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Call for Papers

# **Inequality and uncertainty: current challenges for cities**

III Midterm Conference

Madrid (Spain), UNED, 27-29th June, 2018

European Sociological Association - Research Network 37 (Urban Sociology)

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Dear Colleagues,

For the third mid-term conference of the Research Network 37 - Urban Sociology, we propose inequality and uncertainty as terms to guide our reflections about urban realities. Both inequalities and uncertainties impact everyday practices, individual and communal identities, fears and (im)possibilities, as well as visions of the future. Both are clearly evident in today's urban contexts.

It is not possible to ignore the fact that cities are not only moving, vibrant and flourishing spaces, promising hope for better quality of life, but also accumulate and reflect significant problems. We need to recognise the complexity of economic, political, social, cultural and environmental mechanisms, which strengthen existing inequalities and add a great deal of uncertainty to life in cities and urban spaces of the globalised world. We want to gain a better understanding of the impact and consequences of inequality and uncertainty on the urban arena as much as the responses to current challenges in terms of both informal and institutional practices.

Inequalities and uncertainty as the key-questions of the conference can be discussed in the relation to the following topics:

1. Visibility and invisibility of urban inequalities and uncertainty
2. Individual and collective strategies of coping with contemporary urban challenges at the neighbourhood level
3. Class, gender, age and ethnicity as factors of inequalities and uncertainty

4. Urban policies and institutional effectiveness in times of crisis
5. Social responses to crisis - from everyday life practices to contemporary urban social movements
6. Spatiality and the new geographies of inequalities and uncertainty
7. (Im)mobility of urban inequalities – urban inequalities of (im)mobility
8. Urban sustainability and global environmental crisis
9. Innovative methodological contributions of urban sociology for studies on social inequalities and uncertainty

In this conference we also wish to celebrate and bring into the discussion the works of two social scientists who greatly contributed to Urban Sociology and Urban Studies in general: Lefebvre and Simmel. In that sense, we propose two additional topics:

10. Reading Henri Lefebvre's "The Right to the City", 50 years later.
11. Georg Simmel (1858-1918): reflecting on his multiple contributions for Urban Sociology

We kindly invite you to contribute to our third mid-term conference that will take place in Madrid in June 2018. We welcome proposals exploring theoretical, methodological, and empirical issues. An abstract in English of maximum 300 words should be submitted by [esarn37.hypotheses.org](https://esarn37.hypotheses.org) (see also direct abstract submission system link on the next page) from December, 4<sup>th</sup> to January, 28<sup>th</sup>. Papers will be grouped thematically by the programme committee.

We look forward to welcoming you at the RN 37 mid-term conference. Check our blog: <https://esarn37.hypotheses.org> and [facebook: @esarn37](https://www.facebook.com/esarn37) for updates.

With best regards

The Programme Committee

*Marta Smagacz-Poziemska (Jagiellonian University, Poland)*

*Maria Victoria Gómez (UC3M, Spain)*

*Patrícia Pereira (CICS.NOVA, FCSH-UNL, Portugal)*

*Laura Guarino (DISPO-UNIGE, Italy)*

*Sebastian Kurtenbach (Bielefeld University, Germany)*

*Juan Jose Villalon (UNED, Spain)*

[The abstract submission link](#)

**Key dates**

Deadline for abstract submissions: 28 January 2018

Notification of abstract acceptance: 28 February 2018

Conference registration: 1 March – 1 May 2018

Conference payment: 1 March – 15 May 2018

1 March - 15 April - Early Bird Fee      16 April - 15 May - Late Registration Fee

All participants must register and pay the applicable registration fee (see the table below). We will only accept one abstract per person. It is possible to attend the conference without presenting a paper.

**III Mid-Term Conference Fees**

**Band 1:** Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Cayman Islands, Channel

	ESA MEMBERS		NON MEMBERS	
	A	B	A	B
PhD student	70	50	90	70
Regular	150	120	180	140
PhD student (early bird)	50	30	70	50
Regular (early bird)	110	80	150	120

Islands, Chile, Croatia, Curaçao, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, French Polynesia, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Guam, Hong Kong SAR/China, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Rep., Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao SAR/China, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Northern Mariana Islands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sint Maarten (Dutch part), Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Martin (French part), Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Virgin Islands (U.S.).

**Band 2:** Everywhere else