



## SOCIAL POLIS Newsletter: February/March 2011

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### Workshop on Transdisciplinary research methodology in Milan

Social Polis is planning to hold a Network's workshop on Transdisciplinary research methodology in urban cohesion action 28 September 2011.

Since Serena Vicari and Flavia Martinelli are organising a special session on Social innovation and cohesion in the contemporary European city at the ESPANET conference (<http://www.espanet-italia.net/conferenza2011/>) that will take place in Milan from September 29 to October 1, we are thinking of combining the events, in order to optimise travel and accommodation costs and network visibility.

Therefore, we will hold the Social Polis workshop on Wednesday the 28th of September (full day), with the possibility for those wishing to present a paper at the ESPANET conference to do so in the next days (Thursday afternoon or Friday morning at the latest, depending on the scheduling of the special session, yet to be determined).

This said, we would like to know as soon as possible from each of you:

1. Whether you wish to attend the Social Polis Workshop on "Transdisciplinary research methodology in urban cohesion action", to be held in Milan on September 28, 2011, from 9,00 to 18,00, at the University of Milano Bicocca. **In case you decide to attend please send a 15 line abstract to Frank Moolaert and Davide Cassinari by May 1.**
2. Whether you will be able to finance your travel and accommodation expenses or you will need funding from the Social Polis extension budget, in which case please provide us with an estimate of travel and accommodation costs. There is a budget of 6000€ available, with a positive discrimination for those among you who do not have their own research funding. **We will only fund those presenting a paper at the Transdisciplinary research methodology in urban cohesion action Workshop.**
3. Whether you would be interested in presenting a paper on a case study studied in the course of the project at the

ESPANET conference, to be held at the Politecnico of Milan, from September 29th to October 1st 2011, within the special session on Social innovation and cohesion in the contemporary European city (<http://www.espanet-italia.net/conferenza2011/cfa-9.php>), in which case please give us a provisional title. Please note that abstracts of the papers to be presented at the conference will have to be sent to Serena ([serena.vicari@unimib.it](mailto:serena.vicari@unimib.it)) by April 15, 2011. Serena and Flavia are also planning to collate some of the papers presented at the session into an edited book or a special issue of an Italian journal.

### Open call 2011: This is not a gateway festival

#### Open call 2011: This is not a gateway festival

Submissions required by 05 May 2011

Festival Dates: 23-25 September 2011

Venue: Slade Research Centre Galleries, London, UK

#### You are invited to contribute

THIS IS NOT A GATEWAY FESTIVAL is independent, critical, rigorous and productive - an open platform; an arena for criticality as well as proposition. As a result of the continuing social, economic, democratic, environmental and spatial crises and revolutions, the topics below will be the focus for the 2011 Festival (<http://thisisnotagateway.squarespace.com/2011-statement/>):

- The Corporation - Financial Districts | The City
- Urban Industry and its Post-Critical Condition
- Who Dares Wins Urbanism
- Design, Design, Design
- The Legalities of Space
- Language Frames Thought
- Revolutionary Space

You are invited! Submissions are sought from a lived knowledge/experience perspective, as well as from the widest range of disciplines.

Previous formats have included exhibitions, roundtable discussions, soapboxes, film screenings, walks, presentations, book and project launches. Participants have come from the fields of urban regeneration, economics, government, visual art, psychiatry, archaeology, activism, medicine, journalism, literature, religion, technology, architecture, planning, environmental protection, law, property, theory, housing, film, psychology, finance, philosophy, engineering, human rights & social justice.

There is no fee to propose a project for the festival, however work must be critical and propositional.

Festival Statement: <http://thisisnotagateway.squarespace.com/2011-statement/>

Festival Call: <http://thisisnotagateway.squarespace.com/2011-call/>

Application Form: <http://thisisnotagateway.squarespace.com/2011-festival-proposal-form/>

Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 1-4, 2012

### Main theme

Cities at the crossroads: social justice and democratization from below

### Programme coordinators

- Fernando DIAZ ORUETA, Universidad de La Rioja, Spain, fernando.diaz@unirioja.es
- Yuri KAZEPOV, University of Urbino, Italy, yuri.kazepov@uniurb.it
- Eduardo MARQUES, Center for Metropolitan Studies and University of São Paulo, Brazil, ecmarg@uol.com.br

### Deadlines

- Session proposals: **June 15, 2011**
- On-line abstract submission will be open **from August 25 to December 15, 2011.**

### Summary of the call for sessions

Social justice and democratization have been topics tackled at length by urban studies in general and urban sociology in particular. Cities have always been social laboratories in which the mechanisms that create and reproduce social inequalities are addressed and innovative solutions are found. Political transition processes experienced by different countries over the past decades have shown how social justice is just at the centre of democratization demands, and how social movements rooted in cities, or focused on urban demands, have been at the forefront of those demands.

The analysis of the relations between democratization, social justice and spatial processes of change is the focus of the sessions proposed by RC21.

Sessions should consider the current context of global change in both the world economy and the emerging geopolitical configurations and their consequences at the urban and regional level. Sessions may focus on specific dimensions of social justice and democracy (or the lack of) at different territorial levels. They may address innovative ways of contrasting inequalities and poverty or they may analyze the promotion of the quality of life and of social, economic and ecological sustainability.

Priority will be given to proposals fostering comparisons and methodological innovation, centred on the comprehension of the mechanisms that generate social (in)justice and/or (in)equalities at the regional and local level and their scalar relations, and on the responses- both social mobilizations and policy interventions- to these.

Please send proposals to the Programme Coordinators.

## Upcoming events

Date	Title
16 May 11 - 17 May 11	Conference - call for Papers: 'Disasters – Mobility – Communications: Exploring the Links', Bielefeld
27 Apr 11 - 28 Apr 11	Conference: Citizenship and Nationalities in Europe, Banská Bystrica/Sofia
07 Apr 11 - 08 Apr 11	Conference: 3 <sup>rd</sup> CRISES International Symposium, Montreal

## 3rd CRISES International Symposium

CRISES is glad to present the program of its 3rd international Symposium entitled: **Toward a New Globalization: The Challenge of Innovation**. The event will be held on the 7th and 8th of April 2011 and it will take place at the University of Québec in Montréal, with the focus of social innovation in the perspective of an inclusive, solidary and ecologic globalization. Several outstanding lecturers will present the results of their research.

Below you can find a summary of the program.

### **Thursday April 7 2011**

The following sessions are scheduled:

- Challenges posed to the social actors in terms of social innovation by the building of a plural and inclusive globalization
- Local Issues and Challenges
- Social Innovations in the field of work
- Civil society actions to improve living conditions
- Globalization and social innovation: theoretical challenges for understanding change
- Round Table: Community actors and Unions

### **Friday April 8 2011**

The following sessions are scheduled:

- Toward a larger implication into defining the Common Good and implementing solutions to social inequalities
- Poster session
- Social and local innovations: citizenship and the fight against inequalities
- Improving working and employment conditions
- The fight against vulnerability with respect to diversity
- Institutionalizing innovations by considering the social needs and according to the social actors
- Local spaces and social innovations in the global context
- Roundtable – *Toward a redefinition of the economy*

## **SOCIAL POLIS Newsletter**

**The SOCIAL POLIS NEWSLETTER**  
is published by  
the SOCIAL POLIS coordination Team  
at Newcastle University and the  
Catholic University of Leuven

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