



HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



Georg-Simmel-Zentrum für Metropolenforschung

# **CALL FOR PANELS**

## **RN37 V MIDTERM CONFERENCE**

*Seeing Like a City / Seeing the City Through*

Georg Simmel Center for Metropolitan Research  
Humboldt University Berlin  
OCT 5-7, 2022

Urban citizenship implies a fragmentation of claims that affects rights to the city as universal, all-inclusive ideals: we see a trend towards a diversification of interests, a weakening and separation of movements, and competition about resources rather than more solidarities within groups working as collectives on the pathway to a livable and more just city. Such urban citizenship is always in conversation with modes of governance, which vary greatly among Europe.

Different modes of governance always require categorizations on various scales. Starting from the central argument of James Scott *Seeing Like a State* (1999) that any government means categorization, and any categorization fails to acknowledge the *metis* of locally embedded practices, knowledges, and ways of seeing and doing things, especially on and from the urban margins, this conference seeks to sociologically address this tension. The 'City' as a set of local state institutions imagines, regulates, categorizes, classifies, and intervenes in the urban and shapes citizenship and belonging. Second, however, the city cannot be made nor planned and will always be, as AbdouMaliq Simone formulated in *For the City Yet to Come* (2004), in the making through practices and logics outside of the view of the state which defy standards and categories. Everyday tactics see people through in their daily lives and see through the city: finding new ways to get things done under constantly changing urban conditions. Yet city politics must draw boundaries and categorize, as any political decision implies a categorization. How can 'seeing like a City' and 'seeing the City through' be brought together in new ways, given the current transformations of our cities?

This frames the program of the fifth RN37-ESA Midterm-Conference in Berlin, hosted by the *Georg Simmel Center for Metropolitan Research* at Humboldt University Berlin, in collaboration with the *Sektion Stadt- und Regionalsoziologie* of the German Society of Sociology (DGS) and various Berlin-based urban scholars. The conference will take place in-person from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.

## Call for panel submissions

We invite panel submissions for the following streams that develop the friction of the logics of the everyday which can be seen throughout the city as it is lived and the logics of the city as government and governance in broad forms:

### 1. Urban In/securities

Fear of violence or virus in public space, fear of crime, securing existence...urban insecurities are common, and recent developments strengthened the idea that policing may not be an answer: then what may? Security has also taken on new dimensions beyond safety and securitization. Securing urban life may be attempted through politics of greening the city, rent control movements and other movements to expand ways to enhance and ensure existential needs and future human life and livelihood – where the future challenge is clearly to extend notions of urban care and responsibility beyond centrality on humans. We thus invite panel proposals on urban safety and securitization of urban space, conviviality and non-state forms of constructing safety, policing and un-policing and reducing fears, and panels that aim to discuss

the role of grassroots movements in securing livable, inclusive cities. Moreover, how is urban belonging possible in times of existential insecurities, as under COVID19 pandemic conditions, and how can urban public trust and urban solidarity be discovered, methodologically assessed beyond singular case studies, and theorized as everyday forms of urban life?

## 2. Urban In/equalities

Structural inequalities and conceptualizations of urban citizenship, justice and equality remain central in ethical and political discourses. We invite panels on the dynamics and mechanisms of the (re)production of inequalities in fields like public space and citizenship, inequality in housing, inequality in education, inequality in work and effects of touristification for unequal access to resources. Especially scholars working in the understanding of such perspectives from the margins of the wide diversity of European urban cities, large and small, are encouraged to propose panels. We also welcome panels that address how COVID19 has made obvious and deepened existing urban inequalities as they are affected by urban space.

## 3. Urban De/Mobilizations

How to further think urban social movements and political participation towards a new conceptualization of urban publics that includes, after Ash Amin, tactics of doing the urban in a broad sense? We invite panels that ask these questions while focusing on challenges of urban participation for formal political structures, the in- and exclusionary mechanisms of DIY urbanism and community-based knowledge production, and methodologically, the rethinking of urban knowledge as citizen science and other new recognitions of varieties of urban tactic knowledge are included in transdisciplinary urban studies. Panels may also address how diversity and multicultural settings in cities have enabled and fueled urban mobilizations.

## Panel proposals

Proposal can be sent by 2-3 chairs from preferably more than one institution, including:

1. A summary of the main topic of the panel of max. 350 words
2. 2-3 references of the main literature discussion on which the idea of the proposal draws
3. Contact details (including possible social media accounts) and brief descriptions (100 words) of all the organizers
4. The email contact of the corresponding panel proposal author
5. Panel format: Traditional (with individual presentations), author-meets-critics, open panel debates, roundtables, lightning talk sessions.

Please note that the panel proposals must not include any participants, as they are expected to lead to an open call for abstracts. Do not send individual abstracts for panels at this stage: After decisions have been made on the ones accepted for the conference, an open call for individual abstracts (of single authors or co-authors) will follow.

Panel proposals can be submitted until **February 10, 2022** to **rn37.esa@gmail.com**

## Important deadlines

January 6, 2022: Opening of the Call for Submission for Panel Abstracts

February 10, 2022: Closure of the Call for Panels Abstracts

February 23, 2022: Notification to Panel Organizers

March 7, 2022: Opening of the Call for Submission of Individual Paper Abstracts

May 6, 2022: Closure of the Call for Individual Paper Abstracts

June 6, 2022: Notification to Paper Abstract authors

June 6-July 4, 2022: Early-bird rate registration for individual participants and registration for panel organizers

July 5-July 20, 2022: Full Rate registration for individual participants

October 5-7, 2022: Midterm Conference of the ESA RN37- Urban Sociology

## Registration fees<sup>1</sup>

Registration is cheaper for ESA members! To become a member first, click here:

<https://www.europeansociology.org/membership/become-a-member>

	ESA Members		Non ESA-Members	
<b>EARLY BIRD</b>	<b>Band 1 countries</b>	<b>Band 2 countries</b>	<b>Band 1 countries</b>	<b>Band 2 countries</b>
PhD or MA students	70 €	40 €	90 €	60 €
Regular, Non-tenured position	130 €	80 €	160 €	100 €
Regular, Tenured position	190 €	110 €	240 €	130 €
<b>LATE REGISTRATION</b>	<b>Band 1 countries</b>	<b>Band 2 countries</b>	<b>Band 1 countries</b>	<b>Band 2 countries</b>
PHD or MA students	90 €	60 €	120 €	60 €
Regular, non-tenured position	170 €	110 €	200 €	140 €
Regular, Tenured position	240 €	180 €	290 €	230 €

Band 1 countries: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Chile, Croatia, Curaçao, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, French Polynesia, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Guam, Hong Kong SAR/China, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Rep., Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao SAR/China, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Northern Mariana Islands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sint Maarten (Dutch part), Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Martin (French part), Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Virgin Islands (U.S.).

Band 2 countries: Everywhere else.

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<sup>1</sup> Subject to further confirmation

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