URBAN SCIENCE FORWARD LOOK

WORKSHOPS

22.1.2004
Anne Haila (University of Helsinki)
anne.haila@helsinki.fi, tel: 358919124584

Forward Look

The ESF Forward Look will enable Europe's scientific community to develop medium to long term views and analyses of future research developments in multidisciplinary topics. The Urban Science Forward Look aims to develop an urban science policy program to guide and initiate urban research in European universities, to frame a research agenda for future urban research, to coordinate urban research and network urban scholars and research institutes, and produce comparable data on European cities. The challenging new term "urban science" aims to draw under one program various disciplines from humanities and social sciences to natural sciences, medicine, engineering, and architecture. The aim is also to bring together key scientific actors, funding agencies and cities. The writing of the ESF Urban Science Forward Look program will proceed through a series of workshops and a summary conference. The outcome of workshops and the final conference will be a report which can provide a reference for the future and action plans for developing urban science in Europe.

There will be five workshops in 2004.

Workshop1 : *Urbanization: From Yesterday to the Next Day*, in Milan 4-9 May, chaired by Guido Martinotti, guido.martinotti@unimib.it

Workshop 2: *European Cities in the EU: Social Fabric, Inequalities, Agency and Political Order, What Sort of European Society in the Making?* in Paris 11-12 June, chaired by Patrick Le Galès, legales@msh-paris.fr

Workshop 3: *Urban Risks: Inequalities and Managing Uncertainties*, in Leipzig 24-27 June, chaired by Roger Keil, rkeil@yorku.ca

Workshop 4*: Urban Science: Re-Negotiating the Boundaries between Science, Technology and Society*, in Manchester 1-2 July, chaired by Simon Marvin, s.marvin@salford.ac.uk

Workshop 5: *Urban Civilization: Where Culture Meets Commerce*, in Prague 23-24 September 2004, chaired by Jiri Musil with Ludek Sykora, ceu.musil@volny.cz, sykora@nature.cuni.cz

The first workshop, Urbanization: from yesterday to the next day, will investigate current trends in urbanization, the European urban system and the quality of life. It will assess critically the present statistical practices and the production of urban knowledge. It will also discuss issues of urban planning. The second workshop, European cities in the EU: social fabric, inequalities, agency and political order, what sort of European society in the making, will analyse European cities as part of European societies, and through comparing European cities to American and Asian cities investigate the future European cities. The main issues discussed in this workshop will be social structure and political order of European cities, including topics of integrating mechanisms, social cohesion, exclusion, inequalities, governance and actors. The third workshop, Urban risks: inequalities and managing uncertainties, will analyse urban problems like congestion, poverty, segregation, marginalization, pollution and crime from interdisciplinary perspective. It will engage social and natural scientists, critical theorists, policy makers, academics and urban activists. Among the topics this workshop will discuss are urban infrastructure, urban services and various urban risks. The fourth workshop, Urban science: re-negotiating the boundaries between science, technology and society, will discuss the experience of urban programmes carried out by various institutions, like UN, WHO, World Bank, and national research councils. It will involve the key institutions and users of urban research. It will critically compare competing disciplinary approaches to urban issues and discuss disciplinary approaches to urban science represented by natural science, engineering and technology, the social sciences and humanities. The fifth workshop, Urban civilization: where culture meets commerce, will discuss Urban Civilization, the possibilities that cities offer, cities as positive and innovative places, the long European urban tradition from Virgil to Cicero and Dante.

The aim of the workshop discussions is to explore, define and suggest important topics and questions for future urban research, urban science research and teaching methods, stimulate novel thinking about urban issues and prepare the agenda for the main conference to be held in Helsinki in April 2005.

The questions that can be asked in the workshops and when inviting participants can be, for example, the following:

- What are the important research questions for future European cities?

- What are the research methods for analyzing these questions?

- What are the best teaching and education methods?

- What are the most important theories, approaches, definitions and texts concerning urban questions?

- How to bridge the gap between various urban disciplines and between academics, consultants and urban managers?

Participants of the workshops (15-25) will be urban scholars in different fields of science (sociology, economics, geography, political science, architecture study, history, natural scientists, medicine, and cultural studies), and professionals (like planners, real estate brokers, civil servants, mayors, representatives of government departments). Participants will be leading urban scholars, creative thinkers, urban activists and citizens. The participants will be from various European countries, from the North, South, UK, Continental Europe and Eastern Europe, and also from America, Asia and Africa.

The working methods of the workshops can be different. The chairs can ask participants to send in advance a full paper or just an abstract and count more upon free discussion. The workshops can explore existing urban theories and make different approaches to challenge each other.

The output of each workshop will be an agenda of urban science topics, research and teaching methods, and suggestions for strategies (including convincing arguments) in promoting urban research and studies in research councils of European countries and European Union. The workshops can also produce publications, articles in journals, newsletters and newspapers. Workshops can also recommend seminars to be arranged to discuss more deeply the issues identified in the workshop. Workshops can also suggest the succeeding workshops to continue discussing the issues the workshop has found important.

There will be continuity between the workshops. The chair (Anne Haila) will circulate to the Steering Group and the workshop organizers written reports after each workshop. Steering Group members and workshop organizers are invited to comment and send suggestions to the chair.

In the following there will be a more detailed description of the workshops. The chair (Anne Haila) will attend all workshops. Workshop organizers and Steering Group members should indicate if they wish to attend particular workshop. Steering Group members and workshop organizers can also send suggestions for participants at each workshop to the relevant workshop organizer or the chair. For example, it would be challenging to have a participant from EMRC and PESC at the fifth workshop and a participant from SCH at the third workshop. Members from the COST project could participate any of the workshops.

Workshop 1:
Urban civilization: from yesterday to the next day.

Chair: Guido Martinotti, professor, Bicocca, Milan
Tuesday 4th-Sunday 9th May 2004
Location: Università degli studi di Milano-Bicocca- UNIMIB,

The workshop will be organized in partnership with the International seminar on *Mind, Space and Society* (provisional title) to be held in the same period and place by the TASC (Thematic Area Standing Committee) on *Environment, Space, and Society* in the Doctoral program QUA_SI.

Two models of urbanisation face one another in the emerging European Urban Space. On one hand the traditional European model, albeit with its innumerable variations, but with a common basic unity rooted in the ancient blueprint revisited during the late Middle Age and the Renaissance. On the other, the North American metropolitan core-ring type, evolved in industrial times, mainly around productive settlements and encircled by a vast urban sprawl patterned by *Daily Urban* or *Functional Urban Systems* (DUSs or FURs). Both models are currently experiencing the same pressures toward the formation of energy gobbling large scale conurbations, pushing outward the

edges of the urban frontier in many directions. This process depends on the diffuse availability of transportation means and of relatively cheap energy, but it unfolds in combination with a number of intertwining changes affecting the organization of work, family and housing structures and lifestyles, consumption patterns, and communication practices. It is not clear whether the European township model will be able to adapt efficiently to the emerging metropolis, avoiding the dangers of social and territorial segregation that accompanied the development of the North American metropolitan areas, while retaining the rich cultural heritage that characterized its urbane way of life during many centuries. But there is little doubt that both models, as well as urban systems in other regions of the world, are subject to the same structural factors that tend to thwart the original specificities and traditions. On the other hand, in a highly interdependent world of boundary-pounding markets, local traits are often given new life and displayed in refurbished fashion. Thus the economy merges with the culture of cities in new and challenging ways.

As a necessary condition for deliberate and effective policies in the direction of successfully meeting challenges posed by these developments, systematic knowledge on urban processes at the European level has to be framed in the context of world urbanization trends. Luckily this endeavour can be rooted in a growing body of literature developed with particular vigour by European scholars, particularly in the last few decades. But additional knowledge is sorely needed, particularly from the point of view of cataloguing the factors propelling general trends in urbanization. Special care is requested because the field is fraught with mythical popular visions, hyperbolic anticipations of changes, especially in the technological area, dramatic visions of collapse, and obsolete interpretation schemes.

Not surprisingly so, one might add, since changes in settlement patterns deeply affect the symbolic sphere of millions of common persons. Besides, all large scale processes of this kind, being holistic in nature, affect interactively innumerable aspects of social life, from economy to culture to personality and politics and go from history to planning, at different levels of emergence, from the local to the planetary. It is thus difficult to fine tune analytical tools capable to readily identify causes, and operationalize remedies, but that is exactly the task the scientific research program of the ESF is set to perform. A task to which this workshop intends to contribute not by in-depth analysis of the European urban system, which is the specific task of another workshop, but by shedding light on the continuity in urban civilisation, and by attempting to draw a profile of the

urban society shaped by current trends.

The following pages outline the proposal of a workshop that will investigate current trends in urbanization and the prospects of the formation of a EUS by looking at the following interrelated areas. The workshop will explore several aspects of the European urban world at a systemic level, particularly the emerging structure of the economic and political European entity in the frame of world urbanization trends, and the quality of urban life in the European region. In fact these two aspects are strictly connected in the sense that changes in the global economy, and in particular its financial structure, are expected to affect deeply the quality of life in different population strata and in different localities. Under which conditions the quality of life can be improved within the overall economic change becomes a central question in a quest for the 'City of Tomorrow'. In the ESF's NECTAR group's terms it is necessary to find equilibrium among three competing value-variables: growth, social equity and quality. In the end the issue is the interplay between characters deeply rooted in the past and new urban forms. The workshop will explore the following themes:

1. *From the culture of cities to cultures in cities*
2. *Roots and growth: general trends in the European Urban System in the frame of world urbanization*
3. *Metropolitan morphology and economy*
4. *The metropolitan ecosystem and the quality of life*
5. *Mobility and lifestyles*
6. *Social morphology, social exclusion and inclusion*
7. *Participation and communication in the new technological context*
8. *From metropolitan Government to eGovernance*
9. *Plans for the future*

1) From the culture of cities to cultures in cities
This will be the introductory theme and it is intended to map current social science thought on contemporary urban life, as well as to provide the leitmotif of the workshop.
2) Roots and growth: trends in the European Urban System in the frame of world urbanisation
In this session the goal will be to sketch the parable of urban civilisation. We want to capture the essence of urban society and culture by going back to its basic characters. Language and communication, the first settlements, the original political organization of the city state and its

evolution through the European peculiar experience of the Medieval urbanization, the Renaissance and the present change from the city to the second and third generation metropolis.

In order to understand the metropolitan transformation it is necessary to investigate its major underlying structural trends. Traditionally the European Urban System (EUS) has been interpreted by the model of the Blue Banana (Brunet, 1987) which traced a main backbone of the urban settlement from the Southern part of the British Islands, to the Northern shore of the continent (from the Lowlands to the Hanseatic area) down to Northern Italy, through the Lotharingic spine. Urbanization in this area is old, based on thriving independent city states and a tight network of highly interconnected urban markets. These supported the largest portion of the European industrial settlements and still mark the location of the major physical and human capital in the region, with a strong transportation and service infrastructure. In recent years, however, new structures have emerged. The so called Sun belt or North-of-the-South belt constituted by a chain of strong emerging urban systems from Barcelona to the Eastern Alps and beyond overlapping with the Southernmost tip of the Blue Banana in the Po valley. This transverse is characterized by clusters of new industries, particularly in the service sector and of the SME type, and by high levels of quality of life and environmental attractiveness. Two additional channels are emerging; one is the Eastern Belt from the Baltic States to the Balkans which encloses previously peripheral cities such as Berlin, Prague, Vienna or Trieste, now posed to create a crucial interface with Eastern Europe, and the other is the Northern Belt from Helsinki to Glasgow based on high tech and strong human capital development. (Nuvolati, 1998.)

The European Urban Space is founded on these structures representing the longue durée, but as Giddens writes, the city has a specious continuity with the past (Giddens, 1990: p.6). There are indeed at least three urban formations intermeshed in today's territorial reality, particularly in regions with millenary urban history such as Europe. The one is the traditional town, with all its historical variations. This is settlement in which the *commune*, or the institutional and physical morphology, coincides with a *community*, a sociological entity defined by interactions among individuals, groups, classes and organizations. As anticipated by NSBGras "the large town, the outstanding town...slowly grew into the economic metropolis" (NSB Gras, 1922:p.181).The mid-XX century metropolis was embodied in the idea of *metropolitan area*. An entity less easily definable than the traditional city, but still fairly recognisable as a functional system, large, but limited in area (albeit with uncertain borders) and dominated by a center-periphery (core-fringes) morphological structure. In its exploded version, it was Jean Gottman's *Megalopolis*. And finally a

new entity that is still difficult to grasp and that as been variously defined as *World city*, *Global city*, *Exopolis,* or *Edge City* (Soja,1992) an open network with no central places, or with a plurality of "nodes", not necessarily arranged in a clear hierarchical order. No matter what exact definitions we accept for the new urban form, many of the social problems of contemporary metropolitan societies depend on the coexistence and superimposition of these three "urban layers" (Martinotti, 1992). The *first generation metropolis* has not totally substituted the traditional towns, and the *network city,* or *second generation metropolis,* still contains towns *and* metropolitan areas, while a possible *third generation metropolis* projected on the global arena, is already looming at the horizon. Is it possible to outline a European urban space (EUS) capable of optimizing sustainable growth, social equity and a high level of quality of life? (Masser *et al,* 1990.)

3) Metropolitan morphology and economic base: from rural to cultural

This session focuses on the economic base of the new metropolitan entity, but also on its morphological traits. It is impossible to separate the two aspects because precisely the territorial structure of the contemporary metropolis (core-fringe, *Functional Urban Region*) dictates many aspects of its economy. This is particularly true of the low-density, large-radius character of the metropolitan settlement. For 58 of the 60 odd centuries of the history of European human settlement the relation between the rural population and the rest has been 9 to 1. In recent times it has been completely overturned and today is generally close to 1 to 9. Such change did not occur without a profound change in the nature of either entity. True metropolitan economy is still highly intermeshed with agricultural production and in turn environmental quality is strictly dependent on the management of rural resources in the area. As Berardo Cori reminds "Still today someone is surprised…that in the Gottmanian metropolis the wood covered surface is more extended than the urbanised one" (Cori, 1997). Actually we often forget that urbanization is the daughter of the agricultural revolution, as Paul Bairoch puts it (Bairoch, 1985) although the sequence has been recently challenged (Soja, 2000).

Today, however, at the end of a long history of successive cycles the daughter seems to be on the way of killing the mother as "The railway-begotten giant cities…in all probability [are] destined to such a process of dissection and diffusion as to amount almost to obliteration… within a measurable further space of years. These coming cities…will represent a new and entirely different phase of human distribution…The city will diffuse itself until it has taken up considerable areas and many of the characteristics of what is now country…The country will take itself many of the qualities of the city. The old antithesis…will cease the boundary lines will altogether disappear."(Wells, 1905.)

Wells was incredibly anticipatory, but his vision took long time to be accepted or even understood. Particularly because in the popular image, as Staffan Helmfried writes, urbanites consider the countryside as their own public garden, and "would like to find in the countryside the product of a rural world living in perpetual harmony with itself and with Nature, immutable and forever frozen in a perennial Golden age" (Helmfried, 1996:p.20). Helmfried remarks that urban dwellers accuse farmers to corrupt this nature with their productive practices increasingly dependent on mechanisation and the use of polluting chemical products, disrupting the traditional rural world. But it is precisely the impetuous urban growth that has put the pressure on the agricultural world to increase production.

There is, however, another transformation taking place at the same time. As the availability of cheap energy, and today of cheap and highly manageable information, is rapidly increasing across the board, cities struggle to keep their traditional dominance in production. To use the old time but highly resilient Colin Clark's tri-phase evolutionary scheme, urban economy goes from secondary to tertiary sectors (Clark, 1942,1967). Again, however, the change is so sweeping that neither sector remains identical. It is not simply that the quantity of nuts and bolts manufactured is being reduced and that of books and newspapers increased. The very concept of nuts and bolts as well as that of books and newspaper mutates "beyond recognition". And at the same time the places where production occurs follow the same trajectory. This process has been variously described as post-fordism, advent of the service economy, knowledge economy or network society. All these terms are somehow true in the sense that they point out at processes that affect contemporarily the type of goods being produced, immaterial and symbolic rather than material, the process of producing them, increasingly based on extensive use of information systems, the location of production, increasingly decentralised, the social composition of the producers and their required skills, flexible manpower with sound educational background.

4) Mobility and lifestyles. Metropolitan ecosystems and the quality of life

The metropolitan community is by definition an area of high energy consumption and world urbanization is in continuous expansion. At the beginning of the xxi century more than 50% of the world population lives in cities. These cover slightly more than 2% of the planetary surface. It is not a small area because the urban surface carries a gigantic environmental "shadow". To provide food and wood for the activities of its inhabitants today's London requires a territory equivalent to 58 times the surface of its municipal land. The world urban environment produces 78% of the anthropogenic carbon emissions, uses 76% of the total industrial use of wood, and 60% of the world

tap water. (O' Meara, 1999.) Establishing a sustainable metropolitan ecosystem with a high environmental quality is one of the central challenges to the planning for the future of the new metropolis.

Human activity has altered the water cycle on the earth; this is particularly true in the large conurbations. The water cycle is deeply influenced by human needs. The trend in modification of water cycle in a conurbation is to totally eliminate the surface water runoff and to capture springs to provide tap waters and to drain city sewer systems. Anthropogenic pollutants emitted in the atmosphere generate environmental problems, which will be more and more important in the future. Acid rain, greenhouse effect, ozone hole are known problems which affect the quality of air and consequently the way of living of millions people. At the same time contamination of the soil by industrial waste and other traditional remedial actions (excavation, pump and treatment) for the recovery of contaminated sites are not realistic at all existing sites. In the last years, microbiological treatment of contaminated sites has proved to be an effective and versatile alternative. As the new metropolitan morphology develops, it is clear that the "old antithesis" disappears in the traditional physically separated form as part of the agricultural production becomes integrated in the metropolitan context. However new complex relations between the agricultural production world, the metropolitan system and the entire ecosystem on which urban life relies are becoming ever more stringent and difficult to understand.

The new social morphology of the contemporary metropolis can be better understood if one makes an effort to abstract from the limiting straight jacket of traditional social ecology and class analysis, better equipped to study the industrial city and the *early* metropolis, both largely based on the spatial distribution of *inhabitants* and *commuters* and of their stratification patterns. Today large metropolitan centers and their economic functions are increasingly affected by growing populations of *city users*. Rather than cities for the inhabitants these are increasingly cities for guests and visitors.

Thus we have two processes which push the limits of Edge city (Garreau, 1988) increasingly outward. The first is the metropolitan expansion. "Imagine - write Sudjic - the force field around a high-tension power line, crackling with energy and ready to flash over and discharge 20,000 volts at any point along its length, and you have some idea of the nature of the modern city as it enters the last decade of the century" (Sudjic, 1993: p.334). As Sudjic notes the force field projected by the central city on the territory is not continuous, but it extends for hundreds of kilometers around the core city. Many factors contribute to the outward push. On one hand the transformation from the

work concentrated in large factories to diffused productive activities (Bologna and Fumagalli, 1997). On the other the growing need for space in homes increasingly organised with new technological tools for a better quality of life, including the access to mass media and data networks. As Masser points out the built up area in Europe grows several time faster than the population (Masser *et al,* 1990). In the end the trend will follow the French pattern in which by 2001 more than 51% of the population lives in the *periurbain* (Pumain et Godard, 1996). The second trend is connected to the growing portion of urban population which is temporary and highly mobile as a consequence of the globalization processes. (Sassen, 1990,1992,1993).

These developments pose a larger problem to the scientific community, even in countries where metropolitan area (or FUR of some sort anyway) statistics are currently available. Useful as they might be - and they are indeed - they seem now inadequate to properly describe the urban phenomenon of today. The observation tools provided by official statistics, largely based on punctual plotting of individuals and organization on space, fail to account for a wide range of components of the new urban phenomenon. They show us the social composition of the *dormant* city, with glimpses on that of the *working* cities, but nothing or very little on the social aspects of the generally *active* city. This condition is somewhat as if contemporary astronomers were still restricted in their observations by the use of visible light-band tools, thus missing a great deal of the events that we today know populate the universe. From this point of view urban scholars have an important task ahead, in intellectually influencing the way in which official statistics are planned and collected, as a crucial step toward the achievement of that knowledge that we all believe is an important prerequisite for the solution of issues of governance. But they also need new observational tools like the observation of traces with GPS and models like *Mobilis* developed at the Institute of Physics of the University of Bologna.

5) Public spaces: participation and communication in the new technological context

The issue of *participation* in the new urban entities becomes crucial both for the comprehension of current dynamics and for the actions to be taken to influence the future social morphology. The issue can be stated as follows. Globalization trends tend to homogenize cities the world over. However, this general trend does not necessarily mean that localities have lost their relevance. On the contrary, as David Harvey points out, the process of "social (re)construction of places" is complementary to the globalization of capital. Precisely because global competition is becoming so generalised, localities need to offer some particular item, both in term of symbolic identity of places and products. But since the administrative borders of the traditional centres (cities, communes, and

sometimes even regions) have often become obsolete in the course of the current urban dynamics, the analytical and actual definition of the entity that serves as the basis for the territorial support of such competition becomes crucial. At the same time the definition of this entity is also crucial for the identification of actors and actions in the democratic process. So far local democracy was largely understood in terms of some variation of the original idea of *political* community or *Gemeinschaft,* but now, the validity of this concept is increasingly submitted to erosion by the emerging social and physical morphology of the city.

Today large metropolitan centers and their economic functions are increasingly affected by growing populations of *city users*. Rather than cities for the inhabitants these are increasingly cities for guests and visitors. The political consequences of these developments that bring with them a *de facto* disenfranchising of the dweller population should be more carefully investigated. The new city is an hospitable city, but this hospitality is disquieting, because behind it we perceive the not so invisible hands of the "Science of Malling", rather than the pluralistic forces of the traditional urban marketplace.

No doubt, the new city needs a redefinition of public spaces. *The Mall* has become the hated counterpart of the public, "political" square, and the digital technology the new vehicle to dehumanisation. As in many other similar cases of *laudationes temporis actis,* we have to resist strongly the tendency to idealise the "public" function of "la piazza" along all of history. In limited periods of time, and in a restricted number of societies with well developed *burgherlich* characters, the square or other similar public places have been "the heart of the city". As Marco Romano pointed out, however, the "public" character of these places, as spaces for democracy had to be negotiated. Moreover this is not the only space in which democracy works. In some societies "la Piazza" was the main public arena, but as Guicciardini reminds us decisions were taken within "il Palazzo" (Romano,1991). Today there are other spaces, including the immaterial ones, in which the democracy of our times has to be renegotiated. In a city in which a growing part of the population is transient and largely service oriented, new forms of participation and even before that, of identification will have to be worked out (Body-Gendrot,1998).

6) Social morphology, social exclusion and inclusion

We know a great deal about the social stratification of the inhabitants of the industrial city, and this knowledge carries over to the residential portion of our contemporary metropolis. But the models of social conflicts and cooperation that helped us understanding the social morphology of the industrial city are rapidly loosing their explanatory power, and we know a lot less about the social

traits of the new metropolis. For instance we know very little about the commuter population which grew in the 20th century, although we know a great deal, especially from the socio-ecological point of view, about the social morphology of human settlements in metropolitan areas, or *first generation metropolises.* We can surmise that the commuter population in the U.S. tends to be middle-class and it is different from the one in Europe, where it tends to be lower-class. We know very little indeed about the social morphology and the social characters of the new transient populations affecting all large metropolises. We know that in growing numbers immigrants from the less developed regions of the world migrate to the European cities. And recently a growing body of research points to the formation of vast areas of social exclusion in connection with the shrinking of the middle classes due to the waning of large-scale productive organisations. At the same time, however, cities re-tribalise, and the social morphology of cities includes a growing number of different transient populations with nomadic characters. Populations rather than classes seem to define large portion of the contemporary third generation metropolis.

7) From metropolitan Government to eGovernance

The deep changes in the structure of contemporary urbanization raise the problem of social, economic and political governance of the emerging large metropolitan complexes. Traditional municipal policies and institutions seem inadequate to achieve the aim of governing these new entities. In large regions of the world, such as Europe, even national governments appear increasingly inadequate in governing urban systems evermore dependent on an integrated world economy, and often capable to move autonomously on transnational markets. The weakening of traditional social formations, such as class-based ecological units, tends to affect long-standing practices of local government, as economic and social actors constituting localities are increasingly outward looking. At the same time the search for social identity appears to translate itself in oftentimes paranoid localistic claims. A specific focus of the research should investigate the role of local governments in the governance of the metropolis. In recent years, floods of empty words have been forthcoming, proposing reform schemes that revealed themselves not more worthy than the paper on which they were written. The truth is that metropolitan governance is a complex action, and the best ways to handle it are probably already there in innumerable best-practice innovations working in many European cities. It should be the task of research to identify, compare, and evaluate them, rather than to draft another empty and ineffectual theoretical box. One trend which has to be explored is what I call *e*Governance, rather than *e*Government. The latter term has been used to describe the betterment of local services and administrations made possible by the use of

ICTs. But another important development is the transformation occurring in the notion of *e*Government in a parallel fashion to that followed by *Government* to *Governance*. Namely the realization that the introduction of ICTs both requires and promotes a high degree of participation by the peripheral units of the system and at the same time renders available a host of potentialities through "customization" – according to Mitchell, one of the five strategic processes in E-Topia. For instance it is possible to vary road prices in order to better govern the flows at various time of the day or according to various needs and dispositions. But above all the openness and unbounding of the system induced by the various e-technologies (including television) is a strong factor in inducing two-way, highly interactive decision-making process.

8) Plans for the city

I call this last session of the workshop "Plans for the city" rather than use the more familiar term of "planning" on purpose. In fact there is a discussion around the issue whether some form of comprehensive planning is still possible in large urban areas. On the other hand there are actors with definite plans whose actions will influence the shape of the next day metropolis in a complex and interactive way. The aim of this session will be to identify these actors and to try to elicit their visions of the future city.

Tentative program
Tuesday 4th, 2004, Afternoon, arrival
18.00-19.30. *introductory plenary session*, 1
1) From the culture of cities to cultures in the city
Presentation Guido Martinotti
Outline of the ESF Program, Anne Haila
Position paper Anthony Giddens. "Cities, a theoretical forward look"
Wednesday 5th, 2004
9.30-12.30 *Session 2*
2) Roots and development: general trends in the European Urban System in the frame of world urbanisation
Charles Li , Origins: species and language
Mario Liverani, The first city
Mogens Herman Hansen, The city state in history
Marcel Roncayolo, From the city of old state to the modern European city
Edward W. Soja, Fast-forward
14.30-17.30 *Session 3*
3) Metropolitan morphology and economic base: from rural to cultural.
Paul Bairoch, From rural to services
Roberto Camagni, The network of cities
Terry N. Clark, The Entertainment Machine
Richard Florida, The creative scene
David Harvey, Social Recontruction of places
Lila Leontidou, The mediterranean metropolis
Thursday 6th, 2004
9.30-12.30 *Session 4*

4)Mobility and lifestyles. Metropolitan ecosystems and the quality of life

Gianfranco Bettini, The city ecosystem

LeoVan Den Berg, City markting

Susan Feinstein, Visitors

Bruno Giorgini, Mobility and cronotopoi

Alain Gras, Technology and sustainability

Richard Urry, The tourist gaze

5)14.30-17.30 *Session 5*

5) Public spaces: participation and communication in the new technological context

Sophie Body -Gendrot, Security and violence

Nicolo Costa, The hypertourist city

Thierry Paquot, Culture and time

Stefano Rodotá, Governing the cyberspace

Richard Sennett, The public space

Dayan Sudjic, 100 miles city

Friday 7th, 2004

9.30-12.30 Session 6

6) Social morphology and social exclusion and inclusion

Robert Klosterman, New people new enterprioses

Enzo Mingione, Poverty, citizenship and the welfare state

Harmut Hausserman, Segretation and inclusion

Emilio Reyneri, Migration in the new city

Serge Paugam, Steps into poverty

14.30-17.30 Session 7

From metropolitan Government to eGovernance

Ash Amin, Diagrams of Power

Sabino Cassese, Local government

Peter Hall, The new tecnological city

Bill Mitchell, Etopia

Marisol Garcia, Fragmentation and citizenship

Nigel Thrift, A mobile politics

Saturday 8th, 2004

9.30-12.30 Closing Session 8

Plans for urban civilisation the European space

Ideally we would like to have urban planners or architects like Sir Norman Forster, Vittorio Gregotti, Jordi Borja, Renzo Piano or Michael Sorkin, a successful mayor like Jordi Pujol or Walter Veltroni, and a large scale builder like Gerald Hines, and vision persons like Manuel Castells or Saskia Sassen.

Giuliano Amato, if possible, as special guest.

WORKSHOP 2:
European Cities in the EU: social fabric, inequalities, agency and political order, what sort of European society in the making?

Chair : Patrick Le Galès, Directeur de recherche CNRS, CEVIPOF, Sciences Po Paris.
Organisation: Direction scientifique de Sciences po avec Charlotte Halpern (Doctorante, CEVIPOF)
11th and 12th of June
Location: Paris , Sciences Po, Salle Goguel

This workshop deals with the themes "European cities in the EU: social fabric, inequalities, agency and political order".

The aim of the workshop is to bring together professionals and academic s from different disciplines and eight representatives of different international organisations to frame a research agenda for future urban research in Europe, to make suggestions for future ESF initiatives, to make suggestions for the next round of European Framework programme, to come out with a report and publications, and to disseminate this report through national research councils. The discussion is oriented towards prospective issues, is interdisciplinary and includes questions of methods, data needs for instance. Future research questions include puzzles, problems, and expected outcomes.

The Paris workshop concentrates on European cities as part of European societies. It therefore focuses on general issues related to the making of social and political order, state restructuring, inequalities, domination and control, governance, family, religion, work and leisure.

The future research agenda on European cities is related to issues of globalisation, mobility, europeanisation and the pressure of market forces on the European model of cities.

European cities were originally mostly cities that represented points of articulation between trade, culture and form of political autonomy. Then, when the nation-state gained a monopoly over organizing culture, political power and different forms of exchange, European cities became integrated into this national whole. Integration meant that the nation-state, which organized the

economy, became the main force influencing the future evolution of cities. Different types of political, technological, social, cultural, economic changes are profoundly reshaping the conditions under which actors within cities are able to act to face all those pressures.

European cities make a fairly general category of urban space, relatively original forms of compromise, aggregation of interest and culture which brings together local social groups, associations, organised interests, private firms and urban governments. Most monographs on cities highlight awareness - especially on the part of councillors and organized interests within cities - of a sort of European city standard, organized around a mix of public and private sector activity, public intervention, economic development, culture, and anti poverty policies. The pressures created by property developers, major groups in the urban services sector, and cultural and economic globalization processes provoke reactions and adaptation processes of actors within European cities, defending the idea of a fairly particular type of city that is not yet in terminal decline. European cities appear to be relatively robust, despite pressures from economic actors, individuals, and states (including welfare states) being reshaped within the European Union. Processes of exclusion, strengthening and transformation of inequalities, segregation, and domination are also unfolding in these cities. The development of residential suburbs separated from the city and of polycentric cities, the isolation of disadvantaged districts, the development of cultural complexes, leisure facilities and shopping centres, as well as diverse cultural models and migrations all clearly demonstrate the pressures exerted on the traditional medium-sized city. Finally actors within cities have been strongly mobilized to direct the future of cities.

The workshop aims at raising questions about the future of European cities in terms of social structure and in terms of political order as they increasingly become the locus of conflicts between groups.

The workshop is divided into two parts:
1) Inequalities and exclusion versus integration in European cities (Segregation, age, ethnic
minorities, labour market, schools, welfare, entertainment, family, religion, sport)
2) Political order, policy and politics, state, urban policy, governance, citizenship, surveillance

1) Integration, social cohesion, assimilation, transnationalism, mobility, inequalities

The rather lower level of inequalities, measured in terms of income, is challenged because of long term unemployment, immigration, middle classes exit strategies and the erosion of the welfare state. The workshop would aim at 1) review the theoretical issues at stake about integration, assimilation, inequalities; 2) systematically analysing the dimensions of inequalities in European cities (income, education, gender, ethnic, age....).and 3) to frame the main research questions for the future. There are cases of "fortress cities in the making", of "no children neighbourhood", of "pensioners reserved" and urban ethnic concentrations. It will examine the impact of economic globalisation of the remaking of urban space.

The workshop would question European cities and their impact on the social fabric of the city within a European framework.

The workshop would aim at identifying the main integration mechanisms at play in European cities, the methods to analyse them and their failure together. A comparative angle is required to compare in particular US and Asian cities. A whole set of mechanisms is at work in cities, combining culture (festivals, images), the political (contracts, elections, social policy), the market (labour market) and, to a lesser extent, the more social mechanisms (family, community, district, religion). It remains difficult to generalize about these and or to disentangle urban processes from more general processes. Both the theoretical and empirical debates on these questions raise many difficulties which would be examined. The interdependence between social and political groups and interests which have come out in different cases is also an indication of the strengthening of cities as site of integration mechanisms. But what an integrated society must nowadays be is far from obvious. The workshop will simultaneously address the main pressure for dislocation and identify key conflicts and inequalities for the future.

Issues of "europeanisation" of cities would also be addressed in that section to identify mechanism through which professional norms, models of consumption or ideas are transmitted and adopted. Attempts to disentangle europeanisation from globalisation will be made here.

2) European cities and agency: political capacity, collective actors, modes of governance

The workshop would aim at analysing the dimension of "agency", of cities as relatively

autonomous political actors able to deal with some problems and to extract resources from different organisations.

It would point to the differentiation of urban systems within each nation state in the European context and to the room for exit strategies (in relative terms).

One way would be to show examples of institutionalisation of collective action, the making of collective strategy, policies aiming at preventing increased social exclusion processes, examples of social regulations, or the institutionalisation of conflict-solving mechanisms.

A second dimension here would be identify the democratic challenge here and the transformation of urban democracies, to review both the erosion of classic mechanism of political participation and the new forms of "associative democracies", including their failures, issues of citizenship. Changing scales (metropolitan governments in particular) are essential here. The workshop would also identify forms of political disaffiliation and the rise of the extreme right vote in cities.

A third point of this section deals with the restructuring of the nation state and the institutionalisation of the EU. Links will be made with the ongoing progress of the "New instruments of European governance" from the FP 6th. The implications of the move towards regulatory states will be charted for cities and groups within then.

Workshop 3

Urban Risks: Inequalities and managing uncertainties

Chair, prof. Roger Keil (University of York, Toronto, Canada)
24th – 27th June
Location: Leipzig

This workshop will discuss social and environmental problems in cities. We can distinguish the threat of increasing inequalities and segregation in European cities as well as the increase of environmental threats to individuals and collectives in urban regions. Often, these social and environmental problems are linked. Therefore, although this workshop will analyse common urban problems like congestion, poverty, segregation, marginalization, pollution and crime, the approach to these problems will be interdisciplinary. It must engage social and natural scientists, critical theorists and policy makers, academics and urban activists. By bringing together scholars from different fields of science this workshop will discuss urban risks as complex problems. This mode of investigation is in line with the suggestion of French urban sociologist Henri Lefebvre, who has talked about the 'multifaceted complexification' effected by the emergence of a global urban society.[1] The effects of this complexification call for complex, comprehensive but also innovative cross-disciplinary scholarship. No one problem can still be studied from the point of view of one discipline; no one singular explanation will likely suffice. For example, the finding of cancer research that the incidence of cancer is higher in low-class neighbourhoods but is not correlated with the income (what cancer researchers call 'community effect') is an interesting and challenging puzzle for sociologists who have analysed segregation. In particular after 9/11/01, urban risk and vulnerability have become a major field of study.[2]

European urban regions are now in a force field, which is constituted by globalization. Also, increasingly, over the past generation, neo-liberal, market-oriented policy regimes have come to

---

[1] Lefebvre, H. *The Urban Revolution*. Minneapolis: Minnesota University Press, 2003, pp. 167.
[2] Fitzpatrick, K. And Lagory, M. (2000). Unhealthy Places: The Ecology of Risk in the Urban Landscape. N.Y.: Routledge; Cutter, Susan L. (2003) "Presidential Address: The Vulnerability of Science and the Science of Vulnerability." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 93(1):1-12; Symposium on Urban Terror, edited by Harvey Molotch, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. 27,3, 2003, pp. 649-698.

characterize urban governance in most urban areas.[3] The combination of these two macro-processes has led to an acceleration of urban life and a de-stabilization of the human condition. New risks and vulnerabilities have appeared and partly replaced certain complacency, with which urban dwellers and decision-makers had lived through the 20th century. Most European cities developed comprehensive urban sanitation systems, transportation infrastructure, water and wastewater services, urban health services, stable food supplies, energy supply networks etc.[4] The recurrence of unhealthy urban living conditions (making the present cities resemble the unhygienic cities in the 19th century that gave birth to urban planning) is partly the consequence of neo-liberal urban policies and their reliance on the market and the consequence of the privatization of urban infrastructure, like water and electricity. Urban services have deteriorated and urban neighbourhoods have tended to become more unequal. Welfare regimes have been replaced by workfare states.[5] Inequalities in urban neighbourhoods are related to inequalities of health and well-being, and non-communicable illnesses with multiple causes issue the main challenge for public health. Many of these problems had been considered a thing of the past: Tuberculosis, for example, has now made reappearance among homeless and poor urban populations. In addition, the vulnerability to infectious diseases has also risen in a period of neoliberal polarization.

European cities also need to be re-envisioned in a global context.[6] Except for times of war and civil war (e.g. Ireland, Spain, Yugoslavia), most European urban citizens in the post-World War II era have been without the dire needs and daily risks that inhabitants of cities in developing countries are exposed to constantly. Even compared with the often polarized social and environmental realities in US cities throughout the 20th century, European cities have looked 'healthy', 'clean', well-run, just and environmentally rather safe. Much of this has been changing. The return of 'hot' warfare to parts of Europe (particularly Yugoslavia), the major upheavals in transitional societies and the continued pressure brought on by globalization, continentalization (EU) and neoliberalization have brought vulnerabilities and risks at a new scale to European cities. Open violence, mass rape, genocide have now been added once again to the vocabulary of risk that one is prone to encounter

---

[3] Brenner, N. and N. Theodore. (eds.) 2002. *Spaces of Neoliberalism: Urban Restructuring in North America and Western Europe*. Malden and Oxford: Blackwell; Marcuse, P.; van Kempen, R., Hrsg. (2001) *Globalizing Cities*. Boston / Oxford: Blackwell.

[4] Gandy, M., 1999, The Paris Sewers and the Rationalization of Urban Space. *Trans Inst Br Geog* NS 24, 23-44. Kaika, M., and Swyngedouw, E., 2000, Fetishizing the Modern City: The Phantasmagoria of Urban Technological Networks. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research,* Vol.24 (1), 120-138.

[5] Jamie Peck, *Workfare States*. New York and London: The Guilford Press, 2001.

[6] Patrick Le Gal`es, *European Cities: Social Conflicts and Governance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

on the European continent.

In addition, globalization has increased the risk of exposure to infectious disease both in humans (SARS) and animals (BSE).[7] New pests have been introduced into urban areas from faraway ecosystems and are threatening local ecological balances. As a consequence, attention of urban risk studies moving from more individualized risks (auto accidents, smoking, etc – '*Wohlstandskrankheiten*') to more generalized risk: water supply; energy (the Italian blackout); river pollution, food security. It is imperative that both analysis and remediation of urban risks and vulnerability are now seen as globally constituted processes and events that defy local solutions. Specifically *urban* intervention, that is multi-scale, complex mediation between global and individual spheres, must be sought by urban scientists and practitioners.[8]

As we re-scale our view from the local to the global constitution of 'the urban', we simultaneously need to invoke the urban region (bioregion, watersheds, learning region, the global city region, the commutershed) as the actual geo-political unit of much of our research and practice in urban environments today. As national jurisdictions are being re-regulated and boundaries are being redrawn, the urban region has seen a marked increase in significance as a scale of regulation and governance. This is, perhaps, most visible in the regulation of urban and regional natural environments: urban sprawl, peri-urban growth, regional water safety, transportation and transit, etc. are inevitably regional problematics.[9]

Education and transparency of public decision-making is crucial in democratizing urban ecological governance. It is necessary for citizens to understand the socio-environmental fabric of the city in which they live and to participate in the process of enhancing living conditions. On the one hand, this will entail knowledge about qualities of life in certain places: if there are inequalities in neighbourhoods correlated with health should citizens be aware of these in selecting their neighbourhoods? On the other hand, it will raise the question about what can be done to remedy the situation: the classical exit or change options will apply. Urban science needs to break the

---

[7] Garrett, L., (1994). The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases In A World Out Of Balance. N.Y.: Penguin Books; Haggett, Peter (1994) "Geographical Aspects of the Emergence of Infectious Diseases" *Geografiska Annaler* 76(2):91-104.
[8] Henri Lefebvre, *The Urban Revolution*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003.
[9] Alan Harding (ed.) *Rescaling the State in Europe and North America: Repositioning Cities and Regions in a Global Era*. Blackwell, forthcoming.

traditional mould of its purely sociologically or geographically defined understanding of socio-spatial processes and needs to re-insert knowledge derived from urban (political) ecology. Rather than relegating urban natural sciences to the sub-political areas of laboratories and technical departments of municipalities, they need to be drawn into the public space; into what American political scientist Tim Luke has called a 'public ecology.'[10] Urban ecological science, thus defined, must strive towards the development of socio-ecological alliances of knowledge production and governance. This task, then, is also linked to the "search of new public domain".[11]

At the outset, it seems necessary to distinguish two kinds of risk associated with urban realities today. One side of the study of risk in urban areas concerns security issues both personal and collective. It entails safety from crime and from other forms of 'social pathology,' safety from traffic accidents, immediate violence such as common criminality, gangs, youth crime, and drug-related crime. But it also includes the larger category of terrorism, which has captured the urban imagination more than ever since the attacks of September 11 on Washington and New York. While much of the thinking that has informed our knowledge of security issues is tied to the technical rationality of states, police forces and the law, there are also other traditions in planning and engineering, which have a different tradition and will need to be taken into account. One of them is the feminist-inspired literature on 'safe cities', which includes security issues related to gender (safe houses for women, safe streets, etc.). Yet, as Ben Wisner has warned us, taxonomic understandings of risk and vulnerability have to be complemented with situationist analyses. For example "It is not gender itself that marks vulnerability, but gender in a specific situation".[12]

The other side of the study of risk is very closely related to this latter tradition and involves lack of protection from racially and ethnically motivated violence, protection from state violence, surveillance, privacy infractions and the negative consequences of security architecture, segregation and exclusion from 'gated communities', etc. These risks are often individual in nature but more often than not have a systemic character due to oppression by class, 'race', ethnicity, gender, etc. They need special attention as social and environmental conditions have become more polarized

---

[10] Luke, T., 2003, Global Cities vs. "global cities:" Rethinking Contemporary Urbanism as Public Ecology. *Studies in Political Economy,* Vol. 70, Spring 2003, 11-33.

[11] Maarten Hajer and Arnold Reijndorp, *In Search of New Public Domain*, Rotterdam: NAi Publishers, 2001.
[12] Ben Wisner, "Notes on Social Vulnerability: Categories, Situations, Capabilities, and Circumstances," Environmental Studies Program, Oberlin College, February 25, 2001.

than in previous decades.

In the literature dealing with urban risk and vulnerability, the equation Risk = Hazard x Vulnerability is used as a shorthand for the complex of issues captured in the cases outlined above. It has been pointed out that the victimization of individuals and groups in cities has been mirrored by the tendency on the side of clinical professions, planners, social workers, etc. to turn socially vulnerable groups into "passive recipients" of institutionalized help. Wisner has suggested the notion of "capabilities for self protection and group action" as checking mechanisms for this double victimization. This view lead to the amendment of the original equation as: Risk = [hazard x vulnerability] – capability.[13]

The aim of the discussions about urban risks in this workshop is to foresee the problems and dangers in order to direct future research programs and to manage such urban uncertainties develop knowledge to solve problems and to discuss what kind of knowledge is needed. Below is a suggestion how to group our possible conversations into five related groups. It is envisioned to achieve some sort of proportional representation from these four interlocking areas of expertise at the workshop in Leipzig in June 2004.

This workshop will operate on several levels and address questions with varying methodologies:

1. The workshop needs to benefit from the newest socio-ecological and urban ecological theories that attempt to provide a conceptual compass to the changes we see occur. There are several major critical theories that have been proposed. These theories are sometimes complementary, yet also often in contradistinction to one another. European urban science must be aware of and conversant with these theoretical approaches. Among them are: ecological modernization theory (particularly in its critical, discourse analytical strand); urban political ecology; urban ecological theory; socio-ecological theory on the societal relationships with nature (combining the material and symbolic aspects of urban ecologies) ; environmental justice theory, and so forth. The workshop will need to make an effort to

---

[13] Ibid.

identify and engage with these theories and make them part of the recommendations for the Forward Look. [14]

2. In addition to urban ecological theory and urban political ecology, which is also an attempt at integrating natural scientific and social scientific concerns, we need to specifically engage with theories of social risk and vulnerability. This includes new thinking about 'exclusion, risk and social control.' [15] As theories of poverty and concentrated blight have come to emphasize complex and multidimensional causes, policy responses have shifted from income support programs[16] to comprehensive and "activating" approaches prioritizing social and political over economic factors. Central concepts of these new, often spatially targeted policies such as 'social capital', capacity building, social cohesion and community policing need to be critically reconstructed, and the effects of these policies in terms of creating new insecurities and vulnerabilities need to be acknowledged. [17]

3. There needs to be attention to critical analytical methodologies both in the natural and social sciences. Respondents to the survey by the ESF in 2002 mentioned a number of ongoing activities in environmental analytics that need to be understood as the basis for decision-making in the fields of risk and the environment. Among them are: Audits; emission calculation methodology; sustainability indicators; GIS for environmental purposes; energy efficiency technologies; urban ecological footprint analysis; transportation analysis; ecotoxicology; epidemiology; biostatistics; hazard and vulnerability assessment; modelling; exposure research; urban health research, etc. These scientific and technical modes of knowledge production must be part of an interdisciplinary course of study in the urban sciences.

---

[14] Heynen, Nik and Sywngedouw, E. (in press) Urban Political Ecology, Justice and the Politics of Scale. *Antipode;* Castro, E., Kaika, M., and Swyngedouw, E., 2003, Water for Cities: A Political-Ecology Perspective - London: Structural Continuities and Institutional Change in Water Management. In *European Planning Studies,* Vol.11 (3), 283-295; Hassenpflug, 1993, *Sozialokologie*. Opladen: Leske und Budrich; Gibbs, D., 2002, *Local Economic Development and the Environment*. London, UK: Routeledge.

[15] Benedikt Fischer and Blake Poland, "Exclusion, 'Risk', and Social Control – Reflections on Community Policing and Public Health," *Geoforum*, 29, 2, pp.187-197, 1998; Martin Kronauer, Exklusion. Die Gefährdung des Sozialen im hoch entwickelten Kapitalismus. Frankfurt: Campus 2002.

[16] In fact, social benefits have been reduced in all European cities, while employment and work insecurity are rising with the intensifying flexibilization and deregulation of labour markets, confronting municipalities with new challenges. Cf. Michael Krummacher, Norbert Wohlfahrt, "Soziale Stadt, Sozialraumorientierung, Quartiersmanagement: Strategie für einen lokalpolitisch flankierten Sozialstaatsabbau oder Revitalisierung von sozialer Stadtentwicklung? Ms. 2003.

[17] Margit Mayer, "The onward sweep of social capital: causes and consequences for understanding cities, communities and urban movements," *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 27,1, 2003, pp.110-132; Volker Eick, "Profiteure sozialen Kapitals. Zur Genese lokaler Sicherheitsregime durch Nonprofits, kommerzielle Sicherheitsdienste und den lokalen Staat," in: F. Kessl, H.-U.Otto, eds., Spacing Social Work. Opladen: Leske+Budrich 2003.

4. Urban science dealing with risk, vulnerability and sustainability must develop an ever improving catalogue of ameliorative processes and technologies that form a normative toolkit for the creation of better living conditions in European cities (cutting back on risk and vulnerability). Such processes will be linked to other efforts, such as the development of more democratic governance. It needs to clarify what worked and what didn't in more than a hundred years of urban planning; a critical assessment of planning doctrines and 'Leitbilder' needs to be part of this enterprise. Newly proposed panaceas to the sustainability of cities, such as the compact city, new urbanism or smart growth need to be examined in light of past successes and failures and in light of today's socio-ecological and political realities. Sustainability as technical policy intervention are part of this work: Air and noise pollution downtown and suburbs; Prevention of traffic congestions; Green areas, parks, particularly downtown; Preservation of housing downtown; the control of urban sprawl; the understanding of negative growth/decline/shrinkage; addressing '*Versiegelung*' – making urban surfaces impervious; soil pollution/remediation and the management and regulation of material streams. Urban gardening, urban agriculture, etc. must be studied and likely be furthered by urban science and practice.

5. Related to these technological and normative efforts must be the encouragement of political and social initiatives in civil society. They must not be afterthoughts of urban science but must be centrally integrated. Urban archaeology, landscape ecology, multiculturalism/pluriculturalism and landscape, environmental justice concerns, must be integrated. Sustainability must be seen as a process that involves all members of urban society; decision makers and scholars of urban environments disregard this fact at their peril.

Workshop 4

Urban Science: Re -Negotiating the Boundaries between Science, Technology and Society.

Chair, prof. Simon Marvin (SURF, University of Salford, UK)
1st – 2nd July
Location: SURF, Manchester

The rationale for this workshop is three-fold. First, it critically engages with the assumption that the interaction between different disciplinary contributions to urban science needs to be intensified. Second, it examines what the implications of different forms of interdisciplinarity might mean for researchers, policy makers and research funders. Finally it sets out a longer-term agenda for how interdisciplinarity research could contribute to the development of research programmes in member states, the ESF and the 7th Framework programme.

The workshop will critically compare competing disciplinary approaches to urban research; illustrate disciplinary contributions through case studies of national and international urban researches programmes and research projects; and examine how the relations between nature, technology and society can be better understood. This workshop represents the first serious attempt to perform the above task on a structured, comparative basis. Its aim is to understand the nature and effects of, and limits to, the development of urban science in different disciplinary contexts through a series of specially commissioned papers and presentations.

The core aim of this workshop is to provide a critical assessment of the possibility, attainability and desirability of new forms of interdisciplinary urban sciences in the medium to long term. There are three specific objectives:

1. To critically review the resonances and dissonances between the four main disciplinary approaches to urban science represented by natural science, engineering and technology, the social sciences and humanities.

2. To examine cases studies of urban research that attempt to transcend a mono disciplinary approach the benefits and limitations of different forms of interdisciplinary urban science.

3. To consider the desirability of renegotiating the boundaries between nature, technology and society in the development of urban science for the 7th framework programme.

The participants and presenters will be up to 15 expert commentators from a range of different disciplines and national contexts who specialise in urban research.

Each of the contributors will present case studies that focus upon the development of research questions, programmes and methods from within particular 'disciplines' but will locate their analysis within their particular national research context.   Particular attention will be paid to the way in which different disciplines and research programmes facilitate (or constrain) interdisciplinary initiatives and condition the behaviour of the key institutions - national departments, research councils, cities, universities, development agencies, key companies, private sector umbrella organisations etc. - whose efforts are needed to realise them.   The presentations will describe what urban research means, in practice, and the effects that they have had upon cities.   A broad reading of the benefits and limitations of particular approaches will provide the basis for international comparisons and for drawing out implications for the development o urban science.

The workshop has three themes:

Theme 1: Reviewing 'Cognate' Interdisciplinarity in Urban Research.

This theme will examine competing notions of interdisciplinarity from within the natural sciences, engineering and technology, social sciences and humanities. Speakers would be selected from national research programmes that encourage interdisciplinary research within a particular disciplinary domain. For example the Natural Environment Research Council urban research programme funded different types of natural science – including hydrology, ecology, atmospherics etc within the context of an interdisciplinary programme. The speakers would therefore be asked to address what interdisciplinarity means from within a disciplinary domain. Example of speaker would include 'Urban Ecology' NERC UK, 'Urban Studies', and Norwegian Urban Development Programme. This session will focus on a brief comparative overview of the main features of the cognate interdisciplinary in urban research programmes in different national and international contexts. Key themes will be the origin of the programme, the focus and methods used and the type of outputs produced. The session will review the resonances and dissonances between cognate interdisciplinary in urban science.

Theme 2: Comparing 'Radical' Interdisciplinarity in Urban research

This theme will focus on radical interdisciplinarity that is characterised by collaboration between

researchers from across different disciplinary domains for example between social science and natural sciences. This theme will focus on research programmes and project that have an explicit remit to develop new forms of radical collaboration around the urban agenda. For instance this will include researchers who have looked at cities through a range of different approaches including science and technology studies (STS) and urban political ecology (UPE). The objective here is to understand what approaches and resources approaches use to more effectively understand the relations between the social, technical and natural in an urban context. In particular the session will focus on the issues involved in such collaborations, the forms of knowledge produced and the type of relations developed with users of the research. The session will build an understanding of the issues, limitations and potential of developing radical interdisciplinarity in urban science.

Theme 3: Re-Negotiating the Boundaries of Urban Science: Potential and Prospects

This theme will explore the desirability and practicality of whether and how an interdisciplinary agenda could be taken foreword focusing on the following questions: What are the advantages and disadvantages of an interdisciplinary agenda for researchers and users? What models are there for interdisciplinary research collaboration and what consequences do they have for knowledge production and use? How would such an initiative be taken forward? Who would need to be involved? What substantive themes could be developed? This will involve small group and panel session with urban researcher policy makers and national research funders from the ESF membership.

The objective is to produce a report that will include an interdisciplinary assessment of the current "state of the art" practices in interdisciplinary urban research; the benefits and limitations of different types of interdisciplinary based urban research; and, the identification of specific actions for developing the potential for interdisciplinary collaboration in future urban science.

The workshop will be held in central Manchester in very close proximity to a wide range of hotels with convenient access by public transport to Manchester airport.

Workshop 5

Urban civilization: where culture meets commerce

Chair: Jiri Musil, professor, European University and co-chair Ludek Sykora, professor,
Charles University)
23rd -24th September 2004
Location: Prague

The aim of this fifth workshop is to discuss cities and societies, cities as force of civilization, and places of innovations, culture of cities, and images of cities. The workshop will investigate whether cities with the optimistic spirit they create and Europeans' love for cities can prevent cultures from dying. Among the topics discussed in this workshop are also the relationship between university and cities, cultural institutions of cities, new spaces, and urban charisma. The workshop will also discuss conservation and urban history, and the meanings of the built environment. Among the invited experts are authors, developers, academics, scientists and architects. The disciplines brought into discussion with each other are archaeology, literature, urban history and linguistics.
A more detailed program will be sent in February.