

DECENT AND ADEQUATE HOUSING

Barcelona Urban Thinkers Campus / an UN-Habitat Event

November 16 to 18, 2015

Venue: Metropolitan Area of Barcelona Headquarters



**URBAN
THINKERS
CAMPUS**
THE CITY WE NEED



Every 20 years the UN organizes the Habitat world summit on human settlements, (Habitat I, Vancouver 1976; Habitat II, Istanbul, 1996). The upcoming summit, Habitat III will be hosted in Quito in October 2016. The main outcome of the Habitat summits is the Habitat Agenda, which set out the guidelines and policies for human settlements for the next 20 years. The Habitat Agenda, and specifically the New Habitat III Agenda will be passed in Quito by the states member of the UN General Assembly. Considering these standards and guidelines that arise from the civil society, NGOs, researchers, professional associations, universities, local authorities, etc.

The Urban Thinkers Campus is an initiative of UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign, conceived as an open space for critical exchange between urban actors. It is intended as a platform to build consensus on urbanization challenges and solutions to urban futures. The Urban Thinkers Campus creates a platform to reflect on current urban challenges and trends as well as to propose a new urban paradigm. The outcomes will contribute to the New Urban Agenda, the main outcome document of the [United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development \(Habitat III\) in 2016](#).

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THE OPERATING OF BARCELONA'S UTC

Participants will during two days divide in working groups in a very active discussion. During these days, six core topics on Housing will be discussed, three each day. Every workshop is organized in three sessions led by three professionals, a keynote speaker, a moderator and a rapporteur.

On the first session, the keynote would introduce the topic of the workshop triggering the discussion of experts. The second session, dealt by the moderator would consist of a deep debate. The third session will be led by the moderator as well, will produce a set of conclusions of the workshop that will be discussed with other workshops during the plenary session. The rapporteur will collect all elements discussed as well as the conclusions.

The first two days workshops, 16 and 17 November, will be hold at the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB) premises. The presentation of the conclusions of the UTC on 18 November will be open to the public during the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) that will take place in Barcelona on the same dates.

The Barcelona UTC expected participation of about 100 experts, only by invitation.
The UTC language will be English, with simultaneous translation into Spanish.

THE SIX WORKSHOPS

International human rights law recognizes everyone's right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate housing. Despite the central place of this right within the global legal system, well over a billion people are not adequately housed. Millions around the world live in life or health threatening conditions, in overcrowded slums and informal settlements, or in other conditions which do not uphold their human rights and their dignity. Further millions are forcibly evicted, or threatened with forced eviction, from their homes every year.

An adequate house should provide for more than four walls and a roof. The General Observation 4 of the United Nations establishes a minimum of seven standards: tenure security; access to services, goods, facilities and infrastructure; affordability; habitability; accessibility; location and cultural adaptation

The UTC is organised in six workshops, three every day. They focus on the characteristics of the concept of 'decent and adequate house'.

The first three workshops will take place the first day of the event and they will focus on the relationship between three basic concepts: 1. Subjectivity and objectivity of the State on the right to housing, 2. Conditions for the accessibility to housing and 3. Security of tenure and evictions. The second day's workshops centre on the potential of the location. Land, location and the undesirable effects of exclusion, segregation and inequality.

FIRST DAY: HOUSING A HUMAN RIGHT, SECURITY AND HABITABILITY

1st workshop: Housing a Human Right

All human rights are inter-dependent and indivisible, both civil, political rights and economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR), because they are based on human dignity. Even if the ESCR are recognized in most of the constitutions and international covenants of human rights, the guarantees deserved to protect them are often weak. The right to housing belongs to the ESCR, which can make difficult to claim its violation. The right to housing has to be considered together with the right to the city and the right to the habitat.

What mechanisms can we use to accomplish this right? Would the configuration of the right to housing as a fundamental right change the governments' consideration and its obligations? Is it a feasible demand?

2nd workshop: How to Guarantee the Access to Housing

One of the crucial problems for tenure security and access to housing is the challenging situation in which low income citizens are. The high prices of housing, unemployment and the increasing job precariousness complicate the access and security of tenure.

The future of the housing policy is strongly conditioned to the worldwide and local strategies of the financial system.



The regular availability of credit at reasonable cost is essential. But how can we anticipate and avoid the future financial and real estate bubbles whose perverse results are eviction, impoverishment and social exclusion? How to create and manage a stock of social and public housing?

3rd workshop: How to Guarantee the Security of Tenure and avoid the loss of the House

Every citizen should have security of tenure against eviction, harassing and other threats. Security against the impossibility to pay rent or the mortgage, gentrification, speculation, mobbing, mafias and climate disasters.

Which ones are the adequate policies for intervention, assistance, reallocation, legalisation of human settlements, diversification of tenancy through planning mechanisms?

SECOND DAY: LOCATION. HOUSING NEIGHBOURHOODS AND SLUMS

It is focused on the existing urban settlements, which are home of half the humanity with a strong tendency to grow. These settlements feature serious deficiencies that directly affect the quality of life of the resident population.

In order to classify human settlements in typologies, a crucial turning point in the history of cities has to be considered: The advent of the car on the second half of the 20C after the Second World War as a massive mean of transportation. This has been a recent milestone that marks a before and after on the residential areas of cities.

4th workshop: Land

The land is the base of housing. There is no house without land. The extension of cities on undeveloped land, its location in relation to the existing city, its level of urbanisation and quality of the urban fabric are features that condition and have a strong influence on the right to a decent house.

Most of the land in cities is privately owned. Creating planning mechanisms to obtain land and to control its price to produce affordable housing constitutes a main global challenge. The States must work for the compliance of the social function of private property, limiting its rights while promoting social interests and general welfare, particularly the right to an adequate house for the poorest.

5th workshop: Residential Districts

Housing is the the main urban use. However, the organisation and typologies of the resi-dential districts are diverse, showing different levels of quality and efficiency.

There are three main dominant typologies.

1. The central historic city, previous to the car, it is centred on the street, civic space. The medieval city and the XVIII and XIX century developments. A compact, complex and sustainable city, but also with degradation and gentrification- eviction problems.
2. Residential districts of detached blocks. This typology has recently extended around the world. It first appeared in Europe when the reconstruction after the Second World War. They include dormitory towns distant and segregated from the goods and services offered by the city.
3. Large residential suburbs (garden cities)

They are, without any doubt, one of the main problems that cities have inherited from last century. They occupy vast areas in low density settlements, the sprawl, deeply inefficient from the energetic point of view, unsustainable and ineffective from the services perspective. They have a 100% car dependency. Deep inequalities can be seen in dwellings, since usually the man has the control of the car and the rest of the family, women, sons and elderly people find themselves isolated and dependant on the driver.

6th workshop: The Slums

Over 1000 million people live in the world under extreme city and housing degradation conditions, lacking some or all conditions of a decent housing: water and energy supply, sewage, structural uncertainties, tenure insecurity, overcrowding, lack of access to jobs, education, health, culture... During the last years, there have been significant improvements (not always satisfactory though) to reduce this problem, however, the biggest problem is that the amount of slums keep increasing every day. Cities increase their inhabitants by a million people every week, mostly in slums settlements. According to the UN, this is one of the main challenges of the society of his century. There are many experiences on interventions on informal settlements. The workshop will assess experiences, some disastrous and to develop guidelines and criteria for the future.



SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

16-11-2015

DAY 1: HOUSING A HUMAN RIGHT, SECURITY AND HABILITY

Venue: Metropolitan Area of Barcelona Headquarters

Pick up BUS from Hotel Sants at 8:30; at the end of the session, bus drop back people to the hotel

WELCOME SESSION: 9:00 – 9:30

1st Workshop

Housing and Human Right

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

Rachelle Alterman

2nd Workshop

How to Guarantee the Access to Housing

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

José García Montalvo

3rd Workshop

How to Guarantee the Security of Tenure and Avoid the Loss of the House

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

Joseph Schechla

Coffee Break 11:00 – 11:30

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Pablo Molina

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Javier Burón

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Anna Sugranyés

Lunch Break 13:00 – 14:30

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

Irene Escorihuela

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

Pau Pérez de Acha

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

Lorena Zárate

Coffee Break 16:00 – 16:30 (rapporteurs will prepare conclusions)

PLENARY SESSION DAY CONCLUSION 16:30 – 18:00

WORKSHOPS ORGANISATION



Antonio Azuela, mexicano, abogado por la Universidad Iberoamericana, maestro en Derecho por la Universidad de Warwick, Inglaterra y doctor en Sociología por la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Desde fines de los años setenta se dedica a la investigación académica de cuestiones urbanas y ambientales desde la perspectiva de la sociología del derecho. Fungió como Procurador Federal de Protección al Ambiente del Gobierno Mexicano entre 1994 y 2000. Desde ese año se reincorporó al Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales de la UNAM. Vicepresidente de FIU, delegado de FIU en el HPF y WUC(UN-HABITAT).



Amador Ferrer. Architect PhD, UPC, Barcelona, 1982. National Award on Urbanism, Madrid 1983. Professor of Urbanism, UPC, Barcelona, 1971 1985, and URL, Barcelona, since 2000. Director of Building, City of Barcelona, 1988-1992. Director of Urbanism, City of Badalona, 2000-2003. Coordinator of Urbanism, Barcelona Metropolitan Area, 2004-2011. Visiting professor, Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, USA), 1987. Senior Fellow and member of the Board, International Urban Fellows Association (IUFA). Main publications: Els polígons de Barcelona (UPC, Barcelona, 1996); Transformig Barcelona, Routledge. London and New York, 2004; Barcelone. Portrait de ville, Paris, 2013.

17-11-2015

DAY 2: LOCATION, HOUSING NEIGHBOURHOODS AND SLUMS

Venue: Metropolitan Area of Barcelona Headquarters

Pick up BUS from Hotel Sants at 8:00; at the end of the session, bus drop back people to the hotel

WELCOME SESSION: 9:00 – 9:30

4th Workshop

The Land

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

Paulo Henrique Ribeiro

Coffee Break 11:00 – 11:30

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Amadeu Iglesias

Lunch Break 13:00 – 14:30

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

João Teixeira

5th Workshop

Residential Districts

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

David Bravo

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Amador Ferrer

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

Joris Scheers

6th Workshop

The Slums

Presentation 9:30 – 11:00

Keynote

Julian Salas

Discussion 11:30 – 13:00

Moderator

Antonio Azuela

Conclusions 14:30 – 16:00

Rapporteur

Joan Mac Donald

Coffee Break 16:00 – 16:30 (rapporteurs will prepare conclusions)

PLENARY SESSION DAY CONCLUSION 16:30 – 18:00

18-11-2015

At Smart Cities World Exhibition Congress: 9:30 - 11:00 Open presentation of conclusions UTC



Joris SCHEERS, is a spatial planner and sociologist (PhD, MSc). He promoted on the theme of exponentially growing cities in Latin America at the KULeuven university (Belgium), where he is currently part-time visiting professor. As the former deputy Government Architect and manager Creative and sustainable cities he is involved in various urban and spatial policy issues within the Flanders Government of Belgium. He has performed over the past decades as an international consultant for spatial policy projects and programs in Latin-America, Africa and Asia. He has been nominated as UN-Habitat expert for the elaboration of International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning and is currently president of the European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP-CEU).



Ana Sugranyés, PhD., is an architect and a Catalan, Chilean and global citizen. From 2003 to 2013, she was the General Secretary of the Habitat International Coalition (HIC), the global network for habitat rights and social justice composed of 350 organization members among 120 countries. Since the first Habitat Conference in Vancouver 1976, she has specialized in international development cooperation, team and project management, supporting urban social movements, local development, and social housing policy and programs. Other experience includes: working for the Dutch agency Cordaid; head of the urban department of IDESAC in Guatemala; main adviser of the German GIZ program in the Ministry of Housing in Chile; and working as a consultant for different international agencies.



Joan Mac Donald, is a Chilean architect specialized in urban development, housing policies and urban upgrading projects. She lectures at postgraduate level both in national and international Universities. From 2000 to 2014 she acted as Executive Director of SELAVIP- Latin American, African and Asian Social Housing Service- in charge of implementing approx. 500 projects that improved slums and provided affordable housing to poor urban communities in 60 developing countries. She has been consultant on issues of her expertise in several countries and regions, and published more than 30 papers and books.



David Bravo, (Barcelona, 1975) Architect. Since 2003, he has collaborated with the CCCB in the development of the European Prize for Urban Public Space (www.publicspace.org). He is responsible for its contents and was the secretary of its Jury in the 2010, 2012 and 2014 edition. He has also lectured in the course of Architecture and Public Space in the Escola Superior de Disseny ELISAVA and in the Master of Architecture and Urban Culture Metropolis. Moreover, he has written articles on architecture and public space in various publications and is a regular contributor to the Diagonal magazine.



Irene Escorihuela, holds a BA in Political Science and Administration from Pompeu Fabra University and one in Law from the University of Barcelona, where she also completed a Master of Law. Specialized in human rights and right to housing, she has academic and work experience in Latin America, especially in Peru and Ecuador. Currently she combines the criminal litigation with the management of the Observatory DESC (Economic, Social and Cultural rights), an organization of human rights in Barcelona. The Observatory defends social rights through advocacy, training and strategic litigation, interacting with the Administration but also working together with the social movements in a human rights perspective.



Javier Burón.



João M. Teixeira, Nowadays, Executive: President of Lisbon and Tagus Valley Region Development Commission (51 councils, 11 633 km², 3,45 million inhabitants); President of Management Authority of Lisbon 2014/ 2020 EU Funds Commission (803 M Euros investment 2015-2020); Administrator of European Council of Spatial Planners. Honorary President, European Council of Spatial Planners and Membre d'honneur de la Société Française des Urbanistes. Municipal director of strategy, innovation and qualification of Cascais Municipality; Chairman and CEO of EPUL - Urbanization Public Company of Lisbon Municipality. Chairman, keynote speaker and member of the jury of several international juries and congresses. Invited expert of UN-HABITAT. Invited professor since 1982 in several faculties.



Julián Salas, Possesses a Doctorate in Industrial Engineering (Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña, 1983) and a degree in Industrialized Construction at the CSTB,(Paris (1984). He is currently a researcher for CSIC at the 'Instituto Eduardo Torroja' (CSIC), Madrid (España). From1987 to 1994, he created and coordinated the Program CYTED 'Technologies for social housing in Latin America' in which 112 groups from 17 countries participated. This was considered by CEPAL, to be "...the greatest research-action ever undertaken in the area of low-income housing in Latin America and the Caribbean". Julián Salas is the author of six books, including 'Against a Hunger for Housing 'and 'Improvement of Slams in Latin America' his name was presented by the Consejo Superior de los Colegios de Arquitectos de España for the 'Habitat Roll of Honours: 2005 United Nations' for "...his constant dedication to the promotion of human settlements in the Third World, both in African as well as in Latin American countries".



Lorena Zárate, is currently President of Habitat International Coalition (HIC). Over more than a decade, she has been in close collaboration with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing for the elaboration of thematic reports and recommendations for national and local governments on how to improve security of tenure, land and housing rights and the right to the city worldwide. She has been involved in the elaboration and dissemination of the World Charter on the Right to the City (2002-2005) and the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City (2008-2010). In 2013, she was awarded with the John Bousfield Distinguished Visitorship from the Geography and Urban Planning Program at the University of Toronto.



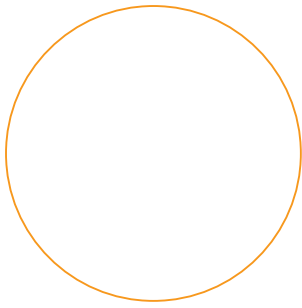
Pablo Molina, Asesor Jurídico. Abogado y técnico urbanista. Socio del despacho J&A Garrigues, S.L.P. Especialista en Derecho Administrativo y Urbanístico. Miembro de la Asociación Española de Técnicos Urbanistas y de la Agrupación Catalana de Técnicos Urbanistas. Habla inglés, francés, español y catalán. Imparte regularmente programas de maestría y posgrados en diferentes universidades sobre materias relacionadas con el urbanismo.



Rachelle Alterman, Professor Rachelle Alterman of the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology is the Founding President of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights and an Honorary Member of the Association of European Schools of Planning (the 5th person thus honored and the only non-European). With degrees in planning and in law from Canadian and Israeli universities, Dr. Alterman specialized in cross-national comparative analysis of the relationship between planning law, land use regulations, property rights and planning practice. She has shares her knowledge with UN-Habitat, the OECD, the World Bank, the Israeli Parliament and many other public bodies, and Chinese governmental and research bodies See: <http://alterman.technion.ac.il>.



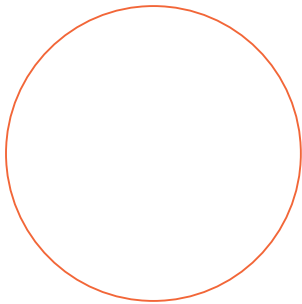
Amadeu Iglesias, Architect at ETSAB (Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura de Barcelona UPC). Executive Director of IMPSOL (Institute for housing and land development at Metropolitan Area of Barcelona) Member of permanent board of AVS (Spanish public promoters of housing and land association). Executive Consultant of Catalan Municipality Federation on housing and land planning development



Paulo Enrique Ribeiro, Graduated in Economics: São Paulo University in 1964. Master in Economics, Catholic University of S.Paulo Economics and Business Administration School in 1982. Was Chief of Staff in Planning Secretary in São Paulo Municipality (City Hall) (1989-90) coordinating 22 Interlinked Operations and between 1989 and 1990 coordinated the urban operations: Anhangabaú-Centro and Água Branca. Was president (CEO) of CMTC (Companhia Municipal de Transportes Coletivos) between 1990 and 1992. He coordinated the plan of municipalization of public transportation of São Paulo and the construction of BRT corridors in the city. In 1993 was Vice-Minister of Administration in the Federal Government. Books: “Novo Dicionário de Economia”(New Economics Dictionary) (1994 and Jabuti Prize 1995 best book of the year in Economics) , “ Novissimo Dicionario de Economia (1999 , Jabuti Prize 2000 Best book in economics).



José García Montalvo, is Professor of Economics at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF). He holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from the Univesitat de València. He won the National Prize of Bachelor Studies in Economics (Spanish highest national GPA, 1988). He received his MA and PhD in Economics from Harvard University. He has worked as a consultant for the OECD, the European Union, the Inter American Development Bank and the World Bank among many other institutions. He has served as Chairman of the Economics and Business Department and Vice Chancellor of Science Policy at the UPF. He has also served as member of the Board of Directors and the Boards of Trustees of several firms and research centers.



Pau Pérez de Acha



Joseph Schechla, has focused most of his research and field experience on popular movements and legal defense of economic, social and cultural rights within the UN Human Rights System. His articles and books have dealt with the human right to adequate housing and land, related forms of institutionalized discrimination, population transfer, and rights-based remedies for indigenous peoples and peoples under occupation. Having previously served as program coordinator with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Gaza, Palestine) and director of democratic development programs (AMIDEAST, Washington DC), since 2000, Joseph Schechla has been Cairo-based coordinator of the Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) of the Habitat International Coalition (HIC), an umbrella organization linking some 450 member organisations in 80 countries promoting the human right to adequate housing

For More Information on the Barcelona Urban Thinkers Campus:

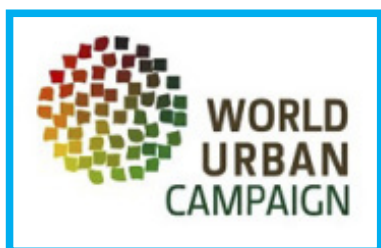
Barcelona's UTC Technical Secretariat: urbanthinkers@amb.cat; contact: 00 34 93 5069367

Federación Iberoamericana de Urbanistas, FIU, secretariat: secretaria@fiurb.org

Asociación Española de Técnicos Urbanistas, AETU, secretariat: aetu@aetu.es

Links to Relevant Information

- <http://unhabitat.org/urbanthinkers>
- <http://www.habitat3.org>
- <http://unhabitat.org/urban-thinkers-the-city-we-need>
- <http://unhabitat.org/the-future-we-want-the-city-we-need>
- <http://www.worldurbancampaign.org>
- <http://mirror.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=594&cid=6886>
- www.fiurb.org
- www.ectp-ceu.eu
- <http://aetu.es>



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