

NEWSLETTER

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RESEARCH CENTRE FOR TERRITORY TRANSPORTS AND ENVIRONMENT

<http://citta.fe.up.pt/>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Branco-Teixeira M (Coord.), Almeida C, Coimbra J, Ramos L. and Rocha C (2020) *Diagnóstico do Posicionamento Estratégico das Empresas no Mercado da Reabilitação Urbana Inteligente e Sustentável*. Porto: Universidade Fernando Pessoa (Ed). ISBN: 978-989-643-159-4

Book Chapters:

Graça M S (2020) Lisboa: Uma década de Orçamento Participativo. In: Cabbannes Y, Balsas J M M and Molina J (coords) *Presupuestos Participativos: Abriendo el gasto a la ciudadanía*. Valencia: Tirant al Blanc, pp. 241-285.

Graça M S (2020) The New Agora: On shopping centres and political demonstrations. In: Cachinho H, Barata-Salgueiro T, Guimarães P (orgs) *Comércio, Consumo & Governança Urbana*. Lisboa: CEG, pp. 530-543.

Papers in international journals:

Ferreira A, Ribeiro-Santos J and Breda-Vázquez I (2020) 'Transcending Dilemmas in Urban Policy-Making: Envisioning versus Adapting, Growing versus Stabilizing', *Planning Theory and Practice* 21(1), 76-93.

Ornelas C, Miranda Guedes J, Sousa F, Breda-Vázquez I (2020) 'Supporting Residential Built Heritage Rehabilitation through an Integrated Assessment', *International Journal of Architectural Heritage* 15(11), 1641-1654.

Santos Á and Branco-Teixeira M (2020) 'The contribution of tourism to the regeneration of cities: a route for change', *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes* 12(6), 753-760.

Igreja J and Conceição P (2021) 'The influence of EU policy on local policy-making, governance and urban change. Evidence from Porto, Portugal', *Urban Research & Practice*. DOI: 10.1080/17535069.2021.1959632

Rebelo E (2021) 'Betterment capture for social redistribution: A developer obligation for touristic developments', *Progress in Planning*. DOI: 10.1016/j.progress.2021.100615

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

Welcome to newsletter no. 30, which marks the 15th anniversary of the official launching of CITTA!

One year and a half into the application of CITTA's 4-year Programme Contract (2020-2023), it's time for a first reflection on the practical difficulties associated with its implementation. I will leave aside the consequences of the pandemic situation, which had a stronger impact on the way "current expenses" were spent or, I should say, not spent, with all national and international meetings, joint programmes, workshops and conferences cancelled or postponed since March 2020, or moved to digital online events. The good thing is that in the next couple of years, higher resources will be available to fund all those networking activities.

Following the Strategic Plan's directives, CITTA received financial support to purchase laboratorial equipment, hire a number of senior researchers and technical and management staff, and provide on a competitive basis a significant number of PhD scholarships. Most of the related bids were opened as soon as it was possible. All those familiar with the peculiarities of the corresponding administrative procedures in the public sector know that these are complex and time consuming, invariably. In the case of FCT-funded research centres, the double custody of these centres - divided between the FCT and the respective host institutions - tends to also double, in practice, the time spent and the number of check points to observe throughout the respective processes.

However, what we did not expect was to see the pervasive influence of the precarious nature of the contracts on offer - contracts strictly associated to the FCT funding cycles - in the outcomes of these selection processes, in particular in the cases of the senior researcher positions. Fortunately, this time, the list of excellent candidates was long enough to provide multiple choices in the selection process. Similar difficulties may well also be felt by the Centre in the near future, in the case of the calls for an informatics technician and for a so-called science manager. Candidates stated that they prefer to remain elsewhere in lower but more stable positions from a contractual point of view, than move out and join CITTA to accept higher and more challenging positions, if these are not accompanied by long-term contracts.

It seems, in the case of CITTA, and as a preliminary balance, that the fight for funding is satisfactorily overcome for the time being, and now, the next challenge is to provide long-term contractual stability, not just to those already working at the Centre, but also to all those who are willing to join us in the near future. Only the Centre's faculty members, with employment contracts with the host universities, seem relatively safe in this respect. However, their chances of finding a way of fair progress in the academic career are still unacceptably low, which is already generating signs of discontent if not deep frustration. Needless to say, these negative signs, visible in many other research centres, inevitably affect the vital contribution of these faculty researchers to the overall performance of the R&D centres to which they belong. Unfortunately, the means to tackle this rather serious and unfair situation present in the Portuguese higher education system lies outside the R&D centres' regulatory framework and scope of competences.

Surely, the problems associated with the precariousness of the scientific employment and the current bottlenecks in the academic career, are not restricted to CITTA and, on the contrary, are likely to affect many other research centres elsewhere in the country, and the quality of the research produced overall. This should be called to the attention of the FCT and of the Portuguese higher education authorities. Thank you!

Paulo Pinho

PhD Theses:

Coimbra I (2020) *Local Knowledge in Spatial Policies: The Role of Spatial Data Processing Tools*. FEUP, Porto.
<https://repositorio-aberto.up.pt/handle/10216/129070>

Serrano T (2020) *Mobilização e Mutação das Políticas Urbanas: Circuitos (extra)locais e Variedade Relacional*. FEUP, Porto.
<https://repositorio-aberto.up.pt/handle/10216/127798>

Affonso C (2021) *Urban Development Instruments in A Context of Increasing Financialization: The Case of Urban Partnership Operations in Brazil*. FEUP, Porto.

Reports:

Breda-Vázquez I, Conceição P, Alves F, Rocha C, Coimbra I; Silva D, Sousa A and Tavares D (2020) *Methodology for the elaboration of Management Plans for Urban World Heritage Sites*. Porto: Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto, CITTA - Research Centre for Territory, Transports and Environment; Municipality of Porto.

Breda-Vázquez I, Conceição P, Sousa A R and Serrano T (2020) *Instrumentos de redistribuição de benefícios e encargos e mecanismos de incentivo no planeamento e gestão urbanística (Relatório Final)*. Porto: Municipality of Porto; Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto.

The RG2 (UPH Group) focuses on urban and metropolitan policies, housing policy and local housing programs, taking particular attention to transformative innovation policies. Several lines of research are underway, involving different research themes, as well as collaboration on national and international projects and applied research.

In 2021, two projects that are contributing to the internationalisation of the research produced by RG 2, and, at the same time, to the interconnection of this research with local societal demands, should be highlighted:

- The project AtlaS.WH - Heritage in the Atlantic Area: Sustainability of the Urban World Heritage Sites, funded by INTERREG Atlantic Area Program and European Regional Development Fund, was concluded. The AtlaS.WH network is constituted by the Historic Centre of Porto, Luiz I Bridge and Monastery of Serra do Pilar; Historic Centre of Florence; Bordeaux, Port of the Moon; Old and New Towns of Edinburgh and Santiago de Compostela - Old Town. Considering the WH sites' management tools, International conventions and legislations and a diagnosis study, our team coordinated the elaboration of a common model for the Methodology of the Management and Sustainability plans for each partner, and accompanied its application in the Plan for the Management and Sustainability of the Historic Centre of Porto.

- The project RE-CITY ITN -Reviving shrinking cities: innovative paths and perspectives towards livability for shrinking cities in Europe (Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 813803) entered in its final phase. The project aims at developing novel solutions for shrinking cities, and investigate case studies approaches for dealing with shrinking cities in terms of four key themes: conceptualising shrinking smart, governing, greening/right-sizing, and regrowing shrinking cities. The project mobilises eight beneficiary-institutions (located in Germany, United Kingdom, France, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Portugal and Poland) and seven other partner institutions and companies (from Germany, Netherlands, USA and Japan).

On the other hand, several elements of the RG carried out research through different projects. This is the case of the research developed under the national FCT project "SPLACH - Spatial Planning for Change". This research allowed, namely, the systematic analysis of contemporary spatial dynamics, the definition of a framework for the assessment of the transformative capacity in planning and urban policies, or the contextualization of land value capture issues in spatial planning. Or the case of the collaboration in the project "BEIS- Bridge Engineering Information System" (POCI-01-0247-FEDER-046969), funded by the National Innovation Agency.

It is also important to underline, as a characteristic of RG2's activity, the continued capacity to attract and develop PhD projects, namely within the scope of the Doctoral Programme in Spatial Planning (FEUP and UCoimbra).

Isabel Breda Vázquez