



## **URBAN AND HOUSING SYSTEMS UNDER PRESSURE:**

### **VARIETIES OF RESPONSES**

**Budapest, 27-29 September 2019**

**Metropolitan Research Institute**

***(Draft programme as of 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2019)***

After the Global Financial Crisis urban and housing systems faced increasing global and local pressures, both financially and politically. However, by today the economic crisis seems to be over and Europe arrived to a cross-roads: whether to return to the previous growth model or to try out new approaches, partly based on the experiences gained during the crisis period. The conference aims at identifying the most important recent responses to this dilemma in European urban and housing systems.

In thinking about future alternatives, cities are more innovative than national governments. During the years of crisis and austerity numerous innovations emerged in European cities, initiated by different actors and civic groups. Based on these a growing number of cities have been experimenting with entirely new and innovative approaches.

The conference will have two main tracks. The first explores the urban context: how are cities affected by the changing conditions, and how do they respond? The second track focuses on housing and welfare: how are the new challenges and responses transforming European housing and welfare regimes?

On the basis of good practices our aim is to explore, debate and crystallize policies and tools which can be considered as promising attempts to build more sustainable and more equitable development pathways in European cities.

In the course of the conference one of the half-day tracts will focus on post-socialist urban and housing systems. Thirty years have passed since the Central and Eastern European region began its transition to democracy and market economy. According to many observers this transition is over by now. If so: where are these countries and cities today, what comes after post-socialism? To what extent will their future be similar to, or different from, other parts of Europe?

Contrary to the usual conferences, exclusively based on paper presentations, we aim for a more interactive event, based on short keynotes, panel discussions and lively debates.

During the field trip interesting examples of post-socialist transformations and hotspots of emerging conflicts of post-transitional development will be visited.

The conference will also provide opportunity to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Metropolitan Research Institute.





## **27 SEPTEMBER, FRIDAY**

### **14.00 – 14.15 Opening**

### **14.15 – 15.45 Plenary 1: Urban development: renewal of the urban fabric – for whom?**

The first plenary discussion will concentrate on an important aspect of urban restructuring of European cities: regeneration, rebuilding, densification of the urban fabric. The emphasis will be on the analysis and mitigation of the potential negative social consequences of regeneration: 'renoviction' and 'enervation' (the introduction of too high energy standards) are just two ways which could radically change the local social structure, replacing the original population with better-off families, who pay higher taxes and better match the expectations of investors and city leaders.

### **15.45 – 16.15 Coffee break**

### **16.15 - 17.45 Plenary 2: Housing and welfare regimes: varieties of responses to the crisis**

The second plenary discussion will give an overview of the emerging trends of European housing and welfare regimes, including financialization, affordability challenges, and the uneven development of local housing markets. The discussion will concentrate on the possible housing and social outcomes of these processes and the different approaches how the related negative social consequences can be mitigated.

### **EVENING: MRI'30 PARTY**

Let's celebrate together MRI with everyone who was part of the last 30 years' story or will be part of the next!

## **28 SEPTEMBER, SATURDAY**

### **09.30 – 12.30 PARALLEL SESSIONS**

The morning of the second day will be devoted to the topic of post-socialist transitions, in the form of the following parallel sessions:

- Session 1: Urban development after post-socialism: where are Central and Eastern European cities heading to?
- Session 2: Trends and dilemmas in the post-socialist housing and social welfare systems

In this morning tract there is room for more „on demand” sessions: we invite conference participants, who would like to discuss other topics in relation to European urban, housing, and welfare systems, to come up with their proposals.

### **12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break**

### **14.00 – 18.00 AFTERNOON PLENARY DISCUSSIONS**





In the afternoon good practices will be shown and discussed, on the basis of which innovative and promising attempts can be crystallized to build up new, more sustainable and more equitable development paths in European cities.

***The programme below is preliminary, the final topics of the plenaries will be based (co-developed) according to the actual demand and participation.***

### **Introduction: aiming towards more just cities**

### **Plenary 3: Reforming urban planning and governance**

New planning methods and instruments, such as incremental planning, temporary use, etc.; new governance and institutional models, such as stronger metropolitan dimension, innovative approaches to the private sector, etc.

### **Plenary 4: Participatory and deliberative democracy – arenas of discussions and debates**

New participatory models, innovations to ensure citizen inclusion. New efforts towards social innovation, such as urban commons, cooperative city.

### **Plenary 5: Social movements and the municipalist networking of progressive local municipalities**

Innovative bottom-up approaches in population movements and in the cooperation and networking between cities progressing towards more equitable urban development.

### **20.00 WORLD'S FIRST ADVISORS' F\*CK-UP NIGHT AND CONFERENCE DINNER**

This will be a unique evening, with self-critical stories from researchers and advisors about brilliant ideas which, however, went wrong for whatever reasons.

## **29 SEPTEMBER, SUNDAY**

Late morning – early afternoon: field trip in Budapest discovering the most interesting signs of post-socialist transformation and the emerging conflicts of post-transitional development.

## **CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

Participation in the conference is possible without a paper. Those who send in an abstract, have to specify to which plenary or workshop session they want to contribute. Papers prepared on the basis of an accepted abstract will get at least one of the following presentation and/or publication options:

- presented in the session
- summarized in the session by the author as member of a panel
- becoming part of a publication or the conference proceedings.

The final decision will be taken by the main organizer of the given plenary or workshop session.





## Conference fee

This conference is funded from registration fees, is non-profit and voluntarily-run.

Fee categories:

- **Full rate | 150 €** (for those with institutional support or high income)
- **Medium rate | 100 €** (no institutional support and medium income)
- **Discount rate | 50 €** (graduate and PhD students, low income and unemployed)

It will be greatly appreciated if those who are able to pay the full fee do so, as this will support the attendance of low income participants.

The registration fee covers: conference activities and materials, daily dinner buffet, evening party, conference dinner, field trip.

For cancellations up to 45 days prior to the conference: full reimbursement of fees.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**01 March 2019:** Registration opens

**15 April 2019:** Deadline for registration (intention to participate and abstracts)

**30 April 2019:** Notification of acceptance

**30 June 2019:** Finalization of registration with payment of the fee

**31 July 2019:** Paper submission deadline

**27-29 September 2019:** MRI2019 Conference

## REGISTRATION

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSci2c9p3qgTn04djMkR-ocywZypgl6DcmqaeltxNq5LVK7efA/formResponse>

## PRACTICAL INFO

**Language:** the conference language is English.

Conference venue: European Youth Centre, 1024 Budapest Zivatar u. 1-3.

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-budapest>

The EYC also provides a limited number of hotel rooms on reasonable price, on a first comes first serve basis. It is advised to make hotel booking (for the EYC through MRI) as soon as possible as the Budapest Marathon will be organized on the same weekend.

For more information please write to the organising committee at: [mri2019@mri.hu](mailto:mri2019@mri.hu)