

# March 2016

## C12-39 COMMISSION OF URBAN GEOGRAPHY :

### REPORT 2012-2016

#### 1. Membership

##### 1.A Committee 2012-2016

###### Chair

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###### Steering Committee

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###### Young Scholars Committee Members

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##### 1.B Members

The status of « member » requires the person to have attended at least 2 of the last 6 commission's meetings. The membership list is updated every 4 years in order to elect the next commission's project. The update of 2015 reveals an increase of people attending regularly: 64 people came at least twice since 2010 (see the table below).

	Number of attendances					Total
	2	3	4	5	6	
BRASIL	3	1				4
CANADA			2	1		3
CHINA	2	1				3
CZECH REPUBLIC	1					1
DENMARK		1				1
FRANCE				1		1
GERMANY	1	2		1		4
INDIA	1					1
IRELAND	1		1			2
ISRAEL	1	1				2
JAPAN	2	3	2			7
LEBANON				1		1
LUXEMBOURG		1				1
MEXICO	1	1	1			3
POLAND	3		1	1		5
SOUTH AFRICA	8	2	2	1		13
SPAIN	6		1		2	9
SWITZERLAND	1				1	2
UNITED KINGDOM					1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>64</b>

The table identifies this group of 64 people coming regularly. They constitute the core of the Urban commission. They come from 19 countries and contribute and participate very actively to its debates.

In total, **265 different people attended our own meetings** over the past 6 years at least once, coming from a total of **44 different countries** (not counting each person several times).

The commission mailing list ([iguurban@unil.ch](mailto:iguurban@unil.ch)) counts 640 subscribers (28th February 2016).

## 2. Meetings

Each year between 2012 and 2016, the Urban commission organized events in at least 2 meetings:

- the annual meeting of the Commission
- sessions included in regional meetings or the IGC

## **Annual Urban Commission meetings**

Year on year, we collectively decided a common procedure to organize our annual meetings:

**1- The local organizers propose a special topic.**

**2- We also invite contributions on the topics of the Commission's program 2012-2016:**

- Technological Innovation and Creative Activities in Cities
- Complex Urban Systems
- Contested Social Spaces
- Creating Sustainability
- Dilemmas of Ageing Cities
- Increasing Insecurity
- Urban Heritage and Conservation
- Urban Governance

⇒ **These topics and their precise concepts and theoretical foundations are the basis of discussions during meetings and evolve over the lifespan of the commission.**

3- Since 2014, we decided to invite **1 or 2 keynote speakers (1 local, 1 international)**.

4- **Urban field trips** are organized during the meeting. They are included in the conference fees.

5- A pre or **post-conference field trip** is proposed to the meeting participants. They have to pay supplementary fees to attend.

6- A business meeting is held during each annual meeting, which encouraging debates on future projects of the commission. Any decisions are voted upon by people in attendance.

7- As far as possible, the **Urban Commission annual meetings take place in the same country as the regional meetings or IGC**. However, it was not always possible to identify venues in the same country and other proposals were selected, by a public vote during the Business Meeting, usually two years in advance.

Participation to the Regional meetings and IGC

The committee participated actively in the general meetings organized by the IGU. Each year, we proposed a list of themes according to the commission program (6 for 2012, 8 from 2013 to 2015, 10 for 2016). We organized the numerous sessions in cooperation with the congress organizers and also held a business meeting at each event.

Every year, we co-organized several joint sessions with other IGU commissions (see the details below).

### **2.A.1 Main facts about Urban Commission Annual meetings (2012-2015)**

Dortmund, August 2012: 60 papers from 20 countries

Organized by: Ludger Basten, Lienhard Loetscher

Special topic: Transformation of the Urban + 14 thematic sessions

COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE
BELGIUM	1	GREAT BRITAIN	1	LUXEMBOURG	1
BRAZIL	1	GERMANY	6	POLAND	5
CANADA	4	INDIA	1	SOUTH AFRICA	5
CHINE	4	IRELAND	1	SAUDI ARABIA	1
DENMARK	1	ISRAEL	2	SPAIN	10
FINLAND	1	JAPAN	10	SWITZERLAND	2
FRANCE	2	LEBANON	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>20 COUNTRIES</b>					

### Johannesburg/Stellenbosch, July 2013: 75 papers from 16 countries

Organized by: Niko Kotse, Ronnie Donaldson

Special topic: *Life in a changing urban landscape + 18 thematic sessions*

Keynote speakers: Sue Parnell

COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE
BRAZIL	2	JAPAN	2	SPAIN	8
CANADA	1	LEBANON	2	SWITZERLAND	1
FRANCE	3	MEXICO	2	TURKEY	1
GREAT BRITAIN	2	POLAND	3	ZIMBABWE	1
GERMANY	1	PORTUGAL	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>
ITALY	1	SOUTH AFRICA	44	<b>16 COUNTRIES</b>	

### Poznan, August 2014: 87 papers from 20 countries

Organized by: Jerzy Paryzek, Lidia Mierzejewska

Special topic: *Restructuring post-communist cities + 21 thematic sessions*

Keynote speakers: Peter Nijkamp, Marek Ziolkowski

COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE
ALGERIA	1	INDIA	4	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	3
BRAZIL	9	IRELAND	2	SOUTH AFRICA	8
CANADA	4	ISRAEL	2	SERBIA	1
CHILE	6	JAPAN	7	SPAIN	5
FRANCE	5	LEBANON	1	SWEDEN	1
GREAT BRITAIN	3	MEXICO	5	SWITZERLAND	4
GERMANY	2	POLAND	14	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>20 COUNTRIES</b>					

### Dublin, August 2015: 86 papers from 27 countries

Organized by: Niamh Cherry-Moore

Special topic: *Urban resilience and environment + 20 thematic sessions*

Keynote speaker: Rob Kitchin

COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE	COUNTRY	PEOPLE
ARGENTINA	1	IRELAND	10	PORTUGAL	1
BELGIUM	1	ITALY	1	ROMANIA	1
BRAZIL	10	JAPAN	8	SAUDI ARABIA	1
CANADA	3	LEBANON	1	SOUTH AFRICA	10
CHINA	5	LUXEMBOURG	1	SPAIN	5
EGYPT	1	MEXICO	4	SWITZERLAND	4
FRANCE	6	NETHERLANDS	1	UNITED KINGDOM	2
GERMANY	4	NEW ZEALAND	2	USA	1
INDONESIA	1	POLAND	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>27 COUNTRIES</b>					

## 2.A.2 Main facts about participation in the Regional congresses and IGC (2012-2015)

### IGC Cologne - August 2012

In total the urban Commission was involved in **7 sessions (35 papers)**:

- 4 ordinary sessions,
- 2 co-organized sessions with the Commission on Transport Geography,
- 1 special session on Urbanization in China.

### IGC Kyoto - August 2013

The Urban Commission organized **20 sessions (80 papers)**.

The contributors came from 25 countries. A selection of papers was published in an English book edited by Maseteru Hino and Yun Tsutsumi supported by the *Association of Japanese Geographers*.

COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS
Argentina	1	Hungary	1	Slovakia	1
Australia	1	India	7	Spain	2
Brazil	2	Iraq	1	Switzerland	2
China	12	Italy	1	Taiwan	2
Czech Republic	1	Japan	23	Thailand	1
France	6	Mexico	1	United Kingdom	2
Germany	2	Poland	2	United States	4
Hong Kong	2	Russian Federation	2	Viet Nam	1
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>80</b>
<b>24 COUNTRIES</b>					

### IGC Krakow - August 2014

In total, the Urban Commission organized **24 sessions (100 papers)**. It included 3 joint sessions and 3 special sessions.

COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS
Belgium	1	India	8	Russian Federation	1
Brazil	2	Iran	2	South Africa	2
China	12	Italy	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Czech Republic	1	Japan	4	Spain	5
Denmark	1	Korea	1	Switzerland	1
France	1	Nigeria	1	Turkey	1
Great Britain	1	Poland	10	Ukraine	1
Germany	1	Portugal	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>23 COUNTRIES</b>					

### IGC Moscow - August 2015

In total, the Urban Commission organized **38 sessions (190 papers) and 1 thematic conference**.

COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS	COUNTRY	PAPERS
Algeria	1	Germany	6	Nigeria	3	South Africa	7
Australia	3	India	38	Peru	1	Spain	8
Austria	1	Iran	3	Poland	2	Switzerland	2
Brazil	6	Israel	5	Republic of Korea	1	Taiwan	3
Canada	3	Italy	4	Romania	4	Uganda	1
Chile	3	Japan	6	Russian Federation	36	Ukraine	1
China	19	Lithuania	1	Saudi Arabia	1	United Kingdom	2
France	5	Mexico	7	Serbia	2	United States of America	5
<b>TOTAL</b>							<b>190</b>
<b>32 COUNTRIES</b>							

## Synthesis of the numbers of papers in the Commission meetings, Regional congresses and IGC

All commission meetings 2012-2015 and participations to IGC since 2013 (not including Cologne meeting where we did not gain representative statistics).

COUNTRY	Commission Meetings	IGC	Total	COUNTRY	Commission Meetings	IGC	Total
Algeria	1	1	2	Luxemburg	2		2
Argentina	1	1	2	Mexico	11	8	19
Australia		4	4	Netherland	1		1
Austria		1	1	New Zealand	2		2
Belgium	2	1	3	Nigeria		4	4
Brazil	22	10	32	Peru		1	1
Canada	12	3	15	Poland	14	14	28
Chile		3	3	Portugal	2	1	3
China	15	43	58	Republic of Korea		1	1
Czech Republic		2	2	Romania	1	4	5
Denmark	1	1	2	Russian Federation	3	39	42
Egypt	1		1	Saudi Arabia	2	2	4
Finland	1		1	Serbia	1	2	3
France	16	12	28	Slovakia		1	1
Germany	13	9	22	South Africa	67	9	76
Hong Kong		2	2	Spain	28	15	43
Hungary		1	1	Sweden	1		1
India	5	53	58	Switzerland	11	5	16
Indonesia	1		1	Taiwan		5	5
Iran		5	5	Thailand		1	1
Iraq		1	1	Turkey	1	1	2
Ireland	13		13	Uganda		1	1
Israel	4	5	9	Ukraine		2	2
Italy	2	6	8	United Kingdom	8	5	13
Japan	27	33	60	United States of America	1	9	10
Korea		1	1	Viet Nam		1	1
Lebanon	5		5	Zimbabwe	1		1
Lithuania		1	1				
			<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>333</b>	<b>632</b>
			<b>+ Cologne</b>			<b>+35</b>	<b>+35</b>
			<b>TOTAL ATTENDEES</b>		<b>299</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>667</b>
			<b>COUNTRIES</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>55</b>

## 2.C.1 Commission Annual Meeting in Shanghai and IGC Beijing (2016)

Shanghai, August 15-20 2016 – Urban Commission annual meeting  
Co-organized by the Urban Geography Commission IGU (IGU-C12-39), East China Normal University & Center of Urban Studies and Urban Planning, The University of Hong Kong, and Urban Geography Committee, Geographical Society of China (UGC-GSC)

**CONFERENCE VENUE:** East China Normal University, 3663 North Zhongshan Rd., Shanghai, 200062

### Keynote speakers:

- Allen SCOTT (Distinguished Research Professor, University of California – Los Angeles)

CURRENT DEBATES IN URBAN THEORY: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

- Fulong WU (Professor of Planning, Bartlett School of Planning, University College London)

## UNDERSTANDING THE CHINESE CITIES AND ITS IMPLICATION FOR THE URBAN THEORY

Call for abstracts with a special focus on Governing Globalizing Cities

+ **11 revised themes of the commission :**

- 1- Complex Urban Systems and processes of cities' transformation
- 2- Technological innovations, creative activities in cities
- 3- Innovative and smart building and transportation in cities
- 4- Polycentrism, small and medium size cities
- 5- Sustainable to resilient cities
- 6- Shrinking and aging Cities
- 7- Urban Governance, planning and participative democracy
- 8- Contested Social Spaces
- 9- Subjective/objective Well-Being in cities
- 10- Urban Heritage and Conservation
- 11- New concepts and methods in urban studies

(Streaming and record of some sessions in collaboration with the Digital Campus of Complex Science CS-DC UNESCO: the request was sent one month ago and are we waiting to the organizers' agreement).

### **Beijing, August 21-26 2016 – IGC**

10 themes proposed for the Commission sessions (Streaming and record of some sessions in collaboration with the Digital Campus of Complex Science CS-DC UNESCO: to confirm)

4 joint sessions with other commissions:

- Cultural aspects of sustainable urban development

with C12.07: Commission on Cultural Approach in Geography

- A Woman's Place is in the City!

with C12.10: Commission on Gender Geography

- Human Mobility and Urban Vulnerabilities

with C12.17: Commission on Global Change and Human Mobility

- China's great urban transformation: multidisciplinary research on urban China

with Urban Geography Research Committee, Geographical Society of China;

and Urban China Research Network;

Keynote speaker for IGC: Denise Pumain (Professor University Paris 1, former chair of the commission)

### **2.C.2 Planned Future Commission Annual Meetings (2017-2020)**

**2017:**

Commission meeting – Salvador de Bahia

**2018:**

- Commission meeting – Calgary or Montreal

- Regional conference - Quebec (Canada)

**2019:**

Commission meeting – Luxembourg

**2020:**

- Commission meeting – Balears? Greece? Barcelona? Beirut?
- IGC conference - Istanbul

[Microsoft Word - Newsletter Report 2012-2016.docx](#) (274 Ko)

[TOP ^](#)

### **3. Networking**

#### **Collaboration with other commissions of IGU**

#### **Collaboration for sessions during the general IGU meetings 2012-2016:**

- C12.07: Cultural Approach in Geography
- C12.10: Gender Geography
- C12.14: Geography of the Global Information Society
- C12.17: Global Change and Human Mobility
- C12.30: Mediterranean Basin
- C12.38: Transport and Geography

#### **Co-publication:**

- Springer book in homage to Sir Peter Hall with the commission C12.38 Transport and Geography

#### **Project of meetings in collaboration with:**

- C12.30 Mediterranean Basin
- C12.38 Transport and Geography

#### **United Nations Habitat**

- Book in preparation for the Habitat III – October 2016

#### **Complex Science Digital Campus CS-DC Unitwin UNESCO**

Participation to the E-Department TIMES: Territorial Intelligence for Equity and Sustainability

⇒ Possibilities of E-Conferences and E-learning (in progress)

### **4. Publications**

#### **2016**

- Rozenblat C., Pumain D., Velasquez E.: International and Transnational perspective of Urban systems, in progress with UN Habitat, expected to be published in MIT Press
- R.D. Knowles and C. Rozenblat (eds.), Sir Peter Hall: Pioneer in Regional Planning, Transport and Urban Geography, SpringerBriefs on Pioneers in Science and Practice 52, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-28056-1



## 2015

- Maseratu Hino and Jun Tsutsumi (eds.) (2015), Urban Geography of Post-Growth Society, Selected papers of the IGU Urban Geography Commission sessions in the Kyoto Congress 2013, with the support of the Japanese Association of geographers, Tohoku University Press, Sendai
- Wayne K.D Davies (Ed.) (2015): Theme Cities: Solutions for Urban Problems, Springer
- Moore-Cherry N., Pineira-Mantinan M-J. (2015) Addressing Complex Challenges: Social, Economic and Cultural Transformations in the City, Young Scholar Vol.4, Santiago de Compostella: IDEGA, USC and IGU Urban Commission

## 2014

- O'Donoghue D. P. (Ed.) (2014) Urban Transformations: Centres, Peripheries and Systems. Selected papers of the IGU Urban Geography Commission 2011 in Canterbury.
- Kotze N., Donaldson N. and Visser G. (2014). Life in a Changing Urban Landscape. Proceedings of the IGU Urban Geography Commission 2013 in Johannesburg and Stellenbosch (Urban challenges in a complex world) Edited by the University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg
- Mierzejewska L., Parysek J. (ed.), 2014. Cities In a Complex World: problems, Challenges and Prospects. Poznań: Bogucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe (274 p.)

## 2013

- Pineira Mantinan M.J. & Moore N. ed. 2013, Transforming Cities: Urban Processes and Structure, Geography Young Scholars Vol. 3. Santiago de Compostela: IDEGA, USC and IGU Urban Commission.

## 2012

- Pineira Mantinan M.J. & Moore N. ed. 2012, Changes in the City, Geography Young Scholars Vol. 2. Santiago de Compostela: IDEGA, USC and IGU Urban Commission.

For future publications, we propose an increased focus on special issues or books that may be based on the annual meetings according to the specificity of the hosted city. Publications should be in accordance with special topics announced in the call for papers of future meetings.

### **Young Scholar's annual publication**

**To download the volumes or papers in PDF format:**

<http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban/page62286.html>

Newsletters: yearly and archives since 2010 on the website

## 5. Archival contribution

The commission's WEBSITE archives publications from 1984:

<http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban/home/menuinst/publications/igu-urban-commission.html>

Open diffusion of news on the mailing list: [iguurban@unil.ch](mailto:iguurban@unil.ch)

Publication and archives of the news on the website homepage:

- World conferences on urban topics

- Positions

- New books

<http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban>

the "IGU Urban Commission" FACEBOOK Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/274054405156/>

## Financial Report 2012-2016

Transaction	Income	Expenditure
2012 IGU Support to the commission	1,000 US\$	
Young scholar Price (Tomoko Kubo)		1,000 US\$
2013 IGU Support to the commission	1,000 US\$	
Invitation Peter Nijkamp in Poznan 2014		1,000 US\$
2014 IGU Support to the commission:	1,000 US\$	
Young scholar Price (Charles Albert-Bohan)		1,000 US\$
2015 IGU Support to the commission:	1,000 US\$	
Invitation Allen Scott in Shanghai 2016 (flight ticket)		Expected 1,000 US\$
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>4,000 US\$</b>	<b>4,000 US\$</b>