



Commission on Geography of Governance

NEWSLETTER 1 / 2019

C16.12 - Geography
of Governance

January - June

2019

Commission website: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>

Commission e-mail: igu.geogov@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION (IGU) IGU COMMISSION GEOGRAPHY OF GOVERNANCE (C16.12) NEWSLETTER 1/2019 January-June

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Lisbon, 1 July 2019

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1. INTRODUCTION

During the period reported in the Newsletter 1/2019, January-June 2019, the Commission developed the activities established in its action plan and has been active in the planning and programming of its activities for 2020 and beyond. The Commission held four sessions in the AAG 2019 Annual Meeting in Washington, in early April, organized the Workshop on "New Challenges of Decentralisation" in May, in Pécs, Hungary, and endorsed the 4th International Conference on Urban e-Planning that took place in April in Lisbon. The online communication tools, intended to support the work of the Commission - the website, the electronic mailing list and the blog - have been used regularly for the dissemination of information. The digital online archive of past activities and publications continued to be updated. The directory of corresponding members has been enriched with new members. Recent publications by members of the Steering Committee, related to the core subject of the Commission, are listed below. The process for the publication of a selection of the papers presented in the 2018 Annual Conference is being developed as planned and it is expected to be available in print form in 2020.

The action plan for the second semester includes the Commission 2019 Annual Conference, in Cape Verde, in September.

In sum, with these activities, we aim to continue enhancing the current debates on local and urban governance and to strength the Commission as a community of researchers as we have reported in the previous Newsletters. The Commission will consider and discuss proposals for possible collaboration and will continue its efforts to expand its activities to other regions of the world, alone or in collaboration with other IGU Commissions as well as organisations outside the IGU. In this context, besides Africa and South America, the Commission will also explore the possibility to hold future meetings in South Asia and in the Middle East. We continue strongly committed to maintain our successful publishing activity. The recently established Springer book series on 'Local and Urban Governance', founded and edited by Carlos Nunes Silva, will have its first books published in 2020, including volumes published by members of the Commission.



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2. STEERING COMMITTEE, AIMS, THEMES: 2016-2020

2.1 Steering Committee

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2.2 Aims

1. To advance knowledge of the geography of territorial governance, at the urban, local and regional levels, namely the conditions, scale and characteristics of new modes of territorial governance, and its social, cultural, political, economic and environmental consequences.
2. To identify new perspectives and to explore new research methodologies and different geographical approaches in the field of urban, local and regional governance.

3. To provide a platform for the exchange of information, research outcomes, and best practices among its members.
4. To enhance current bilateral and multilateral research cooperation among its members and to support the creation of new research networks in the field of urban, local and regional governance, connecting its members with existing international research programs and organizations, increasing interdisciplinary research collaboration across disciplines.
5. To support and promote the publication and dissemination of scholarly research outcomes of its members, in peer-reviewed international journals and in books.
6. To advance educational activities through workshops focused on urban, local and regional governance issues, contributing to the training of the next generation of scientists in this field.
7. To increase the awareness of urban, local and regional governance issues among citizens, local communities and governments.
8. To develop initiatives focused on specific issues in cooperation with members of other IGU Commissions sharing similar or related interests.

2.3 Themes

The Commission aims to explore, but is not limited to, the following themes:

1. Administrative decentralization and multi-layered governance
2. Local and regional government / governance
3. Urban and metropolitan governance
4. Local and regional government reforms
5. Administrative fragmentation and merger reforms
6. Decentralized cooperation and development
7. Inter-municipal cooperation
8. Cross-border municipal and regional cooperation
9. Governance of spatial planning processes
10. Governance of complex environmental systems
11. Governance in conflict and post-conflict areas
12. Citizen participation in local and regional government
13. Age-, disabled- and gender-responsive approaches in urban, local and regional government policies
14. Administrative systems and local public service delivery
15. Local government finance systems
16. Local Government, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Habitat-III New Urban Agenda
17. Anthropocene: changes and challenges for urban, local and regional governance

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18. The use of ICTs in urban, local and regional governance: e-Government, e-Governance and Citizen e-Participation
19. Transparency, accountability and good governance in local and regional government
20. Big Data and new digital research methods in urban governance

3. ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES

During the period reported in the Newsletter 1/2019 the following activities have been developed:

- 3.1 Online communication tools
- 3.2 Digital Archive
- 3.3 Activity Plan 2019-2022
- 3.4 Membership
- 3.5 Organization of Conferences and other Meetings
- 3.6 Publications

3.1 Online communication tools. During the first semester of 2019 the online communication tools (website; electronic forum and mailing-list; blog) were updated and/or used for the dissemination of information.

- The IGU-CGoG Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>
- Mailing list: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/mailling-list>
- Blog: <http://igugeogov.blogspot.pt/>

3.2 Digital Archive. The Digital Archive of the Commission has currently five sessions and is available online (<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/archive>). At the end of 2018 the Commission sent to the IGU Central Archive, located in the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Germany, 16 documents related to its activities in 2018.

3.3 Activity Plan 2019-2022. The activity plan for the period 2019-2022 includes a variety of initiatives (e.g., the Commission Annual Conferences; the sessions organized by the Commission in the IGU main meetings, as is the case of the IGU Thematic Conference in Lecce, Italy, in May-June 2019; and other meetings or sessions convened and organized by members of the Steering Committee in other International Conferences, publications, and tentatively also joint research activities).

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3.4 Membership. The list of corresponding members has been updated and expanded with the inclusion of members admitted after December 2018.

3.5 Organization of Conferences and other Meetings. As reported in the following sections of this Newsletter, members of the Steering Committee have been active, during the first semester of 2019, in the organization of scientific meetings focused on themes pertaining to the core subject of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance, as well in the planning and implementation of our Annual Conference in the second semester of 2019 and other meetings in the following years.

3.6 Publications. Members of the Steering Committee published books, chapters, articles, and book reviews on issues related to the core subject of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance. The consolidated list of recent publications will be published in the Newsletter 2/2019.

4. CONFERENCES IN THE FIRST SEMESTER 2019

4.1 AAG 2019 Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, USA, 3-7 April 2019. Eran Razin (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and member of the IGU-CCoG Steering Committee) and Carlos Nunes Silva (University of Lisbon, Portugal, and Chair of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance) proposed and organized four sessions sponsored by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance at the AAG 2019 Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, USA, 3-7 April 2019. The overall theme of the four sessions was "*Local Governance and New Challenges in Urban Policy in a Changing World*". Local government and urban governance networks are of prime significance for the quality of life in human settlements, urban policies and patterns of spatial change. Hence, the study of aspects of local governance, such as territorial reforms, changing hierarchies and networks, local finance, intra- and inter-sectoral partnerships, local leadership, urban politics and citizen participation, is perpetual since the late 19th century. Nevertheless, the 21st century presents diverse new challenges, including reaction to climate change and environmental sustainability, adaptation to immigration and diversity, application of new "smart city" technologies in local management, and political-ideological transformation, such as the predominance of neo-liberalism and the rise of neo-populism. And since the International Geographical Union Commission on Geography of Governance (IGU-CCoG) aims to advance knowledge of the geography of territorial governance, at the urban, local and regional levels, namely the conditions, scale and characteristics of new modes of territorial governance, and its social, cultural, political, economic and environmental consequences, and as it also aims to identify

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new perspectives and to explore new research methodologies and different geographical approaches in the field of urban, local and regional governance, these four sessions dealt with various aspects of local government reform and governance transformations, and their spatial, social, economic and environmental implications, particularly those concerned with the new challenges of the 21st century. The scope of the four sessions was international, including comparative research. The full program of our sessions is reproduced in Annex 8.2 of this Newsletter.

More information is available in the AAG Annual Meeting website:
<https://aag.secure-abstracts.com/am2019>

4.2 IV International Conference 'Urban e-Planning', Lisbon, Portugal, 23-24 April 2019

The 4th International Conference 'Urban e-Planning', convened by Carlos Nunes Silva (Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal, and chair of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance), was organized by the 'International Journal of E-Planning Research' and by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, and was held in Lisbon, Portugal, on April 23 - 24 2019. The Conference was endorsed by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance. The program included themes pertaining to the core subject of the IGU-CGoG. The conference was also an opportunity for the recruitment of new members for the Commission. The full conference report will be published in the International Journal of E-Planning Research, Vol. 8 (4), 2019. More information (program, abstracts, PowerPoint presentations, etc.) is available in the conference website: <https://sites.google.com/view/uep2019-conference/home>

4.3 Workshop on "New challenges of Decentralisation", Pécs, Hungary, 9-10 May 2019

Ilona Pálné Kovács (Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary, and member of the IGU-CGoG Steering Committee) convened and organized a Workshop on the theme "New challenges of Decentralisation", in Pécs, Hungary, on 9-10 May 2019. Decentralisation has been one of the buzzwords in the neoliberal good governance public policy literature in the last decades. After the main decentralisation trend in the western democracies, in the seventies, the developing and transition countries

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worldwide were advised to devolve most of the competences in public service delivery and in local economic development. The main argument was the fact that the decentralised democratic, participative way of managing local affairs could improve both accessibility and quality of public services and provide at the same time more transparency and legitimacy. Many territorial reforms have been implemented under the umbrella of principle of subsidiarity and decentralisation, supported and sponsored by the EU (cohesion funds) and other international organisations (OECD, World Bank, UN), referring especially the regional competitiveness and the achievement of the Millennium Goals. Not only the financial crisis in 2008 but also many negative experiences and even failed reforms so far contributed to the scepticism concerning decentralisation and rescaling. Thus, centralisation attempts emerged realizing that decentralisation has crucial preconditions and that for the overall governance, the political, economic, cultural-social and territorial contexts matter. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the experience of these recent territorial reforms. The workshop comprised several parallel panels. The full program is reproduced in Annex 8.3 of this Newsletter. The organization of the Workshop and the Commission plan to publish a selection of the papers presented.

More information is available in the Workshop website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/igu-cgog-workshop-pecs2019/home>

4.4 Conference 'Metropolitan areas - research perspectives', Poznań, Poland, 27 June 2019

In June 27, 2019, at the Collegium Geographicum in Poznań, a scientific conference was held under the name: "Obszary metropolitalne – perspektywy badawcze" ("Metropolitan areas - research perspectives"). Organized by the Center for Metropolitan Research and the Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management of the University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań - on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Center for Metropolitan Research. The premise of the conference was to create a space for substantive discussion about the organization and problems of metropolitan areas as well as challenges and directions of their development. The participants presented the scope and methods of research on metropolitan areas from various scientific perspectives: geographic, political, legal and administrative, management sciences and others, and presented the applications of research results in the practice of planning and metropolitan management. A special session was devoted to the Metropolis of Upper Silesia and Zagłębie. From 2018, it is the first Polish metropolis de iure, with its own sources of

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income and tasks of public administration. For those interested, more (in Polish):
<http://cbm.amu.edu.pl/konferencja-i-jubileusz-centrum-badan-metropolitalnych-uam/#more-1389>

4.5 Conference 'Global Issues and Challenges for Accessibility and Sustainable Tourism', Lecce, Italy, March 1-2, 2019

Anna Trono (The University of Salento, Italy, and member of the IGU-CCoG Steering Committee) in collaboration with University of Eastern Piedmont Novara (Italy), Leeds Beckett University (UK) and University College Dublin (Ireland) organized the International Conference on: the 4th Annual International Conference "Global Issues and Challenges for Accessibility and Sustainable Tourism", held in Lecce (Italy) on March 1-2, 2019 (<http://www.gmperspectives.com/>). The conference focused on a broad range of topics related to Accessibility and Sustainable Tourism such as:

- Global Issues on Sustainable Tourism
- Practices and Benefits of Sustainable Tourism
- Accessible Tourism: Concepts and Issues
- Services and Facilities for Accessible Tourism
- Categorisation and Components of Accessibility Instruments
- Accessibility instruments and public transport services or to local facilities
- A new vision of Transport for Economic Development and Cohesion in EU
- Accessibility, mobility and transport-related social exclusion

4.6 Conference 'Between Overtourism and Undertourism: Implications and Crisis Management Strategies', Lecce, Italy, June 26-29, 2019

Anna Trono (University of Salento, Italy, and member of the IGU-CCoG Steering Committee) organized in collaboration with the University of Haifa (Israel), the Ludwig-Maximilians-University/Munich (Germany) and Puglia Region the International Conference on: "Between Overtourism and Undertourism: Implications and Crisis Management Strategies", held in Lecce (Italy) on June 26-29, 2019 (<http://www.overandundertourism.com>). The purpose of this Conference was to bring together researchers from around the world and to provide a platform for academics, professionals, policy makers, researchers and doctoral students in presenting and discussing the impact of overtourism and undertourism on the tourists' quality of experience.

5. FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES: 2019-2022

5.1 IGU Commission Geography of Governance - 2019 Annual Conference - "Local and Urban Governance" -, Cidade da Praia, Cape Verde, 4 - 7 September 2019

The 2019 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on 'Geography of Governance' (IGU-GoG), on "Local and Urban Governance: trends, challenges and innovations in a globalizing world", organized by the International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Geography of Governance in collaboration with the University of Cape Verde (UNICV), will be held in Cidade da Praia, Cape Verde, on September 4-7, 2019. It is convened by Carlos Nunes Silva (Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal, and chair of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance) and José Maria Semedo (University of Cape Verde). The Conference aims to explore and to discuss the changes, challenges, and innovations confronting Local and Urban Governance worldwide in the context of the new global urban agendas. It will be a forum for the discussion of the state-of-the-art of research on local and urban governance, in the different regions of the world. Within this overall goal, the 2019 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance also aims to provide the opportunity for comparisons between African municipalities and African cities as well as comparisons with those in other regions of the world, in particular in the Global South. The Conference will bring together researchers from academia, public and private sectors, and non-governmental organizations, in an effort to present and debate their research on local and urban governance and to share knowledge, viewpoints, methods, research outcomes and policy ideas. The conference is organized into two main tracks: Track 1 - Local and Urban Governance and the New Global Urban Agendas - aims to address and to discuss new trends, innovations, and future challenges in the field of local and urban governance, independently of the world region or continent; Track 2 - Local and Urban Governance in Africa - aims to address and to discuss specific governance issues in the African context, with emphasis given to the history of local and urban governance in the continent, as well as to the possibility to learn from the African experience in the field of territorial governance. This track will explore local and urban conditions and processes in Africa and their implications for territorial governance. It will provide the opportunity for comparisons between African cities but also with other cities in the Global South. In each of these two tracks the conference will have country and cross-country approaches, studies of individual cities or municipalities, and the comparison of cities, municipalities or countries with one another, and with those in other regions of the world. The Conference is an opportunity for inter-disciplinary discussions on a broad spectrum of innovative research within the field of the Geography of Local and Urban Governance. The final program has over 60 papers by authors from 26

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countries in Europe, Africa, America (North and South) and Middle East. The 2019 Annual Conference marks the 35th anniversary of the establishment of this IGU Commission as an IGU Study Group in 1984. It will be the first Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance in Africa in its 35 years of existence. Cape Verde with its privileged geographic location between three continents, only few hours flight from Europe or from America, is the ideal setting for the global dialogue that the research community assembled in the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance aims to promote in each of its annual conferences. The University of Cape Verde (Uni-CV), the sole public University in Cape Verde and a reference for the Cape Verde higher education system, offers the intellectual environment and the material conditions for a truly inspiring and fruitful international conference. More information is available in the Conference website: <https://sites.google.com/view/geogov2019/home> A full report will be published in the Newsletter 2/2019 July-December.

5.2 IGU Thematic Conference, Lecce, Italy, 29 May - 2 June 2020

The next IGU Thematic Conference, to be held in Lecce, Italy, on 29 May - 2 June 2020, is co-organised by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance and five other IGU Commissions. The Conference theme is "Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past".

"Heritage is a complex idea. It is an ambiguous term to translate with its multiple meanings and layer integrating elements referring to the past, culture, memory, identity, conservation and also, regretfully, conflict. Although heritage refers to the past, not everything from our past may enter into our heritage. Heritage is made only of what we want to remember. And what we do want others and future generations to remember about us. In this way, memories become the legacy, at times stylized, and for the most part selected and embellished. If we think about traditional cuisine as an intangible heritage, we do not want to eat everything that was consumed in the past, but only what in the food of the past we believe is worthy of being eaten. As regards physical heritage, we do not celebrate the narrow alleys full of mud and sewage of our historic urban centres, nor the smell, but we want to preserve just the houses and their walls, as if they were the shells of a different life. If heritage is selective, one of the big questions about heritage is the role of mediators. You can have a heritage from below or you need to have someone to help you understand what is important to pass on to your children about that past. Which institutions, then, must take on the role of creation/preservation of the heritage, and on what scale must they operate? What is the role of geo-parks, museums and ecomuseums, and what is the relationship between conservation activities, local institutions and society? Eventually, is it

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possible to talk about heritage from below? But heritage is not only selective; it can be controversial too, and even disputed. It is not just a question of culture, conservation and patrimonialization. It is an issue of power. “He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past”. This is not just a brilliant quote from George Orwell’s 1984. It is also a way for underlining the role of power in relation to the making of heritage. Because, those who controls the present, also controls the heritage. Because of its political relevance, heritage can be built in a way that promotes a message of peace. Or, it may suggest feelings of hatred and claims of revenge. The management of controversial places of memory and heritage therefore has an important political meaning. Geographical names can also celebrate a past that you want to impose. Or forget. In some cases, there is a double toponymy, which on the one hand celebrates the unity of the nation-state and of the majority population, on the other hand recalls the cultural specificity of the territory. In others, there are names in two or three different languages. Yet in other places, tourism erases the traditional toponymy and imposes its own, more in tune with the happy image that you want to promote. For this reason, a thematic conference on the “geographies of the heritage” opens a broad debate, which can involve many of the voices that the IGU commissions may put together.»

Sessions and papers may address the following sub-themes: 1. Heritage governance; 2. Heritage and Urban Planning; 3. Heritage-telling; 4. Patrimonialization of cultural heritage ; 5. Heritage and ICTs; 6. Memories from the territories and educational strategies; 7. Heritage geopolitics; 8. Heritage and knowledge economy; 9. Heritage for consumption: tourists and tourism; 10. Heritage and toponymy; 11. Heritages, Mediterranean cultures and Southern thinking; 12. Dark Heritage (from below).

More information is available in the Conference website:

www.heritagegeographies.it The deadlines are: Submission of

Sessions proposals: 1 September 2019, acceptance 1 October 2019; Submission of Abstracts: 1 November 2019, acceptance 1 January 2020. More information about the participation of the Commission is available in the Commission website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>

5.3 AAG Annual Conference 2020, Denver, USA, 6-10 April 2020

It is expected that members of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance Steering Committee will co-organize a session in the 2020 Annual Meeting of the AAG - American Association of Geographers in Denver, on 6-10 April 2020. Early bird registration deadline: October 9th 2019. AAG website: <http://annualmeeting.aag.org/>



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More information will be available in due time in the Commission website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>

5.4 The 5th International Conference 'Urban e-Planning', Lisbon, Portugal, 6-7 April 2020

The 5th International Conference 'Urban e-Planning', convened by Carlos Nunes Silva (Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal, and chair of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance), and organized by the 'International Journal of E-Planning Research' and by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 6-7 April 2020. The Conference is endorsed by the IGU Commission on Geography of Governance. More information is available in the conference website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/uep2020-conference/home>

5.5 IGU Commission Geography of Governance 2020 Annual Conference

The plan to hold the 2020 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission Geography of Governance in the second half of 2020 is being developed. A decision will be announced during the 2019 Annual Conference in Cape Verde in September. More information on this Conference will be provided in the Newsletter 2/2019 July-December.

5.6 34th International Geographical Congress, 2020

The IGU Commission on Geography of Governance will participate in the 34th International Geographical Congress to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 17-21 August 2020. The Commission proposed the following 10 sessions:

1. Local Government Reforms: Decentralization v. Centralization
2. Citizen Participation in Urban Governance: formal and informal community engagement in local government policies
3. Spatial Justice and the Right to the City: the role of Local Government
4. Metropolitan Governance: Trends, Models, Challenges
5. Inter-Municipal Cooperation
6. International Cooperation of Local and Regional Authorities
7. Transnational and transcontinental networking and policy learning
8. Migrants and refugees democratic rights in local governance
9. Shrinking cities, expanding metropolises, depopulated villages: the governance responses

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10. Climate policy and local governance

More information will be available in due time in the Commission website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>

5.7 IGU-UGI Paris 2022: 100^e anniversaire de la fondation de l'UGI / 100th IGU anniversary - 'Le temps des géographes' - 'Time for geographers', Paris, 18-22 July 2022

The IGU Commission on Geography of Governance will participate in the 100th IGU anniversary, to be held in Paris, France, on 18-22 July 2022.

More information will be available in due time in the Commission website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>

5.8 Plan for other meetings (workshops / conferences / panels)

We also aim to take part in other meetings in Europe (RGS-IBG, etc.), North America (UAA, etc.), South America (e.g., Latin America Geographers), Asia (e.g., China), Oceania (e.g., NZGS-IG), and in Africa (North and sub-Saharan). This will take the form of panels in large conferences or own workshops and conferences. Some of these activities are expected to be developed in association with other IGU Commissions as well as with other professional associations. More information on this plan will be provided in the coming Newsletters.

6. OTHER ACTIVITIES BY COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ilona Pálné Kovács (Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary, and member of the IGU-CGoG Steering Committee) has been elected member of Academia Europaea.

Ilona Pálné Kovács (Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary, and member of the IGU-CGoG Steering Committee) has been Plenary speaker at RSA conference, Lublin, 11-12, September.

Tomasz Kaczmarek (Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management, Adam Mickiewicz University, and member of the IGU-CGoG Steering Committee) was elected to the Scientific Excellence Council. It is a new body in Poland that works for the development of scientific staff. He will take care of the highest standards of the quality of scientific activity required to obtain academic



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degrees and the title of professor. The composition of the Council was determined democratically as part of the elections in which all persons holding the postdoctoral degree or the title of professor can take part. Tomasz Kaczmarek represents the discipline of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management. The Council also includes professor Swianiewicz from the University of Warsaw, associated for years with our commission.

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8. ANNEXES

8.1 ANNEX

IGU Commission on Geography of Governance, 2016-2020

(In: IGU CGoG website: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/aims>)

I. Introduction

The [International Geographical Union \(IGU\)](#) is an international, non-governmental, professional organization devoted to the development of the discipline of Geography. The IGU was formally established in Brussels in 1922. Its instruments are its National Committees (101, in 2016), Commissions (38, in 2016) and Task Forces (3, in 2016).

In 1984, the International Geographical Union established a Study Group under the title 'Geography and Public Administration', which was then used as the preliminary status before a Commission could be launched. It was replaced in 1988 by a Commission on 'Geography and Public Administration'. Since then, the Commission was renamed twice to reflect new issues and perspectives on the relation between territory and public administration. In 2000 became 'Commission on Geography and Public Policy' and in 2008 adopted its current title 'Commission on Geography of Governance'.

An important aspect of the initial period (1984-1988) was participation of Commission members in early debates about restructuring of local and regional government in the central European countries then dominated by the Soviet bloc. Two of the main meetings held in this period dealt with specific aspects of Poland and Hungary, and the wider debates in other Central European countries. Catalan regionalism and separatism also became a very live issue, with the Commission holding a meeting in Barcelona specifically to engage in the debate. A feature of the Commission's activities was collaboration with other organisations, such as the Academy of Sciences in Budapest and in Warsaw, and with the Institute of Catalan Studies in Barcelona. An important partnership was a collaboration with the sister organisation of IGU, the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS). Robert Bennett represented the IGU Group at an IIAS meeting in Berlin in 1984 just prior to the launch of the IGU Commission (Study Group). This founded collaboration with a Study Group of IIAS on L'Amenagement du Territoire (The management of territory), formed mainly of lawyers and administrative scientists, who were also centred on Central European reforms. As well as its own IGU Commission publications, collaboration with the IIAS produced a key publication in 1988: L'Amenagement du Territoire et les Pouvoirs Locaux et Regionaux face aux Mutations Economiques (Regional Planning and Local Government confronted with Economic Change), ed. Gerard Marcou (University of Lille). This was interdisciplinary with members of the IIAS, with 5 of the 11 chapters written by IGU members. In February 1988, at the end of the Commission's first four years, a path-breaking meeting was held in Washington D.C. jointly with the US Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, and taking place in the Indian Treaty Room of the White House.

The Study Group formally became a Commission at the IGU Congress in 1988 in Sydney. A key feature of the period 1988-1992 continue to be restructuring of local and regional governmental in the central European countries. In the build-up to the removal of the Berlin Wall in 1990, and its aftermath, the Commission took an active role in many activities to implement new laws and reforms in countries now freed from limitations on open debate. One of its members, Jerzy Regulski became the minister for Local Government reform in Poland; other members in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Russia became politicians, or were active as advisors and consultants. It was a dramatic period of change throughout central Europe in which the Commission played a small but important role. The Commission meeting in Moscow in September 1991 was uncertain, but did begin just as the siege of the Russian Parliament and Boris Yeltsin came to an end, with the parliament building surrounded by tanks. Collaboration continued with the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), and new collaborations developed. A major meeting sponsored by the United Nations University (and others) took place in Spain in 1991 that widened the IGU Commission's brief to developing countries, and also focused on the other key themes of the period of decentralisation geographically, and to markets, often focused on



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privatisation. The Commission over this period also diversified through many bilateral collaborations focused on developing expertise in the new regimes of Central Europe. Key exchanges occurred with Amsterdam (through Petr Dostál) and the London School of Economics (through Robert Bennett) to help colleagues in Prague, Bratislava, Budapest, Warsaw and other centres to access library resources and advice to develop new curricula for students, and to re-equip their teaching and library resources.

The third four-year period (1992-1996) of the Commission maintained a close focus on Central European developments, but also now added routine sessions at the major annual conferences of Geographical bodies in many countries, especially the USA. There was also diversification of the Commission's interests into wider concepts of governance taking debates further into understanding how partner bodies operated with formal government administration in different contexts.

Commission members meet now regularly at its annual conference, held in different parts of the world, and during the sessions or panels organized within the program of the major IGU Congresses and Conferences. Field trips to study and discuss local issues has also been held as part of some of its annual conferences.

The Commission has been highly active during its first three decades of existence, holding numerous sessions in all IGU major congresses and conferences, in addition to its own annual thematic conferences. The Commission facilitates the exchange of research outcomes, experiences and perspectives on local and regional governance issues in different contexts around the world. One of the outcomes of this joint work is the publication of several books and edited collections of selected papers in peer-reviewed international journals, namely in 'Environment & Planning C: Government and Policy', 'GeoJournal', Acta Universitatis Carolinae / Geographica, Bulletin de la Société Languedocienne de Géographie, and in the 'International Journal of E-Planning Research'.

The Commission publishes a Newsletter twice a year, which is sent by e-mail to all its members. The Newsletter informs about its past and future activities, and provides information on meetings organized worldwide by national or local groups of geographers focused on local and regional governance issues.

The Commission has its own website, a blog and an electronic mailing-list focused on issues of urban, local and regional governance.

An archive of its past activities (1988-2016) is available in the website.

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8.2 ANNEX: AAG 2019 ANNUAL MEETING, WASHINGTON, DC, USA, 3-7 APRIL 2019

LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND NEW CHALLENGES IN URBAN POLICY IN A CHANGING WORLD (Program - 4 Sessions)

SESSION 1. Local Governance and New Challenges in Urban Policy in a Changing World 1: Governance Networks and Local Government Reform (Chair: Eran Razin)
Day: 04/04/2019; Start / End Time: 8:00 / 9:40; Room: Stones Throw 2 - Slate, Marriott, Lobby Level; Organizers: Eran Razin, Carlos Nunes Silva; Chairs: Eran Razin

| Type | Details | Minutes | Start Time |
|-----------|--|---------|------------|
| Presenter | Matthew Wargent*, <i>University of Reading, UK, Local governance and the private sector: the role of consultants in the English planning system</i> | 20 | 8:00 |
| Presenter | Kane Pham*, <i>University of Technology Sydney, Placing local government in metropolitan reform agendas: Re-shaping the Sydney Global City Region</i> | 20 | 8:20 |
| Presenter | Eran Razin*, <i>Hebrew University, Inter-municipal cooperation in between voluntarism and imposition</i> | 20 | 8:40 |
| Presenter | Carlos Nunes Silva*, <i>Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal, Local Government Reforms in Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique</i> | 20 | 9:00 |
| Presenter | Diego Silva Ardila*, <i>Colegio Mayor De Nuestra Senora Del Rosario, Metropolitan governance arrangements and urban development in the Colombian system of cities</i> | 20 | 9:20 |

SESSION 2. Local Governance and New Challenges in Urban Policy in a Changing World 2: Aspects of urban development I (Chair: Carlos Nunes Silva)
Day: 04/04/2019; Start / End Time: 9:55 / 11:35; Room: Stones Throw 2 - Slate, Marriott, Lobby Level; Organizers: Eran Razin, Carlos Nunes Silva; Chairs: Carlos Nunes Silva

| Type | Details | Minutes | Start Time |
|-----------|---|---------|------------|
| Presenter | Falguni Mukherjee*, <i>Sam Houston State University, Social Construction of GIS and Networks of Association for Urban e-governance – The case of an Urban Local Body in India</i> | 20 | 9:55 |
| Presenter | Gidon Jakar*, <i>University of Michigan, Local Government Strategic vs. Short-cited Centralized Planning: The Gap between Planning</i> | 20 | 10:15 |

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| Type | Details | Minutes | Start Time |
|-----------|---|---------|------------|
| | <i>and Implementation of Sport Development Projects in Israeli Cities</i> | | |
| Presenter | Emil Evenhuis*, Geography and Environmental Science, <i>Governance Evolution and City Economic Development: Comparing the Pathways of Five British Cities</i> | 20 | 10:35 |
| Presenter | Mayang Puteri*, The University of Manchester, <i>Urban Governance in Informal Urban Fishing Communities in Indonesia: Locating Local Governance and Participation in New Urban Agenda</i> | 20 | 10:55 |

SESSION 3. Local Governance and New Challenges in Urban Policy in a Changing World 3: Aspects of urban development II (Chair: Eran Razin)

Day: 04/04/2019; Start / End Time: 1:10 / 2:50; Room: Stones Throw 2 - Slate, Marriott, Lobby Level; Organizers: Eran Razin, Carlos Nunes Silva; Chairs: Eran Razin

| Type | Details | Minutes | Start Time |
|-----------|---|---------|------------|
| Presenter | Marc Parés*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Mara Ferreri, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Sergio Villamayor, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, <i>Governance as commons in the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona: analyzing urban co-production initiatives and their territorial impact</i> | 20 | 1:10 |
| Presenter | Xin Feng*, Tongji University, <i>Dilemmas of change in Chinese local governance: Reforms in the governance of urban and peri-urban greening in Shanghai</i> | 20 | 1:30 |
| Presenter | Lukasz Mikula*, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, <i>Metropolitan 'soft spaces' of planning and post-socialist state rescaling in Poland</i> | 20 | 1:50 |
| Presenter | Callum Ward*, KU Leuven, <i>Authoring Fictitious Capital: uneven development and the politics of urban rent production in Antwerp</i> | 20 | 2:10 |
| Presenter | Benjamin Clifford*, University College London, Janice Morphet, Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, <i>Austerity and municipal entrepreneurialism: The rise of local authority housing companies in England</i> | 20 | 2:30 |

SESSION 4. Local Governance and New Challenges in Urban Policy in a Changing World 4: A social-environmental sustainability focus (Chair: Carlos Nunes Silva)

Day: 04/04/2019; Start / End Time: 3:05 / 4:45; Room: Stones Throw 2 - Slate, Marriott, Lobby Level; Organizers: Eran Razin, Carlos Nunes Silva; Chairs: Carlos Nunes Silva.

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| Type | Details | Minutes | Start Time |
|-----------|---|---------|------------|
| Presenter | Pamela Wridt*, , <u>Elevating community geography in the new urban agenda: A global evaluation of an approach to community-level assessment and planning with young people</u> | 20 | 3:05 |
| Presenter | Rong Cai*, University of Hong Kong, <u>Uneven Infrastructural Power of the State in Governing Homeowner Associations in Urban China: A Case Study of Guangzhou</u> | 20 | 3:25 |
| Presenter | Valentin Espert*, Wuppertal Institute, <u>Urban Governance of Sustainability Transformations. The Case of InnovationCity Ruhr - Model City Bottrop (Germany).</u> | 20 | 3:45 |
| Presenter | Michael D Bennett II*, University of San Diego, Suzanné Walther, University of San Diego, Andrew Tirrell, University of San Diego, <u>Border Diplomacy: How Water Unites Cities</u> | 20 | 4:05 |
| Presenter | Simphiwe Enoch Mini*, University of South Africa, <u>New Urban Governance for spatio-social Justice: Urban Governance for Sustainability in South Africa.</u> | 20 | 4:25 |



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8.3 ANNEX: WORKSHOP "NEW CHALLENGES OF DECENTRALIZATION"

International Geographical Union - Commission Geography
of Governance
&
HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies – Institute
for Regional Studies

Pécs, Hungary, 9 - 10 May 2019

PROGRAM

Day 1 – 9 May 2019 (Thursday)

Venue: HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies – Institute for Regional Studies
7621 Pécs, Papnövelde u. 22., Hungary <https://goo.gl/RkfxTP>

8:30 Registration

9:00 Workshop opening

Ilona Pálné Kovács (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary)
Carlos Nunes Silva (University of Lisbon, Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning,
Portugal)

9:30 Plenary session

Pawel Swianiewicz (University of Warsaw, Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies,
Poland): Municipal territorial reforms in Europe of 21st century – the dominant discourse of
the reforms

10:00 Coffee break

10:30 Panel 1 – Theory of decentralisation

Chair: Carlos Nunes Silva (University of Lisbon, Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning,
Portugal)

Ludmila Malikova (Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia): Trends, advantages and
disadvantages of decentralization in Slovakia

Ivaldo Lima (Fluminense Federal University, Department of Geography, Brazil): Challenges
of territorial governance: concentrated decentralization in Brazil



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Mariusz Wiktor Sienkiewicz (Marie Curie Skłodowska University, Faculty of Political Science, Poland): Determinants and effects of the process of decentralization of public administration in Poland - do we need a redefinition of the adopted model?

Anna Trono (University of Salento, Italy): A new governance in the tourism sector in Italy

12:00 Lunch

13:00 Panel 2 – Dynamism (process) of decentralisation reforms

Chair: Ilona Pálné Kovács (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary)

Carlos Nunes Silva (University of Lisbon, Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, Portugal): Decentralization in Africa and Local Government Reforms: the case of Angola and Mozambique

Iwona Sagan, Jakub H. Szlachetko (University of Gdansk, Faculty of Oceanography and Geography, Poland): Recentralization processes in Poland: the governmental policy of small steps

Ágnes Simon (University of Pécs, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Hungary): Regionalism, decentralization, regional elections in France

Rassem Khamaisi (University of Haifa, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Israel): Decentralization under siege

14:30 Coffee break

15:00 Panel 3 – Cities in multi-level governance

Chair: Anna Trono (University of Salento. Italy)

Edit Somlyódy Pfiel (Széchenyi István University, Kautz Gyula Faculty of Economics, Hungary): New methods of centralisation – The case of the Hungarian self-government system

Bartosz Bartosiewicz, Katarzyna Leśniewska-Napierała (University of Lodz, Faculty of Geographical Sciences, Poland): Towards recentralization – remarks on the Institutionalization of cooperation in metropolitan areas in Poland

Ira Bliatka (Institute for Democracy 21, Czech Republic): Revisiting the Urban Renewal - Public Participation nexus: the Case of Euroméditerranée and Marseille's Marche aux Puces



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Dragoş Dragoman (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania): Territorial reform initiatives and failures in Romania: a longitudinal analysis

16:30 End of day

19:00 Joint dinner

Day 2 – 10 May 2019 (Friday)

Venue: HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies – Institute for Regional Studies
7621 Pécs, Papnövelde u. 22., Hungary <https://goo.gl/RkfxTP>

8:30 Registration

9:00 Panel 4 – Development policy and decentralisation

Chair: László Kákai (University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities, Hungary)

István Finta (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary): Decentralization and territorial approach in the European Union's regulation

Łukasz Mikuła (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management, Poland): Metropolitan spatial planning as a challenge of decentralization in Central Eastern Europe

Boglárka Barsi (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary): Possibilities and barriers of smart city development in rural areas – examples from Hungary and Slovakia

Zsuzsanna Zsibók (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary): Tackling territorial inequalities through devolution and decentralisation – The case of the United Kingdom around the time of Brexit

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Panel 5 – Public policies and decentralisation

Chair: Iwona Sagan (University of Gdansk, Faculty of Oceanography and Geography, Poland)

Tamás Vasvári (University of Pécs, Faculty of Business and Economics, Hungary): Decentralization and soft budget constraint: How important is the coincidence of beneficiaries and payers?

Leonardo Letelier S., Hector Ormeño C. (University of Chile, Institute of Public Affairs, Chile): Education and Decentralization in Chile. A multilevel analysis



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László Kákai (University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities, Hungary): Changes in local public services in Hungary in terms of decentralization

Judit Keller (CERS HAS Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary): The limits of place-based initiatives in (re)centralised regimes

12:30 Closing session

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Post-conference sightseeing in Pécs downtown and the Zsolnay Quartier

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8.4 ANNEX - URL

- Commission website: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/home>
- Commission blog: <http://igugeogov.blogspot.pt/>
- Corresponding Members mailing list: <https://sites.google.com/site/igugeogov/mailling-list>
- 2019 Annual Conference website: <https://sites.google.com/view/geogov2019/home>

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