

CALL FOR PAPERS

Governance and Change at the Urban Fringe

EURA Workshop, Oslo, 6.-7. May 2010

To be hosted by: The University of Oslo, the Department of Sociology and Human Geography, and the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research

There is increasing interest in socio-spatial and socio-cultural developments on the fringes of cities. Some studies focus on the emergence of polycentric metropolitan areas, and the formation of edge cities and nodes. Other studies focus on changes in existing suburbs and the development of new suburbs and exurbs. The term "post-suburbia" has been used to encapsulate the variety of forms emerging at the urban fringe. It is an important challenge to explore the spatial, political, social and cultural processes and implications of the changes taking place.

Development and regeneration of areas on the urban fringes increasingly takes place in a context marked by deregulation, privatization and network-like modes of coordination. Effective coordination among the plurality of governments on various levels in metropolitan regions poses particular challenges. The importance of achieving concerted action between public bodies, private sector stakeholders and civil society actors is often emphasized, but effective governance of such coalitions often proves problematic.

We invite scholars and academics interested in these issues to write papers presenting empirical research or theoretical discussions. We hope for participation from different disciplines (human geographers, political scientists, planners, sociologists, anthropologists, etc.), covering different approaches to the understanding of suburbia and the urban fringe.

Oslo – a city in rapid development

Participants will be invited to a guided tour of ongoing city development in the fringe areas of Greater Oslo. There will also be an opportunity to visit the city's new landmark, the Opera house, which has won international acclaim for its architectural qualities. The Opera house is part a large waterfront development in former harbor areas.

Profile of the event

The workshop will be organised so as to allow intensive academic exchange among a limited number of participants. Compared to large-scale conferences, workshop participants will be expected to devote their attention to a smaller number of presentations, each for a longer duration of time.

Peer reviewed abstracts - Pre-arranged allocation of discussants - All papers available for download two weeks ahead of event on designated website - 40 minutes available for each paper - High quality keynote speeches

- **Abstracts:** 1. December 2009
- **Abstract review available:** 1. January 2010
- **Registration and payment:** 1. March 2010
- **Paper submission:** 1. April 2010
- **Conference dates:** 6.-7. May 2010

Web:

<http://www.iss.uio.no/arrangementer/gov>

Abstract submission:

governance-workshop@sgeo.uio.no.



Photo: Jaro Hollan/Statsbygg

About the organisers



EURA

The European Urban Research Association (EURA) is an international network of urban scholars and researchers with members in over 20 countries. The aims of EURA is to provide a forum for people from different disciplines and policy backgrounds to exchange information about findings from research on towns and cities as the basis for closer cooperation, to encourage interdisciplinary and cross-national approaches to research in and education for urban and regional studies as a professional and academic field, and to bridge the gap between academic, professional and policy interests, inform public debate and improve the quality of urban policy.

www.eura.org



**UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO**

The University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's largest and oldest institution of higher education. It was founded in 1811 when Norway was still under Danish rule. Today the University of Oslo has approx. 30,000 students and 4,600 employees. Four Nobel Prize winners indicate the quality of the research at the University. The department of Sociology and Human Geography is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The department has 66 academic staff and 11 administrative staff, and offers courses in 39 topics in Sociology and 22 topics in Human Geography. Urban Geography is one of the core areas at the department, and one of the strategic research areas is the "Transformation in the Oslo region", including research on suburbs, suburban nodes and urban fringe areas.

<http://www.iss.uio.no>



NIBR

Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) was established in 1967 and is home to 65 researchers spanning the social sciences. NIBR is Norway's leading institution for research on urban and regional development. Reflecting the diversity of its staff, NIBR studies cities and regions with a focus on living conditions and social segregation, public policy and institutional development, multi-level governance, demography, business structures and clusters, spatial planning and urban regeneration. As one of Norway's environmental research institutes, NIBR uses its expertise in the social sciences to promote integrated, knowledge-based approach to environmental challenges and issues associated with economic growth.

www.nibr.no