



social polis

SOCIAL POLIS Newsletter: May/June 2011

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New Social Polis website on-line

After experiencing some technical problems and being offline for some days, the Social Polis website is now again available in a renewed version. The new website is focussed on the dissemination of the results and of the educational resources produced by the platform, with a more simple and accessible structure.

The four main sections of the website are:

Fields and themes

The many dimensions of social cohesion in cities that were researched in this project. You can download the 12 Survey Papers.

Focused Research Agenda

The burning issues of social cohesion in cities that were identified by the actors of Social Polis. These topics lay the grounds for the future of European research.

The Social Polis Approach

This section provides information on the specific methodology developed by the project for producing socially relevant knowledge for shaping cohesive cities, combining transdisciplinarity, multi-dimensionality and multi-scalarity.

Educational resources

The Social Polis resources popularizing knowledge on social cohesion.

The Social Polis website is again available on: www.socialpolis.eu

Innovating innovation by research – 100 years after Schumpeter

The conference “Innovating innovation by research – 100 years after Schumpeter” will take place in Vienna from the 19th to the 21st of September. The venue of the event will be the Tech Gate Vienna, located in Donau-City-Straße 1.

A series of sessions will take place over three days, moving from policy discussion and debate to FP7 networking and engagement.

There will be **key-note speeches by renowned researchers and practitioners** in the field, from Europe as well as from Canada, the USA, South America, and South-east Asia (Japan, South Korea). Confirmed speakers include Denis Harrison (University of Montreal), Kriss Deiglmeier (CSI Stanford), Antonella Noya (OECD), Frank Moulaert (KU Leuven) and Uwe Schneidewind (Wuppertal Institute).

A focused **networking session** will take place on 21st September, providing information on the upcoming call for proposals FP7-SSH-2012, launching in summer 2011. SSH researchers and stakeholders (universities, research institutions, civil society organizations and SMEs) will have the opportunity to meet both potential coordinators and potential project partners in a structured networking environment.

This event will give you the unique opportunity to build consortia for the next Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities calls in FP7.

Challenge Social Innovation is an event co-organized by NET4SOCIETY (the Network of Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities National Contact Points) through the support of the European Commission, the Centre for Social Innovation, Vienna and the Dortmund University of Technology.

For more information on the conference: <http://www.socialinnovation2011.eu/conference>

Spatial Planning in Flanders/Belgium: challenges for policy, opportunities for society

The conference “Spatial Planning in Flanders/Belgium: challenges for policy, opportunities for society “, will be held in Leuven on the 15th and the 16th of December 2011. The venue of the event will be the Provinciehuis of Leuven.

For five years now the ‘Policy Centre Spatial Planning and Housing’ has done research on spatial development, settlement and housing systems as well as spatial planning and policy in Flanders. Its main goal has been to scientifically support spatial policy in Flanders.

Against the background of ongoing globalization, climate change, the real estate bubble, the growing suburbanization and the financial crisis, researchers belonging to different fields and working at different Flemish universities and research centres have analysed spatial developments and policy orientations in this privileged European region.

The methodologies they developed (observatories, GIS analysis, spatial econometric models, participative methods and theoretical frameworks), as well as the research results (case-studies of design and planning, scenarios of spatial development, ...) they generated have been of great significance to spatial planning and policy in Flanders, mainly for the Regional public administration RWO, but also for other local authorities.

For more information:

http://www.steunpuntruimte.wonen.be/steunpuntruimte.wonen/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=135%3Aconference-spatial-planning-in-flanders-political-threats-and-social-opportunities&catid=22&Itemid=60&lang=en

Climate Cultures - The Survey of the Everyday

The UdN International Summer School 2011, organised by HafenCity University (HCU), will take place in Hamburg from August 15 to 27.

This year's topic will be "ClimateCultures - The Survey of the Everyday"

The aim of this Summer School is to creatively observe and explore the links between everyday culture and Climate Change. Its approach is based on the assumption that the planned reductions of CO2 emissions will be the fastest and largest transformation of the global society ever conceived, which may succeed only if it goes along with a real cultural change, affecting the way policy, technology, business and civil society collaborate and create new habits, values and lifestyles.

Students will have the task of analysing individual consumption patterns and provision systems in Wilhelmsburg for elaborating proposals aimed to improve sustainability from below.

The students will live and work together in the „University of the Neighbourhoods“ a former health centre, used as seminar building in the heart of the neighbourhood called Wilhelmsburg – the case study of the Summer School.

You can find more information on: <http://udn.hcu-hamburg.de/ISS2011.html>

European project CIRCUSE - Circular Flow Land Use Management

Background

Circular Flow Land Use Management (CircUse) partner regions are confronted with massive urban sprawl, the current economic crisis and the effects of the demographic change causing unfavorable land use patterns, which are neither competitive nor sustainable. Dispersed land use patterns, with their high demands of land, soil and energy, accelerate the process and the impacts of climate change.

12 Partners from 6 countries are working together in the project CircUse to face these problems. This project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by ERDF.

Objectives

CircUse partners will develop and implement a climate friendly land use concept in coherence with new instruments and pilot actions. The main results will include: the development of an overall strategy towards circular land use management, tools and instruments of Circular Land Use Management, some pilot projects.

Concept

Circular land use management represents an integrative policy and governance approach which presupposes a changed land use philosophy with regard to land utilization. This modified land use philosophy can be expressed with the slogan "*avoid – reuse –compensate*".

The CircUse philosophy sees land use as a cycle with three major phases:

- a. Zoning new "greenfields"
- b. Rejection of land not suitable for subsequent use
- c. Activating land potentials

The CIRCUSE webpage is available on: www.circuse.eu

The second project newsletter is available on:

http://www.circuse.eu/images/NaszePliki/Home/2_CircUse_Newsletter.pdf.

New book: second volume of the series Critical Cities

The second volume of the series **Critical Cities: Ideas, Knowledge and Agitation from Emerging Urbanists**, edited by Deepa Naik and Trenton Oldfield, was recently published by Myrdle Court Press, in association with This Is Not A Gateway.

The book sets out to challenge ongoing attempts to extend 'gateways' into discourse and practice concerned with 'cities'. It does this by publishing critical papers, visual essays, transcripts of recorded conversations and actions by diverse authors from a range of fields and perspectives. Contributions are drawn from planning, academia, art, architecture, film, community organising, religious and environmental studies. Divided into four thematics – Who Dares Wins Urbanism, Visual Cultures, Backs as Fronts, and Space and Ideology – contemporary urban conditions in Athens, London, Warsaw, Porto, Los Angeles and Jerusalem are critically investigated. Collectively the material suggests the need for and potential of, a transformation in our approaches to new urban realities, through a timely injection of optimism, creativity, rigorous critique and collaboration.

In October 2011 the third volume of the series is expected to be published.

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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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