

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Ferreira, A., Ribeiro-Santos, J., & Breda-Vázquez, I. (2019). Understanding the relevance of transcending dilemmatic choices in urban policy-making: Envisioning versus adapting, growing versus stabilizing. *Planning Theory and Practice* (forthcoming).

Malcata Rebelo, E. (2019), *Metropolitan governance: concepts and practices*. The Willey Blackwell Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies (DOI:10.1002/9781118568446.eurs0199)

Affonso, C., Malcata Rebelo, E., Ferreira, A. (2019), "Urban development projects funded with a financializing land value capture instrument: the five Brazilian experiences compared", CITTA 12th Annual Conference on Planning Research "Spatial Planning for Change", Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, 19-20 Setembro.

Campos, E., Malcata Rebelo, E., Victal, J. (2019), "Transnationals phenomena, contemporary dynamics and territorial transformations: case study of Matosinhos City", CITTA 12th Annual Conference on Planning Research "Spatial Planning for Change", Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, 19-20 Setembro

Felix, A., Conceição, P., Sousa, F. (2018). Habitação de Interesse Social do Porto Maravilha como Proposta de Legado dos Jogos Olímpicos do Rio: Plano, Metas & Impasses, III Congresso Brasileiro de Geografia Política, Geopolítica e Gestão do Território, Niterói, 10-14 setembro. [publicada em Anais do III CONGEO (Congresso Brasileiro de Geografia Política, Geopolítica e Gestão do Território), pp. 1359-1373]

Malcata Rebelo, E. (2019), "Policies and instruments to capture unearned increments from touristic development, 59th ERSA Congress "Cities, regions and digital transformations: Opportunities, risks and challenges", Lyon, France, 27th-30th August

Neves, G., Malcata Rebelo, E. (2019), "Urban management of heritage sites: the case of Porto", CITTA 12th Annual Conference on Planning Research "Spatial Planning for Change", Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, 19-20 Setembro

## EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

This time I have an excellent news to share with you!

One of our main goals we have been working for since CITTA was founded was finally realised. In the recent FCT evaluation of all Portuguese R&D Centres, which final results have already been announced, the international panel of assessment covering the scientific areas of Urbanism (and Transports, in this case upon our specific request, see Newsletter no. 25), decided to give the highest grade of Excellent to CITTA. We reached the top mark of 5 in all three main assessment criteria, namely: (A) Quality, merit, relevance and internationalization of the R&D activities of the Integrated Researchers in the R&D Unit Application: (B) Merit of the team of Integrated Researchers: and (C) Appropriateness of objectives, strategy, plan of activities and organization.

The assessment report is highly positive and complimentary, recognising the quality and quantity by European standards, of the past and present research work carried out in all research groups, and the coherence and vision of the strategic plan for the next period of financial programming, now adjusted to the next four years from 2020 to 2023. My congratulations to all CITTA's researchers, senior and junior, for reaching together this well-deserved seal of excellence. Now is time to think about the next years, and about the responsibilities to fully explore the wide range of opportunities opened up by the new financial envelope that will soon be at the disposal of the Centre.

The two PhD programmes in Spatial Planning and in Transport Systems, closely attached to and supported by CITTA, will benefit from the provision of 16 annual grants over the next 4 years. The immense research capacity brought about by these grants calls for a renewed effort to make sure that only the very top candidates will be selected in the end, like indeed in the recent past (although with far less grants available).

Likewise, in terms of financial resources, the *base funding* plus the so-called *recommended programmatic support* projects CITTA into a new and far more demanding level of operation, enabling the steady growth of the research staff as advocated in the Centre's strategic plan. Again, a continued effort has to be made to make sure that the new contracted researchers will be of top level by international standards. To respond to these new challenges and demands, the Centre's internal organization and management procedures have to be carefully reappraised and readjusted if necessary. In any case, CITTA's institutional design and overall structure should remain the same, given the very satisfactory results and efficient working conditions it has been providing since its foundation.

On September, 19 and 20, took place at FEUP the 12<sup>th</sup> CITTA's international conference under the general topic of *Planning for Change*. With a record number of participants (over 160) and presentations (over 100) the conference was spread over one and a half days, for the first time. If these higher numbers persist in future editions of the conference, it will surely be more convenient to assume the two-day format. Judging by my immediate perception and by the very positive and encouraging answers provided by participants to a final questionnaire on the quality of the conference (a summary of the results is available on the website), the event was a great success thanks to the enthusiasm and dedication of the organizing team, the quality of the keynote speakers and of the presenters, and the format innovations introduced this year with round tables, posters and a session on planning games. In this respect, my final words of special thanks go to the members of the Scientific Committee and, in particular, to the co-chairs of the conference Vitor Oliveira and António Ferreira, as well as to Joana Santos, João Corgo, Rita Vaz, Anabela Ribeiro and our secretary Joana Bailão as members of the conference organizing team.

Paulo Pinho



## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Ribeiro-Santos, J., von Schönfeld, K., Ferreira, A., Breda-Vázquez, I. (2018). "Desafiando o urbanismo da austeridade - Políticas urbanas para além de uma crise persistente". Citta 11th Annual Conference on Planning Research, Coimbra.

Ribeiro-Santos, J., Ferreira, A., Breda-Vázquez, I. (2019). "Understanding the relevance of transcending dilemmatic choices in urban policy-making: Envisioning versus adapting, growing versus stabilizing". AESOP Annual Congress - Planning for Transition, Veneza.

Silva, D., Breda Vazquez, I. (2019). "New spatial dynamics, innovation and change in central zones". AESOP Annual Congress - Planning for Transition, Veneza.



## RESEARCH GROUP 2

The Research Group on Urban Planning and Housing Research Group - UPH (RG2) has been developing research related to responsive and transformative urban and housing policies, involving different research themes, as well as collaboration on national and international projects and applied research.

Several lines of research are underway, such as:

- The diversity and overlapping of local indicators for spatial planning monitoring and evaluation: interactions with institutional complexity;
- Urban dynamics, innovation and policy strategies: analyzing transformative capacities and tensions;
- Theory-based evaluation of urban land regularisation programmes;
- Planning tools and economic and financial sustainability of urbanization and infrastructure provision.

Various elements of the research group are currently enrolled in significant national and international projects. This is the case of the "SPLACH - Spatial Planning for Change" national project, with aims, among other aspects, of analyzing contemporary spatial dynamics (WP1) and developing transformative policies (WP7).

In turn, the involvement of some researchers from this group in international projects is associated, in particular, with:

- The participation in the "EU project 813803-Re-City", associated with Marie-Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)-Innovative Training Networks H2020 program. The RE-CITY project, coordinated by Prof. Karina Pallasgst of Technische Universitaet Kaiserslautern (Germany), aims at developing innovative solutions and perspectives for shrinking cities and training highly skilled experts.
- The participation in the *Atlas-WH- Heritage in the Atlantic Area: sustainability of the Urban World Heritages Sites* project (INTERREG Atlantic Area 2014-2020), related with the definition of a common framework for the development of "Management and Sustainability Plans for Urban World Heritage Sites" in the various cities involved in the project.
- The participation in the *Social Green project - Regional Policies towards Greening the Social Housing Sector*, dealing with energy efficiency and energy poverty in the social rented sector (INTERREG Europe).
- The integration of some researchers in the Working Group "Urban change and regional development at the margins of Europe: evaluating the effects of the EU's policy" in the context of EURA - European Urban Research Association.

Furthermore, the links between urban policies, housing and evaluation have been explored through some applied research projects, such as the assessment of rehousing needs and the Local Housing Strategy of the municipality of Porto.

Isabel Breda Vázquez

