

Conference Program

11th International U&U PhD Seminar | Università Iuav di Venezia - Politecnico di Milano
Venice, 29-31 October 2025 | Palazzo Badoer, San Polo 2468

Wednesday 29 October

12:30 - 13:00	Conference registration Welcome coffee	Entrance hall Sala Zodiaco
13:00 - 14:00	Opening Presentation Maria Chiara Tosi and Federico Zanfi	Aula Tafuri
14:00 - 17:00	Parallel Sessions I	A, B, T1, T2
17:00 - 17:30	Coffee break	Sala Zodiaco
17:30 - 19:00	Keynote Lecture Corinne Larrue, Ecole d’Urbanisme de Paris The Grounding Processes of Socio-Ecological Transitions: From Experimentation to Institutionalisation	Aula Tafuri

Thursday 30 October

9:00 - 11:00	Parallel Sessions II	A, B, T1, T2
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee break	Sala Zodiaco
11:30 - 12:30	Parallel Sessions II	A, B, T1, T2
12:30 - 13:30	Light lunch	Sala Zodiaco
13:30 - 15:30	Parallel Sessions III	A, B, T1, T2
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee break	Sala Zodiaco
16:00 - 17:00	Parallel Sessions III	A, B, T1, T2
17:30 - 19:00	Keynote Lecture Maria Kaika, University of Amsterdam Urban Political Ecology for a Climate emergency: from scientific insight to radical imaginaries and prefigurative politics. Keynote Lecture Barbara Pizzo, Sapienza Università di Roma Post-Growth Planning: an oxymoron?	Aula Tafuri

20:00 - 22:00	Social Dinner	Sala Zodiaco
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Friday 31 October

9:00 - 10:00	Presentation Fabrizio D’Angelo, Klarissa Pica, Elvira Pietrobon, Valeria Volpe, Valentina Rossella Zucca in dialogue with Michiel Dehaene Quaderno12 - Territorializzare la transizione	Aula Tafuri
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee break	Sala Zodiaco
10:30 - 12:30	Roundtable and final remarks	Aula Tafuri

Parallel Sessions Program

I Wednesday 29 h 14:00 - 17:30	II Thursday 30 h 9:00 - 12:30	III Thursday 30 h 13:30 - 17:00
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1# Landscape and Biodiversity. Energy and Food Production. Chairs: Marta De Marchi, Eugenio Morello	Room A
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Discussants: Nadia Casabella, Marco Ranzato	Discussants: Marta De Marchi, Michiel Dehaene	Discussants: Chiara Cavalieri, Koenraad Danneels
PhD students: Bianco Paolo Bossard Alexandre Ciciriello Giuseppe Crisogianni Gloria Fauster Jennifer	PhD students: Manea Anna Orduz Trujillo Alejandro Ponno Maria Elena Veronese Emma Zalis Michel	PhD students: Battani Anastasia Paparusso Olga Giovanna Russolo Nicola Pastor Santiago

2# Mobility and Proximity [people and goods, logistics]. Accessibility. Motility. Chairs: Luca Velo, Paola Viganò	Mixed session: Tracks 3# & 4#	Room B
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Discussants: Geoffrey Grulois, Luca Velo	Discussants: Emanuel Giannotti, Paola Viganò	Discussants: Paolo Bozzuto, Gianni Talamini
PhD students: Erenler Damla Goldinger Aniella Sophie Hasnain Gulnar Khan Rahman Ali Plana Laura	PhD students: Raimondi Tommaso Royo Zabala Peio Silva Joyce Sinibaldi Flavia Waldhart Clemens	PhD students: A Rainha Eleonora Pham Hong Viet Labriola Valentina Varela Alejandro

3# Built Environment and Living Spaces. Between Adaptive Reuse and Settlement Reorganization. Chairs: Antonella Bruzzese, Federico Zanfi	Room T1
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Discussants: Francesco Chiodelli, Thorsten Schuetze	Discussants: Antoine Vialle, Maria Chiara Tosi	Discussants: Anne Kockelkorn, Federico Zanfi
PhD students: Bui Phuong Ngoc Caravello Chiara Dhaenens Elke Lacour Jeanne	PhD students: Ricchiuto Giacomo Shatokhina Kristina Starzykowski Pati Tamiazzo Alessio Trinh Thuy	PhD students: Van Praet Vincent Vannini Flaminia Ventimiglia Rita Wehrle Cedric

4# Just transition. Spatial, Social, and Environmental Justice. Chairs: Martina Barcelloni Corte, Enrico Formato	Room T2
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Discussants: Bénédicte Grosjean, Antonio Longo	Discussants: Bruno Notteboom, Simonetta Armondi	Discussants: Martina Barcelloni Corte, Nikos Katsikis
PhD students: Constantinos Petrakos De Jonghe Nina Pattyn Dries Inghelbrecht Eline Kakinuma Deangelis Morika	PhD students: Battista Ludovica Magnaguagno Marta Pacheco Lemes Cecilia Pastena Benedetta Pedilarco Giulia	PhD students: Peeters Elisabeth Shirke Sangram Thomas Laura Traeger Isabella

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Corinne Larrue, Ecole d’Urbanisme de Paris

The Grounding Processes of Socio-Ecological Transitions: From Experimentation to Institutionalisation

The presentation will highlight the processes through which socio-ecological transitions are grounded, as well as the tensions these transitions produce. Starting with an examination of territorialisation processes in the context of socio-ecological transitions over the past 50 years, it will consider these processes within various geographical and sectoral contexts. It will emphasise the variety of these processes, which can be either top-down, implementing frameworks and techniques defined at the European or national level, or based on highly localised experiments. The focus will then shift to the hybridisation processes that accompany the sustainability of socio-environmental transitions. Finally, it will consider the conditions under which experiments implemented in various fields of socio-ecological transition can influence institutional processes, focusing on urban planning and urbanism. The presentation will be based on case studies conducted in France, Europe and Quebec, focusing on areas highlighted in the call for proposals, such as: Biodiversity, energy, food production, mobility, the built environment and living spaces, and spatial and environmental justice. Finally, the consequences for public policy will be discussed.

Corinne Larrue has been a professor of urban planning and development at the University of Paris Est Créteil – Paris School of Urban Planning (EUP) and Lab’Urba since 2013, becoming professor emeritus in 2023. She previously taught at the University of Tours for around 20 years. She specialises in the analysis of environmental and land use policies, and her teaching and research focus on this area. She has contributed to the development of a coherent framework for analysing public policies based on the study of various environmental policies in France and Europe. She has participated in various European research programmes focusing on the comparative analysis of public environmental policies, and has published numerous articles and academic works reporting on this work.

Her latest publication related to socio-environmental transition:
Bertrand, F., Richard, E., & Larrue, C. (2015). Climate problem and territorial governance: An overview of adaptation initiatives at the French regional level, in J. Knieling & K. Klindworth (Eds.), Climate adaptation governance: Theory, concepts and practice in cities and regions (pp. 191–208). John Wiley & Sons.
Bombenger, P. H., Mottet, E., & Larrue, C. (2019). Les transitions énergétiques: Processus singuliers, réalités plurielles. Presses de l’Université du Québec.
Melé, P., Van Neste, S., & Larrue, C. (2024). Transitions socio-écologiques et milieux de vie: Entre expérimentation, politisation et institutionnalisation. Presses Universitaires de Montréal.

Maria Kaika, University of Amsterdam

Urban Political Ecology for a Climate emergency: from scientific insight to radical imaginaries and prefigurative politics.

In this talk I argue that Urban Political Ecology’s (UPE) ontologies, epistemologies, and methods are not simply an academic exercise; they are scientific developments that make academic research more relevant to the politics of climate change. Urban political ecology unsettles ‘traditional’ understandings of ‘cities’ as ontological entities separate from ‘nature’, and develops methods to examine how urbanization is inseparably and metabolically interlinked with flows of capital, labour, and resources, and with the metabolism of the entire biophysical world. I propose ways forward, to replace the currently dominant catastrophism over climate, with new forms of prefigurative and spatial politics and socio-political action for ‘impossible’ solutions. I draw upon the book: *Turning Up the Heat: Urban Political Ecology for a Climate Emergency* (Kaika, Keil, Mandler and Tzaninis (eds), 2023; Manchester University Press).

Maria Kaika holds a PhD from the University of Oxford and an MSc in Architecture and Planning from the National Technical University of Athens. She has taught at the Universities of Oxford, Manchester, Paris LATTS, TU Vienna, and KU Leuven. She holds the Chair in Urban Regional and Environmental Planning at the University of Amsterdam. She is recipient of the European Award of Excellence in Teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences, and of the Jim Lews Prize for the most innovate academic publication (with L Ruggiero). Her research focuses on urban political ecology, the embodied politics of financialization, the relation between economic crisis and environmental and housing marginalization.

She is author/editor of:
Calvario, R., Kaika, M., & Velegrakis, G. (2021). The political ecology of austerity. Routledge.
Heynen, N., Kaika, M., & Swyngedouw, E. (Eds.). (2006). In the nature of cities: Urban political ecology and the metabolism of urban environments. Routledge.
Kaika, M. (2005). City of flows: Modernity, nature and the city. Routledge.
Kaika, M., Keil, R., Mandler, T., & Tzaninis, Y. (2023). Turning up the heat: Urban political ecology for a climate emergency. Manchester University Press.
Kaika, M., & Ruggiero, L. (forthcoming 2024). Class meets land: The embodied history of land financialization. University of California Press.
Varvarousis, A., Demaria, F., Kaika, M., & March, H. (2023). Urbanizing degrowth: Five steps towards a radical spatial degrowth agenda for planning in the face of climate emergency. Urban Studies [Special issue].

Barbara Pizzo, Sapienza Università di Roma

Post-Growth Planning: an oxymoron?

Post-growth thinking is spreading rather quickly in academic and public discourse, most commonly in relation to other concepts such as green transition or circular economy. This is hardly surprising, since it follows a common trajectory of new concepts, particularly for potentially unsettling ones, which get incorporated into the dominant views, thus becoming neutralized. When confronted with dominant development models, post-growth exposes fundamental contradictions within planning culture, institutions and tools, which remain structurally wedded to growth and expansion. Taking post-growth seriously implies a paradigm shift and radically challenges planning theories and practice. We will delve into post-growth from a critical planning perspective to understand what it is and what it is not. We will examine what conditions enable post-growth to be transformative and what obstacles impede that shift.

Barbara Pizzo, Ph.D., educated as an Architect and Planner, is Associate Professor in Urban Planning at Sapienza University of Rome, where she is a member of the interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Urban and Regional Studies. She has been Visiting Professor at TU Wien (2018) and at Ben Gurion University (2016) and a Visiting Scholar at several prestigious universities in Europe. She is a founding member of the “Winter School on Research Methodology”, a network of Italian scholars in the fields of Planning and Urban Studies, interested in epistemological and methodological issues as topics of both research and education. She investigates socio-spatial configurations and changes, their driving factors and forces, with an orientation toward both planning theory and practice, focusing particularly on different interpretations of values and the related conflicts over land use, heritage, and the built environment. Her current research addresses urban rent dynamics in the context of rentier capitalism and financialization, as well as post-growth urbanism, examining planning challenges related to the crisis of development paradigms. She puts planning issues in dialogue with political economy and political ecology, working mainly in interdisciplinary research groups, so that keeping together the “How” and the “Why” of urban and territorial transformations has progressively become a distinct feature of her research and teaching approach.

Recent works include:
Pizzo, B. (2023). Vivere o morire di rendita: La rendita urbana nel XXI secolo [Living or dying by rent: Urban rent in the 21st century]. Donzelli Editore.
Madden, D., & Marcuse, P. (2020). In difesa della casa: Politica della crisi abitativa [In Defense of Housing: The Politics of the Housing Crisis] (B. Pizzo, Ed.). EditPress / Territori.