

Dear all,

We would like to thank you for your interest in the conference and to announce the extension of the deadline for abstract submission. The **new deadline** is on **Sunday, 30 May 2021**.

You can find the call for papers attached below and on the conference [website](#).

Call for Papers

Between the home and the square: bridging the boundaries of public space

22-23 October 2021, Thessaloniki, Greece

<http://southeuropean-cities.arch.auth.gr/betweenthehomeandthesquare>

Cities around the world change rapidly in response to processes of financial crises, international migration, climate change, globalisation and the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Public spaces are essential ingredients of the urban experience and play a crucial role in this transition (Madanipour et al., 2014). Seeking to understand the ways in which public space can operate as a key component for the creation of ‘inclusive, connected, safe and accessible’ cities (UN Habitat, 2016), the meeting is structured around the concept of boundaries of public space and the relation between public space and more private spheres of urban life, like the home.

Marxist understandings of relational space have already emphasized the need to deconstruct dichotomies between public and private (Lefebvre, 1991). Gender studies have early enough challenged the dichotomy of public and private space (Massey 1984), while more recently, feminist approaches to public space foreground affective care practices, everyday lived experiences and bodily encounters as crucial elements that transcend fixed boundaries in public space (Viderman & Knierbein, 2018). The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has shed new light to interrelations of homes, neighbourhoods and public open space accessibility in pragmatic terms of real life, democracy, and its policing. Thus, a critical exploration of the ways in which the boundaries of public space are challenged, and new conceptualisations emerge is nowadays increasingly timely and salient.

The meeting articulates its theme in a way to encourage approaches that:

1. bridge the traditional analytical categories, such as home and public space, public and private, digital and material;

2. bridge the different disciplinary divisions that divide current research and practice and encourage cross-fertilisations and hybrid understandings;
3. bridge the boundaries between research, policy and practice focusing on the ways these three can inform and transform each other;
4. negotiate divisions in public space; age, gender, social, cultural, ethnic, religious and political dimensions as well as issues of social and environmental justice for improving inclusiveness, promoting social and environmental justice and meeting complexity in the public space changing terrain;
5. reflect on new typologies of emerging practices and agents of change that reconstitute lived homes and public spaces.

We invite contributions that address, but are not limited, to one or more of the following themes:

1. Inhabiting the square: exclusionary practices, repression, homelessness, refugees, dissent, participatory / performative appropriation.
2. Housing and public space: spaces of the everyday, neighbourhood spaces, inconspicuous parks, design considerations, everyday routines, psychoanalytic approaches to the public, divided spaces.
3. The limits of publicness: management, authorities, ownership, appropriation, affective, performative and artistic practices, digital contestations and cross-overs.
4. Negotiating ownership: housing and public space production 'from below', housing coops, collective habitation, squats, gated communities, suburban houses, institutional change.

Abstract submission

You are invited to submit abstracts to a maximum of 500 words addressing at least one of the topics outlined in the Call for Papers. We seek to receive contributions that are based on innovative research, which breaks with existing explanatory frameworks so as to address afresh empirical problems. Innovation may also come from controversial theoretical approaches as well as from novel methodological frameworks. Abstracts should also include 3-5 keywords. References (if necessary) should not exceed 100 words.

Submission will **ONLY** be accepted online through [platform] where participants may register and instantly submit their abstracts using the provided template. Authors will be notified of acceptance by the Organising Committee.

Conference contributions will be considered for publication as part of a Special Issue to be published in a leading journal in the fields of urban studies or an edited volume to be published by an internationally leading academic publisher.

Please submit your abstracts via easy chair in the following link:

[Submit here](#)

Format

The meeting will be organised as a **two-day** International Meeting, which will be preceded by a seven-day workshop.

Contacts

For further information on AESOP TG PSUC Thessaloniki meeting please contact:

Evie Athanassiou (local host Thessaloniki) evieath@arch.auth.gr

References

- Lefebvre, H. (1991) The production of space. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Madanipour, A., Knierbein, S. & Degros, A. (2014) A Moment of Transformation. In: Madanipour, A., Knierbein, S. & Degros, A. (eds.) Public Space and the Challenges of Urban Transformation in Europe? New York: Routledge.
- Massey, D. (1984) Space, Place and Gender. Cambridge: Polity Press
- Viderman, T. & Knierbein, S. (2018) Reconnecting public space and housing research through affective practice. Journal of Urban Design, 1-16.