairs: Richard Sliuzas; Adriana Galderisi; Teresa Cáliz</i>
	20. Territories under pressure: disruptive events, shattered cities, collective memories <i>Co-chairs: Enrico Gualini; Adrianna Kupidura; Sofia Morgado</i>
	21. Urban futures: challenges and vision <i>Co-chairs: Peter Ache; Peter Naess; Davide Ponzini; Eduardo Castro</i>





## HoS Meeting

The Heads of Schools (HoS) Meeting is an annual forum for planning education, usually held in Spring (March- April). AESOP is happy to welcome delegates from its member schools, whether they are the **Heads of the Schools or any key persons designated by them, to discuss the main problems and challenges for planning education across Europe.**

### List of AESOP Heads of Schools Meetings:

2006 · Bratislava (Slovakia), 17-18 March

2007 · Leuven (Belgium), 14 April

2008 · Lodz (Poland), 29-30 March

2009 · Lille (France), 27-28 March

2010 · Istanbul (Turkey), 17-18 April

2011 · Tirana (Albania), 7-8 May

### 2012

AESOP HoS Meeting, Oslo, Norway

**How to Manage Planning Schools in the Times of Crisis**

### 2013

AESOP HoS Meeting, Gdansk, Poland

**Smart Teaching**

**Innovative Steps Towards 21st Century Spatial Developments**

### 2014

AESOP HoS Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal

**We must adapt!**

**Planning connecting academia and local communities  
in a rapidly changing Europe**

### 2015

AESOP HoS Meeting, Madrid, Spain

**Enhancing International Cooperation in a Connected and Divided World**

### 2016

AESOP HoS Meeting, Thessaloniki, Greece

**Back to Agora: European Values and Planning Education**



2017

AESOP HoS Meeting, Warsaw, Poland

31 March » 2 April, 2017

Department of Spatial Planning and Environmental Sciences

Faculty of Geodesy and Cartography

Warsaw University of Technology

### Planning Education in a Digital World

Digital technology and tools have pervaded all spheres of society and life, planning professional practice and education included. One can differentiate between the technologies and tools used for/in planning, and those which are used in planning education. Most of the planning programmes in Europe and across the globe introduce their students to various software tools for data collection, management and analysis, as well as visualisation and graphical communication of information, ideas, designs, and proposals. From basic spreadsheets and statistical analysis to presentation tools, the technological toolbox has expanded to include geographic information systems (GIS), simulation/modelling, 3D visualisation tools, social media and mobile applications for the collection of user-generated content such as crowd-sourcing and volunteered geographic information (VGI). Software skills are in high demand and valued by planning organisations, both public and private. At the same time, the acquisition of these skills in the course of undergraduate or graduate planning studies compete with other programme content requirements (in some cases prescribed by accreditation bodies).

Planning educators are faced with hard choices and have to find effective ways of incorporating technology in their teaching. In addition, another branch of technology, education, is being promoted by both university administrations and industry. While some of the software tools for planning could serve educational purposes, there are also specific educational technologies, which impose another layer of complexity on the teaching process. Online teaching with digital 'blackboards', discussion threads and blogs, Internet-based research sources, virtual labs, and Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) are all challenging the traditional methods, without a clear understanding of their benefits, or what improvements they bring to the students' learning process.



 **Faculty of Geodesy  
and Cartography**  
WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
  
**Department of  
Spatial Planning and  
Environmental Sciences**  
FACULTY OF GEODESY AND CARTOGRAPHY

*This meeting is intended to critically examine the topic by raising the relevant questions and promoting a constructive dialogue among planning educators. What are our experiences? What have we learned so far? How do we respond? Where is the balance? What are the challenges?*

### Workshop 1: Big data vs field work

*At a recent public event, a panellist who is a planning consultant stated that Google Maps/Earth have had a negative effect on the work in his office. Rather than going into the field, be it a town, neighbourhood or site, some of his colleagues resort to digital resources for the purpose of familiarisation with the project area. The proliferation and accessibility of digital data (big data in particular) has reduced the need for fieldwork. But, could fieldwork be replaced? What are the consequences of dealing with spaces through digital sources? What would be the most beneficial use of digital resources?*

### Workshop 2: Online courses vs classroom

*Planning education has gone online. Nowadays, it is possible to obtain a whole planning degree remotely via the Internet. Also, partial content such as several modules or courses increasingly might be available for online learning within the traditional programme structure. Finally, Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) are available from any place and institution worldwide. Could planning be taught online? What is gained and what is lost in the process?*

### Workshop 3: Virtual vs place-based studios

*Studio work is essential for planning education. Practical examples dealing with planning issues in a workshop setting is a well-practiced and proven method in the majority of planning schools. Interaction in physical studio spaces offers valuable experience of teamwork and communication, particularly if a different disciplinary perspective is included. Ideas emerge as students work in groups or individually side by side, the expression and examination of their ideas facilitated by their physical presence and proximity. However, how feasible are virtual studios? How do virtual and place-based studios compare, and what are the advantages and disadvantages of each?*

## PhD Workshops

The PhD Workshop is an annual event for 30-40 PhD students exclusively from AESOP member schools. Guided by high-level academic tutors, they share research ideas, findings and concerns in an informal atmosphere.

The AESOP PhD Workshop is linked to the AESOP Annual Congress, usually organised to take place just before it. Students invited to attend PhD Workshop can enjoy complimentary registration to the Congress.

Recently, more than 100 applications were submitted. The selection is made on the basis of the scientific quality of the application and relevance to the topic of the PhD Workshop.

### List of AESOP PhD Workshops:

- 1993 · Lodz, Poland  
(AESOP Summer School for Doctoral Students and Young Academics)
- 1994 · Istanbul, Turkey  
(AESOP Summer School for Doctoral Students and Young Academics)
- 1995 · Glasgow, UK  
(AESOP Summer School for Doctoral Students and Young Academics)
- 1997 · Nijmegen, Netherlands
- 1998 · Aveiro, Portugal
- 1999 · Finse/Bergen, Norway
- 2000 · Brno, Czech Republic
- 2001 · Lodz, Poland
- 2002 · Volos, Greece
- 2003 · Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2004 · Aix en Provence, France
- 2005 · Vienna, Austria
- 2006 · Bristol, UK
- 2007 · Paestum/Naples, Italy
- 2008 · Jotunheimen National Park, Norway
- 2009 · Manchester, UK
- 2010 · Seili Island, Finland
- 2011 · Kostelec nad Czernými Lesy, Czech Republic

## 2012

AESOP PhD Workshop, Izmir, Turkey

### Planning to Achieve/Planning to Avoid

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## 2013

AESOP PhD Workshop, Belfast, Ireland

### Planning for Resilient Cities and Regions

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## 2014

AESOP PhD Workshop, Delft, Netherlands

### From Control to Co-evolution

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## 2015

AESOP PhD Workshop, Stara Lesna, Slovakia

### Fuzzy Responsibility - Multi-actors Decision Making under Uncertainty and Global Changes

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## 2016

AESOP PhD Workshop, Leuven, Belgium

### Planning and Urbanism Research in a Global World



2017

AESOP PhD Workshop, Aveiro, Portugal

05 » 08 July, 2017

Department of Social, Political and Territorial Sciences  
University of Aveiro

**Spaces of dialog for places of dignity:  
challenges for planning research**

*The aim of the PhD Workshop is to promote lively discussion over three days, creating space to share experiences and thoughts and allow positive contributions from each PhD researcher.*

*With the main topic of the 2017 Congress being Spaces of dialogue for places of dignity, we propose to address three main topics:*

- 1) The nature of the normative dimension of planning: challenges for planning research.*
- 2) Spatial planning and multi-scalar complexity: challenges for planning research.*
- 3) Planners and the dialects between planning and the role of the State: challenges for planning research.*



## OTHER EVENTS

**A • Lecture Series**

In 2012, within the framework of the **Decade of Planning**, AESOP and the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) launched a series of lectures by well-known planners and other 'urban thinkers', both academics and practitioners. The goal was to attract not only the planning community, but also a wider audience of politicians, community leaders, organisations, businesses and the media in order to promote planning as a discipline that can contribute to the quality of life, help find new tools of governance for urban structures and function as an effective mediator between the many stakeholders. The first two years of lectures formed part of the activities organised within the framework of both the AESOP Silver Jubilee (2012) and the IFHP Centenary (2013).

In 2014, the European Regional Sciences Association (ERSA), a partner organisation, decided to join AESOP's Lecture Series. The connecting element running through the whole series was for the speakers to discuss aspects of a new vision for planning by taking lessons from the past.

**List of Lecture Series:****Klaus R. Kunzmann**

'Europe: 25 Years of Planning Education and Policies that Impact'

**28 January 2012, Cappenberg Castle**

**Andreas Faludi**

'Twentieth Century Foundations of European Planning'

**2 June 2012, Université Paris IV Sorbonne**

**Danuta Hübner**

'Space and Place as Integrating Factors in Policy-Making: New Models of territorial Governance in Europe'

**5 October 2012, ISURU, Brussels**

**Peter Hall**

'Squaring the Circle: How to Reconcile Apparently Impossible Contradictions in Contemporary Urban Policy'

**17 January 2013, The Crystal, London**

**Juval Portugali**

'The Future is Not What It Used to Be: Complexity, Cognition and the City - Implications to Planning'

**5 April 2013, University of Amsterdam**

**Cliff Hague**

'A Christmas Carol: The Ghosts of Planning Past, Present and Future'

**13 December 2013, University of Latvia, Riga**

**SPECIAL EVENT: Evolution of Planning Thought Lecture Series**

**19-23 May 2014, TU Vienna**

**Peter Batey and Sławomir Gzell**

'(Re)Discovering Modernity in Town Planning:... the Never Ending Story?'

**7 November 2014, Warsaw University of Technology**

**Klaus R. Kunzmann, Bénédicte Le Ray, Katarina Bačić and Ivana Rašić Bakarić**

'Creative industries' click with the economy... City slickers?'

**21 October 2015, Institute of Economics, Zagreb**

**Engelbert Lütke Daldrup and Ann Singleton**

'Migrants and the cities'

**26 November 2015, Berlin**

**Shipra Narang Suri and Maroš Finka**

'New Urban Agenda: global perspective and local interpretation'

**20 January 2017, Bratislava**

## B • European Urban Summer School

In 2010, AESOP launched a new annual event: the European Urban Summer School (EUSS). The aim was to bring together young professionals, experienced academics and practitioners across Europe to discuss planning issues.

The European Urban Summer School, a non-profit platform of debate and exchange was intended as a way to facilitate trans-European exchange, and to foster a debate on the most important planning topics. It was proposed in order to encourage every involved body's ability to help politicians and other stakeholders in spatial development and management issues.

Several partner organisations have cooperated in this project: the **European Council of Spatial Planners** (ECTP-CEU), the **International Federation for Housing and Planning** (IFHP) and the **International Society for City and Regional Planners** (ISOCARP).

### List of European Urban Summer Schools:

#### 2010 - Wrocław (Poland), 10-19 September

"Urban Change. The Prospect of Transformation" – EUSS in cooperation with UN-Habitat.

#### 2011 - Lisbon (Portugal), 23-30 September

"Quality of Space – Quality of Life" - EUSS in cooperation with ECTP-CEU, EURA, IFHP and ISOCARP.

#### 2012 - London (UK) 21-30 September

"Architecture and Planning in Times of Scarcity" - Joint event with ECTP-CEU, IFHP and ISOCARP within the framework of the DECADE OF PLANNING.

#### 2013 - Madrid (Spain), 8-15 September

"Strategies for the Post-Speculative City" - Joint event with ECTP-CEU, IFHP and ISOCARP within the framework of the DECADE OF PLANNING.

#### 2014 - Tours (France), 1-8 September

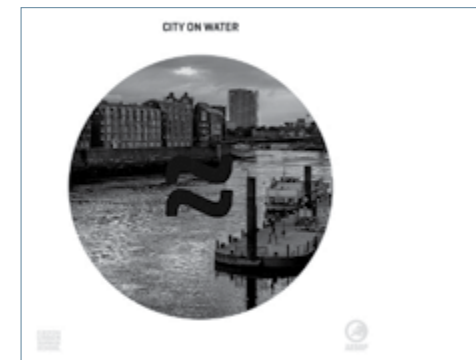
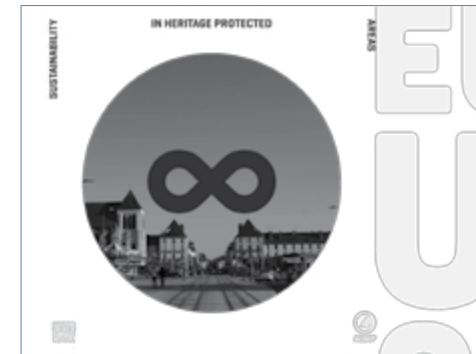
"Sustainability in Heritage Protected Areas" - Joint event with ECTP-CEU, IFHP and ISOCARP within the framework of the DECADE OF PLANNING.

#### 2015 - Bremen (Germany), 21 - 26 September

"City on Water" - EUSS in cooperation with ISOCARP.

#### 2016 – Gdynia (Poland), 19 - 22 June

"New Approaches to Urban Housing" - EUSS in cooperation with ISOCARP.





**AESOP Awards****a. Excellence in Teaching Prize**

The award's purpose is to encourage planning schools to apply new pedagogical approaches, technologies and learning techniques in ways which enhance the theories, knowledge and skills necessary for good planning practice. The award provides an important opportunity to disseminate new and high quality teaching practices among European planning schools.

**Excellence in Teaching Award Committee**

- Olivier Sykes, Chair (University of Liverpool, UK)
- Konstantinos Lalenis (University of Thessaly, Greece)
- Maria Håkansson (KTH – Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden)
- Maros Finka (Slovak University of Technology, Slovakia)
- Valeria Fedeli (Polytechnic of Milan, Italy)
- Xavier Desjardins (Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, France)
- Aoife Doyle, Young Academics Network (Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland)

Winners:

**AESOP Excellence in Teaching Award 2016**

*Innovative Approaches to Interdisciplinarity in Planning Education - Building Capacity to Respond to Interconnected Contemporary Planning Challenges*

**Marco Cremaschi** for the course **Practical Plans: Global Migrants and Local Development in Lampedusa** run at the **Urban School, SciencesPo, Paris**

**AESOP Excellence in Teaching Award 2015**

*New Responses to a World of Growing Uncertainty: New Approaches to Planning Education*

**Francesca Cognetti** for the course **Mapping San Siro Lab** run at **Politecnico di Milano – School of Architecture and Society, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies**

**AESOP Excellence in Teaching Award 2014**

*New Responses to (Global) Changes in Time of Crisis: New Approaches to Planning Education*

**Olivier Sykes** for the course **International Planning Studies (ENVS378)** run at the **University of Liverpool (Civic Design)**

**AESOP Excellence in Teaching Award 2013**

*Responses to global changes: new approaches to planning education*

**Camilla Perrone** for the course **Living Landscapes (Landscapes for living): Policies, Practices, Images** run at the **Urban and Regional Planning Department, University of Florence**

**AESOP Excellence in Teaching Award 2012 (10th Anniversary of the Prize)**

*Local responses to global changes: new approaches to planning education*

**Anlı Ataöv, Duygu Cihanger, Funda Erkal and Ender Peker** for the course **Planning Studio** run at the **Department of City and Regional Planning of the Middle East Technical University, Ankara.**

**b. Best Published Paper Prize**

Initiated in 1995, and first awarded in 1996, the purpose of the prize is to celebrate the work of scholars and professionals in the planning field published in European planning journals. It also serves to bring to the attention of planning academics and other interested parties across Europe to the range of academic work being undertaken in the spatial planning field, and to exchange literature between our different national academic cultures. Annually, the Editorial Boards of more than 50 European planning journals are invited to nominate the best papers published in their journal for the prize.

**Best Published Paper Prize Committee**

The selection of the winning articles is carried out by a committee nominated by AESOP's Council of Representatives. The AESOP Paper Prize Committee consists of the following members:

- Karina Pallagst, Chair (University of Kaiserslautern, Germany)
- Dominic Stead, Vice Chair (Delft University of Technology, Netherlands)
- Umberto Janin Rivolin (Politecnico di Torino, Italy)
- Roelof Verhage (University Lumière Lyon II, France)
- Garri Raagmaa (University of Tartu, Estonia)
- Mohamed Saleh, YAN Representative (University of Groningen, Netherlands)

Winners:

**AESOP Best Published Paper Award 2016**

**Andre Sorensen** for the paper **Taking path dependence seriously: an historical institutionalist research agenda in planning history** published in **Planning Perspectives**, 30: 1, 2015, 17–38

**AESOP Best Published Paper Award 2015**

**Mee Kam Ng** for the paper **Intellectuals and the Production of Space in the Urban Renewal Process in Hong Kong and Taipei** published in **Planning Theory & Practice**, 15:1, 2014, 77-92

**AESOP Best Published Paper Award 2014**

**Graham Haughton, Phil Allmendinger & Stijn Oosterlynck** for the paper **Spaces of Neoliberal Experimentation: Soft Spaces, Postpolitics, and Neoliberal Governmentality** published in **Environment and Planning A**, 45: 1, 2013, 217-234

**AESOP Best Published Paper Award 2013**

**James Simmie** for the paper **Path Dependence and New Technological Path Creation in the Danish Wind Power Industry** published in **European Planning Studies**, 20:5, 2012, 753-772

**AESOP Best Published Paper Award 2012**

**John Punter** for the paper **Urban Design and the English Urban Renaissance 1999–2009: A Review and Preliminary Evaluation** published in **Journal of Urban Design**, 16:1, 2011, 1-41



### c. Best Conference Paper Award

The Best AESOP Congress Paper competition has been running as part of the AESOP Congress since 2005. The objective of the competition is:

- to promote and disseminate high-quality congress papers,
- to motivate congress participants to submit and present full high-quality congress papers.

Papers will be judged according to the following criteria:

- relevance to current debates on the chosen topic
- clarity of argument(s) and theoretical framework
- originality of the approach and the ideas presented
- high methodological quality
- clarity of expression and quality of presentation

#### Best Conference Paper Award Committee

- Tuna Tasan-Kok, Chair (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)
- Mike Raco, Vice Chair (Bartlett School of Planning, UCL, UK)
- Sabine Knierbein (Vienna University of Technology, Austria)
- Jonathan Metzger (Royal Institute of Technology, KTH, Sweden)
- Cristiana Rossignolo (Politecnico di Torino, Italy)
- Pieter Van den Broeck (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium)

Winners

#### AESOP Best Congress Paper Award 2015

**Lukas Gilliard and Alain Thierstein** for the paper **Competencies revisited: An educational approach to conceptualise planning as a boundary discipline** presented at the Track 3 - Responsibilities in Planning Education and Practice, at the AESOP Annual Congress 2015 in Prague.

#### AESOP Best Congress Paper Award 2014

**Martina Schretzenmayr and Simona Casaulta-Meyer** for the paper **Learning Through Communicating with the Public** presented at Track 12 - Planning Education at the AESOP Annual Congress 2014 in Utrecht-Delft.

#### AESOP Best Congress Paper Award 2012

**Annette Spellerberg** for the paper **Dwellings and Generational Change in owner communities** presented at the Track 11 at the AESOP Annual Congress 2012 in Ankara.



## AESOP EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

### The AESOP Quality Recognition project

AESOP's mission is Promoting Excellence in Planning Education and Research. Accordingly, it is our responsibility to enhance the many qualities of our teaching programmes. Through its categories of membership, and on the basis of its Core Curriculum, AESOP already delivers recognition to planning schools which share joint values and principles. Over the course of several debates at the Heads of Schools meetings, it became clear that, in addition to this existing framework, a further active implication of AESOP was needed in order to enhance, improve and support planning curricula. For this purpose, in 2014 we proposed developing a recognition process in order to highlight certain dimensions of quality in our Planning Programmes. In the first phase of the debate, the focus was on a specific quality of planning education, namely, the enhancement of the International and European dimension of planning professional profiles.

The European dimension in Planning Education requires that future planners will need to:

- Develop an attitude coherent with cities' European values.
- Be capable of working internationally, particularly in Europe.
- Understand the European context in which their practice is embedded.

For this, planning programmes need to develop:

- The transfer of knowledge, know-how and ideas between European planners.
- The mobility of students and teachers.
- The teaching experience which puts students in different European contexts in the exercise of planning practice.

In terms of defining quality recognition, the approach was as broad as possible. We understand quality recognition to be making the best of the plurality and diversity of approaches in our schools. At the core of our interest is the coherence between the principles, the content and the implementation methods of a programme. We wanted to initiate a process based on the cooperation between our schools, rather than the competition. Such quality recognition is not to be mistaken for an accreditation, which occurs at national level.

The overarching principles are expressed by the AESOP Core Curriculum requirements (the background) and by the European dimension in each planning programme.

A working group on AESOP quality recognition (QR WG) was established in 2014 in order to test the interest and feasibility of an AESOP procedure (and related certificate) for quality recognition in planning programmes. This WG consisted of: Maros Finka, Anna Geppert, Francesco Lo Piccolo and Kristina Nilsson.

After defining a methodological framework, a pilot phase offered AESOP schools the opportunity to apply for such a certificate on a voluntary basis and without cost. As many as 22 AESOP member schools participated in the pilot phase. The pilot study was voluntary and performed without cost, through an easy, fast, transparent and efficient procedure. The pilot schools delivered a report according to a format prepared by the QR WG. A panel of 3 people evaluated each of the pilot schools' programmes. Contacts were also established with the programme coordinator.

Globally, the experience appeared to have quite positive results. Therefore, the WG asked the community to discuss the results of the experience and possible next steps in the AESOP HoS and CoRep meeting in Madrid, March 2015. The following questions were addressed by the community:

*"Should AESOP continue the process and deliver a certificate of quality recognition for planning programmes?"*

The majority of answers were very positive. The certificate supports the schools in their national contexts, as well as setting a milestone in European recognition of the planning profession. Consequently, the proposal of establishing an AESOP quality recognition standard phase was addressed to the CoRep, in order to pass from the pilot phase to the standard phase of the already-approved Quality Recognition Project.

*"Are the criteria satisfactory and sufficient to ensure a convincing and fair assessment?"*

Globally, they are. However, from the first round of the pilot phase, it appeared that some elements were unclear to the participants: in particular, many schools submitted several programmes in one application. In addition, the discussion underlined the necessity of avoiding criteria discriminating against schools acting more nationally or regionally than in Europe or internationally.

*"How should the certification be expressed?"*

The discussion showed the necessity of finding the balance between two elements:

1. a single standard of certificate rather than categories, because creating categories could lead to misinterpretations, and AESOP's Core Curriculum expressed only one definition of quality;
2. the effort to express the diversity of our planning programmes and recognise the quality of specialisations offered by different programmes.

Consequently, the certificate consists of two parts: 1. a standard section certifying the quality of the planning programme according to the European standards expressed by AESOP's Core Curriculum; 2. a specific section highlighting the quality of the programmes' specialisation. In the application, schools are invited to indicate this specialisation and demonstrate its quality. The first applicants of the pilot phase received the quality recognition certificate in 2016.

In 2016 the pilot phase ended and AESOP CoRep launched the standard phase of the Quality Recognition project. In this next phase, a large number of applications are expected, requiring a larger number of assessors. Consequently, the QR WG proposed transforming the AESOP Pool of Experts into the AESOP Quality Board to ExCo and CoRep, as AESOP is the responsible unit for certification. Accordingly, the CoRep has been asked to propose up to 3 experts per country for the AESOP Quality Board, with the following profile:

- They should be people who are/have been in charge of a planning programme, preferably with experience in evaluation;
- They will sign an ethical commitment;
- The WG will propose a simple set of guidelines to the CoRep.

The composition of the expert panel created for the AESOP Quality Board members for each evaluation must combine their knowledge of the national context



and international footprint, as well as relationships with planning practice.

Consequently, each application will be reviewed by a panel of:

- One academic from the same country or area;
- One academic from another European country;
- One practitioner, nominated in coordination with associations such as ECTP.

As a group of experts, the AESOP Quality Board will also be the guardians of the process.

Consequently, they will be collectively responsible for:

- Harmonising the evaluations, updating the list of specialisations.
- Improving the evaluation process, keeping in mind that it needs to avoid time-consuming bureaucracies and remain simple.

The CoRep remains the decisional body with regard to any important evolutions in quality recognition.

The Chair of AESOP Quality Recognition Board has been appointed by the Council, fulfilling the criteria of an expert described above, and offering their experience of the quality assessment in the AESOP structures (best paper, best teaching practice, etc.). In 2017, Daniel Galland was elected Chair of the AESOP Quality Recognition process.

Characteristics, aims and scope are among topics already discussed and approved, as well as considering the valuable feedback from the work of the pilot phase. In addition to the written certificate awarded to the respective programme, the related information included in the application and the recognition itself will be displayed on the AESOP website, in order to promote a proactive and cooperative process of collective improvement in the quality of planning education among AESOP-member schools.

Francesco Lo Piccolo (Vice-President)

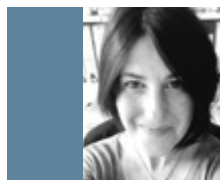


## THEMATIC GROUPS

AESOP Thematic Groups are working groups on specific themes, established in order to create more effective platforms for debate and discussion amongst AESOP members.

### Transportation Planning and Policy

Coordinated by: **Enrica Papa**



Relevant topics in transport planning are similar throughout Europe. Transport planners focus on accessibility, congestion, air quality, safety, noise, liveability and more. Although the primary emphasis and local circumstances vary, the underlying structures and solutions tried are fairly common. Transport planning policy has been a track session in most AESOP conferences so far, stressing the importance of the topic on planning in general.

Transportation Planning and Policy is a network and a forum to share research interests. The goal of the group is to create and grow a network of researchers interested in the complex interlinkages between transport behaviour, transport infrastructure, the role of technology, sustainability, governance structures and interventions. The group collaborates through:

- one annual meeting at AESOP conferences;
- two annual ATLOT (AESOP Transport Laboratory of Thoughts) workshops;
- supporting new researchers, in particular, PhD students;
- the publication and dissemination of research findings;
- the facilitation of new research projects;
- the Transportation Planning and Policy blog on the AESOP website at [http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en\\_GB/transportation-planning-and-policy](http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en_GB/transportation-planning-and-policy)

The topics covered by the group include: accessibility planning; land use and transport interactions; public transport; active travel; interactions between technology and behaviour; automated transport; the role of ITS and technology in transport planning; freight transport and logistics; safety; road design; European transport planning; comparison of local and national policies.

If you would like to join the AESOP Thematic Group on Transportation Planning and Policy, please send us a letter of interest and a short CV to the following e-mail address: [e.papa@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:e.papa@westminster.ac.uk)

## French and British Planning Study Group

Coordinated by: **Lauren Andres**



The **French and British Planning Study Group** (FBPSG) was founded in 1998, initially by British academics who had undertaken research in France. The co-founders of the group were Philip Booth (University of Sheffield) and Charles Fraser (South Bank University). Very soon after its foundation, it developed into a dialogue between French and British academics undertaking research in each other's country, which allowed in-depth discussion based on the very extensive knowledge of its members. At first, the Group had no objective other than to provide a meeting point for the exchange of ideas at its biannual meetings. From these discussions, however, arose the possibility of joint publications, and in its first decade, the Group produced two books, both of which appeared in both English and French. In the second of the two books, *Spatial Planning Systems of Britain and France* (Booth et al. 2007) each chapter was co-authored by a French and British member of the Group. In 2005 the FBPSG became formally constituted as a sub-group of AESOP, allowing it to have a wider visibility and presence.

In its second decade the Group has remained very active hosting a series of meetings and seminars and working on a range of themes from European Capitals of Culture (2008), urban and rail development (2012) to European Green Capitals (2015-2016). It has produced two special editions of *Town Planning Review* on European Capitals of Culture (2011, vol. 82/1) and Rail and Urban Development (2014, vol. 85/2). A reflective review of the group's history and activities was also published in 2015 (Sykes, Andres, Booth, 2015)\*. The two most recent group events were on the theme of 'European green cities: building urban resilience and sustainability in an era of austerity' (Bristol, May 2015) and 'Exploring urban models and policy transfer: the legacy of European Green Capitals' (Nantes, October 2016). This year's event was held in London in June 2017 with the theme of 'Metropolisation in France and the United Kingdom – a comparative reflection on opportunities, challenges and prospects'.

Today the group has over 50 members, mostly from Britain and France and also enthusiastically welcomes and includes a growing number of researchers from other countries with an interest in either, or both countries. It also looks forward to celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018!

Enquiries about the group can be directed to either of its two current convenors: Dr. Olivier Sykes ([olivier.sykes@liv.ac.uk](mailto:olivier.sykes@liv.ac.uk)) or Dr. Lauren Andres ([L.Andres@bham.ac.uk](mailto:L.Andres@bham.ac.uk))

\* Sykes, O., Andres, L. & Booth, P. (2015) **The potential and perils of cross-national planning research**, *Town and Country Planning*, 86(2), pp. 98-103

See: [https://livrepository.liverpool.ac.uk/2008279/1/EF2\\_Feb\\_2015\\_Final.pdf](https://livrepository.liverpool.ac.uk/2008279/1/EF2_Feb_2015_Final.pdf)

## Public Spaces and Urban Cultures

Coordinated by: **Sabine Knierbein**



The AESOP Thematic Group for Public Spaces and Urban Cultures was established after the AESOP Liverpool Congress in 2009. The main aim of the group is to generate an international and interdisciplinary exchange between research and praxis on public spaces and urban cultures, thus promoting a focus on living space in planning education. The group supports research, planning and design agendas within and beyond the AESOP community. A collective consisting of group members organises group activities in a decentralised and horizontal way. Currently, the group consists of 81 international members (June 2017).

Since its official recognition by AESOP in 2010, the group has developed working themes, each of which has been followed by a series of events: Public Spaces and Urban Cultures (2010); Conviviality (2011–2013); Becoming Local (2013–2015), Unstable Geographies – Dislocated Publics (2016–2018). Group meetings under the current umbrella theme have been organized in Beirut (2016), Vienna (2017), Ljubljana (2017) and are planned for Lisbon (2017), Rome (2017), Nicosia (2018) and Amsterdam (2018).

Members of the group meet bi or tri-annually to discuss and develop locally sensitive topics and transdisciplinary ways of engaging with specific sub-themes that relate to the umbrella topic. Meetings mostly take the form of combined conferences-seminars-workshops accompanied by field trips, and also provide an environment for engaging in a peer-to-peer discussion on the members' projects. Often established in collaboration with local NGOs and NPOs, local hosts are linked to various types of institutions which have previously submitted their declaration of interest for hosting an event, following a public invitation by the group.

The group invites participants to join group activities in several ways: by hosting or participating in local meetings (e.g. workshops, conferences, roundtables); by initiating joint research projects or publications (e.g. as journal editors, or similar); by arranging international teaching exchange programmes (becoming active innovators of academic curricula in planning); or by offering consultancy in international projects (by contributing context-sensitive expertise).

We warmly welcome new and active members! For further information, please visit our blog at [http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en\\_GB/urban-cultures-and-public-spaces](http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en_GB/urban-cultures-and-public-spaces) or write an email to [PSUCnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:PSUCnetwork@gmail.com).

## Planning/Conflict

Coordinated by: **Enrico Gualini**



The AESOP Planning/Conflict thematic group was established in 2013. It aims at bringing together different scholarly perspectives on urban development and planning conflicts, with a focus on the role of planning practices in defining and framing as well as in possibly reframing and transforming conflicts.

The purpose of the Planning/Conflict thematic group is to offer a durable framework for scholarly exchange focusing on the analysis of urban development and planning conflicts, and promoting their critical-interpretive inquiry. The underlying conviction is that conflicts in the city are a privileged perspective for understanding contradictions and tensions in current urban politics. As such, conflicts offer us crucial insights into:

- the changing features of urban development policies and their impact on local societies;
- the changing political conditions under which planning practices take place;
- the challenges to the effectiveness and legitimacy of established planning practices in the face of urban contention;
- the transformative and democratising potential expressed by agonistic practices in the dynamics of urban contention.

The thematic group promotes initiatives for the advancement of research and scholarly debate and is open for collaboration with international academic partners.

After it was founded, following an international conference in Berlin in October 2011, the thematic group has held three international events: the conference *Planning/Conflict: Cities and Citizenships in Times of Crisis* (Lisbon 2013) organised with ICS-UL and CIES-IUL and supported by DAAD; the conference *Conflicts in the City: Reflections on Urban Unrest* (Valencia 2014) organized with the University of Valencia; and the conference *Moving beyond conflict in planning: Towards a critical consensus politics?* (Barcelona 2016) organized with RMIT Melbourne.

These conferences have produced three international publications: Gualini, E. (ed.) (2015) *Planning and Conflict* (Routledge), Gualini, E., Morais Mourato, J. and Allegra, M. (eds.) (2015) *Conflict in the City* (Jovis), and Romero Renau, L. (ed.) (2015), *Conflicts in the City* (Nova Science). A special issue of *Planning Theory* is in preparation.

More information on: [http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en\\_GB/planning-conflict](http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en_GB/planning-conflict)



## Ethics, Values and Planning

Coordinated by: **Claudia Basta**

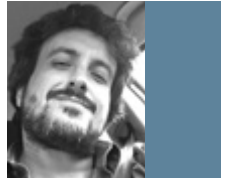


The Thematic Group *Ethics, Values and Planning* has a long history in AESOP. Initiated by professor Francesco Lo Piccolo in 2006 to establish a platform of discussion for crucial research ethics dilemmas in planning, the group has gradually broadened its thematic focus. Currently, the main political philosophy questions of our time are among the topics covered by the research activities of the group's members, such as the new challenges facing European democracies relating to social welfare, innovation, poverty and migration and reflections on normativity in planning, relating to themes like economic inequality, human rights and social justice.

The Thematic Group aims to promote collaboration among its members and the broader AESOP community by proposing regular exchanges on these and other themes relevant to the areas of investigation shared by political philosophy, ethics, spatial planning and urban policy. Members of the group coordinate regular congress tracks and roundtables during the yearly AESOP congress. Periodically, international thematic seminars are hosted by the respective organisations. The last thematic seminar, titled *New Spaces of Inequality*, was held in February 2016 at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. The coordinators of the group welcome proposals for new initiatives and collaboration from any member of the AESOP community.

## Transboundary Spaces, Policy Diffusion, Planning Cultures

Coordinated by: **Giancarlo Cotella**



The AESOP thematic group on *Transboundary Spaces, Policy Diffusion, Planning Cultures* was launched during the 2015 AESOP annual congress in Prague. It aims to create and grow a network of researchers interested in conceptual and empirical contributions on the following themes: the Europeanisation of spatial planning and territorial governance, territorial cooperation and planning for transboundary spaces, the transfer of policy approaches, and planning cultures. The scope of the group is deliberately broad to acknowledge the diversity of spatial planning arrangements across Europe and the range of questions that arise from processes of European integration in the field of spatial planning and territorial cooperation.

The active participation and support of a growing number of scholars from universities around Europe has already given the group considerable momentum. Opportunities for exchange exist during AESOP annual congresses through paper sessions on relevant topics. In addition, a first symposium of the group was organized at the University of Kaiserslautern in September 2016, attracting around forty guests from almost twenty EU-countries. In order to further ensure the lively debates within this Thematic Group, we **invite anyone interested in the topics to join and contribute to its activities!**

Giancarlo Cotella (giancarlo.cotella@polito.it) Stefanie Dühr (S.Duhr@fm.ru.nl)

## Resilience and Risk Mitigation Strategies

Coordinated by: Richard Sliuzas



The thematic group “Resilience and Risk Mitigation Strategies” was formed in Naples in 2007 to coordinate education, research, policies and practice in Development and Spatial Planning and enhance mutual understanding, interrelationships and Risk Governance and Management. Its intention is to serve both scientific and policy fields – i.e. both theory and practice.

The importance of planning to risk management and vice versa has emerged through the broadening paradigm of risk management, from the remedial, post-event pattern of protection of affected communities to the precautionary, preventive pattern of disaster avoidance and risk mitigation. Still today we realise that much more needs to be done through planning to reduce risk. The importance of spatial and other forms of planning in risk reduction was recognised in the 2015 Sendai Framework for Global Risk Reduction and was one of the key themes at the 2017 Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Mexico <http://www.unisdr.org/conferences/2017/globalplatform/en>.

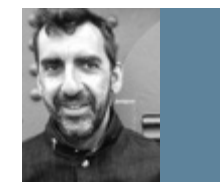
Since 2007, the RRMS group members have been involved in the definition and organisation of resilience- and risk-related tracks at the AESOP annual conferences, which have proved to be very successful in attracting large numbers of papers and presentations. In addition, with the support of UNISDR ([www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)) RRMS has initiated roundtable discussions related to risk and planning education in Prague (2015) and again in Rio (2016) at the World Planning Schools conference. An online survey amongst planning schools on risk in planning education was also undertaken and should result in a publication. During the Lisbon 2017 conference this discussion will be extended by looking at issues of social vulnerability, their importance for planners and how to increase attention for vulnerability in planning education.

With our links to national and international research and advocacy activities we envisage more activities around these and other related topics. We welcome suggestions from AESOP members for new activities that address the links between planning resilience and risk mitigation.

Core members of RRMS are currently: Richard Sliuzas (coordinator, [r.sliuzas@ut-wente.nl](mailto:r.sliuzas@ut-wente.nl)), Murat Balamir, Popi Sapountzaki, Angela Colucci, Adriana Galderisi and Cassidy Johnson.

## New Technologies and Planning

Coordinated by: Paulo Silva



Under the coordination of professors Elisabete Silva and Jan Tucny, the AESOP New Technologies and Planning Thematic Group (NTP TG) was founded around a decade ago by AESOP scholars interested in studying the influence of digital innovation on planning, both in theory and in practice, and on the evolution of cities and territories.

During the AESOP 2015 congress in Prague, a new coordination team for the thematic group was appointed, and this was an opportunity to set an agenda for the upcoming years. When starting this new cycle, a new framework was proposed, based on two main factors: (1) creating a sense of community through routines, based on moments of interaction, interchange and discussion among TG participants; (2) exploring the potential of NTP regarding its diversity and intersections with other topics. To achieve this, three main actions are proposed: (a) the organisation of small events outside of the AESOP congresses; (b) the implementation of questionnaire surveys on relevant teaching and research interests; (c) interaction with other networks. These actions will be planned to generate a number of benefits, in the collaboration with the TG's participants, including: monitoring and assessing AESOP members' initiatives in research, education and connection to the world of practice in NTP's domain; fostering communication and collaboration with existing like-minded scientific and professional communities at international and national level; fostering cohesion and cooperation among NTP members in order to promote joint meetings, publications, staff and student exchange and collaborative research projects; creating an arena for shaping the call for future NTP tracks at AESOP events.

Based on the debate in the most recent NTP-related tracks at AESOP Annual Congresses, as well as at other NTP-related conferences worldwide, a provisional list of topics for future discussion has been set: Geodesign, Spatial Analysis, Representation, Modelling and Simulation, Geovisualisation, Planning Support Systems, Web and Mobile Apps, Legal Issues NT-related, Interactive Impact Assessment, Smart Territories, ICT and Decision-Making, Spatial Data Infrastructures, Volunteered Geographic Information, Social Media Geographic Information, Knowledge Building in Planning and Design, Public Participation and Information Technologies, Digitalisation and New Methods of Participation, Application Areas, Case Studies and Quantitative Methods.

The group's coordination team aim to make the topics intersect with other planning subjects, namely theory, practice and education. Within this scope, this is simultaneously an open and permanent invitation for academics and practitioners to share their progress in contributing to the debate by framing theories, methods and practical experiences of the relationship between New Technologies and Planning

SILVA, P., CAMPAGNA, M., (2016), “New Technologies and Planning: An overview of the AESOP Thematic Group's mission, topics, activities and aims for the future”, in *disP – The Planning Review*, pp. 68-71

## Planning & Complexity

Coordinated by: Ward Rauws



How do we create an enhanced understanding of changing urban dynamics? What are the implications of acknowledging the self-organising capacity of cities for planning strategies? And how do we deal with the fundamental uncertainties related to a world in constant flux? These are some of the questions that fascinate members of AESOP's Thematic Group on Complexity and Planning. The group aims to contribute to the creation and maintenance of a network of scholars who are willing to explore and debate new developments, influencing both planning theory and practice across the complexity sciences.

Founded in 2005 by Nikos Karadimitriou (University College London) and Gert de Roo (University of Groningen), the first meeting was held in Vienna and several others followed quickly. These first meetings mainly focused on grasping the various concepts introduced in the complexity sciences, such as non-linearity, self-organisation and coevolution. At the time, those in the planning community working with complexity concepts and frameworks were considered geeks. In the following years, the debate on complexity and planning became more intense, and in 2009 the group was invited, for the first time, to organise its own track during the Annual AESOP Congress in Liverpool. Since then, the group has met twice a year, coordinated by Ward Rauws (University of Groningen) since March 2013.

This year, 2017, the group had its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Typically, they include a two- or three-day workshop with a keynote, paper presentations, debates and a workshop or excursion. Topics that have been covered over recent years include self-organisation, adaptive capacity, urban design & complexity, urban governance, co-evolution and rule-based planning.

The group has produced various collective publications so far, including two special issues and two editorials. In 2016, two special issues were published; *Self-organization and Spatial Planning* in *Town Planning Review* (Rauws et al, 2016), and *Planning and Complexity: Engaging with temporal dynamics, uncertainty and complex adaptive systems* in *Environment and Planning B* (Sengupta et al., 2016). Prior to these, the editorials *Complexity & Planning: Systems, Assemblages and Simulations* (De Roo et al., 2012) and *A Planner's Encounter with Complexity* (De Roo & Silva, 2010) had been published by Ashgate.

## Planning, law and property rights

Coordinated by: Leonie Janssen-Jansen



Law is an essential element of planning. Statutory law, as interpreted by the courts, defines planning powers, the planning process, and the mandatory elements of binding development plans. Although the law often attributes a wide margin of discretion to the planning authority, it also limits planning powers for the protection of individual rights.

Planning matters. Law matters. Property matters. These three simple messages inspire the growing PLPR community to examine the difficult relationship between public and private interests in the use of land.

In the field of planning, many traditional tools, such as zoning or expropriation, have been replaced by more flexible instruments, like planning agreements, public-private partnerships or tradable development rights. How can these new instruments, under the rule of law, be employed for more efficient and fair planning? How might the more traditional tools be adapted to better respond to current trends and challenges? Also, the social construction of land makes it difficult to appreciate its values: One person's new residential subdivision is another person's cultural heritage. One person's backyard is another person's flood retention area. Planning goals as well as individual rights have to be considered in resolving conflicting social constructions. Finally, PLPR is committed to re-examining the task of land reform. How can we make better use of land through social and environmental justice?

Please visit our new web site at: [www.plpr-association.org](http://www.plpr-association.org).



## Urban Design in Planning

Coordinated by: **Alan Reeve**



The main intention of the urban design group is to develop a better understanding of the status of urban design within planning education across Europe, and of its relationship to both the professional disciplines of planning and architecture.

The proposed topics of the urban design theme would include:

- Urban Design and Planning
- The university as an academic and intellectual milieu and its perspective on design as a 'craft-oriented' discipline
- the role of urban design as a researched topic and as a tool of research
- the comparative status of urban design in the practice of planning, and how well universities equip students as professionals for this task
- The cultural specificity of urban design as an expression of particular national or regional identities, both in terms of the form and meaning of public space that it advocates, and in the institutional frameworks within which it operates and is implemented
- The question of harmonisation's limits with a more unified Europe of urban design at the heart of the spatial turn in planning.

## Evaluation in Planning

Coordinated by: **Angela Hull**



This group of AESOP researchers is focused on the evaluation of planning interventions - both of physical developments and the application of new tools for evaluation. It was initially set up to run as a series of conferences to be held every 3-4 years with experts invited to present case studies of robust evaluation methods.

The early facilitators of these conferences were Nathaniel Lichfield, Abdul Khakee and Dino Borri.

The 7th and 8th international workshops were organised to take place by Angela Hull in Edinburgh in 2008, and Johan Woltjer in Groningen in March 2013.

The main outcome from these conferences is a series of edited books, disseminating the latest approaches to evaluation in planning, most recently Hull, A., Alexander, E.R., Khakee, A., and Woltjer, J., (Eds) (2011) *Evaluation for Participation and Sustainability in Planning*, Routledge: London.

## Sustainable Food Planning

Coordinated by: **Arnold van der Valk**



Fashioning a sustainable food system is one of the most compelling challenges in the 21st Century. Because of its multi-functional character, food is an ideal medium through which to design sustainable places, be they urban, rural or peri-urban places. For all these reasons, food planning is now bringing people together from a diverse range of backgrounds, including planners, policy-makers, politicians, designers, health professionals, environmentalists, farmers, food businesses, and civil society activists among many others.

Meetings are held annually and hosted in different cities. The four meetings that have been held so far have attracted between 80-100 participants and a wide variety of issues within sustainable food planning have been discussed. Further details of keynote speakers and all of the presentations can be found on the blog posts.

## Sustainable Cities

Coordinated by: **Mendel Giezen**



The challenges presented by Climate Change are becoming more pressing as time continues. And as international negotiations are in a deadlock, cities are taking the lead in climate adaptation and mitigation. These are the places where the impact and associated cost of climate change will be greatest. However as prime sources of greenhouse gasses and polluting activities, they also offer the greatest potential for change. More and more researchers are joining the search for more sustainable and healthy cities and it is important for the planning community to be a part of this movement. By collaborating and sharing knowledge we can genuinely influence the cities of tomorrow. The thematic group organises meetings at the AESOP conferences and has organised one small seminar at the University of Amsterdam.

## AESOP PUBLICATIONS

Over the years, AESOP and the YAN have been developing a number of important publishing initiatives which, in most cases, can be directly downloaded from the association's website and/or from the YAN's website. Here is a brief introduction to some of these initiatives.

### a. Planning Education

**Planning Education** is an **AESOP Journal** addressing contemporary issues and challenges for teaching and training in the field of planning in Europe. The landscape of higher education in Europe is continuously evolving, due to changes in the higher education systems and planning practice. The journal enlightens readers on these changes and presents AESOP initiatives regarding accreditation, quality assessment and professional recognition of our diplomas. It also provides a forum for ideas and debates about contents, methods and ethics in planning education.

The following issues are available:

- Planning Education No 1: **Towards a European recognition for the Planning profession**
- Planning Education No 2: **Quality Issues in a changing European Higher Education Area**
- Planning Education No 3: **Excellence in Planning Education: Local, European & Global Perspective**
- 



### b. Transactions of the Association of European Schools of Planning

*Transactions of the Association of European Schools of Planning* is a new AESOP venture to be launched in 2017. It is an international peer-reviewed open-access journal, produced and owned by AESOP. The journal aims to promote excellence in planning education and research, a key goal for AESOP. It will support and disseminate scholarly work of the highest quality, covering the whole spectrum of the discipline, particularly those produced by AESOP members or participants of AESOP events and activities. By expanding the already rich opportunities for networking and scholarly dialogue that AESOP offers via annual congresses, thematic group activities, and specialist meetings such as the Heads of Schools workshops, *Transactions* is to serve as a platform for the planning community to share research, innovative practices, and provocative thoughts among peers.

The journal follows a genuine open access publishing model: it is free of charge to submit a paper and to publish in *Transactions*. Accepted papers are accessible online, to everyone, for free.

*Transactions* intends to cover a combination of contributions from different AESOP events and activities. Invited papers by members of AESOP are featured in each issue to help stimulate discussions on education and research agenda as well as contribute to the dissemination of our community's ongoing debates and efforts in promoting excellence in planning. Articles developed from AESOP congress papers, from AESOP prizes such as Best Congress Paper Prize winners and nominees, Excellence in Teaching Prize winners, and from AESOP Thematic Group conferences, seminars and workshops are welcome in the journal. In addition, the journal is open to submissions from all scholars who would like to share their research in the planning discipline. All manuscripts are subject to a double-blind peer-review process.

Ela Babalik-Sutcliffe





### c. plaNext

plaNext is an international peer-reviewed open access e-journal. The Young Academics (YA) network of AESOP founded plaNext to provide prospective authors with an opportunity to present their ideas in international planning debates, as well as making their research available to the wider planning audience. plaNext invites authors to submit original work that includes: empirical research; theoretical discussions; innovative methodologies; case studies; reviews of selected books, textbooks, and specific topics within planning. With the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP)'s concentrated efforts towards Open Access scholarly planning debates, all manuscripts published in plaNext are published as "open access". Open access publication means that the published manuscripts are freely and permanently available to the general public for comments and discussions. There is no fee levied on authors to publish with plaNext. There are also no subscription fees, article pay-to-view fee or any other form of access fees and no publication embargo is applied.

To date, plaNext has published four volumes. In general, plaNext publishes two issues a year, one based on an open call for papers and one special issue which invites authors of papers from the YA annual conference to submit. Each volume is managed by a guest editor, for example a YA member or Track Chair of the YA annual conference, together with one member of the YA Coordination Team and/or the editorial board of plaNext. The editorial board of plaNext mostly relies on (former) YA CT members, of which one acts as the editor-in-chief. Currently, the editor-in-chief is Feras Hammami and its members are Nadia Caruso, Ender Peker, Simone Tulumello, Lauren Ugur and Karel Van den Berghe.

Karel Van den Berghe (YAN Chair)



### d. Young Academics Booklet Series

The AESOP Young Academics Booklet Series addresses crucial issues in an inviting and explanatory way, allowing the reader to easily engage with the issue at stake. The series is an essential library containing issues, discussions, arguments and proposals relevant to the discipline. The booklets are all carefully put together and reviewed by scholars digging deep to elaborate on the essence of the issue at stake. The booklets aim to share these elaborations with everyone who has an interest in the discipline of planning. The series consist of three categories. The Series A booklets, "Conversations in Planning Theory – Exploring foundations to planning", seek to capture important philosophical, theoretical and conceptual ideas and understandings that have been influential to the planning discipline, its paradigms and theoretical reasoning, including the scholar or scholars that are acknowledged to having been the major drive behind these concepts. Series B, "Conversations with Planning Theories", embraces scholars within the discipline of planning who are acknowledged to have been a major influence in planning debates. Series C, "Conversations with Planning Practitioners: Planning matters", aims to focus on practices considered to be successful examples of planning and best practice and of value as appreciated illustrations and arguments within the academic debate on planning. These conversations between scholars about theories, ideas, concepts and practices, explore pressing issues and present them to a broad audience through the delivery of a booklet series. The initiative of this booklet series emerged from the idea of linking PhD researchers with senior academics, enabling them to work together in producing valuable outputs. The project therefore connects early career researchers who are willing to explore and digest, with senior academics willing to share and guide. The Young Academics took the lead and established an editorial committee for the booklet series in 2013. The Booklet Series serves multiple purposes. Aside from connecting early career researchers and senior academics, this initiative also brings the activities of AESOP and its Young Academics Network closer together as both organizations work towards the common objective of producing and publishing this elegant series of valued talks. The Editor in Chief is Mona Abdelwahab.

Karel Van den Berghe (YAN Chair)



**a. European Planning Studies**

**European Planning Studies** provides a forum for ideas and information about spatial development processes and policies in Europe. The journal publishes articles of a theoretical, empirical and policy-relevant nature, and concerns itself particularly with integrating knowledge of processes with practical policy proposals, implementation and evaluation.

**b. disP – The Planning Review**

**disP - The Planning Review** is an interdisciplinary scientific journal, which addresses topics in the areas of Urban Development, City and Town Planning, Landscape and Environmental Planning, Landscape Architecture, Regional and Environmental Economics as well as Transportation Planning. The journal is devoted to professionals in research and in practice who are interested in European planning issues.

**c. European Journal of Spatial Development**

**European Journal of Spatial Development** (EJSD) is a peer-reviewed open access journal. The journal offers an independent and open forum for research on spatial planning, and regional development, policy making and governance in Europe. In addition to original research articles, it publishes debate articles and research briefings. EJSD is published by Nordregio and the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment at Delft University of Technology.

**MoU between AESOP and Routledge**

Since 2008, AESOP has had an Agreement with Taylor & Francis to cover a number of collaborations between this publishing house and our association. Meanwhile, in 2016, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between AESOP and Routledge (who acquired Taylor & Francis), to explore other possibilities of collaboration, including the inclusion of an AESOP and an YAN representative on the European Planning Studies Journal Editorial Board and the sponsorship of some of AESOP's activities.





**MEMBERS DIRECTORY**



## FULL MEMBERS

### ALBANIA

F-355-01  
**Faculty of Planning and Environment, Polis University**  
**International School of Architecture and Urban Development Policies**  
Str. Vasho Pasha, Nr. 20  
KP2995 Tirana, Albania  
[www.universitetipolis.edu.al](http://www.universitetipolis.edu.al)  
Contact Person: Elona Karafili  
[elona\\_karafili@universitetipolis.edu.al](mailto:elona_karafili@universitetipolis.edu.al)

### AUSTRIA

F-043-01  
**Faculty of Planning and Architecture**  
**Vienna University of Technology**  
Karlsplatz 13, 1040 Vienna, Austria  
[www.tuwien.ac.at/english](http://www.tuwien.ac.at/english)  
Contact Person: Andreas Voigt  
[voigt@ifoyer.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:voigt@ifoyer.tuwien.ac.at)

### BELGIUM

F-032-05  
**Department of Geography**  
**Free University of Brussels**  
Pleinlaan 2  
1050 Brussels, Belgium  
[www.vub.ac.be/en](http://www.vub.ac.be/en)  
Contact Person: Hilde Everaerts  
[heveraer@vub.ac.be](mailto:heveraer@vub.ac.be)

F-032-04  
**Faculty of Design Sciences**  
**University of Antwerp**  
Mutsaardstraat 31  
2000 Antwerp, Belgium  
[www.uantwerpen.be](http://www.uantwerpen.be)  
Contact Person: Tom Coppens  
[Tom.coppens@uantwerpen.be](mailto:Tom.coppens@uantwerpen.be)

F-032-01  
**Department of Architecture - ASRO**  
**KU Leuven**  
Kasteelpark Arenberg 1  
3001 Heverlee, Belgium  
[www.asro.kuleuven.be](http://www.asro.kuleuven.be)  
Contact Person: Jan Schreurs  
[jan.schreurs@asro.kuleuven.be](mailto:jan.schreurs@asro.kuleuven.be)

F-032-02  
**Department of Planning**  
**University of Gent**  
Vrydagmarkt 10/301  
9000 Gent, Belgium  
[www.rug.ac.be](http://www.rug.ac.be)  
Contact Person: Luuk Boelens  
[Luuk.Boelens@ugent.be](mailto:Luuk.Boelens@ugent.be)

F-032-03  
**ISURU**  
**Institut Supérieur d'Urbanisme et de Renovation Urbaine**  
Rue d'Irlande, 57 (2e étage)  
B-1060 Brussels, Belgium  
[www.isuru.be](http://www.isuru.be)  
Contact Persons:  
Christophe Washer  
[isuru@skynet.be](mailto:isuru@skynet.be)  
Laurent Leprince  
[laurent\\_leprince@hotmail.com](mailto:laurent_leprince@hotmail.com)

### BULGARIA

F-359-01  
**Department of Urban Planning, Faculty of Architecture**  
**University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy**  
1, Hristo Smiranski Boulevard  
1046 Sofia, Bulgaria  
[www.uacg.bg](http://www.uacg.bg)  
Contact Person: Elena Dimitrova  
[eldim\\_far@uacg.bg](mailto:eldim_far@uacg.bg)

### CZECH REPUBLIC

F-042\_ts-02  
**Faculty of Architecture**  
**Czech Technical University in Prague**  
Thákurova 9  
CZ 16634 6 Prague, Czech Republic  
[www.cvut.cz/fa](http://www.cvut.cz/fa)  
Contact Person: Karel Maier  
[maier@fa.cvut.cz](mailto:maier@fa.cvut.cz)

F-042-01  
**Urban Design and Planning Institute, Faculty of Architecture**  
**Brno University of Technology**  
Porici 5  
63900 Brno, Czech Republic  
[www.fa.vutbr.cz](http://www.fa.vutbr.cz)  
Contact Person: Jiri Palacky  
[palacky@fa.vutbr.cz](mailto:palacky@fa.vutbr.cz)

### DENMARK

F-045-02  
**Department of Urban Planning, Institute of Landscape and Urban Development**  
**Aarhus School of Architecture**  
Noerreport 20  
8000 C Aarhus, Denmark  
[aarch.dk](mailto:aarch.dk)  
Contact Person: Niels Albertsen  
[niels.albertsen@aarch.dk](mailto:niels.albertsen@aarch.dk)

F-045-01  
**School of Architecture, Design and Planning**  
**Aalborg University**  
Vestre Havnepromenade 5  
9000 Aalborg, Denmark  
[www.sadp.aau.dk](http://www.sadp.aau.dk)  
Contact Person: Daniel Galland,  
[daniel.galland@nmbu.no](mailto:daniel.galland@nmbu.no)

### FINLAND

F-358-02  
**School of Arts Design and Architecture,**  
**Department of Architecture**  
**Aalto University**  
PO Box 16500, FI-00076 Aalto  
2150 Espoo, Finland  
[architecture.aalto.fi](http://architecture.aalto.fi)  
Contact Person: Kimmo Lapintie,  
[kimmo.lapintie@aalto.fi](mailto:kimmo.lapintie@aalto.fi)

F-358-01  
**School of Engineering/Department of Surveying and Planning/**  
**YTK Land Use Planning and Urban Studies Group**  
**Aalto University**  
PO Box 12200, Rakentajanaukio 2 Aalto  
00076 Espoo, Finland  
[ytk.tkk.fi/en](http://ytk.tkk.fi/en)  
Contact Person: Mervi Ilmonen  
[mervi.ilmonen@aalto.fi](mailto:mervi.ilmonen@aalto.fi)

### FRANCE

F-033-16  
**Institut d'Amenagement et d'Urbanisme de Lille (IAUL)**  
**University de Lille 1 - Sciences et Technologies**  
Cité Scientifique / Bâtiment SH3, aile B - B116  
59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex – Lille, France  
[geographie.univ-lille1.fr](http://geographie.univ-lille1.fr)  
Contact Person: Didier Paris  
[didier.paris@univ-lille1.fr](mailto:didier.paris@univ-lille1.fr)

F-033-13  
**Institute of Geoarchitecture**  
**University of Western Brittany**  
UBO - 6, Avenue le Gorgeu  
CS 93837 - Cedex 3  
29238 Brest, France  
[www.geoarchi.net](http://www.geoarchi.net)  
Contact Person: Patrick Dieudonné  
[patrick.dieudonne@univ-brest.fr](mailto:patrick.dieudonne@univ-brest.fr)

F-033-11  
**Spatial Planning and Environment**  
**Department**  
**University Francois Rabelais**  
35 Allee de Lesseps  
37000 Tours, France  
[polytech.univ-tours.fr](http://polytech.univ-tours.fr)  
Contact Person: Laura Verdelli  
[laura.verdelli@univ-tours.fr](mailto:laura.verdelli@univ-tours.fr)  
Abdelillah Hamdouch  
[abdelillah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr](mailto:abdelillah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr)

F-033-10  
**Planning Institute of Grenoble (IUG)**  
**University Pierre Mendes-France**  
14, avenue Marie Reynoard  
38100 Grenoble, France  
[iug.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](http://iug.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)  
Contact Person: Jean-Michel Roux  
[jean-michel.roux@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:jean-michel.roux@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)

F-033-09  
**Institut d'Aménagement, de Tourisme et d'Urbanisme (IATU)**  
**University Bordeaux 3**  
Domaine Universitaire de Bordeaux 333607  
Pessac, France  
[www.montaigne.u-bordeaux.fr](http://www.montaigne.u-bordeaux.fr)  
Contact Person: Maurice Goze  
[maurice.goze@u-bordeaux3.fr](mailto:maurice.goze@u-bordeaux3.fr)

F-033-08  
**Institute of Regional Development**  
**Sustainability and Urban Planning (IATEUR)**  
**University de Reims Champagne-Ardenne**  
57bis, Rue Pierre-Taittinger  
51096 Reims CEDEX, France  
[www.iateur.com](http://www.iateur.com)  
Contact Person: Francois Mancebo  
[francois.mancebo@univ-reims.fr](mailto:francois.mancebo@univ-reims.fr)

F-033-07  
**Town and Regional Planning Institute of the**  
**University Paris-Sorbonne**  
**University Paris IV Sorbonne**  
191, Rue Saint-Jacques  
75005 Paris, France  
[www.facebook.com/IUAPS](http://www.facebook.com/IUAPS)  
Contact Person: Anna Geppert,  
[anna.m.geppert@gmail.com](mailto:anna.m.geppert@gmail.com)

F-033-06  
**École D'Urbanisme de Paris**  
**Université Paris Est Créteil/Université Paris Est Marne-la-Vallée**  
Bâtiment Bienvenüe - plot A 14-20  
Boulevard Newton Cité Descartes,  
Champs-sur-Marne  
77454 Marne-La-Vallée Cedex 2, France  
[www.eup.fr](http://www.eup.fr)  
Contact Person: Florine Ballif  
[florine.ballif@u-pec.fr](mailto:florine.ballif@u-pec.fr)

F-033-05  
**Cycle Supérieur d'Urbanisme de Sciences Politiques**  
**Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris**  
27, Rue Saint-Guillaume 75007 Paris  
75007 Paris, France  
[www.sciences-po.fr](http://www.sciences-po.fr)  
Contact Person: Marco Cremaschi  
[marco.cremaschi@sciencespo.fr](mailto:marco.cremaschi@sciencespo.fr)

F-033-044  
**Magistère d'Aménagement et Master d'Aménagement et Urbanism**  
**Université de Paris I**  
13 Rue du Four  
75006 Paris, France  
[www.univ-paris1.fr](http://www.univ-paris1.fr)  
Contact Person: Juliette Maulat  
[juliette.maulat@univ-paris1.fr](mailto:juliette.maulat@univ-paris1.fr)  
Sylvie Fol  
[sfol@univ-paris1.fr](mailto:sfol@univ-paris1.fr)

F-033-02  
**Urban Planning Institute of Lyon**  
**University Lumiere Lyon II**  
14, avenue Berthelot  
69007 Lyon, France  
[www.iul-urbanisme.fr](http://www.iul-urbanisme.fr)  
Contact Person: Roelof Verhage  
[roelof.verhage@univ-lyon2.fr](mailto:roelof.verhage@univ-lyon2.fr)

### GERMANY

F-049-16  
**Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Urban Planning**  
**Brandenburg University of Technology**  
**Cottbus-Senftenberg**  
Platz der Deutschen Einheit 1  
3046 Cottbus, Germany  
[www.b-tu.de](http://www.b-tu.de)  
Contact Person: Antje Matern  
[matern@b-tu.de](mailto:matern@b-tu.de)

F-049-15  
**Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism**  
**Bauhaus - Universität Weimar**  
Geschwister-Scholl-Str. 8  
99423 Weimar, Germany  
[www.uni-weimar.de/de/architektur-und-urbanistik/start](http://www.uni-weimar.de/de/architektur-und-urbanistik/start)  
Contact Person: Max Welch Guerra  
[max.welch@uni-weimar.de](mailto:max.welch@uni-weimar.de)

F-049-14  
**Faculty for Landscape Architecture, Environmental and Urban Planning**  
**Nürtingen-Geislingen University**  
Schelmenwasen 4-8  
72622 Nürtingen, Germany  
[www.hfwu.de/flus](http://www.hfwu.de/flus)  
Contact Person: Michael Roth  
[michael.roth@hfwu.de](mailto:michael.roth@hfwu.de)

F-049-13  
**Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, Section of Urban and Spatial Planning**  
**Erfurt University of Applied Sciences**  
Schlüterstraße 1  
99089 Erfurt, Germany  
[www.fh-erfurt.de/arc/en/sr](http://www.fh-erfurt.de/arc/en/sr)  
Contact Person: Nikolai Roskamm  
[nikolai.roskamm@fh-erfurt.de](mailto:nikolai.roskamm@fh-erfurt.de)

F-049-12  
**Department of Architecture and Design**  
**University of Applied Sciences Stuttgart**  
Schellingstrasse 24  
70174 Stuttgart, Germany  
[www.hft-stuttgart.de/Stadtplanung](http://www.hft-stuttgart.de/Stadtplanung)  
Contact Person: Detlef Kurth  
[detlef.kurth@hft-stuttgart.de](mailto:detlef.kurth@hft-stuttgart.de)  
Johanna Rath sack  
[johanna.rathsack@hft-stuttgart.de](mailto:johanna.rathsack@hft-stuttgart.de)

F-049-11  
**Institute of Urban Planning and Design,**  
**Chair of International Urbanism**  
**University of Stuttgart**  
Keplerstrasse 11, level 8  
70174 Stuttgart, Germany  
[www.uni-stuttgart.de/si/siaal](http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/si/siaal)  
Contact Person: Astrid Ley  
[international@si.uni-stuttgart.de](mailto:international@si.uni-stuttgart.de)

F-049-10  
**Institute for Urban and Regional Planning,**  
**Department of Civil Engineering, Geo- and Environmental Science**  
**Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)**  
Kaiserstrasse 12  
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany  
[www.ifr.kit.edu](http://www.ifr.kit.edu)  
Contact Person: Joachim Vogt, [vogt@kit.edu](mailto:vogt@kit.edu)

F-049-09  
**School of Architecture, Urban Planning and Landscape Planning**  
**University of Kassel**  
Henschelstrasse 2  
34109 Kassel, Germany  
[www.uni-kassel.de/fb06](http://www.uni-kassel.de/fb06)  
Contact Person: Gerhard Kienast  
[kienast@asl.uni-kassel.de](mailto:kienast@asl.uni-kassel.de)

F-049-08  
**Urban Planning**  
**HafenCity University Hamburg**  
Überseeallee 16  
20457 Hamburg, Germany  
[www.hcu-hamburg.de](http://www.hcu-hamburg.de)  
Contact Person: Jörg Knieling  
[joerg.knieling@hcu-hamburg.de](mailto:joerg.knieling@hcu-hamburg.de)

F-049-04  
**Faculty of Spatial and Environmental Planning**  
**University of Kaiserslautern**  
Pfaffenbergstrasse 95  
67663 Kaiserslautern, Germany  
[www.ru.uni-kl.de/startseite](http://www.ru.uni-kl.de/startseite)  
Contact Person: Karina Pallagst  
[pallagst@rhrk.uni-kl.de](mailto:pallagst@rhrk.uni-kl.de)

F-049-03  
[School of Spatial Planning](#)  
[Technical University Dortmund](#)  
August Schmidt Strasse 10  
44227 Dortmund, Germany  
[www.raumplanung.tu-dortmund.de](#)  
Contact Person: Karsten Zimmermann,  
[karsten.zimmermann@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:karsten.zimmermann@tu-dortmund.de)

F-049-02  
[Department of Urban and Regional Planning \(ISR\)](#)  
[School of Planning Building Environment](#)  
[Technical University of Berlin](#)  
Hardenbergstrasse 40a  
10623 Berlin, Germany  
[www.isr.tu-berlin.de](#)  
Contact Person: Enrico Gualini,  
[e.gualini@isr.tu-berlin.de](mailto:e.gualini@isr.tu-berlin.de)

## GREECE

F-030-02  
[Department of Spatial Planning and Development Engineering,](#)  
[School of Engineering](#)  
[Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](#)  
[Aristotle University Campus, Faculty of Engineering](#)  
GR-54124 Thessaloniki, Greece  
[www.plandevel.auth.gr](#)  
Contact Person: Elisavet Thoidou,  
[thoidouel@plandevel.auth.gr](mailto:thoidouel@plandevel.auth.gr)

F-030-01  
[Department of Planning and Regional Development,](#)  
[Faculty of Engineering](#)  
[University of Thessaly](#)  
[Pedion Aeros](#)  
38 334 Volos, Greece  
[www.prd.uth.gr](#)  
Contact Person: Pantoleon Skayannis,  
[leonska@uth.gr](mailto:leonska@uth.gr)

## IRELAND

F-353-03  
[School of Spatial Planning](#)  
[Dublin Institute of Technology](#)  
Bolton Street 1  
Dublin, Ireland  
[www.dit.ie/spatialplanning](#)  
Contact Person: Conor Norton,  
[conor.norton@dit.ie](mailto:conor.norton@dit.ie)

F-353-02  
[Centre for Planning Education & Research](#)  
[University College Cork](#)  
Connolly Building, Mardyke  
T12YN60 Cork, Ireland  
[www.ucc.ie/en/CKE69](#)  
Contact Person: Tina McSweeney,  
[t.mcsweeney@ucc.ie](mailto:t.mcsweeney@ucc.ie)

F-353-01  
[School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy](#)  
[University College Dublin](#)  
Richview, Clonskeagh  
D14 E099 Dublin, Ireland  
[www.ucd.ie/apep](#)  
Contact Person: Zorica Nedovic-Budic,  
[znb.ucd@gmail.com](mailto:znb.ucd@gmail.com)

## ITALY

F-039-13  
[Department of Architecture](#)  
[Roma Tre University](#)  
Largo Giovanni Marzi, 10  
153 Rome, Italy  
[www.urbanisticatre.uniroma3.it](#)  
Contact Person: Giovanni Caudo,  
[caudo@uniroma3.it](mailto:caudo@uniroma3.it)  
Lucia Nucci, [lucia.nucci@uniroma3.it](mailto:lucia.nucci@uniroma3.it)

F-039-09  
[Department of Architecture](#)  
[City, Region and Landscape Planning Unit](#)  
[University of Palermo](#)  
Edificio 14 - Viale delle Scienze  
90133 Palermo, Italy  
[portale.unipa.it/dipartimenti/diarchitettura](#)  
Contact Person: Francesco Lo Piccolo,  
[francesco.lopiccolo@unipa.it](mailto:francesco.lopiccolo@unipa.it)

F-039-08  
[Department of Civil, Environmental, Land, Building Engineering and Chemistry](#)  
[Politecnico di Bari](#)  
Via Orabona, 4  
70125 Bari, Italy  
[www.poliba.it](#)  
Contact Persons: Dino Borri, [d.borri@poliba.it](mailto:d.borri@poliba.it)  
Domenico Camarda, [d.camarda@poliba.it](mailto:d.camarda@poliba.it)

F-039-07  
[Department of Architecture](#)  
[University "Federico II" Napoli](#)  
Via Forno Vecchio 36  
80134 Napoli, Italy  
[www.unina.it](#)  
Contact Person: Francesco Domenico Moccia,  
[fdmoccia@unina.it](mailto:fdmoccia@unina.it)

F-039-06  
[Department of Design and Planning in Complex Environments](#)  
[University Institute of Architecture in Venice](#)  
Santa Croce 1957  
30135 Venice, Italy  
[www.iuav.it](#)  
Contact Persons: Francesco Musco, [francesco.musco@iuav.it](mailto:francesco.musco@iuav.it)  
Matelda Reho, [matelda@iuav.it](mailto:matelda@iuav.it)  
Domenico Patassini, [domenico@iuav.it](mailto:domenico@iuav.it)

F-039-05  
[Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning \(DIST\)](#)  
[Politecnico di Torino](#)  
Viale Mattioli 39  
10125 Torino, Italy  
[www.dist.polito.it/en](#)  
Contact Persons: Giancarlo Cotella, [giancarlo.cotella@polito.it](mailto:giancarlo.cotella@polito.it)  
Cristiana Rossignolo,  
[cristiana.rossignolo@polito.it](mailto:cristiana.rossignolo@polito.it)

F-039-03  
[School of Planning](#)  
[La Sapienza - Università di Roma](#)  
via Flaminia 72  
196 Roma, Italy  
[w3.uniroma1.it/dottoratopianificazione](#)  
Contact Person: Barbara Pizzo  
[barbara.pizzo@uniroma1.it](mailto:barbara.pizzo@uniroma1.it)

F-039-02  
[Department of Architecture and Urban Studies](#)  
[Polytechnic of Milan](#)  
Via Bonardi 3  
20133 Milano, Italy  
[www.dastu.polimi.it](#)  
Contact Persons: Gabriele Pasqui,  
[gabriele.pasqui@polimi.it](mailto:gabriele.pasqui@polimi.it)  
Valeria Fedeli, [Valeria.fedeli@polimi.it](mailto:Valeria.fedeli@polimi.it)

F-039-01  
[Department of Urban and Regional Planning](#)  
[University of Firenze](#)  
Via Micheli 2  
50121 Firenze, Italy  
[www.unifi.it](#)  
Contact Person: Camilla Perrone,  
[camilla.perrone@unifi.it](mailto:camilla.perrone@unifi.it)

## KOSOVO

F-381-02  
[Architecture and Spatial Planning](#)  
[UBT - University for Business and Technology](#)  
Lagjja Kalabria p.n.  
10000 Prishtina, Kosovo  
[www.ubt-uni.net](#)  
Contact Person: Lulzim Beqiri,  
[lbeqiri@ubt-uni.net](mailto:lbeqiri@ubt-uni.net)

## NETHERLANDS

F-031-07  
[Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment](#)  
[Delft University of Technology](#)  
Julianalaan 134  
2628 BL Delft, Netherlands  
[www.bk.tudelft.nl](#)  
Contact Person:  
Ana Maria Fernandez-Maldonado,  
[a.m.fernandezmaldonado@tudelft.nl](mailto:a.m.fernandezmaldonado@tudelft.nl)

F-031-06  
[Land Use Planning](#)  
[Wageningen University](#)  
P.O. Box 47  
6700 AA Wageningen, Netherlands  
[www.lup.wur.nl/UK](#)

F-031-05  
[Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation \(ITC\)](#)  
[University of Twente](#)  
P.O. Box 6  
7500 AA Enschede, Netherlands  
[www.itc.nl/pgm/default.aspx](#)  
Contact Person: Martin Van Maarseveen,  
[Maarseveen@itc.nl](mailto:Maarseveen@itc.nl)

F-031-04  
[Department of Human Geography and Planning](#)  
[University of Utrecht](#)  
Heidelberglaan 2  
3584 CS Utrecht, Netherlands  
[www.geo.uu.nl](#)  
Contact Person: Thomas Hartmann,  
[t.hartmann@uu.nl](mailto:t.hartmann@uu.nl)

F-031-03  
[Department of Spatial Planning, Nijmegen School of Management](#)  
[Radboud University Nijmegen](#)  
P.O. Box 9108  
6500 HK Nijmegen, Netherlands  
[www.ru.nl/nsm](#)  
Contact Person: Peter Ache, [p.ache@fm.ru.nl](mailto:p.ache@fm.ru.nl)

F-031-02  
[Department of Spatial Planning & Environment, Faculty of Spatial Sciences](#)  
[University of Groningen](#)  
P.O. Box 800  
9700 AV Groningen, Netherlands  
[www.rug.nl/frw/faculteit/basisseenheden/planologie](#)  
Contact Person: Gert de Roo,  
[g.de.roo@rug.nl](mailto:g.de.roo@rug.nl)

F-031-01  
[Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research \(AISSR\)](#)  
[University of Amsterdam](#)  
Plantage Muidergracht 14  
1018 TV Amsterdam, Netherlands  
[www.aisr.uva.nl/pit](#)  
Contact Person: Willem Salet,  
[w.g.m.salet@uva.nl](mailto:w.g.m.salet@uva.nl)

## NORWAY

F-047-06  
[Department of Planning and Administration](#)  
[Volda University College](#)  
P.O. Box 500  
6101 Volda, Norway  
[www.hivolda.no/asf/avdelingsside/index.html](#)  
Contact Person: Roar Amdam,  
[roar.amdam@hivolda.no](mailto:roar.amdam@hivolda.no)

F-047-05  
[Department of Sociology, Political Science & Community Planning](#)  
[University of Tromsø](#)  
HSL Faculty  
9037 Tromsø, Norway  
[uit.no/planlegging](#)  
Contact Person: Nils Aarsæther,  
[nils.aarsether@uit.no](mailto:nils.aarsether@uit.no)

F-047-04  
[Department of Social Sciences](#)  
[Lillehammer College](#)  
P.O. Box 1004  
2601 Lillehammer, Norway  
[www.hil.no](#)  
Contact Person: Ulla Higdem,  
[ulla.higdem@hil.no](mailto:ulla.higdem@hil.no)

F-047-03  
[Department of Town & Regional Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Fine Art](#)  
[Norwegian University of Science and Technology](#)  
Alfred Getz vei 3  
7491 Trondheim, Norway  
[www.ntnu.no](#)  
Contact Person: Sverre Flack,  
[sverre.flack@ark.ntnu.no](mailto:sverre.flack@ark.ntnu.no)

F-047-02  
[Section of Urban and Regional Planning](#)  
[Norwegian University of Life Sciences \(NMBU\)](#)  
P.O. Box 5003  
1432 Ås, Norway  
[www.nmbu.no/en](#)  
Contact Persons: Marius Grønning, [marius.gronning@nmbu.no](mailto:marius.gronning@nmbu.no)  
Elin Borrud, [elin.borrud@nmbu.no](mailto:elin.borrud@nmbu.no)  
Sheena Lisland,  
[sheena.gilchrist.lisland@umb.no](mailto:sheena.gilchrist.lisland@umb.no)

## POLAND

F-048-09  
[Department of Urban and Regional Planning](#)  
[Gdansk University of Technology](#)  
ul. Narutowicza 11/12  
80-233 Gdansk, Poland  
[arch.pg.edu.pl](#)  
Contact Person: Sławomir Ledwon,  
[sled@pg.gda.pl](mailto:sled@pg.gda.pl)

F-048-08  
[Department of Spatial Planning and Environmental Sciences](#)  
[Warsaw University of Technology](#)  
Plac Politechniki 1  
00-661 Warsaw, Poland  
[www.gospodarkaprzestrzenna.pw.edu.pl](#)  
Contact Person: Adrianna Kupidura,  
[a.kupidura@gik.pw.edu.pl](mailto:a.kupidura@gik.pw.edu.pl)

F-048-07  
[Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management](#)  
[Adam Mickiewicz University](#)  
ul. Dziegiełowa 27  
61-680 Poznan, Poland  
[www.igsegg.amu.edu.pl](#)  
Contact Person: Pawel Churski,  
[chur@amu.edu.pl](mailto:chur@amu.edu.pl)

F-048-06  
[Department of Regional Studies](#)  
[University of Economics](#)  
ul. Rakowicka 27  
31-510 Krakow, Poland  
[www.uek.krakow.pl](#)  
Contact Persons: Tadeusz Kudlacz,  
[kudlacz@uek.krakow.pl](mailto:kudlacz@uek.krakow.pl)  
Patrycja Branka, [brankap@uek.krakow.pl](mailto:brankap@uek.krakow.pl)  
Dorota Jopek, [dorota.jopek@yahoo.com](mailto:dorota.jopek@yahoo.com)

F-048-05  
[Faculty of Architecture](#)  
[Warsaw University of Technology](#)  
ul. Koszykowa 55  
00-659 Warsaw, Poland  
[www.pw.edu.pl/english](#)  
Contact Person: Judyta Wesołowska,  
[judyta.wesolowska@arch.pw.edu.pl](mailto:judyta.wesolowska@arch.pw.edu.pl)

F-048-03  
[Faculty of Architecture](#)  
[Wrocław University of Science and Technology](#)  
53/55 Bolesława Prusa Street  
50-370 Wrocław, Poland  
[www.wa.pwr.wroc.pl](#)  
Contact Person: Izabela Mironowicz,  
[izabela.mironowicz@pwr.edu.pl](mailto:izabela.mironowicz@pwr.edu.pl)

F-048-01  
[Department of the Built Environment and Spatial Policy](#)  
[University of Lodz](#)  
ul. Kopcińskiego 31  
90-142 Lodz, Poland  
[kzsipp.geo.uni.lodz.pl](#)  
Contact Person: Tadeusz Marszał,  
[marsz@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:marsz@uni.lodz.pl)

## PORTUGAL

F-351-07  
**Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning  
University of Lisbon**  
Av. Prof. Gama Pinto, Edifício IGOT  
1649-003 Lisbon, Portugal  
[www.igot.ul.pt](http://www.igot.ul.pt)  
Contact Persons: José Manuel Simões,  
[jmsimoes@igot.ul.pt](mailto:jmsimoes@igot.ul.pt)  
Mário Vale, [mario.vale@campus.ul.pt](mailto:mario.vale@campus.ul.pt)

F-351-06  
**Department of Urban Planning  
Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e  
Tecnologias**  
Campo Grande, 376  
1749-024 Lisbon, Portugal  
[www.urbanismo-portugal.net](http://www.urbanismo-portugal.net)  
Contact Person: Diogo Mateus,  
[dmateus@ulusofona.pt](mailto:dmateus@ulusofona.pt)

F-351-05  
**Faculty of Engineering, Dept. Civil  
Engineering, Division of Spatial and  
Environmental Planning  
University of Porto**  
Rua Dr. Roberto Frias  
4200-465 Porto, Portugal  
[www.fe.up.pt](http://www.fe.up.pt)  
Contact Person: Sara Santos Cruz,  
[scruz@fe.up.pt](mailto:scruz@fe.up.pt)

F-351-04  
**Faculty of Architecture, University of Lisbon  
University of Lisbon**  
Rua Sá Nogueira, Pólo Universitário,  
Alto da Ajuda,  
1349-055 Lisbon, Portugal  
[www.fa.ulisboa.pt](http://www.fa.ulisboa.pt)  
Contact Person: Sofia Morgado,  
[smorgado@fa.ulisboa.pt](mailto:smorgado@fa.ulisboa.pt)

F-351-03  
**Center for Urban and Regional Systems  
(CESUR)  
Instituto Superior Técnico  
University of Lisbon**  
Av. Rovisco Pais  
1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal  
[www.civil.ist.utl.pt](http://www.civil.ist.utl.pt)  
Contact Person: Fernando Nunes da Silva,  
[fnsilva@ist.utl.pt](mailto:fnsilva@ist.utl.pt)

F-351-02  
**Faculty of Architecture  
University of Porto**  
Via Panorâmica Edgar Cardoso  
4150-755 Porto, Portugal  
[www.arq.up.pt](http://www.arq.up.pt)  
Contact Person: Teresa Calix,  
[teresa.calix@rq.up.pt](mailto:teresa.calix@rq.up.pt)

F-351-01  
**Department of Social and Political Sciences  
and Spatial Planning  
University of Aveiro**  
Campus Universitário de Santiago,  
Edifício 12  
3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal  
[www.ua.pt/csfp](http://www.ua.pt/csfp)  
Contact Person: Artur da Rosa Pires,  
[arp@ua.pt](mailto:arp@ua.pt)  
Paulo Silva, [paulosilva@ua.pt](mailto:paulosilva@ua.pt)

## ROMANIA

F-040-01  
**Faculty of Urban Planning and Landscape  
Architecture  
Bucharest University of Architecture and  
Urbanism 'Ion Mincu'**  
18-20 Academiei Street  
10014 Bucharest, Romania  
Contact Person: <http://www.iaim.ro>  
Contact Person: Florin Machedon,  
[secretariat.urbanism@iaim.ro](mailto:secretariat.urbanism@iaim.ro)

## RUSSIA

F-007-01  
**Department of Architecture and Urban  
Planning  
Perm National Research Polytechnic  
University**  
Komsomolsky av. 29  
614990 Perm, Russia  
[pstu.ru/en](http://pstu.ru/en)  
Contact Persons: Ekaterina Saveleva,  
[ekaterina.starodubzeva@gmail.com](mailto:ekaterina.starodubzeva@gmail.com)  
Svetlana Maximova, [arhstf@pstu.ru](mailto:arhstf@pstu.ru)

## SERBIA

F-381-01  
**Department of Spatial Planning  
Faculty of Geography  
University of Belgrade**  
Studentski Trg 3/III  
11 000 Belgrade, Serbia  
[www.gef.bg.ac.rs](http://www.gef.bg.ac.rs)  
Contact Person: Tijana Dabovic,  
[tdabovic@gef.bg.ac.rs](mailto:tdabovic@gef.bg.ac.rs)

## SLOVAKIA

F-042-03  
**Department of Spatial Planning,  
Institute of Management  
Slovak University of Technology**  
Vazovova 5  
81243 Bratislava, Slovakia  
[www.stuba.sk](http://www.stuba.sk)  
Contact Person: Zuzana Ladzianska,  
[zuzana.ladzianska@stuba.sk](mailto:zuzana.ladzianska@stuba.sk)

## SLOVENIA

F-386-01  
**Department of Landscape Architecture,  
Biotechnical Faculty  
University of Ljubljana**  
Jamnikarjeva 101  
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
[www.fgg.uni-lj.si](http://www.fgg.uni-lj.si)  
Contact Person: Naja Marot,  
[naja.marot@bf.uni-lj.si](mailto:naja.marot@bf.uni-lj.si)

## SPAIN

F-034-05  
**Urban & Regional Planning Department  
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid**  
Avenida Juan de Herrera, 4  
28016 Madrid, Spain  
[www.aq.upm.es/departamentos/urbanismo](http://www.aq.upm.es/departamentos/urbanismo)  
Contact Person: José Miguel Fernández Güell,  
[josemiguel.fernandez@upm.es](mailto:josemiguel.fernandez@upm.es)

F-034-04  
**Art, City and Territory Department  
Section of Town Planning  
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria University**  
Campus Universitario de Tàfira Edificio de  
Arquitectura  
35017 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain  
[www.dact.ulpgc.es](http://www.dact.ulpgc.es)  
Contact Person: Eduardo Cáceres,  
[ecaceres@dact.ulpgc.es](mailto:ecaceres@dact.ulpgc.es)

## SWEDEN

F-046-08  
**Department of Urban and Rural  
Development  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences**  
P.O.Box 7012 Ulls väg 28B  
750 07 Uppsala, Sweden  
[www.sol.slu.se](http://www.sol.slu.se)  
Contact Person: Tuula Eriksson,  
[tuula.eriksson@slu.se](mailto:tuula.eriksson@slu.se)

F-046-07  
**Department of Architecture and Civil  
Engineering  
Chalmers University of Technology**  
SE-412 96 Gothenburg, Sweden  
[www.chalmers.se/en/departments/ace](http://www.chalmers.se/en/departments/ace)  
Contact Person: Lotta Särnbrattlotta,  
[sarnbratt@chalmers.se](mailto:sarnbratt@chalmers.se)

F-046-05  
**Department of Spatial Planning,  
Swedish School of Planning  
Blekinge Institute of Technology**  
371 79 Karlskrona, Sweden  
[www.bth.se](http://www.bth.se)  
Contact Person: Lina Berglund  
[Snodgrasslbs@bth.se](mailto:Snodgrasslbs@bth.se)

F-046-04  
**Department of Civil, Environmental  
and Natural Resources Engineering  
Lulea University of Technology**  
SE-97187 Lulea, Sweden  
[www.ltu.se/org/sbn](http://www.ltu.se/org/sbn)  
Contact Person: Agatino Rizzo  
[agatino.rizzo@ltu.se](mailto:agatino.rizzo@ltu.se)

F-046-02  
**Urban Planning and Environment  
KTH – Royal Institute of Technology**  
Drottning Kristinas väg 30  
10044 Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/som/avdelningar/urbana-studier](http://www.kth.se/en/abe/inst/som/avdelningar/urbana-studier)  
Contact Person: Maria Håkansson,  
[maria.hakansson@abe.kth.se](mailto:maria.hakansson@abe.kth.se)

F-046-01  
**Department of Human Geography,  
School of Planning  
Stockholm University**  
SE-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.spl.su.se](http://www.spl.su.se)  
Contact Person: Peter Schmitt,  
[peter.schmitt@humangeo.su.se](mailto:peter.schmitt@humangeo.su.se)

## SWITZERLAND

F-041-02  
**Department of Spatial Planning  
UASR University of Applied Sciences  
Rapperswil**  
Oberseestrasse 10  
8640 Rapperswil, Switzerland  
[www.hsr.ch](http://www.hsr.ch)  
Contact Person: Joachim Schöffel,  
[joachim.schoeffel@hsr.ch](mailto:joachim.schoeffel@hsr.ch)

F-041-01  
**Institute for Spatial and Landscape  
Development (IRL)  
Department of Civil, Environmental  
and Geomatic Engineering  
ETH Zurich, Swiss Federal Institute  
of Technology**  
Wolfgang-Pauli Str. 15  
8093 Zurich, Switzerland  
[www.irl.ethz.ch](http://www.irl.ethz.ch)  
Contact Person: Bernd Scholl, [bscholl@ethz.ch](mailto:bscholl@ethz.ch)

## TURKEY

F-090-05  
**Department of Urban and Regional  
Planning, Faculty of Architecture  
Istanbul Technical University**  
Taskisla-Taksim  
34437 Istanbul, Turkey  
[www.itu.edu.tr](http://www.itu.edu.tr)  
Contact Person: Ferhan Gezici,  
[gezicif@itu.edu.tr](mailto:gezicif@itu.edu.tr)

F-090-03  
**Department of City and Regional Planning,  
Faculty of Architecture  
Yıldız Technical University**  
Barbaros Boulevard, Yıldız Campus, Besiktas  
34349 Istanbul, Turkey  
[www.sbp.yildiz.edu.tr](http://www.sbp.yildiz.edu.tr)  
Contact Person: Zeynep Enlil,  
[enlil@yildiz.edu.tr](mailto:enlil@yildiz.edu.tr)

F-090-01  
**Department of City and Regional Planning  
Middle East Technical University**  
ODTU, İnönü Bulvarı  
6531 Ankara, Turkey  
[www.metu.edu.tr](http://www.metu.edu.tr)  
Contact Person: Ela Babalik Sutcliffe,  
[ebaba@metu.edu.tr](mailto:ebaba@metu.edu.tr)

## UNITED KINGDOM

F-044-27  
**School of the Built Environment  
University of Ulster**  
Shore Road  
Co. Antrim BT37 0QB  
Newtownabbey, UK  
[www.ulster.ac.uk/faculties/art-de-sign-and-built-environment/schools/built-environment](http://www.ulster.ac.uk/faculties/art-de-sign-and-built-environment/schools/built-environment)  
Contact Person: Gavan Rafferty,  
[g.afferty1@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:g.afferty1@ulster.ac.uk)

F-044-26  
**Department of Urban Studies  
University of Glasgow**  
25 Bute Gardens  
G12 8RS Glasgow, UK  
[www.gla.ac.uk/subjects/urbanstudies](http://www.gla.ac.uk/subjects/urbanstudies)  
Contact Persons: Amin Kamete,  
[amini.kamete@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:amini.kamete@glasgow.ac.uk)  
Sabrina Grant, [sabrina.grant@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:sabrina.grant@glasgow.ac.uk)

F-044-21  
**School of Planning, Architecture and Civil  
Engineering  
Queen's University of Belfast**  
David Keir Building, Stranmillis Road  
BT9 5AG Belfast, UK  
[www.qub.ac.uk/schools/NBE](http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/NBE)  
Contact Person: Geraint Ellis,  
[g.ellis@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.ellis@qub.ac.uk)

F-044-19  
**Architecture and Planning  
Sheffield Hallam University**  
Pond Street  
S1 1WB Sheffield, UK  
[www.shu.ac.uk](http://www.shu.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Rob Stevens,  
[R.Stevens@shu.ac.uk](mailto:R.Stevens@shu.ac.uk)

F-044-18  
**Department of Urban Studies and Planning  
University of Sheffield**  
Western Bank  
S10 2TN Sheffield, UK  
[www.sheffield.ac.uk/usp](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/usp)  
Contact Person: Malcolm Tait,  
[m.tait@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:m.tait@sheffield.ac.uk)

F-044-17  
**School of Real Estate & Planning  
University of Reading**  
Heneley Business School, Whitenights  
RG6 6UD Reading, UK  
[www.henley.ac.uk/school/real-es-tate-and-planning](http://www.henley.ac.uk/school/real-es-tate-and-planning)  
Contact Person: Richard J. Nunes,  
[r.j.nunes@reading.ac.uk](mailto:r.j.nunes@reading.ac.uk)

F-044-16  
**School of Planning  
Oxford Brookes University**  
Headington  
OX3 0BP Oxford, UK  
[www.brookes.ac.uk](http://www.brookes.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Georgia Butina Watson,  
[gbutina-watson@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:gbutina-watson@brookes.ac.uk)

F-044-14  
**School of Architecture, Planning and  
Landscape  
University of Newcastle**  
Claremont Tower - Claremont Road  
NE1 7RU Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK  
[www.apl.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.apl.ncl.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Dave Webb,  
[david.webb@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:david.webb@ncl.ac.uk)

F-044-13  
**Department of Planning and Environmental  
Management  
School of Environment, Education  
and Development  
University of Manchester**  
Oxford Road  
M13 9PL Manchester, UK  
[www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/planning](http://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/planning)  
Contact Person: Richard Kingston,  
[richard.kingston@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:richard.kingston@manchester.ac.uk)

F-044-12  
**The Bartlett School of Planning  
University College London**  
Central House, 14 Upper Woburn Place  
WC1H 0NN London, UK  
[www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/planning](http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/planning)  
Contact Persons: Claire Colomb,  
[c.colomb@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.colomb@ucl.ac.uk)  
Nick Gallent, [n.gallent@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:n.gallent@ucl.ac.uk)



F-044-11  
**Department of Geography, Regional and Urban Planning Studies**  
**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
Houghton Street  
WC2A 2AE London, UK  
[www.lse.ac.uk/Geography-and-Environment/PG/MSc-Regional-and-Urban-Planning-Studies](http://www.lse.ac.uk/Geography-and-Environment/PG/MSc-Regional-and-Urban-Planning-Studies)  
Contact Person: Nancy Holman,  
[n.e.holman@lse.ac.uk](mailto:n.e.holman@lse.ac.uk)

F-044-10  
**School of Architecture and the Built Environment**  
**University of Westminster**  
35, Marylebone Road  
NW1 5LS London, UK  
[www.westminster.ac.uk](http://www.westminster.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Johan Woltjer,  
[j.woltjer@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:j.woltjer@westminster.ac.uk)

F-044-08  
**Department of Geography and Planning**  
**University of Liverpool**  
74 Bedford Street South  
L69 7ZQ Liverpool, UK  
[www.liv.ac.uk/geography-and-planning](http://www.liv.ac.uk/geography-and-planning)  
Contact Person: Thomas Fischer,  
[fischer@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:fischer@liverpool.ac.uk)  
Olivier Sykes, [ollys@liv.ac.uk](mailto:ollys@liv.ac.uk)

F-044-05  
**School of the Built Environment**  
**Heriot-Watt University**  
William Arrol Building, Riccarton  
EH14 4AS Edinburgh, UK  
[www.hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: John McCarthy,  
[j.p.mccarthy@hw.ac.uk](mailto:j.p.mccarthy@hw.ac.uk)  
Alan Prior, [a.prior@sb.e.hw.ac.uk](mailto:a.prior@sb.e.hw.ac.uk)

F-044-03  
**School of Planning and Geography**  
**Cardiff University**  
King Edward VII Ave, Glamorgan Building  
CF10 3WA Cardiff, Wales, UK  
[www.cf.ac.uk/cplan](http://www.cf.ac.uk/cplan)  
Contact Person: Francesca Sartorio,  
[sartoriof@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:sartoriof@cardiff.ac.uk)

F-044-02  
**Faculty of Environment and Technology,**  
**School of Planning and Architecture**  
**University of the West of England**  
Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane  
BS16 1QY Bristol, UK  
[www.uwe.ac.uk](http://www.uwe.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Nick Smith,  
[Nicholas12.Smith@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Nicholas12.Smith@uwe.ac.uk)

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

**ALBANIA**  
A-355-01  
**Department of Architecture**  
**Epoka University**  
Rr.Tiranë-Rinas, Km. 12  
1039 Tirana, Albania  
[www.epoka.edu.al](http://www.epoka.edu.al)  
Contact Person: Sokol Dervishi,  
[sdervishi@epoka.edu.al](mailto:sdervishi@epoka.edu.al)

**AUSTRIA**  
A-043-01  
**Department of Spatial, Landscape and Infrastructure Science**  
**University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences**  
Peter Jordan-Strasse 82  
1190 Vienna, Austria  
[www.boku.ac.at](http://www.boku.ac.at)  
Contact Person: Christina Löfgren-Steigberger,  
[christina.steigberger@boku.ac.at](mailto:christina.steigberger@boku.ac.at)  
Gerlind Weber, [irub@mail.boku.ac.at](mailto:irub@mail.boku.ac.at)

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**  
A-387-01  
**Department of Spatial Planning**  
**University of Banja Luka**  
Mladena Stojanovića 2  
78000 Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
[pmf.unibl.org](http://pmf.unibl.org)  
Contact Person: Neda Zivak, [ivakn@pmfbl.org](mailto:ivakn@pmfbl.org)

**CROATIA**  
A-385-01  
**Faculty of Architecture**  
**Department of Urban Planning, Spatial Planning and Landscape Architecture**  
**University of Zagreb**  
Fra Andrije Kačića Miošića, 26  
10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
[www.arhitekt.unizg.hr](http://www.arhitekt.unizg.hr)  
Contact Person: Ana Mrđa,  
[amrdja@arhitekt.hr](mailto:amrdja@arhitekt.hr)

**CYPRUS**  
A-357-01  
**Department of Architecture**  
**University of Cyprus**  
P. O. Box 20537  
1678 Nicosia, Cyprus  
[www.ucy.ac.cy/arch/en](http://www.ucy.ac.cy/arch/en)  
Contact Person: Andreas Savvides,  
[als@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:als@ucy.ac.cy)

**DENMARK**  
A-045-01  
**Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management**  
**University of Copenhagen**  
Rolighedsvej 23  
1958 Copenhagen, Denmark  
[www.ign.ku.dk](http://www.ign.ku.dk)  
Contact Person: Gertrud Jørgensen,  
[gej@ign.ku.dk](mailto:gej@ign.ku.dk)

**ESTONIA**  
A-372-02  
**Department of Geography**  
**University of Tartu**  
Vanemuise 46  
51014 Tartu, Estonia  
[www.lote.ut.ee/geo](http://www.lote.ut.ee/geo)  
Contact Person: Garri Raagmaa,  
[garri@ut.ee](mailto:garri@ut.ee)

A-372-01  
**Department of Geomatics**  
**Estonian University of Life Sciences**  
Kreutzwaldi 5  
51014 Tartu, Estonia  
[www.emu.ee](http://www.emu.ee)  
Contact Persons: Madis Kaing,  
[madis.kaing@emu.ee](mailto:madis.kaing@emu.ee)  
Piret Veeroja, [piret.veeroja@emu.ee](mailto:piret.veeroja@emu.ee)

**FINLAND**  
A-358-02  
**Department of Architecture**  
**University of Oulu**  
P.O. Box 4100  
90014 Oulu, Finland  
[www.oulu.fi](http://www.oulu.fi)  
Contact Person: Risto Suikkari,  
[risto.suikkari@oulu.fi](mailto:risto.suikkari@oulu.fi)

A-358-01  
**School of Architecture**  
**Tampere University of Technology**  
P.O. Box 600  
Tuo Miokizkonkatu, 19  
33101 Tampere, Finland  
[www.tut.fi/ark](http://www.tut.fi/ark)  
Contact Person: Anssi Joutsiniemi,  
[anssi.joutsiniemi@tut.fi](mailto:anssi.joutsiniemi@tut.fi)

**FRANCE**  
A-033-01  
**Public and Private Policy Department**  
**ESSEC Business School**  
Avenue Bernard Hirsch BP 50105  
95021 Cergy-Pontoise Cedex, France  
[www.essec.edu](http://www.essec.edu)  
Contact Person: Laurence de Carlo,  
[decarlo@essec.edu](mailto:decarlo@essec.edu)

**GERMANY**  
A-049-12  
**Department of Architecture**  
**University of Technology Munich**  
Arcisstrasse 21  
80333 Munich, Germany  
[www.artum.de](http://www.artum.de)  
Contact Person: Lukas Gilliard,  
[lgilliard@tum.de](mailto:lgilliard@tum.de)

A-049-11  
**Faculty of Architecture**  
**Darmstadt University of Technology**  
El-Lissitzkystr 1  
64287 Darmstadt, Germany  
[www.architektur.tu-darmstadt.de](http://www.architektur.tu-darmstadt.de)  
Contact Person: Annette Rudolph-Cleff,  
[rudolph@stadt.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:rudolph@stadt.tu-darmstadt.de)

A-049-06  
**Department of Spatial Development and Planning**  
**Technical University of Dresden**  
Würzburger Straße 35  
1062 Dresden, Germany  
[www.tu-dresden.de/bu/umwelt/lfre](http://www.tu-dresden.de/bu/umwelt/lfre)  
Contact Person: Bernhard Müller,  
[bernhard.mueller@tu-dresden.de](mailto:bernhard.mueller@tu-dresden.de)

**GREECE**  
A-030-03  
**Department of Architecture,**  
**Faculty of Engineering**  
**University of Patras**  
**University Campus**  
26504 Patras, Greece  
[www.arch.upatras.gr/en](http://www.arch.upatras.gr/en)  
Contact Person: Vassilis Pappas,  
[vpappas@upatras.gr](mailto:vpappas@upatras.gr)

**ITALY**  
A-039-04  
**Architecture Department**  
**University of Catania**  
Via Santa Sofia, 64  
95123 Catania, Italy  
[www.darc.unict.it](http://www.darc.unict.it)  
Contact Person: Filippo Gravagno,  
[filippogravagno@virgilio.it](mailto:filippogravagno@virgilio.it)

**LATVIA**  
A-371-01  
**Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning**  
**Riga Technical University**  
Kipsalas iela 6  
LV-1048 Riga, Latvia  
[www.apf.rtu.lv](http://www.apf.rtu.lv)

**MALTA**  
A-356-01  
**Faculty for the Built Environment**  
**University of Malta**  
Msidab MSD 2080, Malta  
[www.um.edu.mt](http://www.um.edu.mt)  
Contact Person: Edwin Mintoff,  
[comms@um.edu.mt](mailto:comms@um.edu.mt)

**NETHERLANDS**  
A-031-04  
**University of Applied Sciences Rotterdam**  
P.O. Box 25035  
3001 HA Rotterdam, Netherlands  
[www.rotterdamuas.com](http://www.rotterdamuas.com)  
Contact Person: Annekeke Kekem,  
[a.van.kekem@hr.nl](mailto:a.van.kekem@hr.nl)

A-031-03  
**Department of Environmental Studies**  
**University of Utrecht**  
P.O. Box 80 125  
3508 TC Utrecht, Netherlands  
[www.geo.uu.nl](http://www.geo.uu.nl)  
Contact Person: Peter P.J. Driessen,  
[p.driessen@geog.uu.nl](mailto:p.driessen@geog.uu.nl)

A-031-01  
**Urban Management and Design Systems,**  
**Architecture, Building & Planning**  
**Eindhoven University of Technology**  
P.O. Box 513  
5600 MB Eindhoven, Netherlands  
[www.tue.nl](http://www.tue.nl)  
Contact Person: Pieter van Wesemael,  
[p.j.v.v.wesemael@tue.nl](mailto:p.j.v.v.wesemael@tue.nl)

**NORWAY**  
A-047-02  
**Institute of Urbanism and Landscape**  
**Oslo School of Architecture and Design**  
PO Box 6768 St. Olavs plass  
0130 Oslo, Norway  
[www.aho.no](http://www.aho.no)

Contact Person: Evy Karoline Ludvigsen,  
[evy.karoline.ludvigsen@adm.aho.no](mailto:evy.karoline.ludvigsen@adm.aho.no)

**PORTUGAL**  
A-351-04  
**Institute of Social Sciences**  
**University of Lisbon**  
Av. Prof. Aníbal de Bettencourt, 9  
1600-189 Lisbon, Portugal  
[www.ics.ulisboa.pt](http://www.ics.ulisboa.pt)  
Contact Person: João Ferrão,  
[joao.ferrao@ics.ulisboa.pt](mailto:joao.ferrao@ics.ulisboa.pt)

A-351-03  
**Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering**  
**New University of Lisbon**  
Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia  
2829-516 Caparica, Portugal  
[www.dcea.fct.unl.pt](http://www.dcea.fct.unl.pt)  
Contact Person: Lia Vasconcelos,  
[ltv@fct.unl.pt](mailto:ltv@fct.unl.pt)

**SERBIA**  
A-381-02  
**Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture**  
**University of Nis**  
Aleksandra Medvedeva 14  
18000 Nis, Serbia  
[www.gaf.ni.ac.rs](http://www.gaf.ni.ac.rs)  
Contact Person: Ljiljana Vasilevska,  
[ljiljana.vasilevska@gaf.ni.ac.rs](mailto:ljiljana.vasilevska@gaf.ni.ac.rs)

A-381-01  
**IAUS - Institute of Architecture and Urban & Spatial Planning of Serbia**  
Bul. Kralja Aleksandra 73/II  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
[www.iaus.ac.rs](http://www.iaus.ac.rs)  
Contact Person: Tamara Maricic,  
[tamaram@gmx.net](mailto:tamaram@gmx.net)

**SPAIN**  
A-034-06  
**Department of Urbanism and Spatial Planning**  
**International University of Catalonia**  
Immaculada, 22  
8017 Barcelona, Spain  
[www.uic.es/es/esarq](http://www.uic.es/es/esarq)  
Contact Person: Pablo Elinbaum,  
[pabloelinbaum@riurb.com](mailto:pabloelinbaum@riurb.com)

A-034-03  
**Department of Architecture and Building**  
**Polytechnic School, CEU San Pablo University**  
Campus de Montepincipe  
28668 Boadilla del Monte, Madrid, Spain  
[www.uspceu.com](http://www.uspceu.com)  
Contact Persons: Teresa Franchini,  
[tfranchini.eps@ceu.es](mailto:tfranchini.eps@ceu.es)  
Covadonga Lorenzo, [clorenzo@ceu.es](mailto:clorenzo@ceu.es)

**SWEDEN**  
A-046-01  
**Department of Conservation**  
**University of Gothenburg**  
Guldhedsgatan 5A  
41667 Gothenburg, Sweden  
[www.conservation.gu.se](http://www.conservation.gu.se)  
Contact Person: Feras Hammami,  
[feras.hammami@gu.se](mailto:feras.hammami@gu.se)

**UNITED KINGDOM**  
A-044-02  
**Department of Land Economy**  
**University of Cambridge**  
19 Silver Street  
CB3 9EP Cambridge East Anglia, UK  
[www.landecon.cam.ac.uk](http://www.landecon.cam.ac.uk)  
Contact Person: Elisabete A. Silva,  
[es424@cam.ac.uk](mailto:es424@cam.ac.uk)

A-044-08  
[Centre for Urban and Regional Studies](#)  
[University of Birmingham](#)  
Edgbaston, B15 2 TT Birmingham  
West Midlands, UK  
[www.curs.bham.ac.uk](#)  
Contact Person: Lauren Andres,  
[l.andres@bham.ac.uk](#)

## CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

### AUSTRALIA

C-061-02  
[School of Global Studies,](#)  
[Social Sciences and Planning](#)  
[RMIT University](#)  
GPO Box 2476  
3001 Melbourne VIC, Australia  
[www.rmit.edu.au](#)  
Contact Person: Robin Goodman,  
[robin.goodman@rmit.edu.au](#)

C-061-01  
[School of Geography, Planning](#)  
 [& Environmental Management](#)  
[The University of Queensland](#)  
St. Lucia  
Qld 4072 Brisbane, Australia  
[www.gpem.uq.edu.au](#)  
Contact Person: Neil Sipe, [n.sipe@uq.edu.au](#)

### CHINA

C-086-01  
[Department of Urban Planning and](#)  
[Design](#)  
[Xian Jiaotong - Liverpool University](#)  
111 Renai Road,  
215123 Suzhou, China  
[www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/departments/academ-](#)  
[ic-departments/urban-planning-and-design](#)  
Contact Person: Giulio Verdini,  
[giulio.verdini@xjtlu.edu.cn](#)

### ISRAEL

C-097-01  
[Faculty of Architecture and Town](#)  
[Planning](#)  
[Israel Institute of Technology](#)  
Technion City  
32000 Haifa, Israel  
[www.technion.ac.il](#)  
Contact Person: Rachelle Alterman,  
[alterman@technix.technion.ac.il](#)

### SAUDI ARABIA

C-966-01  
[Department of Urban Planning](#)  
[King Saud University](#)  
PO Box 57448  
11574 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia  
[cap.ksu.edu.sa/en/urban-planning](#)

### UNITED STATES

C-001-06  
[Department of City and Regional](#)  
[Planning](#)  
[The University of Memphis](#)  
221 McCord Hall  
38152 Memphis, USA  
[www.memphis.edu/planning](#)  
Contact Person: Antonio Raciti,  
[antonioraciti@gmail.com](#)

C-001-05  
[Taubman College of Architecture](#)  
[and Urban Planning](#)  
[University of Michigan](#)  
2000 Bonisteel Boulevard  
48109-2069 Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA  
[www.taubmancollege.umich.edu](#)  
Contact Person: Kerian Rossin,  
[krossin@umich.edu](#)

C-001-04  
[L. Douglas Wilder School of Government](#)  
[and Public Affairs](#)  
[Virginia Commonwealth University](#)  
923 West Franklin Street  
01-23284-2028 Richmond, Virginia, USA  
[www.wilder.vcu.edu](#)

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS

### BELGIUM

AF-032-01  
[The European Regional Science](#)  
[Association \(ERSA\)](#)  
CORE - UCL Voie du Roman Pays 34,  
L1.03.01  
B 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium  
[www.ersa.org](#)  
Contact: [info@ersa.org](#)

AF-032-02  
[European Council of Spatial Planners](#)  
[\(ECTP-CEU\)](#)  
Brussels Europe Liaison Office (BELO)  
Avenue d'Auderghem 63  
B-1040 Brussels, Belgium  
[www.ectp-ceu.eu](#)  
Contact: [secretariat@ectp-ceu.eu](#)

### CHINA

AF-086-01  
[National Steering Committee of Urban](#)  
[and Rural Planning Education in China](#)  
[\(NSCURPEC\)](#)  
Department of Urban Planning, College  
of Architecture and Urban Planning Tongji  
University / 1239 Siping Road  
200092 Shanghai, China  
[nsc-urpec.org](#)  
Contact Person: Lan Wang,  
[wanglan@tongji.edu.cn](#)

### DENMARK

AF-045-01  
[International Federation for Housing and](#)  
[Planning \(IFHP\)](#)  
Frederiksholms Kanal 30, st. mf.  
1220 Copenhagen, Denmark  
[www.ifhp.org](#)  
Contact: [info@ifhp.org](#)

### FRANCE

AF-033-01  
[Institut National de Recherche en Sciences](#)  
[et Technologies \(IRSTEA\)](#)  
1 rue Pierre Gilles de Gennes  
92761 CS 10030 Antony CEDEX, France  
[www.irstea.fr](#)  
Contact Person:  
Emmanuelle George-Marcelpoil,  
[emmanuelle.george-marcelpoil@irstea.fr](#)

### GERMANY

AF-049-02  
[Academy for Spatial Research](#)  
[and Planning \(ARL\)](#)  
Leibniz-Forum für Raumwissenschaften  
Hohenzollernstrasse 11  
30161 Hannover, Germany  
[www.arl-net.de](#)  
Contact: [ARL@ARL-net.de](#)

AF-049-09  
[European Urban Research](#)  
[Association \(EURA\)](#)  
TU Dortmund, Fakultät Raumplanung,  
August-Schmidt-Str. 6  
D-44227 Dortmund, Germany  
[www.eura.org](#)  
Contact: [secretariat@eur.a.org](#)

AF-049-08  
[ILS - Research Institute for Regional](#)  
[and Urban Development](#)  
P.O. Box 10176  
44017 Dortmund, Germany  
[www.ils-research.de](#)  
Contact Person: Sabine Weck,  
[sabine.weck@ils-forschung.de](#)

AF-049-07  
[Leibniz Institute of Ecological](#)  
[and regional Planning - IOER](#)  
Weberplatz 1  
1217 Dresden, Germany  
[www.ioer.de](#)  
Contact Person: Andreas Otto,  
[a.otto@ioer.de](#)

### ITALY

AF-039-01  
[Gran Sasso Science Institute](#)  
Viale Francesco Crispi, 7  
67100 L'Aquila, Italy  
[www.gssi.infn.it](#)  
Contact Person: Francesco Chiodelli,  
[francesco.chiodelli@gssi.it](#)

### KENYA

AF-254-01  
[UN-HABITAT](#)  
P.O. Box 30030,  
GPO 100 Nairobi, Kenya  
[www.unhabitat.org](#)  
Contact Person: Bernhard Barth,  
[bernhard.barth@unhabitat.org](#)

### NETHERLANDS

AF-031-06  
[International Society of City and Regional](#)  
[Planners \(ISOCARP\)](#)  
P.O. Box 983  
2501 CZ The Hague, Netherlands  
[www.isocarp.org](#)  
Contact: [isocarp@isocarp.org](#)

AF-031-05  
[Centre for Clean Technology](#)  
[and Environmental Policy \(CSTM\)](#)  
PO Box 217  
7500 AE Enschede, Netherlands  
[www.utwente.nl/cstm](#)  
Contact Person: Frans Coenen,  
[f.h.j.m.coenen@utwente.nl](#)

### RUSSIA

AF-007-01  
[Centre of Urban Education](#)  
Gazetny st. 121/262a, of. 4  
344000 Rostov-on-Don, Russia  
[gradokurs.ru](#)  
Contact Person: Elena Batunova,  
[zhi2000@mail.ru](#)

### SWEDEN

AF-046-01  
[Nordic Centre for Spatial Development](#)  
PO Box 1658  
11186 Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.nordregio.se](#)  
Contact Person: Kjell Nilsson,  
[kjell.nilsson@nordregio.se](#)

### UNITED KINGDOM

AF-044-08  
[Regional Studies Association \(RSA\)](#)  
PO BOX 2058  
BN25 4QU Seaford, UK  
[www.regionalstudies.org](#)  
Contact: [office@regionalstudies.org](#)

AF-044-07  
[The Royal Town Planning Institute \(RTPI\)](#)  
41 Botolph Lane  
EC3R 8DL London, UK  
[www.rtpi.org.uk](#)  
Contact Person: Frederiksen Marion,  
[international@rtpi.org.uk](#)

### UNITED STATES

AF-001-02  
[Urban Affairs Association \(UAA\)](#)  
c/o Urban Studies Program  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Box 413, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd  
WI 53201-0413 Milwaukee, USA  
[Website: urbanaffairsassociation.org](#)  
Contact Person: Shelly Tillinghast,  
[shellyt@uaaemail.org](#)

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

### AUSTRALIA

I-061-01  
[Neil Selmon](#)  
University of Technology, Sydney,  
Australia  
Centre for Local Government  
40 Wrightson Avenue  
2300 Bar Beach, NSW, Australia  
Contact: [neil.selmon@uts.edu.au](#)

### CROATIA

I-385-01  
[Marijana Sumpor](#)  
Institute of Economics, Zagreb  
Trg J. F. Kennedyja 7  
10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
Contact: [msumpor@eizg.hr](#)

### FRANCE

I-033-01  
[Marcel Bazin](#)  
University of Reims Champagne  
35 rue de Saint-Brice  
51100 REIMS, France  
Contact: [marcel.bazin@numericable.fr](#)

### INDIA

I-091-03  
[Chandrasekaran Praveen](#)  
Anna University, School of Architectureand  
Planning  
C6, Akash Aravinda, No 18, Raghava Street,  
Perambur  
600011 Chennai, India  
Contact: [praveensuchan@gmail.com](#)

I-091-02  
[Saswati Ghosh Belliappa](#)  
CEPT University, School of Planning  
B 191, Jal Vayu Vihar, Kammanahalli Main Road  
560043 Bangalore, India  
Contact: [saswatibelliappa@gmail.com](#)

I-091-05  
[Zaidi Syed](#)  
Aligarh Muslim University  
Zakir Husain College of Engineering,  
Aligarh University  
202002 Aligarh, India  
Contact: [z.k.syed@gmail.com](#)

### ISRAEL

I-097-02  
[Avinoam Meir](#)  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Department of Geography and Environmental  
Development  
Ben Gurion Boulevard  
84105 Beer Shevam, Israel  
Contact: [ameir@bgu.ac.il](#)

### ITALY

I-039-04  
[Pasquale Pizzimenti](#)  
Università degli Studi Mediterranea  
di Reggio Calabria  
PAU Department  
Salita Melissari  
89124 Reggio Calabria, Italy  
Contact: [pizzimenti.pasquale@gmail.com](#)

### JAPAN

I-081-01  
[Miki Yasui](#)  
Hosei University, Department of Social Policy  
and Administration  
4342 Aihara  
194-0298 Machida-City, Japan  
Contact: [miki@hosei.ac.jp](#)

### JORDAN

I-962-01  
[Abduallah Sager](#)  
German Jordanian University, Architecture  
and Built  
Gardenz street B15  
962 Amman, Jordan  
Contact: [abduallah.noorie@yahoo.com](#)

### KOSOVO

I-383\_01  
[Eliza Hoxha](#)  
University of Prishtina “ Hasan Prishtina”  
Rrustem Statovci 49/30  
10000 Prishtina, Kosovo  
Contact: [eliza.hoxha@uni-pr.edu](#)

### LIECHTENSTEIN

I-423-01  
[Peter Droege](#)  
University of Liechtenstein, Spatial  
Development “Droege Peter  
Fürst-Franz-Josef-Strasse,  
9490 Vaduz, Liechtenstein  
Contact: [droege@solarcity.org](#)

### NETHERLANDS

I-031-03  
[Kanwardeep Sing Kahlon](#)  
Erasmus University Rotterdam, Institute of  
Housing and Urban Development  
Burgemeester Oudlaan 50 Mandeville (T)  
Building, 14th floor  
3062 PA Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Contact: [kanwarkahlon17@gmail.com](#)



## NORWAY

I-047-01

[Ulf Rydningen](#)

Oslo and Akershus, University College of Applied Sciences,  
Department of Civil, Environmental and Energy Engineering  
Pilestredet 35  
0130 Oslo, Norway  
Contact: [ulf.rydningen@hioa.no](mailto:ulf.rydningen@hioa.no)

## RUSSIA

I-007-1

[Elina Krasilnikova](#)

Volgograd State Architecture-Building University  
Institute of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Architecture, Department of Urban Planning  
st. Turgeneva 10 A- 161  
400081 Volgograd, Russia  
Contact: [green\\_art@mail.ru](mailto:green_art@mail.ru)

## SERBIA

I-381-01

[Marija Maksin-Micic](#)

Singidunum University  
Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management  
dr Agostina Neta 16  
Novi Beograd/11 070 Belgrade, Serbia  
Contact: [micic70a@yahoo.com](mailto:micic70a@yahoo.com)

## SWITZERLAND

I-041-02

[Jean-David Gerber](#)

University of Bern, Institute of Geography  
Hallerstrasse 12  
3012 Bern, Switzerland  
Contact: [jean-david.gerber@giub.unibe.ch](mailto:jean-david.gerber@giub.unibe.ch)

I-041-01

[Laurent Bridel](#)

University of Lausanne, Institute of Geography  
Rte de la Claie-aux-Moines  
1090 La Croix-sur-Lutry, Switzerland  
Contact: [laurent.bridel@unil.ch](mailto:laurent.bridel@unil.ch)

I-001-07

[Parsa Zarian](#)

Le Centre Urbanisation Culture Société  
Rue des Rois, 3  
1204 Geneva, Switzerland  
[parsa.zarian@gmail.com](mailto:parsa.zarian@gmail.com)

## SYRIA

I-963-01

[George Touma](#)

Allepo University, Architecture  
021 Allepo, Syria  
Contact: [g.touma@yahoo.com](mailto:g.touma@yahoo.com)

## TURKEY

I-090-01

[Unalan Dilek](#)

Bogazici University, School of Advanced Disciplines  
Moda Caddesi Vitol Cikmazi No. 260 A Blok  
D.4 Kadikoy  
34710 Istanbul, Turkey  
Contact: [dbcevre@ttmail.com](mailto:dbcevre@ttmail.com)

## UNITED KINGDOM

I-044-02

[Koleoso Idowu Muhammed](#)

University of Salford  
School of Built Environment  
The University of Salford, The Crescent  
M5 4WT Manchester, United Kingdom  
Contact: [koleid@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:koleid@yahoo.co.uk)

## UNITED STATES

I-001-01

[Bruce Stiftel](#)

Georgia Institute of Technology,  
School of City and Regional Planning  
245 Fourth Street, NW nr 204  
GA 30332-0155 Atlanta, Georgia,  
United States  
Contact: [bruce.stiftel@gatech.edu](mailto:bruce.stiftel@gatech.edu)

I-001-09

[William Glover](#)

Arizona State University, Geographical Science/Urban Planning  
5128 48th St.  
95820 Sacramento, United States  
Contact: [wdglover@asu.edu](mailto:wdglover@asu.edu)







