



Seminar Cities are back in town

The Urban Contract. Community, Governance and Capitalism

Wednesday 29 March 2017

5 - 7 pm

Sciences Po
Salle de conférences du LIEPP
254, boulevard Saint-Germain
75007 Paris

Are urban societies destined to increasingly anomic forms of deregulation and de-contractualization? Today, the increasing mobility of capital, people and information has changed the space relations of urban societies. Contractual relations have increased in every field of social life: in the market-related economic transactions, but also in the political, and in creative and scientific areas. Contracts are not only legal frameworks or economic aggregates of individuals, but socially embedded forms. The concept of urban contract proposed in the lecture combines the theoretical body of economic-juridical literature on the contract with that of historical-anthropological and socio-spatial literature on the city. Through a diverse range of ten city case-studies, The Urban Contract compares European, North-American and Asian Urban Contracts. It concludes with a theoretical proposal for understanding the deep dialectical nature of contractual cities: their reciprocity and competition, their dual trend towards growth and decay, their cyclical nature as agents of change and disruption of the social forms of urbanity.



Speaker

Paolo Perulli, Professor of Economic Sociology, Director of the Master in Local Development, Università del Piemonte Orientale

Paolo Perulli's main research topics have included: Metropolitan Atlas (Bologna 1992 and Madrid 1995), Global Networks and Nation-States (Zurich 1999), The City of Networks (Turin 2000), The City: a socio-philosophical lexicon (Mendrisio 2004). His recent books have been

published by Einaudi, Il Mulino and Mendrisio Academy Press.

Collective discussion

Texts available upon request

Compulsory registration on the link above - Contact: edouard.dequeker@sciencespo.fr

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