

Circular no. 2

International conference on:

CITIES AND THEIR GROWTH: SUSTAINABILITY AND FRACTALITY

5-6 August 2010

1. a) Time, duration and venue:

5-6 August 2010, 2 days, AMU Campus Morasko, ul. Dziegielowa 27, 61-680 Poznań
After the conference, on 7 August 2010, a day-long trip in the Poznań area is planned.

b) *Deadline for attendee registration:* 31 May 2010

c) *Deadline for submission of abstracts:* 31 May 2010

d) *Deadline for payments:* 31 May 2010

2. Conference organisers, head of organising committee:

Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management

Institute Director: Prof. Dr hab. Waldemar Ratajczak

3. Co-organisers:

Centre for Spatial and Socio-Economic Analyses

Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region

4. Advisory committee:

Prof. Grzegorz Gorzelak, Director of Centre of European Regional and Local Studies, University of Warsaw

Ryszard Grobelny – President of Poznań

Prof. Tadeusz Markowski – Łódź University, Chairman of the Committee for Space Economy and Regional Planning of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Prof. Peter Nijkamp – Free University Amsterdam

Marek Woźniak – Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region

5. Scientific committee:

Prof. Luigi Fusco Girard - University Federico 2, Naples

Prof. Daniel A. Griffith - University of Texas, Dallas

Prof. Paul Longley - University College London

Prof. Jerzy J. Parysek - Adam Mickiewicz University

Prof. Denise Pumain - Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Prof. Daniela Szymańska - Nicolaus Copernicus University

6. Organising committee:

Prof. Dr hab. Waldemar Ratajczak (Head)

Ms Emilia Bogacka (Secretary) – cities@amu.edu.pl

Dr Tomasz Kossowski

Dr Jan Hauke

7. Cyclicity:

This is going to be the first conference on the up-to-date modelling of urban development in Poland.

The assumed cycle of conference organisation: biennial.

8. Conference language: English

9. Charges:

a) *Conference fee* (covering conference materials and board):

full: €145

reduced: €85

Eligibility for the reduced fee:

- participants from East European states (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia)

- young pre-doctoral scholars and students
- accompanying persons: €60 (a trip is going to be organised for them during sessions)
- b) *Day-long trip for participants*: €40

10. Conference details: scope, aim

The development of towns was one of the most characteristic trends of the 20th century. By the 21st century, the urban population has exceeded, for the first time in history, 50% of the total figure. This tendency is supposed to be reinforced in the next years.

Why do cities grow so explosively, and what spatial forms will they assume in the future? What mechanisms underlie the economic development of cities? What does sustainable urban development mean? Those are the questions that both spatial management and urban geography seek to answer. The body of theoretical knowledge accumulated in this field, both abroad and in Poland, is substantial. In the recent years the notion of a complex adaptive system is employed to model the socio-economic and spatial development of towns. It helps to elucidate many processes that play a key role in the development of towns, especially big cities. When considered in their spatial aspect, cities are modelled using the theory of fractal geometry.

The aim of the conference is to present the latest achievements in this field. Another issue addressed at the conference will be the problem of balancing the factors that contribute to the formation of cities offering their residents high standards of living.

Several internationally known scholars have confirmed attendance at the conference, including Peter Nijkamp, Daniel A. Griffith, Paul Longley, and others.

Apart from the plenary meetings for all, two concurrently running sessions are scheduled:

Session 1: Fractality of Cities

Session 2: Sustainability of Cities

Sessions will proceed within the following major thematic blocks:

- New directions in urban economics
- Cities as complex systems
- Cities and innovation processes
- Vulnerability, resilience and sustainability of cities
- Cities and human security
- Cities and city regions
- Fractal aspects of urban development

Since the aim of the conference is to provide a forum for an exchange of experiences in, and the presentation of the state of research on, relations between the growth of cities, their sustainability and fractality, papers addressing those issues are strongly encouraged. And the thematic blocks listed above should not be treated as a closed set.

11. Some of the scholars invited to attend the conference:

Prof. Peter Nijkamp – Free University Amsterdam

Prof. Paul Longley - University College London

Prof. Daniel A. Griffith - University of Texas, Dallas

Prof. Denise Pumain - Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Prof. Tadeusz Markowski - Łódź University, Chairman of the Committee for Space Economy and Regional Planning of the Polish Academy of Sciences

12. Anticipated form of disseminating conference results:

The results of the conference will be published in a book form in English. Abstracts of the papers will be available on the Internet.

13. The registration form and guidelines for the preparation of abstracts and articles, as well as information about accommodation can be found on the Internet at www.geoconf.amu.edu.pl.

