

Belgrade, September 25-29, 2019

Универзитет у Београду
ГЕОГРАФСКИ
ФАКУЛТЕТ

University of Belgrade
FACULTY OF
GEOGRAPHY

The overall theme of the 8th CATference—"Comparing Cities after Transition"—builds on CAT's long-standing endeavour to build bridges between and within urban research communities (be they regional, discipline or topic-based). The main goal of the conference is to encourage conversations of a comparative nature regarding cities and urbanism in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as on other contexts frequently referred to as "post-socialist". Fresh empirical and theoretical contributions at different scales, from different perspectives, and with different disciplinary vantage points are warmly welcomed.

We think that Belgrade/Serbia/former Yugoslavia is a more than fruitful seedbed for CATs on every stage (beginners to experienced) due to the broad variety of urban phenomena over time and space. The scientific programme of the conference will be complemented by a two-day field trip offering an inspiring opportunity to explore the singular urbanization processes and urban development taking place in the former Yugoslavia. The Balkans remain understudied in the literature, a situation which we hope to improve on with this event.

The **themes** we wish to focus on are:

- The place of CATs in urban theory
- Cities and social justice
- Smart cities
- Migration and mobilities in CATs
- Post-truth urbanism

This could include **topics** such as (not exclusively!):

- Socio-spatial patterns and processes
- Social cohesion
- Suburban and peri-urban patterns and processes
- Gentrification and related processes
- Urban informality
- Urban movements and activism in post-democratic (?) societies
- Urban geopolitics
- Urban and national identities
- Urban resilience
- Historical legacies and (urban) memory politics
- Challenges of urban shrinkage
- Immigration and the rise of right-wing movements in urban politics
- Migrant inclusion in cities: innovative urban policies and practices
- Mobility
- Commuting and urban transport development
- Smart cities: smart for whom?
- The prospects for small and medium sized towns
- Megaprojects and (authoritarian?) entrepreneurialism
- Touristification

The **call for papers** and organized sessions (90 minutes with 3 or 4 presentations) along these guidelines will be open from December 15, 2018 until April 15, 2019.

Conference schedule (tentative):

September 25, 2019: Arrival, early registration, guided city tour

September 26, 2019: Registration; opening ceremony; keynote; parallel sessions; reception and cocktail at the city hall.

September 27, 2019: Parallel sessions; late afternoon field trip to New Belgrade. Conference dinner.

September 28 & 29, 2019: Conference excursion to Smederevo, Iron Gate (on Danube River) and Bor (Eastern Serbia). Round-table. Transfer to Belgrade. End of the conference.

Conference venue:

University of Belgrade – Faculty of Geography
Rectorate of University of Belgrade
Belgrade City Hall

Conference fee:

The conference fee (day 1-3) is 100/60€ (regular/PhD) for early birds. Late birds plus 20€. The two days field trip to Smederevo and Bor (day 4-5) is 80/60 €.

Organizing committee:

Ivan Ratkaj (Belgrade)
Danica Šantić (Belgrade)
Marija Antić (Belgrade)
Michael Gentile (Oslo)
Thomas Borén (Stockholm)
Craig Young (Manchester)
Daniel Göler (Bamberg)

