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PLANNING FOR TRANSITION

Book of Abstracts

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AESOP



AESOP 2019 Conference - Book of Abstracts
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Planning for Transition

Contemporary cities and territories face significant challenges – natural disasters due to climate change impacts, ecological crises, growing socio-economic unrest, global migration, political rifts including a rise of right wing factions, ambitious public works and mega-projects – all of which require new capacities in dealing with such individual and multiple groupings of such challenging and profound changes.

It is a matter of fact that at international level a discourse if not a condition of transition is pervading sectors and societies. This discourse points to alternative patterns and solutions to many of the challenges faced. A quickly changing scenario requires forms of planning, both locally and globally, which bear the capacity to support and manage mutable urban and environmental conditions. In fact, although cities do incessantly change, policy-makers and institutions are never fully prepared to respond to complex and risky situations, as well as relying on planning and policy tools which are often outdated; in addition, also existing theoretical frameworks, concepts, cognitive abilities and approaches become ineffective or outmoded.

Each unintended or unanticipated change comes as a break to existing social, political, and administrative routines and yet it may be anticipated that mechanisms of collective reflection and action will be generated. The congress invites scholars and practitioners to present and discuss case-studies of cities and projects that have engaged in meeting challenging situations – supporting transitions in urban contexts.

Specifically, it is aimed at offering an understanding of the forms of knowledge, concepts, tools, and skills needed to plan and address transition. Furthermore, it seeks to explore whether (and how) managing such changes has brought any overall reconsideration of the city design model and towards more general institutional reconfigurations.

The book collects all the abstracts presented at the Aesop Venice 2019 conference. It is articulated in chapters that correspond to the tracks (16) and special sessions proposed (23/24).

Tracks

1. Transforming built heritage and landscapes
2. Urban design for multilevel planning
3. Teaching planning for the transition
4. Institutional change and regional transition
5. Methods and technologies for transformative planning
6. Community-based planning and social innovation
7. Theorizing urban change: complexity and ethics
8. Transition paths and urban futures
9. Climate proof cities and resilient societies
10. Urban metabolism and circular economy
11. Housing, gentrification and socio-spatial dynamics
12. Food, planning and healthy cities
13. Planning for accessibility and sustainable mobility
14. Planning, Law and Property Right: facing urban transitions
15. Tourism, spaces and urban cultures
16. Urban and Regional economics for transition

Special Session

1. Transition Histories
2. Urban Tourism, Neighborhood Change and Social Conflicts
3. Innovative Agriculture for Healthy Cities
4. Towards Post-Growth Planning Theory and Practice
5. Planning and Designing Green Infrastructures
6. Land Development and Management in Post-Socialist Countries
7. Home Sharing. Short-Term Rentals Affecting Local Housing Markets
8. Dynamic Change, Uncertainty and Planning for Adaptivity
9. Space, Citizenship and Identity: The Eu-Mena Region
10. The Role of The Local in Improving Cohesion and Spatial Justice
11. Friendly Spaces and Mobility for Ageing
12. Emerging Spatialities and Eu Policy Instruments: Cases and Perspectives
13. Facing Migrants Exclusionary Urban Policies
14. Learning Loops in The Public Realm. Enabling Social Learning in Communities to Tackle the Challenges of Cities in Transition
15. Planning and Biodiversity
16. Acsp-Aesop Special Session: Morsels of Hope: Migration and Urban Planning
17. Spatial Tensions: Urban Microgeographies for Changing Cities
18. Affordable Housing in Developing Countries: a Comparative Perspective
19. Acsp-Aesop Special Session: Learning from Arnstein's Ladder: from Citizen Participation to Public Engagement
20. Smart Cities and Regions Informing the Energy Transition
21. Maritime Spatial Planning (Msp) In Europe: Challenges in Transition
22. Shrinking Cities and Sustainability
23. Regional Design: Impacts on Territorial Governance and Planning Practice

| | |
|---|------|
| BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN REGENERATION AND SMART SHRINKAGE: REFLECTIONS FROM A KOREAN SHRINKING CITY | 1133 |
| Kim J.E. | 1133 |
| University College London | 1133 |
| ADAPTATION MECHANISM AND PLANNING RESPONSE TO RESILIENCY SHRINKING OF SMALL TOWNS BASED ON COMPLEX ADAPTIVE SYSTEM BY TAKING WUHAN AS AN EXAMPLE | 1134 |
| Geng H., Li Y. | 1134 |
| Huazhong University of Science and Technology | 1134 |
| A STUDY ON CHINA'S COUNTY SPORTS CENTER PLANNING STRATEGY FROM SMART SHRINKAGE PERSPECTIVE | 1135 |
| Liang B., Wang Y. | 1135 |
| Xi'an University of Architecture and Technology | 1135 |
| STUDY ON THE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHRINKAGE ELEMENTS OF RESOURCE-EXHAUSTED CITIES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF TIME---TAKING FOUR TYPICAL CITIES IN NORTHEAST CHINA AS EXAMPLES | 1136 |
| Zhang J., Zhao Z., Li P. | 1136 |
| Harbin Institute of Technology | 1136 |
| IS IT POSSIBLE TO CURB THE SHRINKAGE OF ŠIAULIAI CITY?.. | 1137 |
| Pociute--Sereikiene G. | 1137 |
| Lithuanian Social Research Centre | 1137 |
| URBAN SHRINKAGE: SHIFTING PERCEPTIONS AND PLANNING RESPONSES. A COMPARATIVE STUDY IN FOUR GERMAN CITIES | 1138 |
| Stroms P. ^[1] , Reimer M. ^[1] , Conrad H. ^[2] | 1138 |
| ^[1] ILS - Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development, ^[2] Ruhr-University Bochum, Institute of Geography | 1138 |
| DEINDUSTRIALIZATION AND URBAN SHRINKAGE. ACHIEVING URBAN SUSTAINABILITY IN FORMER INDUSTRIAL CITIES IN FRANCE: THE CASE STUDIES OF NANTES AND SAINT-OUEN | 1139 |
| Toura V. | 1139 |
| Ecole des hautes etudes en sciences sociales | 1139 |
| URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN SHRINKING CITIES IN NORTHEAST CHINA | 1140 |
| Yang W. | 1140 |
| University of Manchester - Department of Planning and Environmental Management, School of Environment, Education and Development - United Kingdom - Manchester | 1140 |

SP40 Regional design: impacts on territorial governance and planning practice 1142

| | |
|---|------|
| NORTHERN POWERHOUSE- A MEGAREGIONAL IMAGINARY | 1143 |
|---|------|

IS IT POSSIBLE TO CURB THE SHRINKAGE OF ŠIAULIAI CITY?..

Pociute--Sereikiene G.

Lithuanian Social Research Centre

Currently the depopulation in all Lithuania is seemed to be a huge problem. Except capital Vilnius and two other major cities, the rest of the country suffers great population decline. Previously strong industrial cities are one of those territories that are losing inhabitants at fastest rates. Šiauliai city, located at the Northern part of Lithuania, was chosen as a case study example to research urban shrinkage in Lithuania. In around 30 years period the city has lost one third of its inhabitants. The shrinkage is still continuing. However, in the city there might be noticed the posters that have been prepared by activists of the city, and these posters state that 'Not everything is lost yet'. But do the posters tell the truth or are they only stand as utopian phrases prepared to make the citizens happier? Can we see the "bright future" of the city? To what extend the policy makers realized the ongoing shrinkage phenomena and how they are dealing with it? These are the questions that raise discussions, and I will try to answer these questions in my presentation supporting the answer with the information received from interviews with local authorities, stake-holders and experts. In general, the purpose of my presentation is to introduce with urban shrinkage in Lithuania using an example of fourth biggest city and regional center in Lithuania – Šiauliai city. Therefore, in my presentation before talking about the city authorities' response to shrinkage, I will give summarized overview of the main reasons why the city shrinks and what consequences the population loss brings to the city. The presentation is based on information collected during the post-doctoral research that is supported by Research Council of Lithuania (grant No. DOTSUT-149 (09.3.3-LMT-K-712-02-0062)).