

# urbanHIST Newsletter

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12 PAGES

NOT FOR SALE



## Introducing Two More of Our Partner Organizations

In this issue we are introducing two more of our partner organizations involved in urbanHIST - Boverket (Sweden) and COAM (Spain)

Pages 4 - 5



## Interview with urbanHIST Project Manager Christiane Kramer

Do not miss our interview with urbanHIST project manager and BUW local coordinator Christiane Kramer.

Pages 6 - 7

# Network-Wide Workshop Week V Meeting in Košice

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia / 1 – 4 April 2019



Photo by Lukáš Katriňák

The fifth network-wide workshop meeting of the urbanHIST consortium took place one more time in Košice on 1 – 4 April 2019 at the Department of History, Faculty of Arts of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University.

It is now already a well-established tradition that the urbanHIST consortium meets every six months for a week of productive interactions, exchanges, meetings and workshops, but each time the programme is revised according to the different feedbacks and ESR requirements. This time, the meeting was oriented toward ESRs training needs, and included parallel sessions for beneficiaries, partner organisations, and members of Advisory Board. The programme was prepared by the Košice team, composed of Martin Pekár, Katarína Hajduková and Patrícia Fogelová, whose main interest and focus was on upgrading the programme following previous recommendations.

The first day of the intensive week was dedicated to the compulsory Dissertation

Examination for all the ESRs registered at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University. They were evaluated on the basis of the first chapters of their dissertations which had been assessed by external academics. The examination was very beneficial for them in order to evaluate and discuss their progress and get advice for the next steps of their research. It also allowed the consortium to have a more comprehensive overview of the overall urbanHIST progress.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, ESRs engaged in workshops and training activities, and no less than five workshops were dedicated to the extremely important topic of the Academic Writing, the area in which young stage academics always need some additional improvements. The lecturer from the Charlesworth Group, Dr.

Gareth Dyke, through a series of workshops covered major steps in academic writing, from planning the first draft to writing the final thesis dissertation. Following another ESRs' request, a workshop on future academic opportunities (life after the PhD) was also organised and Dr. Slávka Otčenášová, a seconded national expert at the European Research Council Executive Agency and also a member of the Department of History in Košice, presented the ERC grants, their requirements and application processes.

One should not omit the inspiring Keynote Lecture by prof. Steinar Aas (Nord Universitet, Bodø) on Urbanisation and Urban Life in Scandinavia and number of social and cultural activities, such as a walking tour of Košice and a one-day-long excursion to regional heritage sites organised on Wednesday.

As always, during the week much of the administrative work had been set up, as one whole afternoon was dedicated to management meetings. ESRs also met to discuss general topics, requirements, opportunities and challenges and try to

jointly solve some of the issues related to their work. A new ESR representative had also been elected, hence Marcello Sagot Better will replace Agnès Dudych at this position for the next year. The programme also included supervision meetings for all the ESRs as well as number of social activities which were the best occasions to get advice, discuss the consortium work and enhance the cooperation between all participants.

On behalf of all ESRs we would like to thank all scholars and professionals coming from partner organisations as well as members of the Advisory Board for joining us on this journey, as it is always very rewarding to have their external point of view and advice. And a particular thanks for the Košice team, which organised, one more time, a great meeting. We are looking forward to meeting you all in six months in Stockholm.

For more information, see: <https://www.urbanhist.eu/>

Agnès Dudych, Jovana Vukčević  
Early Stage Researchers



Photo by Iñaki de las Rivas

### On Planning History

*Despite being a barely consolidated field of knowledge, planning history receives more and more attention in the broader area of urban history. It is obvious that the question about how to better understand the specific influence of planning in the shaping of our cities and regions is an open research scope. But planning history is contaminated by the complexity of planning itself as a practice. When we say planning we are referring to a diversity of approaches. It is well known that English speakers involved with planning practice and theory use 'urban, city or town' planning, 'regional planning', and 'urban design'. But today is very common to use 'spatial planning', without forgetting related areas like housing, civil engineering, city policies or urban development. Other European languages have concrete traditions as urbanisme, urbanismo, and urbanística in Mediterranean countries, or städtebau in Germanic context. All this polysemy is not only a linguistic issue. It is deep-rooted in the complexity of planning practices and in the diversity of perspectives related to their performance and evolution.*

*Carola Hein explains, in her great introduction to "The Routledge Handbook of Planning History" (2018), planning history as an interdisciplinary field needed of multiple contributions, understanding planning as a flexible system. In this framework of complexity, she wonders how to write today planning history: "Research in planning history has started to address the challenges of planning history writing, including the need to overcome national stories, and to go beyond empirical and narrative-driven research to develop theories". Aside from the dominant heroic male stories of modern planning, she demands a wider range of critical narratives. We are, in the urbanHIST research programme, trying to display a contribution to that polyphony. In it, the role of planning in contemporary European urban evolution arises with relevance.*

Juan Luis de las Rivas  
urbanHIST Supervisor (UVA)

## urbanHIST Calendar

### PAST ACTIVITIES

#### OCTOBER 2018

- NWWW IV meeting (Network-Wide Workshop Week IV), Košice, Slovakia (1 - 5 October 2018)
- Mid-Term Dissertation Examination at UPJŠ for ESRs Agnès Dudych and Adam Górká (1 October 2018, based on the study programme)
- Young urban(HIST) conference - History of European Urbanism in the 20th Century - Distinctive and Common Themes (1 - 2 October 2018)
- Midterm Review Meeting, (4 - 5 October 2018)

#### OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2018

- The academic and non-academic three-month secondments at urbanHIST partner organisations

#### NOVEMBER 2018

- Publication of urbanHIST Newsletter 7
- Periodic Report for the EC submitted

#### DECEMBER 2018

- BTH Higher seminar, Susanna Weddige, Andreea Blaga and Andrea Gimeno presented their research

#### JANUARY 2019

- Publication of urbanHIST Newsletter 8
- urbanHIST Management Meeting in Prague

#### FEBRUARY 2019

- ESRs seconded in Bratislava (Ondřej Jirásek, Jovana Vukčević and Agnès Dudych) presented their research in Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak University of Technology in frame of the PhD students session

#### JANUARY – MARCH 2019

- The academic and non-academic three-month secondments at urbanHIST partner organisations

#### MARCH 2019

- Third Webinar Series (UVa) - "For an Internal Design History in Urbanism: an Inductive Path through the Case of Bergamo", by Bertrando Bonfantini (Professore Ordinario, DASTU, Politecnico di Milano)
- ESR Colloquium IV at UPJŠ
- UVa Training Activity – ESR Colloquium followed with an open lecture given by prof. Peter Clark (Urban Waste and Vacant Land in Cities, from Middle Ages to Present)

# ESR Colloquium IV in Košice

Košice, Slovakia / 6 March 2019

Almost after a year of being away from Košice and gathering experience during secondments, the UPJŠ team of ESRs had a chance to meet again during the regular colloquium organised by their local team on 6 March 2019. This time, the Colloquium was joined with the urbanHIST Webinar streamed the day before from UVa.

Among the topics discussed with the Local Director Martin Pekár and

Local Coordinator Katarína Hajduková was the regular update of the past activities at the secondment institution, research progress, publication activities and its pitfalls, duties towards the second supervising university but also the preparation of NWWW V and the Stockholm Conference. All ESRs informed the team about their communication with supervisors, the process and

time schedule of drafting individual chapters of their theses. During the secondment in Bratislava, the three ESRs (Ondřej Jirásek, Agnès Dudych and Jovana Vukčević) were given the possibility to present their research progress during the seminar held on 22 February 2019. ESRs will return to Košice from April 2019 and it will be their major working place from now on until the end of their contracting

period, naturally, with the possibility of short-term research stays and conference participations.

After several online Skype meetings, this was a nice chance to meet in person after a longer time period and experience the team spirit of urbanHIST.

Katarína Hajduková  
UPJŠ Local Coordinator

# Secondment at CIVA Foundation

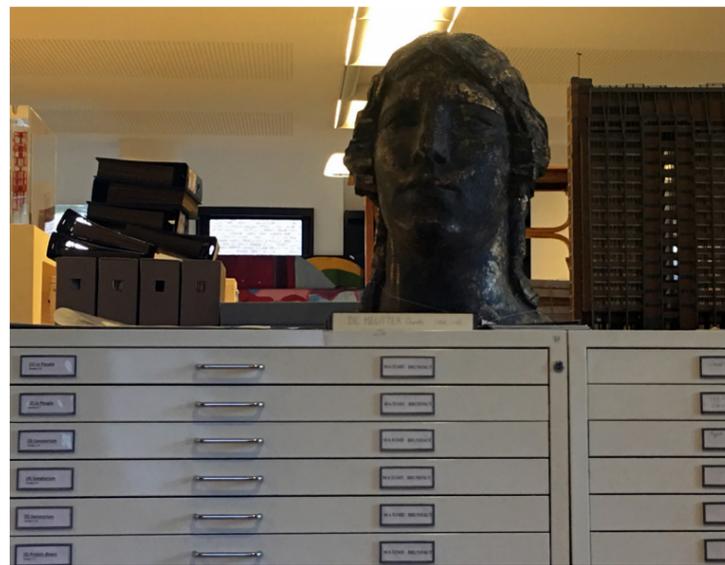


Photo by Susanna Weddige

Having a secondment at CIVA Foundation is everything but boring. Founded

in 2016, CIVA is a central hub of cultural associations in the fields of architecture,

town planning and landscape in Brussels. It connects a wide range of people through its activities and locations, not only students, researchers, and architects, but also children, garden and nature lovers, politicians and many more. The events and activities organised are broad in their scope, too, like temporary and permanent exhibitions, conferences, debates and educational activities.

To be able to serve this broad radius of influence, the institution is divided into four departments: the MODERN ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT, the CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT, the GARDENS, LANDSCAPES AND URBAN ECOSYSTEMS DEPARTMENT and the EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT. Most of the employees work in the main building in Rue de l'Ermitage, which hosts an exhibition area and a bookshop, a library and parts of the archives filling up four floors. The

archives are the core element of CIVA Foundation and they contain architects' and landscapers' documents from Belgium like plans, sketches, models, and furniture. The library contains almost 40,000 works and journals on architecture, town planning, the history of towns and cities, landscapes, gardens and urban ecology. The recording and cataloguing of the in-house holdings are an endless process, as is the creation of a database to be able to search the holdings in the future with help of keywords and other digital aids.

The commitment and competence of the employees to their tasks and functions is impressive. This includes not only education and research, but also their understanding of being a vital and critical part of society. My secondment felt much too short.

Susanna Weddige  
Early Stage Researcher

# Conference by Bertrando Bonfantini

Valladolid, Spain / 5-6 March 2019

*For a Design Internal History in Urbanism: an Inductive Path through the Case of Bergamo* was the conference held on 5 March 2019 by Full Professor Bertrando Bonfantini (Politecnico di Milano, Italy), available at the website <http://iuu.uva.es/estancia-en-valladolid-de-los-profesores-bertrando-bonfantini-y-mario-paris-politecnico-de-milano/>. In his speech, we can understand the post Second World War urban development in the Italian capital city of Bergamo. This case of Italian urbanism that is both exceptional and paradigmatic and the view proposed by prof. Bonfantini offers an unprecedented reading of it through several plans and projects drawn up between the end of the 1800s and 2000 and highlights its main themes, in their persistence and in moments of discontinuity and renewal (which are collected in the book "Bergamo. Piani 1880-2000", published by Maggioli Editore, Politecnica - RAPU Preprint

Rete Archivi Piani urbanistici in 2008 | ISBN 8838742820). The documentary excerpts reported in the chronologies of the volume and the selection of tables that can be consulted in the CD-ROM make up an extensive anthology that allows a direct and lively contact with the urban planning project and the reasons for its creation.

Bertrando Bonfantini teaches Urban Planning at the Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani (DASTU) of the Politecnico di Milano, where he has been teaching since 1995. Among his publications we can easily read "Progetto Urbanistico e città esistente" (2002) and with P.Gabellini and G.Paoluzzi "Piani Urbanistici in Italia" (2007). Recent works include collaboration on the drafting of the General Regulatory Plan of the city of Jesi, Ancona (2003-2006) and participation in "Urban market and public sphere" (2005-2006), an interdepartmental research on Milan.

He was an editor of the international journal "Urbanistica" founded in 1932 by the National Institute of Urbanism (Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica) from 1994 to 2005. Nowadays he is the director of the well-known international journal "Territorio". This jour-

nal, quarterly edited by Franco Angeli DASTU of the Politecnico di Milano is very interesting for the Early Stage Researchers as well. In recent years, Territorio has gained a place in the European interdisciplinary panorama, demonstrating that being a

university magazine does acceptance of the complexity, of its potential, of the interweaving of the technical and artistic components, of service to the civil world.

Federico Camerin  
Early Stage Researcher

**PROGRAMA DE DOCTORADO EN ARQUITECTURA**  
Actividades Formativas 2019

**Martes 5 de marzo de 2019**  
ETS de Arquitectura, Salón de Grados

**16h30. Conferencia: "For a design internal history in urbanism: an inductive path through the case of Bergamo"**  
Bertrando Bonfantini (Profesor Ordinario, DASTU, Politécnico de Milán)  
[Webinar del European Joint Doctorate urbanHIST, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action]

**17h30. Sesión crítica con doctorandos de la línea de investigación en Ordenación Urbana, Territorial y del Paisaje**  
Comentarios de Bertrando Bonfantini y Mario Paris (DASTU, Politécnico de Milán)

**esDUVa**  
Escuela de Estudios Urbanos de Valladolid

**ETRYVA**  
Escuela de Estudios Urbanos de Valladolid

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 721933

# Secondment at Institute of Construction and Architecture of SAS (ATRIUM Network)

From January to March 2019, 3 urbanHIST ESRs were involved in a secondment at Institute of Construction and Architecture of the Slovak Academy of Science in Bratislava. We were participating on research projects of Department of Architecture, which is a member of the ATRIUM (Architecture of Totalitarian Regimes in Urban Managements) project and consortium.

The head of the department, Prof. Henrieta Moravčíková, and her research team are concentrated on the

research of 20th century architecture with special focus on the theory and history of modernism and the phenomena of modern architecture as cultural heritage. Since 2000s, the department plays a leading role in research of Slovak modern architecture in general and research of industrial cities, mass housing, late modernism or special biographical investigations in particular.

Within the secondment, we had access to the department archive and li-



Session of PhD students at Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava  
Photo by Agnès Dudych



Building of Institute of Construction and Architecture in Bratislava | Photo by Ondřej Jirásek

brary, and also unique opportunity to discuss our research with other scholars with similar topics. In addition, we were contributing on research projects dealing with the urban development of Bratislava since the second world war and publication "Vojnová Bratislava" (Bratislava during the war). At the end of the secondment, ESRs presented their research topics at Faculty of

Architecture of Slovak University of Technology in the frame of the session of PhD students. The secondment was really helpful for our research projects, networking, but also for gathering experience and knowledge associated with scientific work in general. And we really enjoyed it.

Ondřej Jirásek  
Early Stage Researcher

# Secondment in COAM Madrid

The secondment in COAM Madrid is really appropriate for me as to the library suggested unanimously by the supervisors in order to develop and produce the necessary knowledge on the thesis theme facing with non-academic sector in order to carry out the research successfully.

Moreover, the requirements for the publication of the article "The 'urban renewal' legacy in the current urban regeneration processes had to be considered, as well as debating the "Renewal-Regeneration trajectory" in the international journal "Ciudad y territorio. Estudios territoriales" (Scopus), based on specific Madrid urban renewal's study cases. This paper, written with Alfonso Álvarez Mora, is originally in the field of the urban studies, becoming also really important for starting several reflections to improve the knowledge in the field of history of European urbanism and in professional practice, but also to develop the structure and contents of the thesis.

In relation to the previous point, a fieldwork and a desk research activity to be done in Madrid is highly required in order to develop the thesis, particularly the analysis for chapter 2 and 3. In fact, they represent a different kind of urban renewal and regeneration processes carried out on great properties in the urban centre of the city:

- the materialization of the great commercial centre "El Corte Inglés" near Puerta del Sol;
- the renewal of Santo Domingo square;
- the "Unión de Explosivos Riotinto" Company role on the redevelopment of a former industrial area;
- the Chamartín urban regeneration process to create a Business District

Centre "Distrito Castellana Norte";  
e) Pozas neighborhood renewal in a high-stand housing;  
f) the closure and the reuse of the railway stations, as Arganda and Goya.

Moreover, it is strongly interesting for the ESR - the possibility to understand what has been happening with the so-called "Operación Campamento" on the redevelopment of the 8.9 million square metres-ancient military site in the outskirts of Madrid, planned in the late 1980s and actually never put into operation.

All these activities are required to gain an understanding of public concerns and needs in the management of the urban regeneration processes. It concerns not only Madrid, but also other European capital cities and it will serve as a good example to improve the quality of the urban environment.

This secondment helps to improve the capacity of interaction between academic and non-academic areas, and also to innovate the field of history of European urbanism, specifically improving awareness of the importance of this research in the professional practice in relation to the urban renewal and urban regeneration processes in European capitalistic capital cities, such as Madrid. In strict connection to the previous point, this period is useful to become aware of the role of the researcher in the society. The aim of this secondment is to create a public debate and to influence the decision-making process both at state and local level. Specifically, this aim is related to the creation of a better city by putting into operation the urban transformations on the great properties of land where industrial, railway stations and military assets were located, taking into account what had happened in



Photo credit: Federico Camerin

the past. Another point is the understanding of the personal capacity and intention to be employable in academic and/or non-academic sector, and the improvement in public speaking

and interaction in Spanish in non-academic work environment.

Federico Camerin  
Early Stage Researcher

## APRIL 2019

- NWWW V meeting (Network-Wide Workshop Week V), Košice, Slovakia (1 - 4 April 2019)
- Mid-Term Dissertation Examination at UPJŠ for ESRs Ondřej Jirásek, Jovana Vukčević, Azmah Arzmi, Susanna Weddige, Aliaksandr Shuba, Elvira Khairulina (based on the study programme)

## PRESENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

### APRIL 2019

- Publication of urbanHIST Newsletter 9
- Publication of the Call for Abstracts for the urbanHIST Conference in Stockholm (21 - 23 October 2019)

### MAY 2019

- Fourth Webinar Series (UVa and BTH) - Beatriz Fernández Águeda (EHESS, Paris, France), on the making of greater cities and the urban planning ideas circulation in early 20th century Europe

### APRIL - JULY 2019

- urbanHIST local training events at UVa:
  - Course of Academic English for UVa ESRs and urbanHIST project researchers. How to write scientific texts. (15 May - 30 June 2019)
  - Open Lecture about Historic Urban Landscape in 20th Century Amparo de Urbina González. Universidad Externado de Colombia (9 May 2019)
  - Seminar Housing in Spain in Francoist period "Obra Sindical del Hogar". Dir. María Castrillo Romón / IUU researchers (23 May 2019)
  - Paris. International Colloquium: Recits de Ville. USAGES DE L'HISTOIRE ET CHANGEMENT URBAIN. Organize by Labex Futurs Urbains (Université Paris-Est, UrbanHIST APO) and Instituto Universitario de Urbanística (UVa) (6 - 7 June 2019)
- urbanHIST local training events at UPJŠ:
  - individual research stays and field work, tailor-made according to ESR research needs
  - Academic Writing Course - individual form, focused on self-correction techniques in academic format
- urbanHIST local training events at BTH:
  - Higher seminar, Adam Górká, Marcelo Sagot Better and Ksenija Krsmanović presented their research

### JUNE 2019

- urbanHIST Management Meeting in Paris

### OCTOBER 2019

- 2nd urbanHIST Conference and NWWW6, Stockholm

# urbanHIST and Boverket

I'm back in Sweden after interesting days and discussions in Košice during Network-Wide Workshop Week V. The research in urbanHIST is very valuable for us at Boverket (The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning), one of the partner organizations of the project.

We have a lot to learn from our urban history in order to manage, solve and develop new processes towards the sustainable city. We have to look back to move forward.

Boverket – the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning – is a central government authority assorted under the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. We review developments within the fields of housing, building and planning. The authority gathers relevant facts and statistics in Sweden and internationally to describe, understand, forecast and make policy suggestions. We undertake evaluations and impact assessments of policy initiatives at national and regional levels. Boverket supervises town and country planning in Sweden from legislative, procedural and architectural perspectives. Development of sustainable regions and communities and the quality of life is always in focus in various parts of our work. Examples are infrastructure and transport, the importance of urban environment and social issues, and development of the planning process and its instruments. The circulation of best practice is an important part of our work.

## Our main fields of activities

### *Analysing the Housing Market*

In order to describe the current housing market and to make qualified onward prognoses to assist political decisions, our experts follow the development of the housing market, domestic migration trends and other societal fluctuations. Distribution of subsidies and issuing of credit guarantees are other tasks of the authority. The past years have seen a booming housing market and a shortage of apartments in most parts of Sweden.

### *Issuing Building Regulations*

Swedish Building Regulations are issued by Boverket. The regulations must not contradict with the EU Internal Market and each amendment thus must be accordingly notified towards the European Commission. In the last few years energy efficiency has rather been put in focus, though the authority strives not to sub-optimize any single dimension at the expense of other obligations. Recently the Swedish parliament decided to prohibit municipalities to request different performances from a building than those stated in the national building regulation.

### *Supervising the Municipal and Country Planning*

In Sweden, traditional town and country planning is mainly a municipal responsibility. Each of our 290 municipalities is requested by law to have an up-dated comprehensive plan, which outlines the political vision of how the municipality should develop. The municipalities are also the public bodies entitled to deve-

lop and decide on legally binding detailed development plans.

Regional county councils (elected by the regional population) and county administrative boards (governed by national representatives) are working with the regional development perspective. The documents – Regional Development Plans and Regional Growth Programmes – should take notice of the municipal comprehensive plans and vice versa. That co-operative approach is thought to result in a regional "spatial planning".

### *Organisation*

Boverket, led by a Director General, is organised in four departments: three Operations Departments and the Administrative Department. The main office is located in Karlskrona, a naval town at the Baltic Sea coastline. In addition there are small department offices in Malmö and Stockholm. The field of activities is regulated by a general instruction issued by the Swedish parliament. In addition, the central government decides on more detailed commis-

sions to the authority. 300 people work at the Agency.

### *A New Policy for Designed Living Environment in Sweden*

Sweden has had since May 2018 a new policy for architecture, form and design - design living environment. Boverket has the leading role to implement and to support authorities and municipalities among others to fulfill the aim of the new policy.

The aim of the new policy is to make the utmost of what architecture and design can bring to the development of society, for the benefit and enjoyment of all. This is important for social progress and requires increased awareness and a clear ambition on the part of all decision makers.

Architecture and design affect us all on a daily basis and are, ultimately, about our quality of life. The aim is to put people's needs at the centre of society's development, enabling more people to live in inclusive, well-designed environments which are sustainable in the long term. A

## THE GOAL FOR DESIGNED LIVING ENVIRONMENT IN SWEDEN

National objective for architecture and design policy Architecture and design will help to create a sustainable, equitable and less segregated society with carefully designed living environments in which everyone is well placed to influence the development of their shared environment. This will be achieved by ensuring that:

- sustainability and quality are not made subservient to short-term financial considerations;
- knowledge in the fields of architecture and design is developed and disseminated;
- the public sector acts as a role model;
- aesthetic, artistic and cultural assets are preserved and developed;
- environments are designed to be accessible for all; and
- cooperation and collaboration are developed both nationally and internationally

designed living environment approach entails a holistic view of the shaping of our physical environment in which architecture and design are seen as one cohesive sphere.

Designing a sustainable living environment is about organising complex and sometimes conflicting interests into a whole. However, the opportunities that design can offer are often to be found within those

very limitations. It is the task of the architect, designer or, in certain cases, the artist, to lead the process, using their specific professional skills. It is essential that the appropriate conditions are in place for this work if societal progress is to be characterised by creativity and artistic quality.

Patrik Faming  
Planning Architect FPR/MSA Boverket



# Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Madrid - Official Chamber of Architects of Madrid

COAM is a corporation governed by public law which has as its main mission the representation and defense of the professional interests of the architects of Madrid. Although, as part of its main duties, the COAM must also help to safeguard the cultural and environmental values of the architecture for the benefit of society.

In order to fulfill this task, among other initiatives, the COAM offers two basic services: the Library and the Historical Service, entities that when considered together are one of the most important Architecture Documentation Centers in Spain. In addition to the keeping of its rich holdings, the Documentation Center allows a more comprehensive architectural research due to the fact that researchers can simultaneously consult the primary and secondary sources in the same physical space.

The Library, specialized in architecture, offers 45.000 monographs, 3.100 audiovisuals and more than thousand books and documents dated before 1900, among its 140.000 catalogue entries. The magazine collection, one of the best in the country, holds 2.100 different titles and 86.000 volumes.

The Historical Service keeps 56 architects' legacies with over 160.000 classified documents —40.000 scanned images and 16.000 documentaries— put to free and public access through its web site: *Archivos de Arquitectura*. The Historic Service also offers one of the most complete online architectural guides of Madrid, *The Guía de Arquitectura de Madrid APP*.

This status of Documentation Center in architecture provides COAM with the capacity to collaborate with urban-

HIST. Precisely, the three PhD students that have been using COAM services have valued both: the rich collection of books and documents and the possibility of the combined consultation and research.

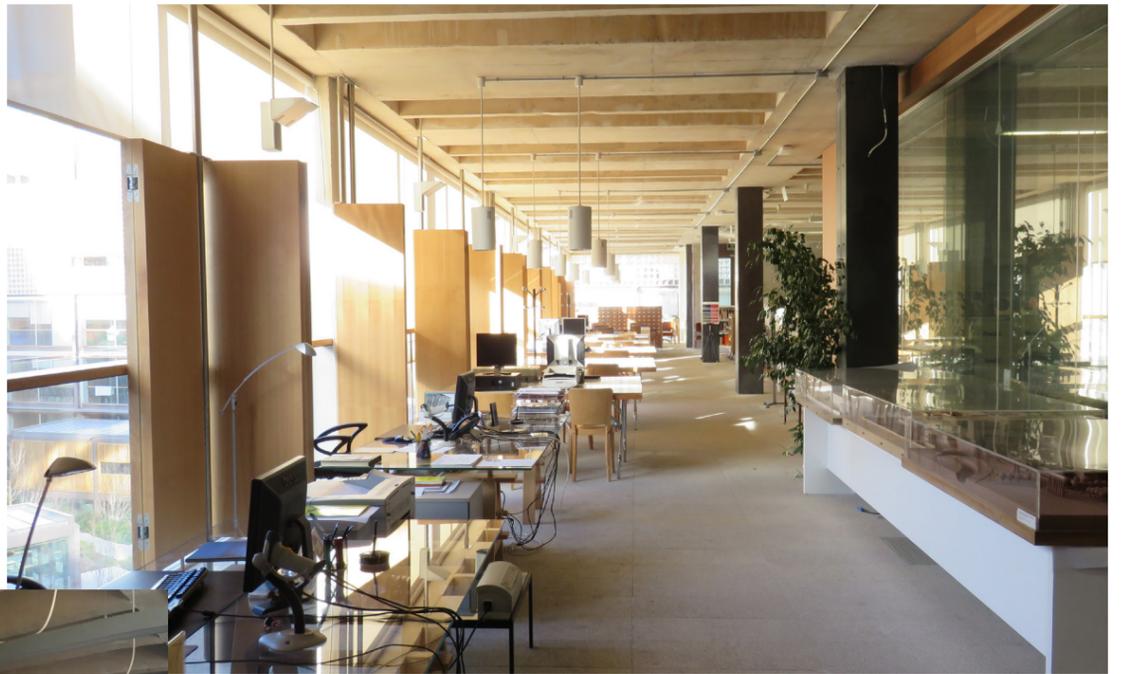
The COAM also provides logistical support to researchers for the development of their work by helping them with thematic searches, feasibility of accessing other institutions and personalities or by offering its knowledge of the research resources in Madrid. In this very sense, direct involvement from the Library and Historical Service staff as well as of the Members of the COAM – Dean and Vicedean – when fulfilling this task is plenty guaranteed.

On the other hand, PhD students may benefit from the courses of the COAM's Continuous Training Institute and the cultural programme of the COAM Architecture Foundation that includes exhibitions, workshops, lectures, seminars, etc. And not just as students, but as lecturers, because COAM gives urbanHIST the possibility of including its members and students as part of the panel of seminars dealing with their topics and even organize own meetings.

Carlos Lahoz y Alberto Sanz  
Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos  
de Madrid



The COAM building at the center of Madrid | Photo credit COAM



Consultation room | Photo credit Historic Service COAM



Workshop | Photo credit Historic Service COAM



Archive | Photo credit Historic Service COAM

# Managing of urbanHIST

## Interview with urbanHIST Project Manager and BUW Local Coordinator Christiane Kramer

Christiane Kramer, urbanHIST project manager and the local coordinator at Bauhaus-Universität Weimar has provided us with more information about urbanHIST project and her activities linked to her positions.

URBANHIST NEWSLETTER: Dear Christiane, you have been the second urbanHIST Project Manager as well as Local Coordinator at BUW since April 2018. Can you describe how you learned about urbanHIST project and became a part of it?

CHRISTIANE: Well, I took over the responsibilities for urbanHIST as Local Coordinator at BUW and as Project Manager for the entire project from Britta Trostorff in March 2018 already. Britta introduced me to all duties related and explained to me all characteristics of urbanHIST. Thus, at this point

I would like to express my gratitude to her and thank her for all the excellent work carried out.

I am working in research administration and management of national and international projects since 2010 and I was offered the above-mentioned position in February 2018. At that time when I met with Max for the first time we talked about all the details of urbanHIST and I became curious and agreed to join.

URBANHIST NEWSLETTER: What does the position of a project manager mean for you personally? Are there

any specific requirements for you within the administration of the project considering that the urbanHIST is an international project involving beneficiaries from four European countries?

CHRISTIANE:

The position of a Project Manager is indeed manifold and a responsible position, too. It is not only being part of the network but also being the contact person for each consortium member such as Fellows, Directors, Coordinators, Partner Organisations, Advisory Board Members and assisting everyone to fulfil their obligati-



Photo by Lukáš Katriňák



Photo by Lukáš Katriňák



Photo by Katarína Hajduková

ons within the project to finally bring everything together. Additionally, I have to keep in good touch with the EU Project Officer in Brussels and to communicate comments and advice to the consortium. Of course, urbanHIST is under joint responsibility of the four beneficiaries but still and especially since the Project Manager is located at the coordinating institution there is a need to be willing to take on the responsibility for the entire project network. Main duties are to administer and to oversee the project's implementation and its progress but it is also associated with duties such as reporting and budgeting. To overcome all those duties I am working very close together with our research administration at BUW where we meet regularly to share experiences.

Special requirements that are essential to administer urbanHIST are without doubt a detailed knowledge of the EU-ITN funding regulations and empathy with all consortium members. As mentioned above I have been working in research management since 2010 and before urbanHIST, I was Project Manager in a different ITN Project with eight beneficiaries from seven countries. Therefore, the number of beneficiaries and countries is fine and manageable. However, the ITN urbanHIST is something very special since realized as European Joint Doctorate. This really makes the difference as we have to consider quite a number of additional obligations and duties in the course of the project, e.g. Co-tutelle Agreements, the award of double degrees etc.

I am used to working in international and intercultural environments, and I have always enjoyed it, first as a researcher myself and later as a research manager. It is not easy to specify certain requirements needed to

administer research projects. However, persistency, some pragmatism and stress resistance are truly a few characteristics that are very helpful for that position.

**URBANHIST NEWSLETTER:** How do you evaluate the current implementation process of the urbanHIST project?

**CHRISTIANE:** I am not sure what exactly you mean with this question. In my opinion, there are at least two approaches for an answer. At first, there is the scientific function of the project implemented through the 15 individual research projects. Unfortunately, I cannot evaluate the scientific quality and progress because I come from a different research area. However, from my personal experience with other similarly structured projects the implementation of urbanHIST is well done so far. Of course, some individual research projects are more advanced than others. However, this is definitely related to the different research topics within urbanHIST. In addition, I can say that it is usual that some fellows finish after 36 months while others need some more time. Again, this is my personal experience that I share with you and it may not reflect the experience/opinion of supervisors involved in urbanHIST. At second, there is the technical implementation of urbanHIST. In this part of the project, I am directly involved and responsible for implementation. Thus, I can acknowledge that currently we are pretty much in time with all technical issues such as reports, agreements and deliverables. At this point, I would like to thank everyone for contributions to reports, deliverables, websites, newsletters etc., and to all consortium members that distribute the mes-

sage of urbanHIST to the world via conference contributions and to the public society through open days and at public places.

**URBANHIST NEWSLETTER:** How do you evaluate the cooperation with partner organizations from other countries or with Early Stage Researchers involved in the project?

**CHRISTIANE:** In general, cooperation with all consortium members works very well for urbanHIST. All partner organizations are engaged with the project's overall implementation, they host fellows for secondments

and provide support and valuable advice. Although secondments are done by now, partner organizations are still in great demand to share their experiences with the fellows and the network. All fellows are very busy working on their research projects. When information or input is needed for reports and deliverables, all fellows contribute. General inputs, agreements or feedbacks are caught up through the fellows' representative which is a very effective procedure.

One statement at this point: It is all about communication. Do not wait for information. Ask for it!

**URBANHIST NEWSLETTER:** What are the main benefits of this project for you personally?

**CHRISTIANE:** For me it is a great pleasure to work for urbanHIST, I really like my job and working with all of you. A great experience!

**URBANHIST NEWSLETTER:** Thank you, Christiane for sharing information about your activities in urbanHIST project. We wish you a lot of success for the rest of the project implementation.

Interviewed by Zuzana Tokárová  
urbanHIST Newsletter Editor



Photo by Lukáš Katriňák



Photo credit: Helene Bihlmaier

## We Introduce HELENE BIHLMAIER

Finding a precise and short answer to the question where I came from, is not that easy. I was born in Germany to a biracial family and spent my childhood and teenage years in a couple of different places. Initially, I began my studies in Architecture at TU Munich, before setting off to different European cities for various internships and even to China, where I spent an exchange year at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Finally, I stranded in Zurich, where I took a break from nomadic life, received my

Diploma in Architecture at ETH, and kind of settled down while working in two architecture offices.

In my professional life as an architect, I have been involved in the refurbishment of historic buildings as well as in designing new structures within the historic context of European cities. At some point, I had more questions than answers about the history of our built environment; therefore, I was lucky to return to my old *alma mater* to focus more on these questions

and to become part of a research team at the Chair for the History of Urban Design. Working on town planning manuals from 1870 to 1950 has widened my scope and interest in this field, thus, I gave it a try to stay in academia. During my second research project about the life and legacy of Swiss architect Flora Ruchat Roncati (1937 – 2012), I heard of and finally got into the urbanHIST programme, and nomadism started over again. But since I am practicing the Japanese martial arts Aikido and Hojo, I probably

only need an open minded surrounding, good food, and a dojo to feel at home. Over the last one and a half years, I had the chance to train in various dojos in Switzerland, Germany, UK, Japan, and Spain, where I obtained the first kyu grade at the Kanazawa Dojo in Valladolid. Beyond that, I keep on practicing to achieve my biggest aims in the near future: a blackbelt in Aikido and in town planning history.

Helene Bihlmaier  
Early Stage Researcher

# The Approach to History in Early Anglophone Town Planning Literature

Around the turn to the 20th century, there haven't been many authors in Great Britain dedicating entire books to the history of town planning.

Apart from some early urban historical studies on ancient and medieval towns in the 1910s, planning history as an independent field arose in the Anglophone world with the first comprehensive publications in the 1950s. It got institutionalized in the 1970s and broadened up its scope around the turn of the millennium. But a reflection of planning history itself, its genesis and evolution has not yet been written.

In my research, I focus on the approach to history in early Anglophone town planning literature. I examine in what way authors of theoretical writings implied a view on the past

and for what purpose they made use of history. I try to retrace the preconditions and the specific context, in which these historical narratives arose and how they stimulated the town planning discourse. Furthermore, I try to analyse to what extent and in which way the debate on town planning history influenced – or even mirrored – the constitution and consolidation of modern town planning as an academic discipline and profession. Focussing on publications released between the late 19th century and the 1930s, my study thus focuses on a period in which the foundations of contemporary town

planning historiography were laid.

The focus on the Anglophone world – or within a European perspective mainly on Great Britain – is based upon several reasons: First of all, regarding town planning, Great Britain definitely is a special case. The often-assumed direct connection between industrialization, urbanization and the emergence of town planning is obviously contradictory, since the country was already industrialized and urbanized for more than half a century before any debate on town planning came into being around 1900; furthermore, the *Housing, Town Planning*, etc. Act as a precondition to draw up general plans was adopted even ten years later in 1909. Great Britain has not been the cradle of town planning theory or practice, but it is very significant to retrace the impact of and the exchange with its

predecessors, namely the pioneering German planning culture and the specialized French hygienic and traffic circulation debates in and about Paris. Still feeling behind in the early 1900s, Great Britain soon developed an independent literature, established the internationally far-reaching professional journal *Town Planning Review* (1910) and since at least it hosted the seminal 1910 International Town Planning Conference in London, it took over the predominant role in the international town planning discourse. Last but not least, due to the British imperial and colonial setting at that time, English served as *lingua franca* within the expanding academic field. Therefore, a critical analysis of Anglophone town planning literature might illuminate the global networks and interconnectedness

of the authors and, thus, the role that history played within the international disciplinary exchange.

Exploring why, what kind of and how history – or different histories – were used and written in the formative years of town planning, might lead to new findings on how historiography emerged in this field. The focus on the Anglophone discourse and its inherent international network might allow to get aware of the extent of the British domination, a factor that probably has strengthened the influence of Eurocentric ideas on the international discourse. To bear that in mind might help to trace past limitations of an international or global approach to planning history that is widely discussed today.

Helene Bihlmaier  
Early Stage Researcher

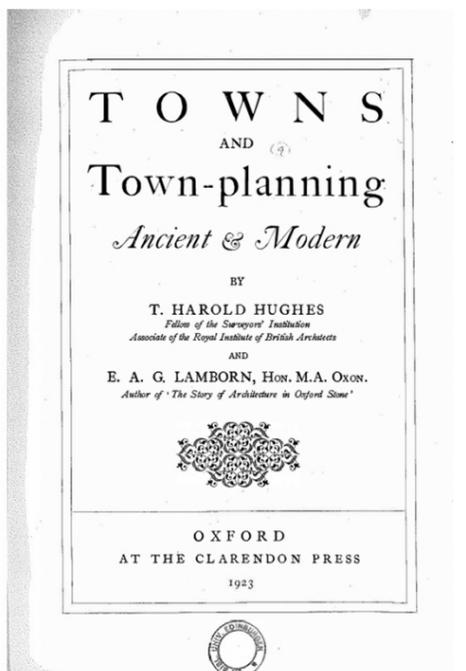
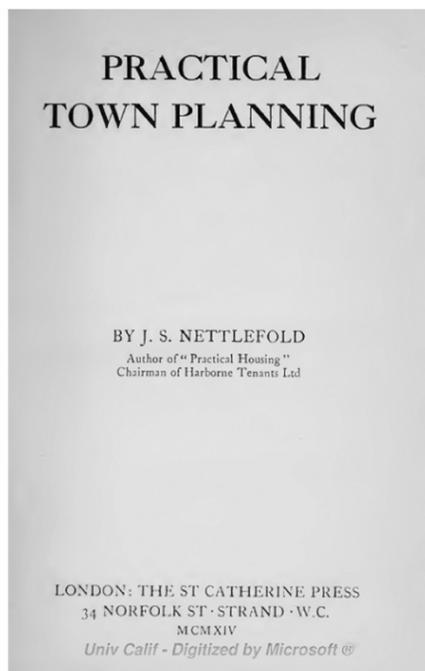
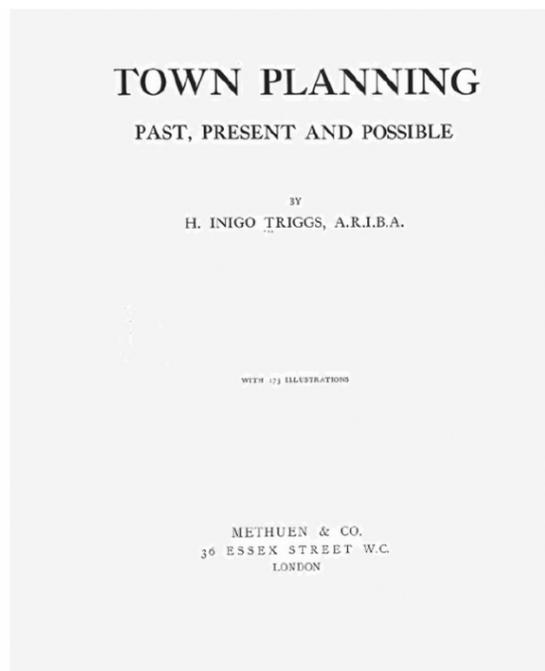
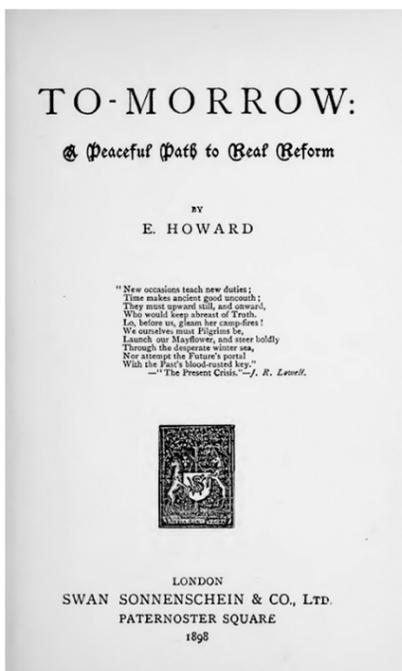




Photo by Lukáš Katriňák

## We Introduce ONDŘEJ JIRÁSEK

I like challenges and urbanHIST is definitely a challenge for me. It is not just about working in an academic sphere, which is quite different from the private sector. But also the fields of history and architecture, respectively urbanism, are something completely new for me. I studied geoinformatics at the Faculty of Science in Olomouc and after graduating

I worked in various fields and positions as a project manager, the head of scientific research institute or a sales manager. A few years ago, I would never have thought that I would attempt a doctorate, and certainly not in for me such unfamiliar fields. In addition, urbanHIST is associated with relatively frequent travel and my son had been born

shortly before I heard about the project. We discussed all advantages and disadvantages with my wife, and finally, we decided together to accept this challenge. Although there is still a long way to go, I can say already that it was a good decision. We have tried and learned a lot of new things, visited many beautiful places, met interesting people, acquired

new friends and gained a lot of work and life experience. In addition, even though history and architecture are not very close to me, I have considered the topic of European dictatorships and its influence on urban public space as really interesting.

Ondřej Jirásek  
Early Stage Researcher

# HETEROTOPIAS of DICTATORSHIPS:

## Utopia of the (Re)New Nation Enacted into Urban Public Space, Comparative Perspective of Bratislava and Valladolid

*"(Social) space is a (social) product... the space thus produced also serves as a tool of thought and of action ... in addition to being a means of production it is also a means of control, and hence of domination, of power." (Lefebvre, 1991)*

Changes that take place at political and state level are not reflected only on changes of functional structure of municipal authorities or replacement of its employees, but also on urban space and places. According to Lefebvre, urban space and city itself are considered as social products. Cities are affected by socio-cultural changes and, as a result, they are often transformed. The political formation of urban space

can be understood in a materialistic meaning. However, it can also be understood at the symbolic and cultural level where the existing physical and spatial structures are culturally transcoded.

My research is inspired by Foucault's concept of heterotopias - real places representing counter-sites or a kind of effectively enacted utopias. The way in which built environment contributes to shaping

or transforming urban space gives the place certain social meanings of what priorities society has and how it perceives the world. The city thus becomes a code similar language, the mirror that provides insight to cultural norms and values of a community that embodies and shapes the identity of its inhabitants. The relative and slow process of gradual changes can be disrupted by periods of radical social transformations which results also to dynamic changing of the spatial arrangement.

Dictatorships established directly after democratic regimes represent just such radical social transformations. One of the typical features of the 20th century European dictatorships is exalted nationalism and utopia of (re)new nation. For Gellner nationalism is primarily a political principle, according to which the political and the national unit should be the same. (Gellner, 1983) That means that one state should mean one culture. Mosse uses the term "nationalization of the masses" for process of homogenizing the population under a common national identity. (Mosse, 1975)

The process of nationalization is obvious also in cases of Francoist Spain or "the first" Slovak Republic. Although both these cases had totally different geography or historical, ideological and political foundations, what is similar is the nationalization founded upon political violence and Catholic religion. That allows the comparison and interpretation of the causes of similarities and differences.

The main aim of my research project would be to comprehend the nationalization of urban public space under dictatorial regimes. I would like to answer questions like:



Pre-election poster People's Party (1938) with motto "We are united. Our destination - New Slovakia"  
Source: <<https://zurnal.pravda.sk/neznama-historia/clanok/419745-demokracia-praje-ijej-hrobarom/>>

How did dictatorships use urban public space for nationalization of the masses? Which specifics are in cases of Francoist Spain and "the first" Slovak Republic? What influenced the ways of public space using for nationalization of the masses?

For this purpose, I work on case studies of urban symbolism (study of meaning in urban form as generated by signs, symbols, and their social connotations) of two important cities for the regimes - Bratislava and

Valladolid. I analyse different phenomena of urban symbolism such as the layout of a city, architecture, monuments and memorials, street and place names, as well as rituals and festivals. I hope that the research will contribute to widen the knowledge of the European urban history and relationship of dictatorship and urban public space.

Ondřej Jirásek  
Early Stage Researcher



Propagandistic poster from Spanish Civil War with motto "One motherland, one state, one leader"  
Source: <<http://colmilquetoast.blogspot.com/2017/10/propaganda-posters-from-spanish-civil.html>>



Photo by Max Welch Guerra

## We Introduce NOEL MANZANO

Noel A. Manzano (Santander, Spain, 1983) is an architect (2011) bachelor and master in sociology (2015) and PhD candidate in urban history in the urbanHIST European Joint Doctorate. He has developed different researches on segregated working-class

peripheries, showing the social consequences of housing and urban planning policies with sociological, anthropological, and historical approaches and theoretical frames. He has been teaching at the Institute for European Urban Studies of the Bauhaus University of Weimar, in

Germany, and he has made research stays in LEMETRO, Laboratory of Metropolitan Ethnography of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and in the EUP, Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris, France. Currently, he is doing his PhD thesis about European informal urbaniza-

tion history, studying the emergence of unauthorized poor settlements and their relation with urban planning history.

Noel Manzano  
Early Stage Researcher

# Urban Outreach

Several times the researchers of Urban History have questioned themselves how to produce a proper outreach of their findings in European Urban History. The question is not easy to answer, due to the low value that academy and institutional recruitment process give to this task. With a very limited time to research and write the thesis, any activity outside the principal tasks of research seems to

be time consumer, penalizing the production of peer-reviewed publications, subsequently worsening our (already low) possibilities to obtain an academic job in a research institution after PhD. Time is money and, in the precarious contemporary academia, nobody seems to have too much to expend. Expert meetings, peer reviews, journal publications, international congresses, are a key element to share

science and make it advance. In medicine, engineering (or architecture!), for example, the circulation of ideas among peers is crucial to the development of new processes and technologies, making it very hard to share these advancements with the rest of the population. However, in social sciences, and particularly in history, the path seems the opposite. The objective of rescuing past elements and analysing

them is a hard exercise that allows us to understand the present context. In urban contexts, history shaped our current buildings, land values, legal frameworks, local cultural practices and mentalities... History is not only important as an exercise of erudition, but as a way to understand -and act- over key objects and problems inherited up to the present. Subsequently, our main goal should not be to be recognised by

our academic peers, but to impact the whole society. Ordinary newspapers, local politics, neighbourhood associations should be our priority. Nevertheless, what can we do as "young", powerless researchers, to by-pass the productivist, quantitative, irrelevant bubble of specialized knowledge?

Noel Manzano  
Early Stage Researcher

# Home is My Screen

Blog by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez  
Early Stage Researcher

After 30 pan European flights, 12 train trips, 5 rented apartments, 4 public transportation cards, 3 currency exchanges and many nights in hotel rooms, my secondment year is over. An exciting but tough experience. Now it is time to pause the nomadic phase and stay for a period in Karlskrona, to 'enjoy' the solitary and monastic life that the city offers. With an absolute inverted sense of belonging after this experience, I have experienced and learned a lot from the nomadic way, realizing that permanent mobility is changing the classical meaning of housing and in-

habiting. This topic has been recently discussed in the last 2016 Oslo Architecture Triennale with the proposal "After Belonging" which interestingly explored this new condition of living in transit and how it is radically transforming the very notion of residence. If we focus on Sweden, for example, and according to its national statistics, 15% of its inhabitants are foreigner population, a percentage that increases to 27% in big cities as Stockholm; in 2015, 6.5 million temporary stays from one-night stay to one year were registered in the city; or more than 150.000 applied for asy-

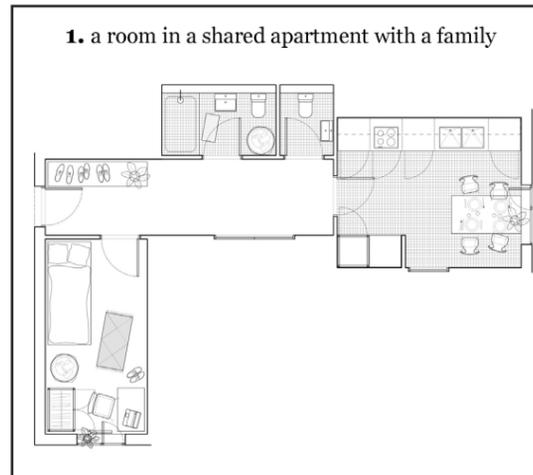


Photo by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez

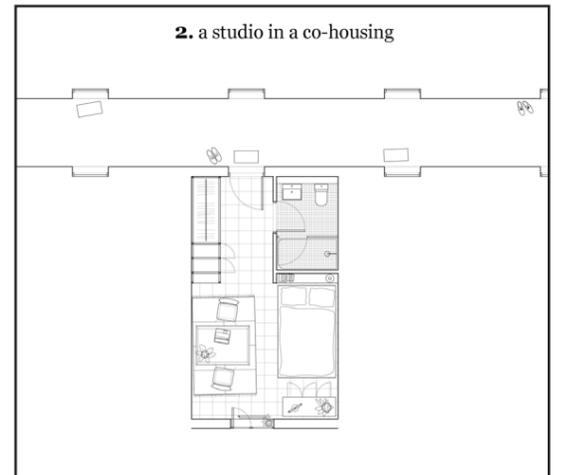


Photo by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez

lum in 2015 as refugees in the country. All these data, beyond the nature of its causes, show us a new model of contemporary domesticity where mobility provokes a huge shift. In my case, I have lived in permanent movement during last 18 months. I have shared an apartment with an Asian family, lived in a co-housing building sharing a kitchen with fifteen more people, rented an apartment with my partner and a

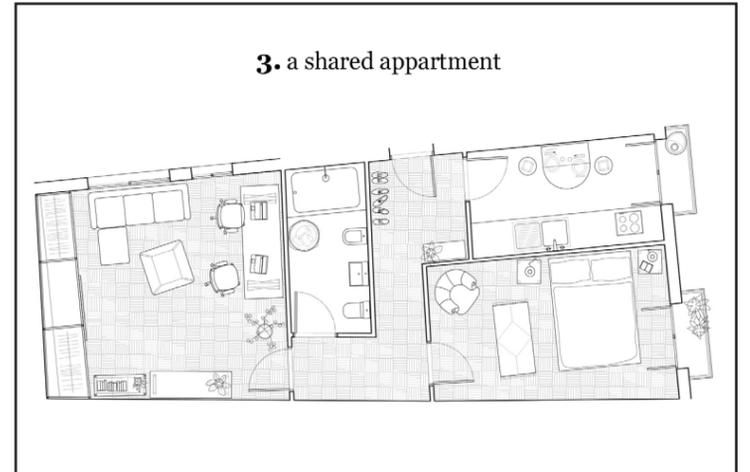


Photo by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez

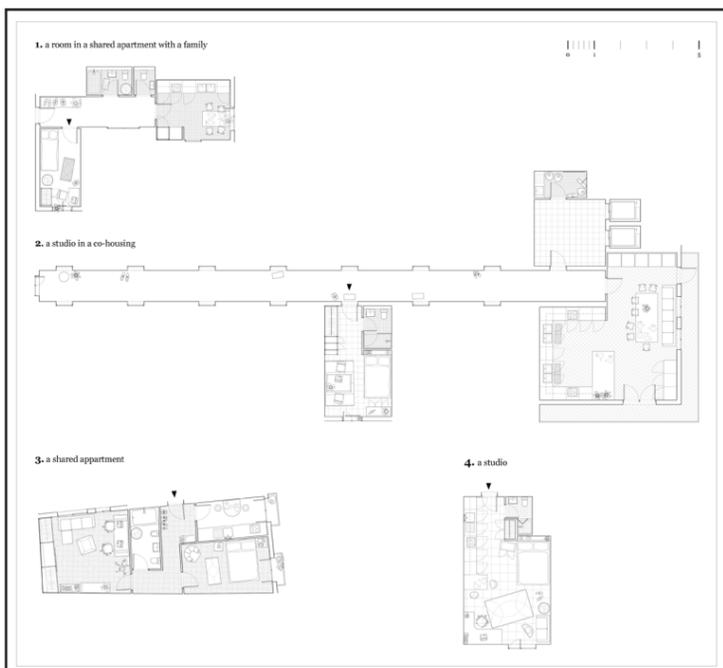


Photo by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez

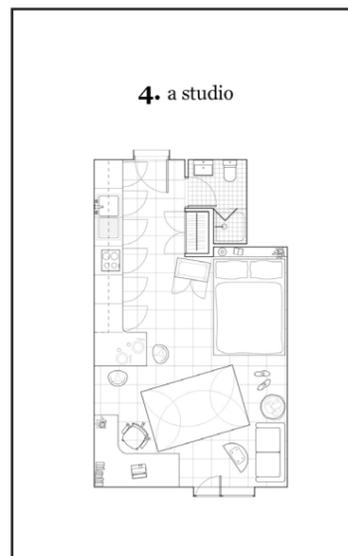


Photo by Andrea Gimeno Sánchez

small studio within a student's accommodation building. All in different cities and different countries. So, if I ask myself: did I feel home within or between these movements? I don't have one answer to it but something is clear to me: the most important and the only essential gadget during my nomadic life was my laptop. Every day, wherever I was, after going back to the apartment/room/shared flat I had as my place to stay, the moment I felt closer to home was when turning on my computer and using Skype or Netflix. I could live sharing almost

everything, every room of the house but my connection to the Internet was the thing that transported me home. Remedios Zafra, within the pages of the illuminating book "A connected room of one's own", impeccably describes the comforting feeling of relaxing in a place, unfolding your laptop and connecting the device to the WiFi, creating your own domesticity within the Net. In her words: «inhabiting the screen makes myself, at the same time, sheltered and soul dispossessed. And I cannot avoid it.»

Call for Abstracts

# Interpreting 20th Century European Urbanism

Call for abstracts



2<sup>nd</sup> urbanHIST Conference



Call for abstracts

2<sup>nd</sup> urbanHIST Conference

Interpreting 20<sup>th</sup> Century European Urbanism  
21-23 October 2019, Stockholm

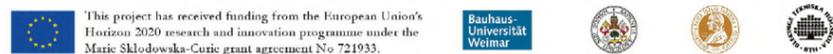
more info on: [www.urbanhist.eu](http://www.urbanhist.eu)  
[www.bth.se/urbanhistconference](http://www.bth.se/urbanhistconference)

## Interpreting 20<sup>th</sup> Century European Urbanism 21-23 October 2019, Stockholm

urbanHIST welcomes abstracts on the main theme of its second conference: Interpreting 20<sup>th</sup> Century European Urbanism. As an explicitly interdisciplinary project, we encourage submissions from urbanism, planning, and architectural historians; preservationists; geographers; museum curators; and independent scholars. Abstracts should be related to the following suggested tracks:

- 1. Writing Town Planning Histories.** Since the very beginning of modern town planning as a discipline and profession, different uses and approaches of "history" can be traced within the professional discourse, that eventually led to the writing of planning history. In its inherent interdisciplinary disposition, diverse causes have triggered the writing of history such as technological, infrastructural, economical or statutory progress, a shift of doctrines or political ideologies as well as societal change. This session is aimed at discussing the wide scope of stimuli, promoters and protagonists during the long 20<sup>th</sup> century, that have fostered the writing of planning histories, as well as authors, who committed themselves to the historiography of town planning.
- 2. Dissemination and Mobility of Town Planning Ideas.** With the foundation of the first – basically national – town planning associations in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, planning concepts and ideas were put in circulation through books, newly established journals, exhibitions or conferences. Soon after, they even crossed national borders and resulted in an impressive interconnectedness of actors. This session focuses on different media, institutions and networks that have served for the dissemination of planning ideas over the course of the long 20<sup>th</sup> century; questions its adoption or adaption processes, and evaluates critical junctions that have changed its direction, scope or pace.
- 3. History Matters.** An assessment of contemporary urban conditions played a pivotal role in the early operations of the Swedish Museum of Architecture (now ArkDes, Sweden's national centre for architecture and design), founded in 1962. In seeking to gain a fuller understanding of the present state of urban design and in an attempt to intellectually mend ruptures in the historic urban fabric created by a Modernist planning doctrine, the Museum was spurred to engage in a critical historicising of the Modern movement in Sweden. Looking to the approach of the Museum, this session aims to discuss how past and present studies of urban history ground contemporary city research.
- 4. Urban Regeneration in European Cities.** Urban regeneration processes contributed to radical changes in many European cities, especially after the Second World War. Carried out as redevelopment or renewal projects, their impact on cities' physical shape, social content and economic change is still conflictual. This track has its focus on the impact of urban regeneration on cities' development, changes and evolution through time.
- 5. Discourses of Consumption in Modern Architecture and City Building.** Participants are invited to elaborate on the relationship between capitalism and the built environment, with an emphasis on outcomes and long-term consequences in contemporary discourses of consumption in architecture

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 721933.



and urban planning. This track invites reflection upon industrialized mass-production methods and new means of mass communication determining consumption discourses, from the housing unit to the larger urban development.

**6. Cities and the Environment.** Urgencies of our present have put the environment as a central issue in the contemporary discourse. Sustainability, urban metabolism, ecosystems and other ecological approaches dominate academic rhetoric and the production of the city. But history of architecture and urban design from the lens of environment demands deeper explorations. In consideration of anthropogenic climate change, this panel aims to discuss new narratives on architectural and urban history, thus putting environment as a central issue. We are open to proposals that revisit urban historiography taking environment as a material and intellectual driving force.

**7. Facets of Modernity in Housing Development.** In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, planning and design approaches underwent major changes. City planners not only followed Modernist ideas, they also adjusted to a specific local history and context. Hence, Modern housing presents a wide range of variations today. Looking at this process through the lens of Modernity in its various facets, this track welcomes contributions, which investigate the impact of political, economic, and ideological contexts on housing development.

**8. Post-socialist transition: Between Conflicts and Legacy.** The adaptation to market economy after the collapse of socialism created new challenges. This theme deals with the spatial transformations in post-socialist cities that dealt with the vacuum created by the collapse of communism that was filled by commercial developers. Different cities across Central and Eastern European countries face different trajectories, mostly due to the spatial/ urban planning laws that were ingrained during the socialist period which are still in use today, as well as existing actors and administrative structures.

**9. Housing beyond State Power.** The housing problem has given rise, in different contexts and in different historical periods, to the occupation of land or housing outside of the existing legal context. Europe has not been exempted from this process and, although it has changed over time, at present it seems to re-emerge as a survival housing solution. The track is trying to find out, which strategies had been used by excluded populations to bypass the real estate market and how public authorities and urban planning have acted and are acting today on such informal housing areas.

**10. The impact of Industrialisation on Central and Eastern European Cities.** Across the 20<sup>th</sup> century, industrialisation arrived in Central and Eastern Europe. As in many Western countries before, its rapid progress resulted in rural exodus that led to the reshaping of city structures and the development of city extensions; even completely new towns were built from the scratch. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, major political and economic changes, such as the fall of communism, deindustrialisation or the global relocation of the industrial production, had a huge impact on urban structures, especially in post-socialist cities. This panel focuses on the impact of Industrialisation in Central and Eastern European cities from multiple perspectives: as indicators of urban development in the past, or as difficult legacy today.

**11. Nature and the City: (Re-)creating Urban Landscapes.** Cities grow in a specific environment within the bioregional context set by their location and climate. Natural elements can not only present barriers for urban development, but also offer important resources that contribute to a more integrated

urban environment. Due to major economic changes that led to the shift from industrial to post-industrial society, a significant number of urban regeneration projects worldwide started to reinforce the connection of the city and its nature. The revitalization of natural heritage within the urban context is gradually gaining more importance, presenting an opportunity for cities to improve structurally, economically and aesthetically. This track is addressing the complexity of this process by understanding the variety of policies, actors, and outcomes in different contexts.

**12. Rationalised Traffic and Transport as Means for Town Planning.** Questions regarding road traffic limitation, people mobility organization, transport efficiency as well as new principles of rationalization in accordance with traffic circulation necessities, became central issues in urban planning from the 1940s to the 1980s. The attempt to resolve these common infrastructural problems was a priority for authorities and planning professionals in both, capitalist and socialist cities. This track is open to examples of urban traffic planning and organization that show progressive planning principles and good practices.

**Confirmed Keynote Speakers**

- Henrieta Moravčíková, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia
- Luděk Šýkora, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- Sasha Tsenkova, University of Calgary, Canada
- Stephen V. Ward, Oxford Brookes University, UK

**How to Participate**

The organizers invite proposals for individual presentations (20 minutes). Please upload your **abstract** and a **short CV** on the online submission platform [www.bth.se/urbanhistconference](http://www.bth.se/urbanhistconference). **Abstracts should be under 350 words** and display the field of research, research question, theoretical and methodological frame as well as the expected results. **The submission deadline is 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2019.** In case you have any question, please contact our local urbanHIST manager Annica Skytt via [urbanhist@bth.se](mailto:urbanhist@bth.se).

**About the Conference**

The conference will take place at the Wenner-Gren Center in Stockholm between the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2019. Convenor of the conference is Abdellah Abarcan, Professor and Head of the Department of Spatial Planning at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) in Karlskrona, Sweden. The 15 urbanHIST early stage researchers are substantially involved in the organization of this conference.

urbanHIST is a multidisciplinary research and training programme aiming at the development and sustainable promotion of a joint understanding of 20<sup>th</sup> century urbanism in Europe. It is run by the Bauhaus University Weimar (Germany), the University of Valladolid (Spain), the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (Slovakia), and the Blekinge Institute of Technology (Sweden) in cooperation with 13 partner-organizations, and funded within the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action - Innovative Training Networks (ITN) as European Joint Doctorate (EJD). [www.urbanhist.eu](http://www.urbanhist.eu)

## LET'S MEET PLUGGY: Pluggy – the Pluggable Social Platform For Heritage Awareness and Participation

*PLUGGY - an innovative Social Platform for Cultural Heritage - addresses the need of citizens to be actively involved in cultural heritage activities, not only as observers but also as creators, maintainers and, indeed, major influencers.*



East Slovak Museum is proud to be a part of an international project called PLUGGY. The museum is preparing an intriguing programme in order to enter the new digital age. The partners of the consortium are developing different components which can be used by cultural institutions, public

bodies or individuals interested in art and culture, in order to enhance and promote cultural heritage. The museum understands the needs of today's contemporary visitor and as an institution open to all new trends it is collaborating on developing applications that will enable young and modern public to experience something new within the walls of an old institution, such as the East Slovak Museum.

The trial version of one of the applications will be available for visitors to try in the museum from May till September 2019. You can experience the

application by activities involved in two exhibitions - Centuries in Art and Carpathian Nature. The applications will be destined for professionals, as well as general public. Digital games will be prepared for visitors to tackle their observational senses, knowledge, as well as creativity and will help us to detect the functionality and attractiveness of the application and the project itself.

PLUGGY's novel technologies are expected to enable the citizens of Europe, even in its less developed regions, to be actively involved in cultural heritage activities: this will

allow a better understanding of their local surroundings and relations with far-away cultures. Through their cooperation and interaction, the users of the PLUGGY social platform and its pluggable applications will be able to develop a common cultural and intellectual perception of European heritage and to participate in the shaping of an overall European cultural landscape.

PLUGGY is a EC-funded project (Duration: December 2016 - November 2019) that aims to develop an innovative social platform and a suite of smartphone tools that will enable

individuals, community groups, industry, museums and countries as a whole to bring out, document and share their heritage online – celebrating Europe's collective heritage.

Discover more about PLUGGY:  
Website: [www.pluggy-project.eu](http://www.pluggy-project.eu)  
Facebook: [@PluggyProject](https://www.facebook.com/PluggyProject)  
Twitter: [@Pluggy\\_Eu](https://twitter.com/Pluggy_Eu)  
LinkedIn: [PLUGGY](https://www.linkedin.com/company/pluggy)  
Instagram: [@Pluggy\\_EU](https://www.instagram.com/Pluggy_EU)  
PLUGGY platform: [beta.pluggy.eu](https://beta.pluggy.eu)

Štefánia Ďuricová  
Katarína Ščerbanovská  
East Slovak Museum



Photo credit: East Slovak Museum

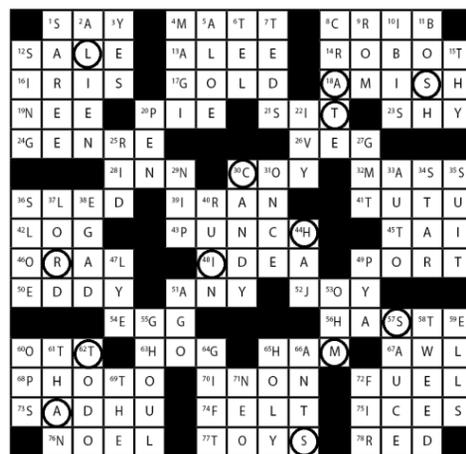
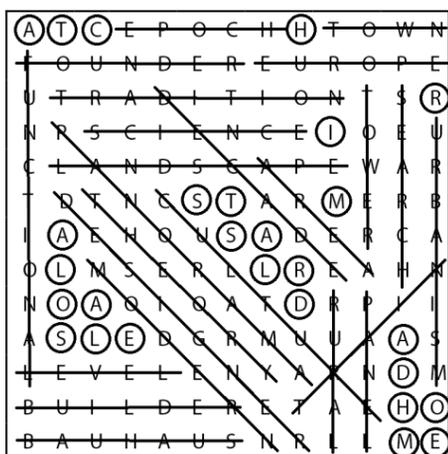
### PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

Solutions for Puzzles and Sudoku from the 8th issue (Special Edition) of the urbanHIST Newsletter (January 2019).

**WORD SEARCH PUZZLE SOLUTION**  
The quote by Marjorie Holmes:  
"At Christmas all roads lead home".

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION**  
The hidden title of the favorite Christmas song is: "Last Christmas".

Credit: Editorial team.



5	7	8	1	3	6	2	4	9
4	9	1	5	2	8	6	7	3
3	6	2	7	9	4	5	8	1
1	8	3	9	6	2	7	5	4
6	4	9	3	5	7	8	1	2
2	5	7	4	8	1	3	9	6
8	3	5	2	1	9	4	6	7
9	2	4	6	7	5	1	3	8
7	1	6	8	4	3	9	2	5

