Demographic Change and European Cities

The Programme concerns demographic change in European cities, contributing to European as well as to National and Regional debates on the topic and on its relationships with urban transformations. It promotes a multi-disciplinary educational approach aiming at investigating issues of ageing, immigration and migration and their effects on urban change. DEMOCHANGE CITIES directly targets both local stakeholders and undergraduate/graduate students enrolled in urban planning, architecture and sociology at the Universities of Hamburg, Cluj-Napoca, Trieste, Nicosia, Vienna, and at the Polytechnic of Milan. The Programme is organized in the form of international workshops, where students and university staff create “knowledge” for and with stakeholders. Supported by contributions and lectures given by academics and experts, students work in groups and develop critical thinking and field work skills, explore key nodes, policy issues and local effects of demographic change, interact with local actors and jointly develop visions and project proposals. The location of the first workshop will be held during the summer 2010 in Trieste/Italy (with a focus on the ageing city). In a 3 years perspective two further workshops will be organized: summer 2011 in Nicosia/Cyprus (focus on immigration) and summer 2012 in Cluj/Romania (focus on migration). The project will document its findings in reports, which will be validated in practical terms by local stakeholders and in scientific or academic terms by the teaching staff of the participating universities. The activities will be fully integrated in the study programmes and students participating in each workshop will be awarded ECTS credits.
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.