



SOCIAL POLIS Newsletter: July 2009

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SOCIAL POLIS – update on the Research Agenda

The process of refining the Social Polis research themes for a final Research Agenda is now in an advanced stage.

After having distributed an intermediate document containing proposals for 9 FRA themes and 26 additional themes – all based on discussions and proposals from workshops, the Brussels and the Vienna Conferences, comments from LP and stakeholders were received. . During the next weeks, the themes will be edited by teams consisting of at least one researcher from the Lead Partner institutions and one stakeholder. Afterwards, a consultation process will lead to the selection of 4 themes for a Focussed Research Agenda and of 10 additional themes, involving the Social Polis Stakeholders, especially those from the Inner Circle. The list of themes will be finalized -at the Lead Partner meeting in October. In the next few days several suggestions to merge themes will be circulated among LP and members from the IC.

SIS and SSH Programme 2010

The *Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities programme* of the European Commission have published 4 new calls. Especially the topic "SSH.2010.2.1-2 - Local welfare systems favouring social cohesion" may be very interesting and relevant for Stakeholders and Partners involved in Social Polis.

Below you can find some useful links which will lead you to the SIS (*Science in Society programme*) and SSH texts for call and to the SSH Workprogramme for 2010. We would suggest who is involved in the editing process of the research themes have inspiration from these example.

- EUROPA SSH

Societal challenges: http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/societal-challenges_en.html

Find funding: http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/funding_en.html

- CORDIS SSH:

Highlights: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ssh/home_en.html

SIS: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call_id=271

Spaces of competitiveness, spaces of social innovation

ESRC Seminar in Newcastle (co-organised with KATARSIS)

On the 13th of July the ESRC Seminar on "Spaces of Competitiveness, Spaces of Social Innovation" was held at Newcastle University. This seminar, organised by Frank Moulaert and Jean Hillier in Newcastle and Ngai-Ling Sum and Bob Jessop from Lancaster University, in cooperation with the KATARSIS Network, was the sixth and the last event of the series of ESRC research seminars on 'Changing Cultures of Competitiveness: Conceptual and Policy Issues' coordinated from Lancaster University (<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/>). The series reflected on spaces of competitiveness and depicted a range of areas in which competitiveness, its preconditions, and its effects are significant. The Newcastle seminar, learning from the experiences of the KATARSIS Network, aimed to discuss and rethink politics and policies of competitiveness from alternative perspectives, and enhance discussions among various stakeholders from policy, non-governmental, private and civil society sectors. The participants looked at the social dimensions of competitiveness, problems relating to the penetration of cultures of competitiveness into urban economies, politics, and everyday life, and possibilities to overcome them through socially innovative and creative strategies. Various areas of social innovation including new initiatives in urban governance, arts-based creative strategies, and political actions were discussed.

Grand Paris – Recent publication from PUCA

A new study has recently been published by PUCA, *Plan Urbanisme Construction Architecture* of the French Government.

The study is a critical analysis of ten projects in the planning and architecture field selected for participation in the international research and development forum on the Paris agglomeration.

The specific aims of the research are:

- Collecting findings and reflections which may be helpful for building eco-cities and for planning a better future for French cities.
- Contributing to the research on the city after Kyoto.
- Addressing the theoretical and practical outcomes of the programme

The report is structured in two parts:

- Thematic analysis of each case study
- Short transversal remarks

You can find the publication on: http://rp.urbanisme.equipement.gouv.fr/puca/edito/Grand_Paris.pdf

Vacancies at the Vienna University of Technology – Call for interests

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Urban Culture and Public Space (SKuOR) of the Architecture and Planning Faculty of the Vienna University of Technology, Austria, has recently launched a **Call for Interests** regarding **two short-term vacancies for visiting professors**, related to the annual topic for 2010 'Urban culture, public space and the state – Politics and planning'.

The profiles of the two candidates should correspond to one expertise in the field of *Know How* (spatial planning/spatial design, or similar) and one expert in the field of *Know Why* (urban studies, or similar). Both professors will work together as an academic team consisting of one junior and one senior professor.

For further information, please have a look at the SKuOR's homepage <http://skuor.tuwien.ac.at>. For any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Urban Culture and Public Space, Dr. des. Sabine Knierbein. Declaration of interests can be submitted via post or via e-mail **until 2 September 2009**.

ESPON - Published Pre-announcement on New Calls

The **Pre-Announcement on New Calls and Info Day - Partner Café** has been published today on the ESPON Website. The next Calls for Proposals and Expression of Interests will be launched on 16 September 2009:

1. Call for Proposals for 11 themes of Applied Research (Priority 1)
2. Call for Expression of Interest for Targeted Analyses (Priority 2)
3. Call for Proposals for Targeted Analyses (Priority 2)
4. Call for Proposals in support of the ESPON Scientific Platform (Priority 3)
5. Call for Proposals for Transnational Networking Activities of the ECP Network (Priority 4)

The available budget is 14.910.000 Euro covering up to 31 new ESPON projects. Participation of private partners is now possible.

In order to support the launch of the Calls, the ESPON 2013 Programme is inviting for an Information Day on 16 September 2009 in Brussels. A Partner Café is included in the event. The Preliminary Programme for the event is available on the ESPON Website. The online registration is open.

For further information see on: <http://www.espon.eu>

Upcoming events

Date	Title
10 Sep 09 - 11 Sep 09	IMISCOE conference and call for papers: Social Integration and Mobility: Education, Housing and Health - Stockholm
01 Sep 09 - 04 Sep 09	International Housing Conference: Housing Assets, Housing People - Glasgow
23 Aug 09 - 25 Aug 09	Inequality, Inclusion and the Sense of Belonging - Sao Paulo

SOCIAL POLIS Newsletter

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