

## **Call for papers**

### **One day seminar “Crisis and cities: a dual world of capital cities”**

#### **RSA Research network “The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities”**

23th September 2011

Old University Library, University of Warsaw,  
Warsaw, Poland

First seminar of RSA Research network ‘The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities’ will take place in Warsaw, Poland on 23 September 2011. The venue for the seminar will be Old University Library at the main campus of University of Warsaw (Krakowskie Przedmiescie 30).

#### **Seminar objectives**

Recent studies and surveys from across Europe demonstrate that the biggest cities in ‘old EU’ are suffering the most from global recession, while in the new EU members and in Eastern Europe it is rural areas that suffer while cities and capital cities in particular are able to sustain their growth (or to minimise decline). Despite being the most integrated into the global economy, capital cities usually have very diversified economy and potentially can manage the crisis consequences better through risk diversification. But it is also the way cities are managed and the types of businesses they attract, as well as the quality of human and social capital that are important in mitigating the negative consequences of global economic crisis.

The impact of globalization is clearly two-fold: along with the positive effects capital cities may experience negative changes in the socio-spatial structure, such as decline of the city centre, emerging gated communities, social marginalization, or projects by global developers that are inadequate to local needs and conditions.

First seminar “Crisis and cities: a dual world of capital cities” of the research network will look at the crisis as an opportunity and as a challenge for the development of capital cities in Europe and around the globe. We will specifically be looking at the following aspects:

#### **1. Capital city on the global arena**

- Globalization vs. Capital city status
- International Gateway vs. Regional functions
- Knowledge intensive business services vs. Research Intensive Industries

## **2. Socio-spatial structure of capital city**

- City centre vs. Exurbanisation
- Gentrification vs. Marginalisation
- Public authorities vs. Developers

## **3. Policy responses to the economic crisis**

- Local and national responses
- Economic incentives and instruments
- Social protection and welfare policy
- Urban planning regulations

Presentations on other topics related to the impact of globalization processes on capital cities are also welcomed.

### **Programme**

Seminar will formally begin with the registration and opening plenary in the morning on Friday, 23 September, and will be followed by several workshops and informal networking opportunities during the breaks. Thanks to RSA support seminar participants are invited for friendly and informal dinner on the eve of the seminar – in the evening of Friday, 23 September.

### **Target Audience**

The event is open to researchers and practitioners who have specific interest in the various aspects of capital cities development around the world, in particularly in the wake of the global economic crisis.

### **Registration**

Abstracts in English of up to 2500 characters should be submitted before 31 August 2011 to Maciej Smetkowski at EUROREG - [mismetkowski@uw.edu.pl](mailto:mismetkowski@uw.edu.pl).

The working language of the seminar is English.

### **Price**

Seminar fee is 30 Euro. For students and early career researchers (up to 30) participation is free.

Conference registration fee should be paid via bank transfer before 31 August 2011:

Uniwersytet Warszawski, EUROREG  
Bank Millennium S.A  
ul. Stanisława Żaryna 2A  
02-593 Warszawa  
IBAN PL 09 1160 2202 0000 0000 6084 9906  
SWIFT - BIGBPLPWXXX

(Please mark clearly: RSA Conference)

Seminar fee may be reduced in certain cases, in particular for researchers facing financial difficulties; priority will be given to applicants from countries with the national income below 75% of EU average. Please write to local organizer for more information.

### **Bursaries**

Thanks to financial support from the Regional Studies Association we will be able to offer several travel bursaries to RSA members (up to 150 Euro per person). Priority will be given to graduate and postgraduate students, young researchers (up to 30) and participants who experience acute financial difficulties; and to participants from the countries with the national income below 75% of EU average. Bursary can cover travel and accommodation costs.

Applicants are encouraged to minimise their costs by using economy fairs, budget airlines, sharing accommodation, booking economy hotels/hostels. Bursaries will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Please contact local organizer for more information and to see whether you might be eligible.

### **Added Value**

There is a possibility to combine attendance of capital cities seminar with the attendance of the Conference organized by EUROREG in co-operation of UNICA (Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe): [“Cities and their Universities for Creation of Knowledge and Innovation”](#) which will take place on 26-27 September at University of Warsaw. For further details about this event please contact local organizer.

### **Accommodation**

Local organizers have booked several rooms at IBIS hotel (Muranowska street 2) for the seminar participants (see <http://www.ibishotel.com/gb/home/index.shtml> for more information) (price per night approx. 70 EUR). When making reservation please quote participation at **RSA seminar**. All reservations should be made before 31 August 2011 (date agreed with IBIS management).

For reservation and enquiries please contact IBIS directly at: H3714-RE@accor.com.

For other options of accommodation please visit Warsaw City website: <http://e-warsaw.pl/2/index.php?id=475>

### **Local organizer**

Maciej Smętkowski

Regional Studies Association – Polish Section

Centre for European Local and Regional Studies EUROREG, University of Warsaw

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Krakowskie Przedmiescie 30,

00-927 Warszawa, Poland

## **Information about Research Network**

RSA Research Network “The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities” is looking at various cases of capital cities’ reactions in the wake of global economic crisis and at different dimensions of mitigating the consequences: government policies, business adjustments, social and human innovations, perceptions and brands of the cities – whether they have changed after the crisis. The findings of the network will not only enrich the empirical research but would be useful for more practical areas, like developing and implementing central and local level policies aimed at improving the competitiveness and resilience of the city economies in different stages of economic cycle.

The network is a virtual marketplace for exchange of ideas, news, projects, information on publications and events and it is open to all researchers and practitioners, young and old, from across the globe, who are interested in capital cities development, globalization, recent global economic crisis and its impact on cities’ economy, welfare, society, and environment. Along with the regular virtual communications research network will be organizing 2 seminars: in Warsaw on 23 September 2011 and Kyiv in May 2012 (date tbc).

The research network receives financial support from the Regional Studies Association.

Please visit network blog at <http://capitalcitiesaftercrisis.blogspot.com/> or write to network organizers for further details:

- **Dr Olga Mrinska, Institute for Local and Regional Initiatives, Kyiv, Ukraine:**  
[omrinska@gmail.com](mailto:omrinska@gmail.com)
- **Maciej Smetkowski, EUROREG, University of Warsaw, Poland:**  
[msmetkowski@uw.edu.pl](mailto:msmetkowski@uw.edu.pl)