DEMOCHANGE CITIES

URBAN & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS
Investigating housing districts and immigration processes
EU Intensive Programme – Summer School

Coordinator: DiAP–Politecnico di Milano/Polytechnic of Milano (Ass. Prof. Dr. Massimo Bricocoli)
Local coordinator: Vienna University of Technology (Dr. Gesa Witthöft)
Partner Universities: HCU Universität Hamburg (Prof. Dr. Ingrid Breckner), Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai Cluj–Napoca (Prof. Dr. Rudolf Poledna), University of Nicosia (Ass. Prof. Adonis Kleanthous), DICAR_University of Trieste (Ass. Prof. Dr. Elena Marchigiani).
Local Partners: GB 2 – Gebietsbetreuung (Neighbourhood Office) 2nd Bezirk (Leopoldstadt) (DI Andrea Mann)

Nordbahnhof and Stuwerviertel, Vienna (AUSTRIA)
29th August – 13th September 2011
Programme financed by
Posters of initial promotion among students
DEMOCHANGE CITIES

Demographic Change and Urban Transformations: Investigating housing districts and the demographic change and immigration processes in European cities.

Dates
- Monday 29th August
- Tuesday 13th September

Faculty of Sociology and Social Work
2011
Vienna, Austria

Participants:
1 faculty member and 5/6 students from each University

The Programme is organized and at the Polytechnic of Milan, Trieste, Nicosia, Vienna, Hamburg, Cluj-Napoca, and Regional debates on the European as well as to National participants in scientific or academic terms by the teaching staff of the participating universities.

The programme will document projects’ findings in reports, effects of planning, and project proposals. The project will document findings and project proposals directly in the form of immigration and integration workshop papers. The project will document findings on the theme of planning, and project proposals directly in the form of immigration and integration. The project will document planning, and project proposals directly in the form of immigration and integration.

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ECTS credits
Experiences and perceptions in each participating university. The activities will be fully integrated in the study program and students will be awarded credits of the participating universities.

Vienna/Austria (focus on immigration)
Trieste/Italy (focus on the ageing city)
Nicosia/Cyprus
Cluj-Romania

The project will document planning, and project proposals directly in the form of immigration and integration.

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focus

URBAN & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Investigating housing districts and the immigration processes

Monday 29th August

Tuesday 13th September

WORKSHOP 2

Vienna, Austria

1 faculty member

and 5/6 students

from each University

In 2011

Candidates must be registered students in one of the participating institutions. According to the European Commission rules, the participants shall be nationals of a EU country or of a perspective candidate country or nationals of other countries, provided that they are either permanent residents according to national legislation, or registered as stateless persons or hold refugee status in a country participating in the program. Participation for students is free. Moreover, the EU Intensive Program provides funding to cover all travel and accommodation costs as well as a small budget for subsistence.
Issues, aims and places
Issues and aims

General issues of the IP DEMOCHANGE
Today European cities and regions face multiple problems caused by processes of “demographic change”: Aging, Immigration and Emigration. Such dynamics dramatically affect cities and regions in all the Member States as well as the European Union as a whole. The average age of the EU population will increase between 2004 and 2050 from 39 to 49 years, while the number of young people (0–14) and the population of working age (15–64) will decline. Moreover, the actual number of young and working population mainly depends on the rise of people with migrant background. Although we have to consider that cities have been historically bred by immigration and emigration flows, contemporary migration has new and deep impacts on the demographic structure. In fact, types of immigration groups significantly differentiate as well as their needs. The issues of spatial, socio-cultural and political integration are therefore gaining a strategic relevance. The IP DEMOCHANGE assumes the effects of ageing population, immigration and emigration processes as innovative and relevant challenges for the social and spatial reorganization of cities.
The IP promotes a multi-disciplinary educational approach aiming. Its main objectives are:

(1) to overcome “sectoral and/or disciplinary thinking” in education. The assumption is that the quality of life is influenced by various parameters like personal factors, the physical, social and economic environment, the access to health and social services. (2) to develop innovative and integrative approaches and practices in order to meet the needs of the target populations integrating both physical planning with social planning (3) to show the way from strategic conceptualization to implementation of policies. There is an increasing need to conceptualize solutions first at a strategic level, as well as to effectively translate them into action by means of pilot measures. The aim of IP is to enrich the references of both students and local actors through the work on existing good practices and the development of innovative approaches.

Targets and aims of the 2011 IP in Vienna
The Vienna 2011 IP Summer School involved advanced undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in urban planning, architecture and sociology. The IP was conceived in the form of a workshop, with lectures given by academics and local experts, strongly related to intensive field work developed within an interaction with “real” actors. Local representatives of the public institutions as well as inhabitants were considered important referents and contributors to the work. Students worked in multinational and multidisciplinary groups and developed a problem-oriented field work, explored key nodes, policy issues and local effects of demographic change and jointly developed visions and project proposals.
The IP location was chosen with reference to the issues of immigration. The study area (Nordbahnhof and Stuwerviertel in the Second District of Vienna) is made of two different parts. Nordbahnhof is among the biggest new inner city development areas with high settlement pressure by autochthonous and allochthonous population. Stuwerviertel is a typical “Gründerzeit-quarter” of Vienna, with a strong presence and variety of migrant residents, residents with migrant background and migrant cultures.
In the whole, both parts allow an in–depth study of contemporary questions referring to immigration processes and their effects on the city.
The northern part of the project area, Nordbahnhof, is under investigation and planning since the 1990’s. Basing on a programmatic model of “integrated urban development”, Nordbahnhof 75 hectares will be developed in stages within 2025. Construction started in the mid 2000’s, with the aim is to build 10,000 flats and to settle 20,000 workplaces, infrastructures and equipments (trade and commerce facilities, as well as a school center and a 3.1 hectares public park).

The Stuwerviertel is a typical ‘Gründerzeit-quarter’ of Vienna, with an above-average of density of housing on the one hand, a significant presence of green spaces on the other. As in the past, today this district is a “hot spot” of immigration, and shows a high number and variety of migrant residents. Due to the speculation referred to the application for EXPO as well to the lack of investments in the maintenance of housing estates, in 1991 Stuwerviertel was chosen as one of the target areas for the “residents-oriented” Viennese Urban Renewal Programme. The issue was to promote processes aimed to upgrade built structures and to support residents’ empowerment.

Nordbahnhof and Stuwerviertel are separated by the Lasallestraße, one of the most important roads to the northern districts of Vienna. In Max Winter Platz, the Neighbourhood Office (Gebietsbetreuung GB 2), is active since the implementation of the urban renewal programme. For this very reason, it was chosen as the local partner for the IP.
The study area shows an evident contrast between Nordbahnhof and Stuwerviertel. This contrast is stressed by the presence of the barrier of Lassallestraße. Here a large variety of topics referred to urban structure and forms of use can be found:

- “historical” neighbourhoods next to new ones;
- large and narrow streets, the proximity to green spaces as well as to the Prater Fair and the new development areas (International City) which are under construction on the opposite bank of the Danube river;
- a dense network of public transport systems, which nevertheless does not spread inside Nordbahnhof;
- different social groups and different groups of immigrants (both EU and not EU).

In particular, Stuwerviertel presents many spatial and social problems as well as many opportunities due to the mixed population. A high density of housing and flats, the lack of shops and spaces where inhabitants can meet, spend their time together and organize different activities, the occupation of spaces by parking lots.

In Nordbahnhof many problems can be recognized with reference to the spatial layout of the new housing estates. The open spaces around the buildings are much wider than in Stuwerviertel (though they do not appear much used and lived), Rudolf Bednar Park has already become a meeting point for many different populations coming from inside and outside the district, but a larger presence of services is asked for.
Participants
Group 1

Felix Blass (Hamburg), Melita Brajko (Trieste), Yuliya Dzyuban (Nicosia), David Kostenwein (Vienna), Violet Miranescu (Cluj) Daniel Pilot (Hamburg), Dimitrije Radosavljevic (Milano)
Rafael Tobia Bon (Milano), Maricica Carbunaru (Cluj), Andrea Kmet (Trieste), Bernhard Siquans (Vienna), Stavros Voskaris (Nicosia), Theresa Werner (Hamburg)
Marinel Bageac (Cluj), Elena Belli (Trieste), Ladan Lajevardi (Nicosia), Franziska Lind (Vienna), Paola Piscitelli (Milano), Michael Singler (Hamburg)
Iulia Duca (Cluj), Nicholas Georgiades (Nicosia), Rajesh Gupta (Nicosia), Andrea Peraz (Trieste), Simone Plötzer (Hamburg), Daniela Schulhofer (Vienna),
Group 5

Cheti Fregonese (Trieste), Linda Lichtenstein (Hamburg), Ahmet Ozenc (Milano), Lisa Kathrin Polak (Vienna), Cristian Pop (Cluj), Glykeria Solomou (Nicosia),
Participants – the local experts

Andrea Mann (partner of the 2011 workshop)_GB 2 – Gebietsbetreuung (Neighbourhood Office) 2nd Bezirk (Leopoldstadt)
Brigitta Busch_Language Issues Expert
Silja Tillner_Architect and Urban Designer
Wolfgang Veit_Café Club International, Community Activist
Wolfgang Förster_Architect and Head of Housing Research Department, the City of Vienna
Agenda and activities
AGENDA

Day 1 (29th august)
Arrival; First meeting (opening of the summer school, organization); Dinner together

Day 2 (30th august)
Introduction of the Summer School and presentation of participants; Presentation of issues of demographic change and European Cities (Massimo Bricocoli, Ingrid Breckner); Presentation of history and forms of immigration in Vienna (Gesa Witthöft); Students’ introductory presentations on national contexts; Urban discovery of the project area

Day 3 (31st august)
Meeting with local partner in GB 2; Plenary discussions; Presentation of social situation and planning perspectives in Vienna and in the the project area (Andrea Mann, Gesa Witthöft); Organization into multidisciplinary and multinational working groups

Day 4 (1st september)
Guided visit to areas of immigration and urban change in Vienna (Hauptbibliothek – Brigitta Busch; Guertel – Silja Tillner; Ottakring/ Brunnenmarkt/ Yppenplatz – Wolfgang Veit; “Macondo” Asylum seekers’ camp)

Day 5 (2nd september)
Lectures on social analysis, observation and interviewing methodologies (Massimo Bricocoli, Ingrid Breckner, Rudolph Poledna); Field work; Listening to immigrants’ stories in the project area (self organized by students); Dinner together

Day 6 (3rd september)
Lectures on social space analysis, mapping, modelling techniques (Gesa Witthöft, Elena Marchigiani, Adonis Kleanthous); Field work

Day 7 (4th september)
Field and group work (staff consultation on demand) and free time

Day 8 (5th september)
Presentation of a first draft of working plans (content, methods, time table, responsibilities and products); group work (staff consultation on demand); dinner together

Day 9 (6th september)
Group work (staff consultation on demand); mid-term presentation to local partner and selected guests

Day 10 (7th september)
Reflections and revision of working plans; Guided visit to housing districts (Donau City, Frauenwerkstatt, Car–free housing, Carminweg, Rudolf–Virchowstraße); Dinner together with Wolfgang Förster

Day 11 (8th september)
Group work (staff consultation on demand)

Day 12 (9th september)
Group work (staff consultation on demand)

Day 13 (10th september)
Group work (staff consultation on demand) and free time

Day 14 (11 september)
Final group work – preparing the final presentation (staff consultation on demand)

Day 15 (12th september)
Final group work (preparing the final presentation); Final presentation

Day 16 (13th september)
Departure
29_08_2011  First meeting_Opening of the summer school
30_08_2011 Presentation of issues of demographic change and European Cities
Introduction on demographic change issues by each national group of students
31_08_2011 Meeting with local partner in GB 2 (Andrea Mann) and plenary discussion
Guided visit to areas of immigration and urban change in Vienna (Hauptbibliothek – Brigitta Busch; Guertel – Silja Tillner)
01_09_2011 Guided visit to areas of immigration and urban change in Vienna (Ottakring/ Brunnenmarkt/ Yppenplatz – Wolfgang Veit)
01_09_2011 Guided visit to areas of immigration and urban change in Vienna ("Macondo" Asylum seekers’ camp)
07_09_2011 Guided visit to housing districts (Donau City, Frauenwerkstatt, Car-free housing, Carminweg, Rudolf-Virchowstraße)
07_09_2011 Guided visit to housing districts (Aspern, Frauenwerkstatt, Car-free housing, Carminweg, Rudolf-Virchowstraße)
07_09_2011 Dinner together with Wolfgang Förster