



## PROGRAMME EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# TRANSITION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND LIVEABLE URBAN FUTURES

LAUNCHING THE JPI URBAN EUROPE  
STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA

**BRUSSELS | 29TH SEPTEMBER 2015, 14.30 – 17.30**  
PLACE DE LUXEMBOURG, PHS BUILDING, ROOM 3C050



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## SUSTAINABLE AND LIVEABLE URBAN FUTURES BY MEANS OF THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA

Europe's cities are in an urgent need for a transition towards a future that maximises their liveability and sustainability. This requires a vast increase of their sustainability, ability for resilience and the force to face the global competition for commerce, industry, tourism, labour and investment.

We radically need to improve our understanding of how socially, economically and environmentally sustainable our cities are. The achievement of these goals requires a well-produced and thoughtful strategy that is based upon scientific research. JPI Urban Europe aims for research that is ambitious, sustained and truly trans- and interdisciplinary. This requires the development of new transition pathways, appropriate tools, technologies, and decision support.

### Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

To realise this transition a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) has been designed. JPI Urban Europe has developed the SRIA in a process of co-creation, involving scientific experts, national stakeholders and

urban actors. The SRIA provides us with a strategic structure to achieve our main ambition: improving sustainability. The SRIA comprises five thematic priorities: Vibrant economies; Welfare and finance; Sustainability and resilience; Accessibility and connectivity; Governance and participation.

### The sum greater than the parts

Through careful programme management, backed up by investments in shared resources including urban observatories, datasets, models and living labs, this will ensure that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

This will be complemented by ongoing alignment with national and institutional research programmes, to build European urban research capacity. The JPI Urban Europe will develop frameworks to define cities' and urban areas' sustainability, so that urban stakeholders are substantially supported in their work. Cities will then be supported in the setting of ambitious yet achievable sustainability targets and the identification of pathways to transition from their present to their future more sustainable and liveable states.



## TRANSITION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND LIVEABLE URBAN FUTURES

The seminar is co-hosted by the Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) and the URBAN Intergroup of the European Parliament, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission, and the JPI Urban Europe with Paul Rübzig, President of the STOA Panel and Jan Olbrycht, President of the URBAN Intergroup, as hosts.

The aim of the event is to present and discuss the JPI Urban Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and its research and innovation approach in order to raise commitment of the relevant stakeholders in policy, research and innovation communities and to prepare the first steps towards the implementation of the SRIA. A further aim is to initiate a discussion on how research communities, cities and European Institutions can cooperate in the transformation of European cities.

**Location:** European Parliament

**Address:** Place de Luxembourg, PHS building, room 3C050

**Date and time:** 29th September, 14.30 – 17.30

**Chair:** Paul Rübzig, President of the STOA Panel, European Parliament

**Moderator:** Henk Snoeken, Vice-chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, the Netherlands

14.30 –  
15.30

### INTRODUCTION

#### Welcome by the hosts

**Paul Rübzig**, President of the STOA Panel, European Parliament

**Jan Olbrycht**, President of the URBAN Intergroup, European Parliament

#### Statement from the European Commission

**Peter Dröll**, Acting Director responsible for Innovation Union and European Research Area, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

#### Statement

**Ingolf Schädler**, Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board, Deputy Director-General for Innovation, Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology

### PRESENTING THE JPI URBAN EUROPE STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA

#### The corporate JPI Urban Europe film

**Margit Noll**, Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Management Board

**Darren Robinson**, Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Scientific Advisory Board, Professor at the University of Nottingham, UK



15.30 –  
16.30

### CASE PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CITIES

Mayors from cities across Europe, going through different phases of urban transition, share their experiences of tackling urban challenges and trying different pathways towards sustainability.

**George Ferguson**, Mayor of Bristol, UK

**Furio Honsell**, Mayor of Udine, Italy

**Dimitris Papastergiou**, Mayor of Trikala, Greece

**Bas Verkerk**, Mayor of Delft, the Netherlands

16.30 –  
17.15

### FINAL PANEL DISCUSSION: LESSONS LEARNED AND THE WAY FORWARD

**Kurt Vandenberghe**, Director of the European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Research and Innovation,

**Bas Verkerk**, President of the ALDE Group in the Committee of the Regions

**Frédéric Saliez**, Human Settlements Officer, UN-HABITAT Brussels  
Liaison Office

**Mart Grisel**, Director of the European Urban Knowledge network (EUKN)

**Inger Gustafsson**, Vice-chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board,  
VINNOVA Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems

17.15 –  
17.30

### CLOSING REMARKS

**Lambert van Nistelrooij**, Vice-president of the URBAN Intergroup,  
European Parliament

## HOSTS

### Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA)

STOA is the European Parliament's own Scientific and Technological Options Assessment unit. It carries out expert, independent assessments of the impact of new technologies and identifies long-term, strategic policy options useful to the Parliament's committees in their policy- and rule-making role. STOA has partnerships with research institutes, universities, laboratories, consultancies or individual researchers. In events hosted by the STOA Members of Parliament and invited experts can take part in discussions and debates concerning current issues.

### URBAN Intergroup

The URBAN Intergroup at the European Parliament is a cross-parties and cross-committees grouping with a horizontal approach to discuss urban related issues. It brings together over 88 Members of the European Parliament representing most EU Member States, all the political groups at the European Parliament, and working in all the parliamentary committees. The Intergroup works with 111 partners from local, regional, national and European level that represent the interests of Europe's town and cities or work in the domain relevant for urban development. It was officially set up for the third time to ensure that urban related problems are reflected in European Parliament's decisions.

### European Commission, DG for Research and Innovation

The Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission defines and implements European Research and Innovation policy with a view to achieving the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy and its key flagship initiative, the Innovation Union. To do so, the DG contributes to and monitors the completion of the European Research Area and the realisation of the Innovation Union flagship initiative. The DG funds Research and Innovation through Horizon 2020 - the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over seven years (2014 to 2020).

### JPI Urban Europe

The Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Urban Europe is a Member State-led initiative that coordinates the urban-related research programmes of the participating countries in order to exploit synergies between the national research programmes and European ones. JPI Urban Europe represents a forward-looking research initiative with an integrated approach to sustainable urban development across its research interfaces of economy and innovation, mobility, society and ecology. The aim is to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas, in which European citizens, communities and their surroundings can thrive.

## SPEAKERS

### **Peter Dröll** **DG for Research and Innovation**

Peter Dröll is in charge of Innovation Union and European Research Area in the European Commission's Research and Innovation Department. This directorate is about creating the conditions for excellent research and innovation throughout Europe. Peter Dröll is a lawyer by training with a doctorate degree in German constitutional law and European law. Before joining the European Commission in 1991, he worked as a lawyer in Germany.



### **George Ferguson** **City of Bristol**

George Ferguson was elected Mayor of Bristol in November 2012 and is the first independent mayor to lead a major city in Britain. He is also an architect, whose award winning work reflects his long-held interest in and commitment to education, the environment and urbanism. During his first term, he led the team that secured Bristol the title of European Green Capital 2015. He continues to work towards making Bristol one of Europe's leading smart, sustainable and liveable cities.



### **Mart Grisel** **EUKN**

Mart Grisel is Director of the European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN), an intergovernmental network acting as an interface between urban practice, policy and research.



Mart Grisel has been involved in urban policy since 2004, when EUKN was established. He is currently working with current and incoming EU Presidencies and the European Commission on the EU Urban Agenda and the UN New Urban Agenda on Urban Governance and Institutions.

### **Inger Gustafsson** **VINNOVA**

Inger Gustafsson is Head of department for policy and system development at VINNOVA, the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems. Her responsibilities includes transportation, regional innovation systems and innovation in public sector. She has a Master of Civil Engineering from the University of Lund and a PhD in Techno Science Studies from Blekinge Institute of Technology. She is Vice-chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board.



### **Furio Honsell** **City of Udine**

Furio Honsell was elected Mayor of the city of Udine in 2008 and re-elected in 2013. He is Professor in informatics at the University of Udine and has held positions at the universities of Edinburgh, Stanford, Paris and Torino. He served as chancellor of the University of Udine 2001-2008. Honsell is active in scientific research and in popularization of science. He signed the Covenant of Mayors in 2009 and is Vice-president of the Italian WHO European Healthy Cities Network.





**Lambert van Nistelrooij**  
**MEP/URBAN Intergroup**

Lambert van Nistelrooij has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2004. As an MEP he has focused on regional policy, research, innovation, energy and the Digital Agenda. Currently, he is a member of the Committee on Regional Development and a substitute member of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection. Lately van Nistelrooij has been working on the European Structural and Investment Funds as the main negotiator, the European Fund for Strategic Investments as rapporteur, and the Digital Single Market.



**Margit Noll**  
**AIT/JPI Urban Europe**

Margit Noll is with the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology concerned with corporate strategy. She has more than 15 years' experience in research management and strategy development. Since 2009 she is in particular involved in the development of the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe. As Chair of the Management Board she is in charge of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and its implementation. She holds a PhD in physics and an MBA in general management.



**Jan Olbrycht**  
**MEP/URBAN Intergroup**

Jan Olbrycht is President of the European Parliament's URBAN Intergroup. He is member of the European Parliament since 2004, currently Chairman of the Polish delegation in the EPP Group at the European Parliament and a member of the Parliamentary Committees on Budgets and substitute mem-



ber of the Regional Development Committee. He is former Mayor and President of one of the Polish regions. He is active in many European local and regional government organizations and a regional policy and urban development expert.

**Dimitris Papastergiou**  
**City of Trikala**

Dimitris Papastergiou was elected Mayor of the city of Trikala in 2014. He has studied electrical engineering specialized in telecommunications at the National Technical University of Athens. He has worked with renewable energy projects, mainly focused on PV installations. The city of Trikala is a pilot city for e-government and ICT projects in Greece. Papastergiou began with politics when he was 30 years old and was elected for the city council and subsequently became Vice-mayor.



**Darren Robinson**  
**University of Nottingham**

Professor Darren Robinson is Chair in Building and Urban Physics. His research interests lie at the intersection between social physics (people), building physics (buildings) and urban physics (city). He has published over 100 scientific papers. He also sits on the editorial advisory boards of the Journal of Building Performance Simulation and the on-line journal Sustainability, is a regular reviewer for numerous other Journals and a regular panel member for funding councils in France (ANR) and in Portugal (FCT). He is the Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Scientific Advisory Board.





## Paul Rübiger STOA

Paul Rübiger is Chair of STOA (Science and Technology Options Assessment) and has been a member of the European Parliament since 1996. Paul Rübiger is full member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and of the Committee on Budgets. He is Vice-chair of the Delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula and substitute member of the Delegation for relations with Switzerland, Norway and of the EU-Iceland Joint Parliamentary Committee and the European Economic Area (EEA) Joint Parliamentary Committee.



## Frédéric Saliez UN-HABITAT Brussels Liaison Office

An architect and civil engineer, Frédéric Saliez joined UN-Habitat in 2001 and is now Deputy Director. His work has been notably focused on Latin American countries and the Balkans. His previous background and working experiences have enabled him to support local and national governments in policies related to urban planning, environmental protection, public spaces and cultural heritage. Throughout his career, he has been successively posted in Belgium, Portugal, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cuba, Kenya, Kosovo and Brazil.



## Ingolf Schädler Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT)

In the function as as Deputy Director General at the BMVIT Ingolf Schädler is responsible for the development and implementation of the Ministry's technology policy,



its strategic technology programmes and the related R&D infrastructure. On the EU level Ingolf Schädler is representing Austria in various high level committees related to R&D Policy, Satellite Navigation and Space Policy. Since December 2010 Ingolf Schädler is Chair of the JPI Urban Europe Governing Board. He studied Economics at the University of Vienna and International Law and Politics at John Hopkins University SAIS Bologna Center.

## Henk Snoeken Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, Netherlands

Henk Snoeken is Deputy Director for International Affairs at the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Kingdom of the Netherlands since May 2014. Before that he was Deputy Director for National Spatial Planning. He graduated at the University of Amsterdam and has a long time experience of working for universities, local governments and the national government.



## Kurt Vandenberghe European Commission

Kurt Vandenberghe is Director for Climate Action and Resource Efficiency at the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation. He was previously Head of Cabinet of European Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik, Deputy Head of Cabinet of European Research Commissioner Potočnik and member of cabinet of European Research Commissioner Philippe Busquin. He has a degree in French and Italian literature from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the John Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna and Washington D.C.



**Bas Verkerk**  
**City of Delft/ALDE**

Bas Verkerk is Lord Mayor of the City of Delft since 2004 and responsible for European and International Affairs. He is also President of the ALDE Group in the Committee of the Regions. He has formerly been Vice-mayor of the City of The Hague and Team manager and legal councillor at the Dutch Council of State. He holds Masters degrees in Dutch Law and Law and Spatial planning.





