



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



ANNEX 1 – LIST of the HOST INSTITUTIONS, CONTACT PERSON and RESEARCH INTERESTS

CALL YOUNG INVESTIGATOR TRAINING PROGRAM (ACRI) YITP 2020/2021 POLIMI

Host Institutions	Contact Person	Main Research interests
<p>1. Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani (DASU)</p>	<p>Prof. Stefano Moroni Prof. Valeria Fedeli Arch. Sarah I. Chiodi</p>	<p>In the tendency of planetary urbanization (Brenner and Schmid, 2012) of the Urban Millenium (Annan, 2001), contemporary spatial inequalities connected with climate change, territorial mobility, urban safety etc. have become issues that the global world must tackle, enhancing 'inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management' (U.N., 2015). The Dastu research unit aims to address transdisciplinary and innovative research able to face this scenario.</p> <p>Main topics and research approaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conceptual analysis.</i> Improve philosophical analysis to critically clarify (and revisit) the notions of "spatial justice", the "just city" and the "right to the city" (Stefano Moroni). • <i>Discourse analysis.</i> Explore the debate on spatial justice and the right to the city in Latin America and South of the world (Sarah Chiodi). • <i>Policy analysis.</i> Discuss spatial justice, the right to the city and the scale question: regional/planetary urbanization and the need for new spatial imaginaries to tackle contemporary societal challenges (Valeria Fedeli). • <i>Policy analysis.</i> Investigate how urban governance and planning at regional and metropolitan scale can improve territorial cohesion against spatial segregation and social inequalities (Sarah Chiodi and Valeria Fedeli)



POLITECNICO
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DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Methodology.</i> Develop innovative indicators and methodologies, including mapping, for visualizing social inequalities and the impact of policy instruments promoting spatial justice and territorial cohesion (Valeria Fedeli e Sarah Chiodi). • <i>Education.</i> Spatial Justice in Urban Studies and Planning Education in the university.
<p>2. Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dipartimento di Architettura (DIDA)</p>	<p>Prof. Camilla Perrone</p>	<p>The debate on the spatial dimensions of wealth and poverty is gaining the centre stage in the understanding of territorial resilience under the current crises (climate, pandemic, environmental, financial). Crucial consequences of how the poverty-wealth nexus is addressed by policy design in the field of planning, economic and welfare includes the production of social and spatial injustice. Louis Winnick (1966) posed the question of how to tackle the poverty-wealth nexus in terms of a distinction/articulation between <i>people prosperity and place prosperity</i>. This challenging paper inspired several questions the Florence research unit intends to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must wealth, prosperity, well-being be posed with reference to individuals or to places? • What relationship exists between these two forms of prosperity? What is more important? • What comes first while designing policies to increase prosperity (or reduce poverty): addressing measures to increase the wealth of individuals, or rather implementing policies that improve the conditions of contexts well-being (neighbourhoods, cities, regions)? • Which possible pathways can highlight Place Prosperity as an important form of intangible capital that has positive externalities and “regulates” the resilience of places to many kinds of crises? • Which are the emerging new dimensions of socio-spatial (in)justice and “advanced marginality” (Loic Wacquant, 2008 and other) within the contest of the climate-pandemic crisis? <p>Reference to food justice and its interconnection with places, and the policy response in terms of spatial planning are welcome. We embrace an actor’s-perspective, which enables new questions and aspects to arise, by examining the actors’ environment, particularly focusing on newly arrived migrants in Italy. A collaborative research approach is encouraged.</p>



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



<p>3. Politecnico di Torino e Università degli Studi di Torino, Dipartimento Interateneo di Scienze, Progetto e Politiche del Territorio (DiST)</p>	<p>Prof. Carlo Salone</p>	<p>Within the social sciences and public debates, the COVID-19 pandemic has catalysed the attention predominantly in terms of its geographical diffusion and its impact on economic sectors such as the service industry (Connolly, Keil & Ali, 2020). Less attention has been dedicated to the societal effects of the pandemic at an urban and regional level as well as to the process of environmental and societal transition that awaits cities and regions in the coming years (Kuebart & Stabler, 2020). The Dist Research Unit analyses urban and regional responses to the pandemic, looking at the Italian context in a European perspective. Three main aspects of the pandemic and the related transition will be investigated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The uneven geographies of the pandemic. The pandemic has impacted unevenly on Italian regions and cities, hitting more severely highly exploited urban and regional spaces such as: manufacturing districts and logistical hubs, particularly in the urbanised Po valley region (Cremaschi, Salone & Besana, 2021); and vulnerable regions and urban areas, such as previously over-touristified areas, low-income urban neighbourhoods etc.2) The governance of the post-pandemic transition. In response to the crisis, the E.U. has launched a novel policy strategy, paving the way for a long-term process of economic recovery centred on goals of environmental sustainability and technological (mainly digital) and societal innovation. Within this framework, the Italian government is in the process of approving the “Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza” which will assess the policy effects of the recovery in Italy from a European perspective.3) Territorial autopoiesis in the post-pandemic transition. This part of the research will take into account case studies illustrating the different ways in which regions and communities respond to the post-pandemic transition. As the pandemic has threatened the survival of vulnerable regions and local communities, it has undermined their autonomy and increased their dependence from external entities (such as government’s relief funds). This empirical part of the research will look at the ways the ‘autopoietic’ (Varela, Maturana & Uribe, 1974) organisation of regions and communities is pursued during the post-pandemic transition, leading the formulation of an operational toolkit helping policymakers and practitioners experiment with processes of territorial autopoiesis at the local level.
<p>4. Università degli studi di Palermo, Dipartimento di architettura (D’ARCH)</p>	<p>Prof. Marco Picone</p>	<p>The research group of Palermo promotes research on urban poverty and the growing inequalities in the Southern European area, suggesting the following issues:</p>



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The calling into question of the very idea of urban poverty, due to the systemic economic crises of the last fifteen years and the huge impact that the Covid-19 crisis is producing. • While urban poverty has traditionally been researched by urban scholars (Baker and Schuler 2004; Mingione 2004; Roy 2010; Harvey 2012; Pratschke and Morlicchio 2012; Stiglitz 2012; Simone 2015; Baker, Evans and Hennigan 2019), the inequalities provoked by the rise of the ‘super-rich’ (Sayer 2015; Forrest <i>et al.</i> 2017; Atkinson 2020) and the upcoming consequences of the Covid crisis still have to be taken into account. Additionally, the peculiar situation of Southern Europe—and Southern Italy in particular—implies the need to adopt a postcolonial perspective (Chakrabarty 2000; Connell 2007; Robinson 2011; Albet and Seixas 2012; Roy 2016) to inquire these topics. <p>Considering the strong relationships between the scientific fields that mark the domain of urban studies (geography, urban planning, sociology, economy), we encourage interdisciplinary research and broad analyses.</p>
<p>5. Università IUAV di Venezia, Dipartimento di culture del Progetto</p>	<p>Prof. Laura Fregolent</p>	<p>The health crisis triggered by the COVID19 pandemic has led to a worsening of the conditions and expectations of a large part of the world population. The most vulnerable social groups are especially affected by the pandemic not only from a health point of view. In this context, a myriad of solidarity initiatives has emerged around the world aimed to alleviate the health and social effects of the crisis, and to explore alternative forms of economic organization and strengthening community initiatives.</p> <p>SOLIVID is a network for research and dissemination of these initiatives, it currently gathers 34 research groups in 12 countries in Europe and Latin America for designing a collaborative map. Until now, it has registered and disseminated the existence of nearly 3.000 solidarity initiatives in 28 countries around the world. The SOLIVID network is both a collective solidarity action and a project to study solidarity and mutual support on an international scale. The DCP – luav research group participate to this network for studying the “geography of solidarity” in some provinces area (Milano, Bergamo, Venezia, Padova and Treviso) and aims to address transdisciplinary and innovative research in the research field described.</p>
<p>6. Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Dipartimento di Architettura</p>	<p>Prof. Laura Lieto</p>	<p>Our current work deals with informal practices of self-maintenance and provision performed by women in large public housing estates. As an</p>



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



		<p>analytical and political category, woman is not a unified term, nor it incorporates the traditional division between biological sex and cultural gender. Woman points to a universe of social figures, walks of life and political orientations that cannot be reduced to any common womanhood but opens onto irreducible plurality (see J. Butler's Gender Trouble). In this context, public housing neighborhoods – as the everyday life places where women networks rise and work for collectives that are underrepresented in the eye of formal institutions – are understood as emerging examples of a gendered city worth attention of urban scholars and planning advocates. In the past, gender differences in cities have been explored from different perspectives, from women studies to gender studies, and such explorations have always been conducive of broad critiques of urban policies and planning ideas constituting genders and increasing discriminations and conflicts in urban spaces.</p> <p>Today, given the exacerbation of housing inequalities in the pandemic crisis, gender discrimination seems to be escalating while too little emphasized are the gender dynamics in the production of the everyday city and the provision of collective services that are so important to cope with Corona, especially in neighborhoods quite removed from local government agendas.</p> <p>Drawing on the results of ethnographic work underway in the European PUSH project "Public Space in European Social Housing" (Hera – JRP IV), we look at women as a plural subject of care that compensates, through the informal production of gendered spaces, for the absence of formal institutions in addressing common matters of concern in pandemic restrictions and various forms of confinement.</p>
<p>7. Sapienza Università di Roma , Dipartimento di Pianificazione, design, tecnologia dell'architettura</p>	<p>Prof. Daniela De Leo</p>	<p>The research unit of Rome intends to explore the "Social justice & Planning" issue by focusing on racial displacements in the peripheries of Rome. Historically, displacement was a means of political discipline, then a "class selection" but also a punishment. Nowadays there is the renewal of banishment at the urban scale and the nexus between power relationships, urban policies and (non)planning is becoming ever clearer. In their variety and large dimensions, the peripheries of Rome show the development of "gray spacing" as a means of managing and disempowering marginalized minorities such as Roma people segregated in camps and refugees and immigrants forced into many spaces of the city where degrees of legality vary, while at the same time producing environments fertile for financial speculation by private developers and organized criminal groups. On the one hand the city pursues constant demolition and eviction of unauthorized</p>



POLITECNICO
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DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



encampments and the enforced outward relegation of unlicensed street traders or squatters into hidden and precarious spaces, denying these weak urban groups rights and security. On the other, different urban actors enjoy privileges and accommodations that exceed the law and planning policies.

Facing this framework, we promote:

- Case-studies and possible different mapping to understand displacement as dispossession in Rome, as a racialized project in which a regime of informality, based on ambiguous and shifting regulations and policies, reinforces social hierarchies and inequalities in resource allocation.
- Policy analysis related to formal planning, level of governance and the knowledge-producing institutions that are profoundly intertwined with the production and management of informality as one of the layers of the Rome's large urban peripheries.
- The analysis of the racial displacements in the city of Rome, within broader dynamics of power, as a means of better understanding the possibilities of resistance.