

GUDNews.6 April 2026

Edited by Vassiliki Petridou and Marichela Sepe

GUD NEXT ACTIVITIES

April 2026

Citizen Participation in the Transformation of Cities: The Political Form of the Compact City

Ricardo Alvira Baesa, Universidad de Murcia

July 2026 2-4pm CET

GUD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CALL FOR GUDBLOG POSTS

The GUDBlog is now online: <https://blog.gudesign.org>

Deadline for post submission (1500 or 5000 characters + 1-2 images + 3-5 tags) is: 15 April 2026 to marichela.sepe@gmail.com

CALL FOR PAPERS

CONFERENCES

- **CHANGING CITIES VII: Spatial, Design, Landscape, Heritage and Socio-Economic dimensions**

Spetses Island, Greece, 15-19 June 2026.

Main Theme: 'Artificial intelligence enhancing Cultural Heritage and Tourism Development in smart cities'

Conference Venue: The Anargyriou and Korgialenion Foundation (AKSS), Spetses Island, Greece, supervised by The Greek Ministry of Education.

LAST DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: 20 MARCH

READ MORE: <https://changingcities.prd.uth.gr/cc/index.php>

- **GUD Special CCVII session edited by Marichela Sepe: Smart, adaptive and flexible public spaces for cultural and urban regeneration**

LAST DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: 20 MARCH

READ MORE:

<https://changingcities.prd.uth.gr/cc/index.php/info/pre-organised-special-sessions/94-prof-7>

- **CFP Fluid Configurations: Port Cities in the Early Modern Period**

Conference at the stian Albrecht University of Kiel, Institute of Art History.

Fluid Configurations conceptualizes ports as aesthetic, material, and epistemic border spaces in which water and land, organization and disorganization, boundaries and their transgression converge in ever-changing constellations. The conference focuses on port cities in Northern Europe during the Early Modern period. It examines how art conveys boundaries in port cities, their configurations, as well as processes of transgression and disruption.

Contributions are welcome that analyze harbor spaces in Northern Europe in the Early Modern period as fluid border zones and examine how artistic and textual practices produce, stabilize, or call into question spatial configurations, boundary formations,

as well as their transgressions and disruptions. Particular emphasis is placed on papers that understand harbor images and texts as active aesthetic, material, and epistemic practices, and that explore how they render order, transition, and the fragility of boundaries simultaneously visible and negotiable.

Proposals are invited in the form of an abstract of no more than 200 words, to be submitted by **April 1, 2026**

READ MORE: <https://architexturez.net/pst/az-cf-247444-1772111261>

- **17-19 June 2026, MANCHESTER, UK**

Part of the Livable Cities Series

Held at the University of Salford, Manchester

Using the experience of Manchester as an example then, this strand of the conference, CRITIQUING THE URBAN RENAISSANCE, is interested in examples of architectural and urban history in their own right, but also how they inform the present and potential futures of our cities.

Organisers

University of Salford, Manchester, AMPS, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, UCL Press.

Abstracts: 1st April, 2026 (Final Deadline)

READ MORE: <https://amps-research.com/livable-cities-heritages/>

- **The African Architectural and Urban History Network (AFRAUHN)**, in collaboration with the Department of Architecture at the University of Nairobi, invites proposals for papers about emerging discourses and themes in African architectural and urban practices for a major international conference being held at the University of Nairobi from 8th September – 10th September 2026.

Recognizing that discourses about African architecture and urban planning are more complex than the bifurcated ‘traditional’/‘colonial’ or ‘African’/‘Western’ models which still tend to dominate the research, writing, environmental design and spatial design practices in the continent, this conference instead welcomes contributions that critically examine the status quo(s) of these models and disciplines – be that in terms of academic, practice, national institutions or regulatory bodies, or as are imagined by policy-makers in forms of urban development which are then disseminated to the public.

This second AFRAUHN bi-annual conference is organized to coincide with the inaugural Pan-African Biennale of Architecture, curated by Omar Degan and team, and which is also being held in September 2026 in Nairobi, Kenya.

We invite abstracts of a minimum of 300 words and maximum of 500 words for this groundbreaking international conference to be hosted at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

3rd April 2026: Deadline for applicants to submit their proposed paper titles and abstracts.

READ MORE: https://www.afrauhn.org/items/call-for-papers-afrauhn-nairobi?utm_source=chatgpt.com

- **16th Annual International Conference on Urban Studies & Planning**

The Architecture Division in collaboration with the Social Sciences Division of the Athens Institute are organizing the 16th Annual International Conference on Urban

Studies & Planning, 1-5 June 2026, Athens, Greece sponsored by the Athens Journal of Architecture.

The aim of the conference is to bring together academics and researchers from all areas of social sciences such as urban sociology, urban geography, urban design, urban planning, architecture, etc. Areas of interest include all topics dealing with cities such as: History, growth, development, regeneration, and management of cities and other processes

Urban theories, policies, and modeling

Comprehensive, sector, and neighborhoods plans

Urban transportation and infrastructure planning

Historic preservation

Housing, public open space, and central business districts

Urban studies and planning pedagogy and research

Abstracts Deadline: 14-Apr-2026

READ MORE: https://www.atiner.gr/planning?utm_source=chatgpt.com

- **AISU Conference 2026 - The city and games. Architecture, recreational spaces, and urban imagery, November 5-7, 2026**

Games have always shaped urban life: collective rituals, social and entertainment practices, forms of spectacle, educational devices, and instruments of power. With popular festivals and sporting competitions, with the contests of antiquity and medieval tournaments, with contemporary games and digital spaces, cities have been and still are places where games take shape, transform, and produce cultural meanings. In modern and contemporary cities, sports facilities are becoming increasingly high-performance. Urban history shows how games, in their many forms, have been a powerful engine of transformation of urban space: from squares conceived as civic theaters to arenas and stadiums that embody the collective imagination of modernity, from recreational practices that structure community rituals to sports infrastructures that redesign the urban and symbolic landscape of cities. The analysis of these phenomena allows us to understand how forms of play have constantly interacted with the processes of construction, representation, and memory of the city. In the year of the Milan-Cortina Olympic Games and the Mediterranean Games in Taranto, this conference aims to investigate, from a diachronic and interdisciplinary perspective, the relationship between cities and games, drawing on historical studies, theoretical reflections, comparative readings, and innovative research cases. Scholars are invited to submit proposals for contributions that fall within one of the 11 thematic areas listed below, conceived as fields of comparison and in-depth analysis of the multiple relationships between recreational practices, urban spaces, and the construction of the city over time.

Submissions should be submitted by June 1, 2026, along with the title, abstract, and a brief biographical note about the author(s).

READ MORE: <https://aisuinternational.org/en/bari-2026/>

- **International Conference on Urban Studies & Smart Materials
27th, 28th Jun 2026, Prague, Czech Republic**

As a Scientific Research Conference Organizer, The Global Academic Research Institute proudly organized the International Conference on Urban Studies & Smart

Materials (ICUSSM 2026). We welcome proposals for papers and invitations for abstract submissions, which are now open for both oral and poster presentations covering current research and new processes. All contributions should be of high quality. During the review period, Papers will be reviewed by eminent scholars in the respective areas.

Two types of submissions are invited:

01. Full papers reporting on original and unpublished research.

02. Work-in-progress papers or Abstract or Case Studies or Projects

The conference aims to provide a platform for academics, researchers, professionals, administrators, educational leaders, policymakers, industry representatives, advanced students, and anyone in the domain of interest worldwide to discuss Urban Studies & Smart Materials. Please note that speakers are encouraged to submit a full paper before the conference. In addition, all the submitted full papers will be reviewed by the journal editorial board and a few high-end papers will be published in the GARI e-Journal having ISSN & DOI, and All Selected papers will be published in conference printed proceedings having ISBN as well as a conference library page.

Paper/Abstract submission deadline: **26th March 2026**

READ MORE: <https://www.globalacademicresearchinstitute.com/urban-studies-smart-materials/call-for-papers>

- **Past Present and Future of Public Space**

Conference Dates 07th July 2026 to 09th July 2026

The Community of City Space Architecture is organizing the sixth academic conference “Past Present and Future of Public Space” dedicated entirely to public space. The 2024 edition, organised ten years after the first conference, marked an important anniversary in this trajectory. It brought together scholars, practitioners, policy-makers, artists, and activists worldwide, reaffirming the relevance of public space as a laboratory for innovation, civic engagement, and social justice, and consolidating a global network of collaborations initiated in 2014. In 2026, the conference will open a new phase in this conversation, addressing pressing contemporary challenges and exploring how public space can support new forms of participation, care, and collective imagination.

The conference continues a long-term commitment to advancing knowledge, debate, and action on public space as a key resource for more inclusive, democratic, and sustainable cities.

Submission Deadline: **27th March 2026**

24 April 2026 / notification of accepted abstracts

READ MORE: <https://www.cityspacearchitecture.community/past-present-and-future-of-public-space-2026/>

CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS AND JOURNALS

- **Climate Urbanism, Resilience, and Justice**

Climate Urbanism, Resilience, and Justice forms a pivotal segment of the 2024 Call for Papers initiative being launched by Urban Studies. This initiative, known as Critical and Conceptual Advances in Urban Studies, aspires to be a catalyst for groundbreaking research and thought-provoking discussions that will shape the future of urban studies and contribute to the sustainable and equitable development

of cities around the globe. As a key part of this extensive initiative, the call for Climate Urbanism, Resilience, and Justice aims to advance theory, dialogue and debate at the intersection of the climate crisis, urban resilience, and the pressing need to create more equitable human settlements. We seek contributions that critically explore concepts, theories, discourses and narratives about the ways in which climate change is shaping lives in cities, and the new politics of climate action in the wake of increasingly interconnected questions of hazard, risk, resilience and justice in urban areas.

We encourage researchers who are still in the process of data collection, analysis, and/or writing to submit an abstract of 500 words outlining your research by 20 March 2026 or earlier to our Editorial Office.

READ MORE: https://www.urbanstudiesjournal.com/callforpapers/climate-urbanism-resilience-and-justice/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

- **ARQ 123 | Housing: Urban Form**

ARQ, a peer-reviewed academic journal focusing on architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design. Published three times a year by Ediciones ARQ of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC), ARQ is indexed in several academic databases including WoS, DOAJ, Scopus, Avery Index, SciELO, and Latindex. Articles are published in English and Spanish.

We invite contributions that examine how collective housing—through form, material systems, finance, regulation, infrastructure, or collective practice—has produced and continues to produce urban form. We are particularly interested in work that reveals how these forces shape the city through housing, and how design might intervene in, redirect, or reimagine those trajectories. Scale alone is not decisive; a project's significance may lie in its replicability or in its capacity to reorganize relations between collective and public space, repetition and singularity, developers and users.

Submission Deadline: March 27, 2026

Publication Date: August 2026

READ MORE: <https://eahn.org/2026/03/arq-123-housing-urban-form/>

- **Wild Cities, Urban Rewilding, and Urban Vitalism forms part of the Critical and Conceptual Advances in Urban Studies Call for Papers initiative launched by Urban Studies.**

This initiative aspires to catalyze groundbreaking research and thought-provoking discussions that will shape the future of urban studies and contribute to new understandings of cities across the globe.

As a key part of this initiative, this call for Wild Cities, Urban Rewilding, and Urban Vitalism aims to push beyond current 'urban nature' and 'rewilding' discourses toward more experimental, vitalist, and theoretically ambitious engagements with wildness, domestication, and ferality in urban life. We seek contributions that critically explore not only the reintroduction of non-human species into urban environments, but the broader questions of human wildness, urban eros, subjective intensity, natality, and the charged tensions that make cities generative or sterile.

Deadline for abstract submission: Sunday 26 April 2026

READ MORE: <https://www.urbanstudiesjournal.com/callforpapers/wild-cities-urban-rewilding-and-urban-vitalism/>

- **Transylvania Nostra Journal – Call for Papers 2026**

Transsylvania Nostra Journal invites the submission of articles for the 2026 issues. We welcome original research papers addressing the following thematic areas:

2026/1 – Central Squares and Urban Heritage

In European cities, the central square has traditionally been the core of community life and continues to serve as a symbol of the city. With the emergence of the concept of the historical monuments, central squares became primary historical monuments of the city. Over the past century, urban spaces have gradually lost part of their original functions and have become primarily representative spaces, adapting to societal evolution while moving away from their initial character.

This issue aims to capture the evolution of attitudes toward the restoration of urban spaces, including perspectives from public administration, societal responses, and the viewpoints of designers and specialists. Through case studies, significant projects from across Europe will be presented. Articles authored by project designers are welcome, as are synthesis and analytical papers from outside the design teams, or from users' perspectives.

Please submit your article by **May 30, 2026** via email to either of the following addresses:

editorial@transylvanianostra.eu

transylvanianostra@gmail.com

READ MORE: <https://eahn.org/2026/03/transsylvania-nostra-journal-call-for-papers-2026/>

- **Special Issue Future Cities and Their Downtowns: Urban Studies and Planning**

This Special Issue seeks robust and original research on the future of cities and their downtowns. Contributions are welcome on any relevant topic and disciplinary perspective, specifically focused on the city centre or on the relationships between the core and the wider urban system. Papers exploring responses in city centres to change, such as the adaptation and repurposing of buildings, and the connections between buildings and public spaces are particularly welcome, as are studies considering policy and regulation. Such themes could include smart cities and digital construction, zero- carbon city centres and buildings, the futureproofing of downtowns, repurposing and lifecycle perspectives for buildings and spaces, governance and funding, as well as planning, spatial equity, inclusiveness and fair transitions.

Deadline for manuscript submissions: **31 August 2026**

READ MORE: <file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/820CT76B58.pdf>

- **Call for papers: 4th International Architecture & Design Conference**

Participating journal: Journal of Engineering and Applied Science

Deadline for manuscript submissions: **31 May 2026**

READ MORE:

https://link.springer.com/collections/jbbahddhij?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=21675443969&gbraid=0AAAAADu6850gEK0dtSCWamc8sFK1mwPJz&gclid=Cj0KCQIA2bTNBhDjARIsAK89wIFNgIHnpLoFas6LMR1gioLawZwA8i2e8WXdx4t_sjgL8We44yFz pBcaAq2wEALw_wcB

- **Planetary Neighbourhoods**

Multiple global crises, such as climate change, social injustice, economic instability, and public health emergencies, reshape urban agendas and accelerate transformations in the built environment, which are mostly visible at the neighbourhood scale, where local histories, cultural foundations, and socio-economic relations are both sustained and reconfigured across diverse contexts all around the world.

In the Planetary Neighbourhoods, we aim to contribute to the key literature on the social, economic, and political issues shaping urban life worldwide. This edited volume will bring together international scholarly work to synthesize state-of-the-art debates, research, and policy principles on neighbourhoods and community resilience. It conceptualizes neighbourhoods as multidimensional settings where physical form, social relations, governance, and identity intersect, and where top-down policies and bottom-up initiatives co-produce collective capacity. Emphasizing comparative and cross-cultural dialogue the book examines how neighbourhood strategies are adapted to diverse socio-political and cultural contexts, integrating tangible (built environment, infrastructure) and intangible (social networks, trust, cultural identity) dimensions, and put forward both good and bad practices and policy approaches from the perspective of urban planning that shed light on how we can deal with today's challenges and shape urban futures.

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/members/call-for-abstracts-planetary-neighbourhoods>

- **CALL FOR CHAPTERS – Floating habitats in Africa and South America**

This call is for 2 specific contributions for our forthcoming book which will investigate floating habitats in a global context and is based on multi-disciplinary research presented at the international symposium FLOATING HABITAT co-organized by UNSW Sydney and Politecnico di Milano in 2024*.

Publication

Book Title: Floating Habitats. Architecture and Urbanism at the Water's Edge

Editors: Raffaele Pernice and Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan SAGE

The book

The book collects various contributions with each essay reviewing and exploring relevant thematical topics and selected case studies from a variety of geographical locations and cultural settings to give a global perspective on the theme of floating habitats.

The book holds that floating islands (both as natural and artificial artefacts, but also as an abstract idea) are a concrete and powerful representative habitat of today's interrelatedness facing contemporary global radical changes and challenges and potential blueprints for future urban development along waterfronts and on seas/water environments.

The chapters

We are looking for scholarly/academic works which explore theoretical issues on or critically illustrate relevant case studies of floating habitats in AFRICA and SOUTH AMERICA.

If interested, please send a proposal with title, abstract (200 words max) together with an updated CV to:

r.pernice@unsw.edu.au

leonardo.zuccaro@polimi.it

Selected proposals will receive more detailed instructions in a separated communication.

It rests assured that the selected contributors should commit to develop and prepare a complete final draft of the chapter (4000-5000 words) for initial peer review by May 31, 2026.

* Link international symposium FLOATING HABITAT SYMPOSIUM 2024:

Polimi: <https://floatinghabitat.polimi.it/>

UNSW: <https://conference.unsw.edu.au/en/Floating-habitat-symposium-2024>

- **Character in Architecture and Beyond**

02nd September 2026 to 04th September 2026

International Conference organised by Building Identity: Character in Architectural Debate and Design 1750-1850 (Project, ETH Zurich)

While scholars usually studied the uses of the concept focusing on Western-Europe and on designers and architectural critics (Szambien, Forty, Grignon and Maxim), our conference 'Building Identities' is interested in examining character in a broader manner, across various disciplines and geographies. We aim to investigate the complexity, variety and contradictions surrounding its centrality in discourse. By foregrounding aspects that have long been undervalued, the conference 'Building Identities' invites participants to collaborate in writing a critical history of 'character' tracing:

- How 'character' connects and relates to different fields (art history, landscape, urban history, travel, literature, the performing arts, philosophy, religion, cultural history, anthropology, nascent natural sciences);
- What 'character' presupposes in terms of ideologies, also in connection to notions such as identity, custom, moeurs, civilisation, etc.
- How and why 'character' operates in specific contexts (classification, subordination, naturalisation).

READ MORE: <https://www.buildingidentity.arch.ethz.ch/#events>

GUD STUDY TOURS

- **Doxiadis and His Environment. A study tour exploring the theories, works, and legacy of Constantinos A. Doxiadis**

Taking place on 13–14 June 2026 in Athens and the wider region of Attica, this two-day study tour traces the environments that shaped Constantinos Doxiadis's thinking and those that, in turn, were shaped by him. Participants will visit from historic landscapes and ancient sites that inspired his vision for the modern city and urban space — such as the Acropolis, the subject of his doctoral thesis reflecting Dimitris Pikionis's ideas — to the spaces Doxiadis designed, inhabited and worked, including his home, his office building and Apolloneio, his seaside development and personal retreat.

Situating Doxiadis's work within a broader genealogy of ecological intelligence — both as a precursor to and a critique of today's prevailing urban models — the tour will complement the session "Doxiadis and the Environment" on 16 June 2026, during the 7th Changing Cities Conference on Spetses Island.

Booking deadline: 30 April 2026

More info: aprodi@upatras.gr

PUBLICATIONS

- **Temporal Urban Design Temporality, Rhythm and Place**

Filipa Matos Wunderlich, Routledge 2025

- **Global Cities and Postcolonial Urbanism – Palgrave Macmillan, 2026**

Rashmi Varma, Jini Kim Watson, Palgrave Macmillan Cham, 2025

READ MORE : <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-77555-0>

- **An Ugly Building in a Beautiful City Gets a Much-Debated Makeover**

The Tour Montparnasse is one of Paris's least-loved landmarks. After half a century, it's finally being remodeled. For 53 years, the Tour Montparnasse has smudged the skyline of Paris, a cigar-brown hulk so reviled that some locals dismiss it as the box the Eiffel Tower came in. Others joke that the best view in Paris is from the observation deck on the tower's 56th floor because that's only place where one can't see it. Now, though, the ugliest building in the world's most beautiful city is getting a long-awaited face-lift — both the 689-foot tower (still the lone skyscraper in low-rise Paris) and ...

READ MORE : <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/23/world/europe/tour-montparnasse-paris-makeover-piano.html>

- **Neanderthals and Mesolithic hunter-gatherers lit the fire: Humans shaped European landscapes long before agriculture.**

New research shows that humans left their mark on the landscape through hunting and the use of fire tens of thousands of years before the advent of agriculture. The research paints a new picture of the past, say co-authors of the new study, Professor Jens-Christian Svenning from Aarhus University and PhD candidate and postdoctoral researcher Anastasia Nikulina from Leiden University and Durham University. Imagine Europe tens of thousands of years ago: dense forests, large herds of ...

READ MORE : <https://architexturez.net/pst/az-cf-247469-1772112935>

- **Urban tourism promotion in Belgium and the Netherlands: an introduction**

Gerrit Verhoeven, Ilja Van Damme, Jan Hein Furnée

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 09 January 2026, Urban History,

First View , pp. 1 – 15

Urban tourism has expanded dramatically in recent decades, reshaping European cities economically, socially and culturally. Yet its roots run much deeper, as (early) modern urban centres – especially in the Low Countries – developed distinctive traditions of tourism and place promotion. This special issue highlights how civic boosterism, marketing innovations and inter-urban competition shaped these early practices. Bringing together new research on Belgium and the Netherlands, the

special issue uncovers the actors, tools and narratives that fashioned urban tourism long before the late twentieth-century boom. Collectively, the contributions rethink the genealogy of urban tourism by analysing its 'orgware', 'hardware' and 'software' from the late eighteenth to twentieth centuries.

READ MORE : <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0963926825100606>

- **Explaining the welfare city: publicness, citizenship and the expansion of public services in Nordic cities, c. 1850–1920», Urban History , First View , pp. 1 – 16**

Mats Hallenberg, Magnus Linnarsson, Pär Blomkvist

This article addresses the expansion of urban public services in major Nordic cities, from 1850 to 1920. We argue that changes in political discourse were the driving force that prompted politicians to act on behalf of the urban public, significantly before the rise of the universal welfare state. The discursive changes are explored through three analytic concepts: publicness, urban citizenship and the welfare city. We start by presenting a short overview of the development of urban public services. Then we demonstrate how these concepts may be used in conjunction to explain the historical changes. Finally, the material effects are discussed in three case-studies, addressing freshwater pipes, public transport and municipal health care, respectively.

READ MORE : <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0963926825100680>

- **Research Article**

Gimeno-Sánchez, A., (2025) “The City of Tomorrow? The Bo01 Housing Exhibition in Malmö, Sweden (2001), as a Model of Sustainable Urban Development”, Architectural Histories 13(1), 1–29. doi: <https://doi.org/10.16995/ah.11566>

The housing exhibition Bo01, also known as the City of Tomorrow, was held in Västra Hamnen in Malmö, Sweden, from May to August 2001. Aiming to be a model for an ecologically sustainable urban development, the exhibition mobilized an unprecedented number of public resources and initiated a series of collaborations between Swedish research and manufacturing industries to design experimental solutions for 'future' sustainable dwellings. A completely new district with 800 apartments, a landscape display, and an art exhibition was built for Bo01 within two years. A few days before closing, Bo01 AB, subsidiary of the City of Malmö, filed for bankruptcy. Drawing on the critical approach to sustainability developed by urban political ecology, this paper examines the housing exhibition itself, the ethics suggested by techno-managerial sustainability practices, and the shift towards municipal entrepreneurialism in the late 1990s.

READ MORE : <https://journal.eahn.org/article/id/11566/>

URBAN DESIGN EVENTS

- **The Better-Cities Event, March 24-27, 2026**

Ljubljana, Slovenia

MORE INFO: <https://urban-future.org/event/uf26-ljubljana/ljubljana/>

- **TALK: Nature Within: In Conversation with Toyo Ito**

Learn more about Toyo Ito's practice from the architect himself, with this special talk event held in conjunction with the exhibition [Nature Within: The Architecture of Toyo Ito](#) at the Japan Foundation Sydney.

Toyo Ito will be joining online from Japan, and he will discuss his architecture practice with Dr Raffaele Pernice, Senior Lecturer in Architecture and Urbanism at the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney).

Event Details

March 27, 2026 (Friday)

6-7:30pm AEDT

Online/in person; Bookings not required

Venue

Room M18 - June Griffith Building (F10)

University Mall, UNSW

Kensington NSW 2052

Link: Toyo Ito Talk Event – Japan Foundation, Sydney

- **The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) is back for a month long celebration of architecture and city-making in June 2026.**

With activity happening across London, the Festival will once again be a platform for conversation, testing new ideas, promoting emerging talent, helping shift us towards a more equitable, sustainable city.

All Festival activity for 2026 will focus on the theme of 'Belonging'.

READ MORE : <https://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org/>

WORKING GROUPS

- **EUROPEAN WORKING GROUP "Flexible, Healthy and Liveable Public Spaces"**

Coordinator: Prof. Marichela Sepe (DICEA, Sapienza University of Rome)

Focus areas: liveable & healthy public spaces; healthy streets; campus public realms; proximity spaces; waterfronts; places for ageing and fragile people; foodscapes; flexible/multirisk public spaces; parklets & pocket parks

Aim: identify international best practices and produce transferable guidance for urban and spatial planning

Partner: GUDesign network — www.gudesign.org

READ MORE : <https://eura.org/news-newwg-publicspaces/>

Email for expression of interest: marichela.sepe@gmail.com

APPLICATIONS, FELLOWSHIPS AND POSITIONS

Research funding in Urban Urgencies

- **Prix de thèse Denis Menjot en histoire urbaine**

Deadline 19 April 2026

La Société Française d'Histoire Urbaine (SFHU) ouvre, pour sa 16e session, un concours de thèses qui s'adresse aux jeunes doctorant.es en histoire urbaine, ayant soutenu leur thèse durant l'année civile 2025. Sont recevables toutes les thèses qui abordent le fait urbain dans son historicité, quels que soient la période, l'espace et la discipline académique (histoire, droit, urbanisme, architecture, histoire de l'art...) concernés.

READ MORE : <https://sfhu.hypotheses.org/13602>

IDEAS URBAN DESIGN COMPETITIONS

- **JANE'S WALK ITALY**

Deadline: 31 March 2026

READ MORE:

<https://www.inu.it/news/inu-per-jane-s-walk-9-0/>

URBAN DESIGN AWARDS

- **APR Awards 8th edition Urban Design & Architecture Design Awards 2026**, organized by APR

Registration Ends. 30th September 2026

Submission Deadline. 15th October 2026

READ MORE: <https://www.architecturepressrelease.com/udad-awards-brief/>

NEW URBAN DESIGN PROJECTS

- **Huachiao Vibrant Sports Park**

Where: Suzhou, Kunshan district

Who: SoBA Architects

READ MORE: <https://www.dezeen.com/2026/01/08/soba-huachiao-vibrant-sports-park-china/>

MASTER AND WORKSHOPS

- **A unique 3-day workshop featuring field trips to Rotterdam and Scheveningen (27-29 May 2026)**

Designed for professionals engaged in the development and management of port city territories - including port authorities, government officials, urban planners, infrastructure developers, and cultural practitioners - this workshop addresses the increasingly complex challenges at the intersection of port development, urban planning, and heritage conservation.

While the economic and technical dimensions of port cities often receive significant attention, their cultural and spatial uniqueness is frequently overlooked. This can have long-term consequences for urban identity, social cohesion, and sustainable development. The workshop offers you the opportunity to critically explore and collaboratively shape innovative, value-based strategies that integrate spatial quality, heritage, and operational port needs.

The workshop includes field visits to the port and city of Rotterdam and to Scheveningen, offering direct engagement with exemplary cases of port city transformation. Central themes will include:

- * Leveraging port city heritage to shape sustainable urban futures.
- * Balancing operational port functions with the needs of urban communities.
- * Developing long-term visions for port city territories as resilient, inclusive, and livable spaces.

Read more: <https://mailchi.mp/tudelft/creating-a-vision-for-port-cities-4828423?e=ebd7eed228>

- **ARL International Summer School 2026 on Urban Infrastructures in Amsterdam**

In cooperation with the Regional Studies Association (RSA) the ARL - Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz Association invites applications for the ARL

International Summer School 2026, on “New perspectives on Urban Infrastructures.” The Summer School will take place from 8 to 10 July 2026 at the University of Amsterdam. Urban and regional studies have experienced an infrastructural turn, broadening the understanding of infrastructure beyond technical artefacts such as pipes, cables or roads. Increasingly, infrastructures are conceptualised as socio-political, ecological and relational arrangements, encompassing nature, digital systems, labour and care practices. These developments raise new conceptual and methodological challenges for research. The Summer School provides an international platform to explore and critically discuss these emerging perspectives on urban infrastructures. It is aimed at PhD candidates working in human geography, urban and regional planning, or related social science disciplines. Applications are welcome from researchers conducting empirical work in both the Global North and the Global South. Contributions may address, among others, the following themes: multiple temporalities and rhythms of infrastructure configurations, the politics and governance of infrastructuring, and co-creating alternative infrastructural systems and futures.

READ MORE:

<https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/members/arl-international-summer-school-2026-on-urban-infrastructures-in-amsterdam>

- **Inclusive Heritage For Disaster Risk Reduction. Digital And Participatory Methods For Resilient Communities**

May 2026 – May 2027

Type of Master: 1st level Master’s Programme (60 ECTS)

Academic year: 2025/2026

Delivery language: English

Coordinators and Locations:

Coordinator: Rosa Tamborrino

Coordinating Department: DIST, Politecnico di Torino (POLITO)

Locations: Online & Turin, Italy

READ MORE: <https://resiliage.eu/joinus/resiliage-master-school-inclusive-heritage-for-disaster-risk-reduction/>

For the GUDNews.7 May 2026 submit no later than 15 April 2026 contributions to both:

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