



## Circular no. 1

International conference on:

### **CITIES AND THEIR GROWTH: SUSTAINABILITY AND FRACTALITY**

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
2. *Conference organisers, head of organisational 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  
Poznań City Office
4. *Organisational committee:*  
Prof. Dr hab. Waldemar Ratajczak (Head)  
Ms Emilia Bogacka (Secretary) – [cities@amu.edu.pl](mailto:cities@amu.edu.pl)  
Dr Tomasz Kossowski  
Dr Jan Hauke
5. *Cyclicality:*  
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.
6. *Conference language:* English
7. *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

#### 8. 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

#### 9. 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

#### 10. 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.

#### 11. Circular no. 2 will be distributed in February 2010.

#### 12. The registration form and guidelines for the preparation of abstracts and articles can be found on the Internet at [www.geoconf.amu.edu.pl](http://www.geoconf.amu.edu.pl)

