

GUDNews.7 May 2026

Edited by Vassiliki Petridou and Marichela Sepe

GUD NEXT ACTIVITIES

May 2026

On Complexity, Architecture and the City- Seminar

Emanuela Margione, Politecnico di Milano

9 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 May 2026 to marichela.sepe@gmail.com

CALL FOR PAPERS

- **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. 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/>

- **CFP *Right to Housing***

Zagreb, Croatia, Oct 22–24, 2026

Deadline: Jun 1, 2026

Right to Housing is the first of two conferences organized within the ERC project Housing.Yu – Right to Housing: The Production of Spaces of Everyday Life in Yugoslavia (1945–1991). The

project examines the distinctive experiments of self-managed socialist Yugoslavia in housing policy, finance, tenure, urban planning, and residential construction.

Proposals addressing other global contexts are also welcome, particularly where they contribute to a broader understanding of post-war housing and knowledge transfer.

A distinct research strand of both the project and the conference is Knowledge in Danger, which addresses the preservation, processing, systematization, digitisation, storage, and public presentation of architectural and urban planning documentation related to mass housing in the postwar period. Contributions from scholars, archivists, curators, and heritage professionals working on endangered housing-related collections are particularly encouraged.

The conference will take place in Zagreb and is organized by the Institute of Art History in Zagreb and Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, from 22 to 24 October 2026.

Please submit an abstract of 200 to 300 words, accompanied by a short biographical note of up to 150 words, via the conference submission form at the link below by 1 June 2026: <https://forms.gle/LTwXii95V8Vt8hMV8>

READ MORE: <https://www.ipu.hr/article/en/2149/right-to-housing-projects-policies-and-knowledge-exchange-after-the-second-world-war>

- **CFP XIII AISU Congress: The Wounded City**

Genoa, Oct 7–10, 2027

Deadline: May 24, 2026

The Italian Association for Urban History is one of the leading European scholarly associations devoted to the study of urban history in all its dimensions. Since its foundation in 2001, it has promoted an interdisciplinary approach and sought to move beyond the boundaries of national historiographies, fostering an understanding of urban history open to dialogue with civil society.

On the occasion of the 13th edition—organized with the support of the University of Genoa, Department of Architecture and Design (DAD)—we aim to build on this well-established format by complementing the traditional structure of parallel academic sessions (held during the day) with an open cultural festival, partly addressed to a wider public (in the late afternoon and evening).

Theme: The Wounded City/La città ferita

Cities have always been more than merely settings for human events—often marked by conflicts of varying intensity. They are themselves among the most sensitive and enduring outcomes of those events and conflicts. Urban transformations bear the material and symbolic traces of the tensions that have traversed them: wounds produced by armed conflicts, political and social crises, natural disasters, and processes of exploitation or exclusion, as well as by projects of reform, reconstruction, and refoundation.

The congress will be organized around six thematic macro sessions, conceived as spaces for interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange.

1. Governing and Controlling the City: Powers, Institutions, Negotiations

2. Attacking and Defending the City: Crises, Emergencies, Disruptions
3. Living in the City: Interests, Practices, Uses of Space
4. Narrating and Representing the City: Memories, Identities, Contested Heritage
5. Imagining and Experimenting with the City: Programs, Challenges, Visions of the Future
6. Agorà (events open to the public)

The first Call for Sessions and Public Events is now open to proposals for academic sessions, round tables, and public initiatives addressed to a broader audience.

Deadline 24 May 2026

READ MORE: <https://aisuinternational.org/genova-2027-home/>

Contact: genova2027@aisuinternational.net

- **Call for Papers: Complexity Unpacked: Analytical Tools & Practical Insights for Uncertain Futures**

24th Conference of the AESOP Thematic Group on Planning and Complexity

Location: University of Nicosia, Department of Architecture, Cyprus

Date: 8–9 January 2027

Planning operates within, and as part of, complex socio-spatial systems. Cities and regions are not merely objects of intervention but evolving, relational, and adaptive assemblages shaped by multiple interacting actors, institutions, infrastructures, and environments. They are characterised by non-linearity, emergence, uncertainty, path dependence, and cross-scalar interdependencies.

We invite contributions that explore this translation. Rather than treating complexity as metaphor alone, we seek work that operationalises (applies) complexity — that mobilises methods and tools capable of engaging with uncertainty, interdependence, and dynamic change in planning contexts. We welcome contributions that critically reflect on how complexity-informed tools reshape professional roles, decision-making cultures, and planning epistemologies. The theme positions tools not as neutral technical devices, but as socio-technical instruments embedded in institutional, political, and normative contexts. We encourage submissions that interrogate both the promise and the constraints of complexity-based approaches in real-world planning settings.

Abstract Submission (max. 500 words): 15 June 2026

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/tg-news/planning-and-complexity/complexity-unpacked-nicosia-cyprus-2027>

- **CFP 13th Urban Creativity Conference**

Lisbon and online, Jul 2–04, 2026

Deadline: Apr 30, 2026

The 13th Urban Creativity Conference invites contributions on graffiti, street art and wider forms of urban creativity, focusing on how these practices can be understood as forms of

intangible heritage that foster a relationship between citizens and the city, and how they challenge and reconfigure established art historical canons. It also invites contributors to explore the intersections between graffiti, urban space and moving-image ecologies – from film and animation to games, AR/XR and other moving-image formats.

Abstracts of approximately 300 words are due by 30 April 2026.

The conference will be held in a hybrid format (Lisbon and online) from 2 to 4 July 2026.

Full papers for the associated thematic issues are due by the end of July 2026, with expected publication in November 2026.

All submissions, including abstracts, should be made via the GSA journal platform. Authors are asked to indicate the relevant thematic call in the “Comments for the Editor” field when submitting.

Submission guidelines (short version):

- English is the primary working language of GSA.
- Abstract: approximately 300 words.
- Full articles: max 5,000 words.
- Essays: max 2,000 words.
- Author information: authors provide their details (name, affiliation, contact email, and, where available, ORCID iD) through the journal’s submission system.

Complete submission information and guidelines can be found at:
<https://journals.wisethorough.com/index.php/gsa/about/submissions>

READ MORE: <http://www.urbancreativity.org>

CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS AND JOURNALS

- **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/>

- **GUD / Genova University Design Magazine**

The 14th issue of GUD focuses on the review as an essential tool for verification and critical control, not only in architecture but in all disciplines intertwined with the production of space and culture. The present call for contributions invites explorations of this operation in its methodological, reflective, and operational dimensions, welcoming contributions that approach the review as a form of intervention or thinking on reality, both on an individual and collective level. Contributions may take the form of critical reviews, methodological experiments, or critical analyses, provided they explicitly detail the conceptual and operational strategies that substantiate the “review.”

Deadline for submission: 24 April 2026

Authors are invited to submit an abstract in Italian or English of 5,000 characters, including spaces, to the following email address: gud@stefanotermaninieditore.it

READ MORE: <https://eahn.org/2026/04/gud-review/>

- **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=0AAAAADu685OgEK0dtSCWamc8sFK1mwPJz&gclid=Cj0KCQIA2bTNBhDjARIsAK89wIFNgIHnPLoFas6LMR1gioLawZwA8i2e8WXdx4t_sjgL8We44yFzPbcaAq2wEALw_wcB

- **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>

- **Call for Papers: "Aerial Affairs" – Planning Perspectives Special Issue**

The journal Planning Perspectives invites submissions for the special issue "Aerial Affairs. Planning Histories and Practices of Spatial Perception, Data and Power."

The issue explores how aerial technologies—such as photography, satellite imagery, and drones—have transformed the way we perceive, represent, and plan space, shaping urban design, infrastructure, and territorial governance since the 19th century.

Focus & Topics

Contributions should present original research on aerial planning and may address:

Media & representation (e.g. satellite imagery, photogrammetry, 3D modelling)

Projects & impacts (urban plans, landscape transformation)

Networks & processes (institutions, knowledge production, planning ideologies)

The call encourages critical perspectives on the links between aerial technologies and power structures, including colonialism, and intersections with race, gender, class, and labour.

How to Apply

Submit:

Extended abstract (max. 1500 words, in English)

Up to 15 figures (optional)

Short bio

Send to: katrin.albrecht1@ost.ch; angela.gigliotti@ost.ch; lisa.henicz@ost.ch

Key Dates

Abstract deadline: June 29, 2026

Full paper deadline: September 21, 2026

Publication: Autumn 2027

READ MORE: <https://www.aasa-arch.org/post/call-for-papers-----planning-perspectives-special-issue-aerial-affairs-planning-histories-and-pra>

- **Territorio #1 Report from the post-disaster reconstruction**

Guest editors: [Alejandro Aravena](#), [Michela Bassanelli](#), [Agim Kërçuku](#), [Matteo Poli](#)

In recent years, post-disaster reconstruction has been increasingly recognised as an opportunity not only to restore damaged areas, but also to innovate and integrate new values that strengthen communities. While it is true that, on the one hand, the debate on architecture and urban design for post-disaster reconstruction has often focused on the immediate aftermath of a disaster, when humanitarian response and technical expertise prevail, on the other hand, the medium- and long-term dimensions of reconstruction have received less consideration. This issue aims to address the complexity of reconstruction following events of various kinds, including earthquakes, tsunamis, forest and urban fires, floods and inundations, soil erosion, extreme drought and phenomena linked to climate change. However, it is essential to make a clear distinction between the emergency response (day zero, rescue and first aid) and the actual reconstruction process. This special issue focuses on the latter, intended as a “reconstruction handbook” for those who are actually dealing with the problem in the field.

Territorio’s Call for Abstracts aims to explore what reconstruction means today, what conditions influence its outcomes, and how different strategies operate across different locations and scales. We invite authors to submit an abstract of up to 300 words and one relevant drawing or image (black and white), identifying one of the three reference sections below (Themes and Projects, Visual Essay, Paths).

Please also include in addition to the abstract the following information: short biography of author(s) and keywords (maximum 3).

Please submit your abstract by **May 15, 2026**, to: agim.kercuku@polimi.it and michela.basanelli@polimi.it

After submitting your abstract, you will be notified of the decision by June 15.

If accepted, you will then be asked to submit your full article by October 30.

Languages: Italian and English. Accepted articles must comply with the journal’s editorial guidelines and be submitted through the Territorio platform. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance.

READ MORE: <https://www.francoangeli.it/riviste/sommario/63/territorio>

- **Submit a Manuscript to the Journal International Planning Studies**

For a Special Issue on *Making sense of actually existing metropolitan planning: practices, capacities and contemporary displacements*

https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/making-sense-actually-existing-metropolitan-planning-practices-capacities-contemporary-displacements/ (https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/making-sense-actually-existing-metropolitan-planning-practices-capacities-contemporary-displacements/)

Timeline: **May 31st, 2026** - deadline for sending abstracts to Guest Editors at E-mail: pabloelinbaum@conicet.gov.ar (mailto:pabloelinbaum@conicet.gov.ar) and Giancarlo Cotella (mailto:giancarlo.cotella@polito.it)

- **CFP TRANSACTIONS of AESOP | Special issue for JATA Journal of AESOP Trans/Actions**

Planning for publics: Reconceptualising the governance of the commons in relation to the margins

Worldwide cities and planners are struggling to find effective ways to manage resources and involve local communities, especially in the margins, in the effort to provide just and sustainable living environments. Within this state, we propose revisiting the commons, with the emphasis on the commoning as a process.

This special issue examines planning for the commons by interrogating the gap between aspirational planning, development policy and the practicalities of implementation and management. It analyses how this gap shapes the governance of shared spaces and everyday transactions, with consequences for spatial justice and for resilient, sustainable urban futures.

Abstract submission date. 25 May

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/journals/transactions-of-aesop-special-issue-for-jata-journal-of-aesop-trans-actions>

- **CPCL Vol. 9, no 2. Call for Papers**
Beauty as a Public Category: Aesthetics, Politics, and Urban Space

The European Journal of Creative Practices in Cities and Landscapes, Vol. 9, no. 2.

The call aims to critically question this overflow of beauty from the aesthetic domain into public use, exploring its theoretical, political, and cultural implications. The goal is not to defend or deny beauty, but to problematize its status as a historically determined aesthetic category, as a normative device in public discourse, and as an operational criterion in fields such as architecture, urban planning, consensus building, collective action, and the management of space and bodies.

The call also aims to critically reconceptualize the changing role of beauty in today's everyday rituals, particularly with regard to the impact of the abundance of images on social and mobile media on aesthetic formation and education in contemporary societies. Media surfaces are increasingly competing with urban scenography, which was formerly considered to provide the framework for a society's sensory and emotional development. Consider, for example, the murals, ornaments, fountains, obelisks and statues in European cities, which seem to be increasingly replaced by AI-produced and manipulated images of 'ideal' beauty. One topic could be the beautification techniques, i.e. the ideology of embellishment, that social media focuses on.

Particular attention will be paid to the internal tensions within the concept of beauty (harmony and conflict, consensus and dissent, design and side effects) and its relationships with neighboring categories such as the sublime, the ugly, atmosphere, style, decorum, and degradation.

Abstract submission (optional but recommended): by the end of May

READ MORE: <https://cpcl.unibo.it/announcement/view/778>

- **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 (Szombien, 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>

- **Postcards**

Call for Postcards: "OUT-OF-MAP – Feminist Narratives of Public Space"

Rhizoma Design and Research Lab has launched an open call inviting artists, designers, architects, researchers, activists, and citizens to reflect on how feminist perspectives can reshape public space.

The project asks participants to contribute a **postcard** (any medium: drawing, photography, collage, etc.) exploring the **emotional, relational, and political dimensions** of everyday urban life—often overlooked in conventional narratives.

Selected works will be exhibited at Centre Cívic Sagrada Família (Barcelona)

October 8 – November 7, 2026, as part of Barcelona 2026 World Capital of Architecture

No participation fee

Key Dates

- Submission deadline: **April 15, 2026**
- Notification of results: **May 15, 2026**

How to Apply

Submit via email:

- 1 image (JPG, 42 × 28.8 cm, 300 dpi)
- Description text (max 1,000 characters)

- Short bio (max 500 characters)
 - Author headshot(s)
- Send to: rhizoma.outofmap@gmail.com
 More info: <https://www.rhizomalab.com/research/out-of-map>

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: 15 May 2026

More info: aprodi@upatras.gr, v.petridou@upatras.gr

PUBLICATIONS

- **Book**

Massimo Angrilli, Valentina Ciuffreda, Mariano Spera (2025) *Paesaggi in attesa. Territori marginali d’Abruzzo*, FrancoAngeli

LINK: <https://series.francoangeli.it/index.php/oa/catalog/book/1560>

- **Book**

Reto Camponovo, Sébastien Lorenzini, *La ville fait son climat. Comprendre et adapter les espaces urbains face aux fortes chaleurs*, MetisPresses, 2026

The book explores how climate overheating affects the habitability of urban spaces through a microclimatic approach grounded in lived experience, highlighting how urban form, materials, vegetation, and water shape thermal atmospheres, and reflecting on how cities can remain socially and climatically hospitable under increasing heat.

READ MORE:

<https://www.calameo.com/read/0043098538853e8273380?authid=qtbizqkdYvqx>

- **Research Article**

Coello, M., Palacios-Jerves, S., Pauta-Pesántez, A., Tapia, A. and Hermida, C. (2025) “Young People’s Perception of Safety in Parks in an Intermediate Latin American City”, *The Journal of Public Space*, 10(1), pp. 15–36. doi: 10.32891/jps.v10i1.1851

LINK: <https://www.journalpublicspace.org/index.php/jps/article/view/1851/1006>

- **New Special Issue — The 10th Anniversary: plaNext and Planning in Transition**

Over the past decade, plaNext – Planning for the Next Generation has grown into a platform for innovative, interdisciplinary, and future-oriented research in spatial planning and regional development. This special issue is both a celebration and a reflection, capturing the transitions that have shaped the field — and the journal — from 2015 to 2025.

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/ya/new-special-issue-the-10th-anniversary-planext-and-planning-in-transition>

URBAN DESIGN EVENTS

- **Designing Cities Conference: Minneapolis**

NACTO's 14th annual Designing Cities Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 2026

READ MORE: <https://nacto.org/events/about-the-designing-cities-conference/>

- **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 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/>

- **Keynote Videos Now Available Online**

The keynote sessions from the AESOP Heads of Schools Meeting 2026 in Ås are now accessible online.

Held on 13 March 2026 at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), the meeting featured two insightful keynote contributions addressing key challenges for planning education and practice:

Andrea Frank – Planning - Leadership in the Age of Supercomplexity?

Siri Eriksen – Can climate resilient development be transformative? The politics of shifting technology, practice and governance.

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/aesop/hos-as-2026-keynote-videos-now-available-online>

WORKING GROUPS

- **EURA 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

- **Assistant or Associate Professor in Spatial Landscape Analytics at Aalto University, Finland**
<https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/jobs/assistant-or-associate-professor-in-spatial-landscape-analytics-at-aalto-university-finland>
Aalto University invites applications for an Assistant or Associate level professor in Spatial Landscape Analytics at Aalto University. The position is full time and it is shared between Aalto ARTS / Department of Architecture and Aalto ENG / Department of Built Environment. The call is open until **Thursday May 7, 2026**.
- **Professor in Spatial Landscape Analytics at Aalto University, Finland**
The position will open on **Sept. 1, 2027**, or as agreed. For more information and link to the application form please visit: Professor in Spatial Landscape...
READ MORE: <https://www.aalto.fi/en/open-positions/professor-in-spatial-landscape-analytics>

- **CALL FOR AESOP LECTURE SERIES 2026** AESOP is looking for candidates willing to organise the AESOP Lecture Series in 2026.

The application has to be from an Academic on behalf of an AESOP member institution.

The Lecture Series was initiated in 2012 as part of AESOP's Silver Jubilee Year celebrations. Since then, a series of Lectures has been regularly organised with prominent 'urban thinkers', both academics and practitioners. The idea has been to attract not only the local academic community, but also a wider audience of politicians, community leaders and organisations, businesses and the media, to promote Planning as a discipline that can contribute to urban justice and environmental quality, help find new tools of urban governance, and function as an effective mediator between all the stakeholders involved.

AESOP provides a financial provision of up to €2000 (two thousand Euros) to support the organisational costs involved.

The deadline is 30 May 2026.

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/aesop/call-for-aesop-lecture-series-2026>

IDEAS URBAN DESIGN COMPETITIONS

- **Competition: "Rome Rain Rooms"**

The international competition "Rome Rain Rooms", organized by Buildner, invites designers to rethink the relationship between cities and water in the context of climate change. Participants are asked to design small urban pavilions that collect and reuse rainwater, transforming extreme weather events into shared public experiences and sustainable resources.

Design Requirements

Collect at least 5 m³ of rainwater per event

Be adaptable to any location in Rome (no fixed site)

Be lightweight, reversible, and sensitive to the historic context

Enhance the sensory qualities of rain (sound, reflections, atmosphere)

Prizes

Total prize fund: €10,000

1st prize: €5,000

2nd prize: €2,500

3rd prize: €1,000

Additional mentions and special awards (students & sustainability)

Key Dates

Final registration: May 28, 2026

Submission deadline: June 29, 2026

Winners announced: September 15, 2026

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

- **ESPAÇO PÚBLICO, PARQUE, FRESNILLO, MÉXICO**

Architects: Alin V. Wallach, Rozana Montiel | Estudio de Arquitectura

Area:

2260 m²

Year: 2018

READ MORE: <https://www.archdaily.com.br/br/938318/parque-fresnillo-rozana-montiel-estudio-de-arquitectura-plus-alin-v-wallach>

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/>

- **CALL TO HOST THE AESOP 2027 HEADS OF SCHOOLS MEETING**

AESOP is pleased to invite its member schools to apply to host the 21st AESOP Heads of Schools Meeting, which will take place in Spring 2027.

Deadline for applications: 19 June 2026

Applications to be sent to the AESOP General Secretariat (secretariat@aesop-planning.eu (mailto:secretariat@aesop-planning.eu))

Application dossiers should include:

(a) Information about the hosting institution:

* Educational and research profile

* Organisational capacity to host the event

* Potential collaboration with local stakeholders...

READ MORE: <https://aesop-planning.eu/resources/news-archive/aesop/call-to-host-the-aesop-2027-heads-of-schools-meeting>

For the GUDNews.8 June 2026 submit no later than 15 May 2026 contributions to both:

v.petridou@upatras.gr, marichela.sepe@gmail.com