

2020 Newsletter

Cover photo: housing in Athens (Greece), city of ENHR's annual conference in 2019

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A joint reflection on coronavirus and housing

This editorial is a joint reflection on coronavirus and housing. There has been little research published about the implications of the pandemic – it is still too soon – and it can be hard to keep track of what is going on in other countries when there is so much happening in one's own. The following observations highlight a few of the main issues as seen from our homes in France (Claire Carriou), Finland (Jaana Nevalainen) and the UK (Kath Scanlon).

What we look for in a home

All ENHR members understand the importance of housing, but this year's Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated to everyone how vital our homes are for our wellbeing. Home schooling, lockdowns, working from home and quarantines have isolated us, shaken our social lives and everyday routines and made our homes literally the centres of our lives. This has led many to look for larger dwellings with access to private gardens or local green space. There is anecdotal evidence of people leaving cities for more rural areas with reasonable prices and easier access to nature. Some have even transitioned to very remote working, for example from San Francisco to Wyoming, from London to Scotland, from Paris to smaller cities, or even from California's Silicon Valley to Kontiolahti in Finland, where a North Karelian farm is now home to the head of Facebook's Public Figure Partnerships division. This flight to suburbia and exurbia is contributing to higher prices in some areas which, combined with higher unemployment and household financial problems, may make home ownership an even more distant dream for many.

Rents and evictions

In England, leases for private rented housing normally last only six months or a year, with the landlord free to evict the tenant at the end of that period without giving a reason. Most other European countries provide much greater tenure security. The massive economic shock of coronavirus led to fears that many private tenants would build up rent arrears and face eviction. The government advises those tenants who have difficulty making rent payments to speak to their landlords, and has encouraged landlords to be flexible. It also introduced a longer, sixmonth notice period and a ban on evictions. That ban expired in late September and some experts predict a wave of evictions and consequent increase in homelessness. The crisis has seen the emergence and strengthening of new activist movements, for example in Spain and in France (Bobigny), where there have been calls for a moratorium on social housing rents.

Mortgages

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The Basel Accords, the new regulatory framework for banking in Europe, are leading mortgage lenders to tighten borrowing and repayment criteria to reduce risk. A prolonged pandemic situation, combined with the financial challenges of individual households, might lead to an increase in mortgage defaults, evictions, and mortgagee-in-possession sales. This is possible even though the ECB recently has relaxed bank leverage regulation in an attempt to boost the economy, aiming to avoid a pandemic-driven credit crunch in the Eurozone.

The virus has caused difficulties for many borrowers – both owner occupiers and landlords – in meeting their mortgage payments. In Finland repayment-free months or changes of the repayment scheme have given some relief for individual households with mortgages. In the UK,

the government required banks to allow both owner-occupiers and landlords to suspend payments temporarily with a 'mortgage holiday' of up to three months.

Homelessness

At the start of the UK's lockdown in March, the government announced an 'Everyone In' programme to get rough sleepers off the streets and into some kind of accommodation. What had been regarded as an intractable problem was solved (at least temporarily) in a few days, and in London alone almost 4,000 people were given shelter. The challenge now is finding long-term homes for them and meeting their other support needs. In Finland the effect was less dramatic: the country has had effective homelessness prevention strategies for years and the number of homeless people has declined recently. The coronavirus situation has not changed this as the mechanisms for cooperation between various actors, together with Nordic-style social security and housing allowance systems, had created a buffer against rent arrears caused by financial problems or unemployment and possible housing evictions.

The neighbourhood

The pandemic has shown the importance of the local scale and neighbourhood in everyday experience. In Paris, Nantes, Lyon and Marseille new forms of solidarity between inhabitants have emerged, to help elderly people living alone, to share childcare or to make masks. We have also seen the emergence of new forms of sociability, at the level of the building or the neighbourhood. This trend has spread more widely to supply systems, with the success of local food and other circuits, and the virus has sparked increased interest in the concept of *la ville du quart d'heure*, in which daily urban necessities are all reachable within 15 minutes on foot or by bike. The pandemic has underlined that sustainable cities must be designed for their residents and their needs, not just for the demands of the asset-based economy.

Airbnb

Demand for Airbnb disappeared almost completely when lockdowns and travel restrictions suppressed tourist flows around the world. Many of these units have since been offered for residential use at much more moderate rents, and some cities regard the current situation as an opportunity to set limits on Airbnb rentals and to increase their housing supply.

Questions for the future

How will the Covid-19 pandemic shape housing? What might the post-Covid reconfiguration of cities mean for housing? Will we see a reduction in demand for city-centre office and retail space or the reshaping of open-plan offices in favour of individual working spaces? Will there be growing interest in central urban open public spaces? Will we move to more sustainable, energy efficient and affordable housing with multifunctioning spacious dwellings? Centrifugal forces may continue to drive people away from the city centres in search of more space, but on the other hand some might want to move closer to city centres so that they can avoid taking public transport. There seems to be a two-way dynamic.

Whatever happens in the future, the current pandemic situation has shown the importance of suitable and affordable housing not just for individuals and households but also for the liveability of cities and access to open public spaces. This is an opportunity for housing researchers to innovate for the post-Covid world.

As members of the ENHR, the Covid experience also forces us to think about new ways to function as a network. How can we continue to build an international scientific community when we can no longer meet physically? While we hope the Covid episode will be short, this situation does confront us with the challenges of climate change, which will be increasingly important in the years to come. We are committed to finding new ways to combine scientific exchange and consideration of ecological issues.

Claire Carriou, Jaana Nevalainen and Kath Scanlon, recently elected new members of ENHR's Coordination Committee

Highlights Coordination Committee Meeting

Zoom meeting, 29 June 2020



CC Election 2020

The CC was pleased with the number of candidates (13) for a Coordination Committee post. It was also pleased with the number of voters (31.8% of those allowed to vote).

Working Groups

The Annual Report 2019 was approved and is now available on the website.

Proposal new WG Housing and New Technologies

The CC accepted the proposal of Michel Vols and Rosa Garcia-Teruel to start this new WG. The opinion of the CC is that the topic was missing from ENHR and will add new content to ENHR.

ENHR Conference 2021 in Nicosia

The CC decided to wait until early September of this year to see how the Covid-19 pandemic will develop before taking steps in preparing the Nicosia conference at the end of August / beginning of September 2021.

New website and database

A new website and database are still under construction.

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ENHR CONFERENCES

Nicosia 2021: Unsettled settlements: Housing in unstable contexts

Theme

Having as a starting point the complexity of the factors that have shaped Nicosia though time, the conference seeks to understand conditions of the unsettled and the respective challenges posed to housing. Contemporary everyday life is characterized by diverse manifestations of instability, including urban conflicts and contestations, revolutions in political life, terrorism, migration, displacements and mobility, which continuously challenge and redefine cities' infrastructures. The experience of urban life in such contexts – transient, fragmented, changeable and unpredictable – contrasts to concepts of dwelling based on stability, permanence, locality and a sense of belonging, and has often been associated with an experience of displacement effect.

Displacement, a process of un-homing with an impact on the connection between people and place, has been at the core of a number of critical studies that address problems associated with gentrification, armed conflicts, and so on, which result in the socio-spatial restructuring of the existing inhabitants. The removal of individuals or communities from their houses, localities, memories and belongings, experienced in many parts of our contemporary world -whether this is voluntary or involuntary – often creates new urban instabilities, uncertainties and conflicts. Such unsettling practices simultaneously challenge the production of housing environments and dwellings which many times takes place against a backdrop painted by uncertainty and change. The proposed conference topic aims to explore and understand uncertainties and instabilities which shape contemporary urban living, to unveil critical concerns on the impact of such unsettling practices on the production of housing environments and to foster an inquiry into potential responses in the form of policies, governance, social innovation, community initiatives and planners' investments.



Traditional and modern Nicosia go side by side.

The umbrella topic aims to explore and understand uncertainties and instabilities which shape contemporary urban living, to unveil critical concerns on the impact of such unsettling practices on the production of housing environments and to foster an inquiry into potential responses in the form of policies, governance, social innovation, community initiatives and planners' investments.

Barcelona 2022: The Right to Housing Struggle: Cities under the Globalization Pressures on Affordability Justification

The situation of the housing market in cities like Barcelona expresses with crystal clarity the contradiction of the current globalization process. Different internal and external forces that combine to create a perfect storm are pressing the cities, revealing the limited capacity of the local governments to tackle the housing crisis. The Right to Housing is at stake.

One of the key drivers of this process is the financialization of the housing market. Producing the embeddedness of housing in volatile financial market cycles. The central question is: how to cut this house price-finance feedback? Going from the causes to the solutions, one hot topic in the current debate is rent control policy. The discussion is all about its effectiveness to control the rental bubble. Another key policy discussion is an intensifying shortage of affordable homes for lower income earners that is affecting all the global cities. How can governments and industry players most effectively nurture affordable housing supply?

Moving on, another new phenomenon to discuss is how touristification and gentrification are challenging the urban landscape of our cities. Finally, in response to the climate crisis, a new and innovative design for sustainable and energy-efficient housing will be discussed.



Lodz 2023: Urban regeneration – its shines and shadows

Lodz is a classic example of a city that was founded and developed thanks to the industrialization process of the nineteenth century, in particular textiles. Very favorable living conditions and the opportunity to work caused a significant influx of settlers. In 1840 the number of residents increased to 10,000. In 1900 the number of inhabitants of Lodz increased to 300,000, and in 1914 it approached 500,000 and set a world record for demographic growth. On the eve of the outbreak of World War II, the city's population reached 672,000. During the war, the city was not destroyed. After liberation, it served as the capital of the state for some time. The reconstruction of the textile industry contributed to the further development of Lodz, both economically and demographically. In 1989, the city had 851,700 residents.

The political transformation had a robust and negative impact on the social and economic conditions in the city. First of all, the closure of industrial plants caused a very high level of unemployment and an outflow of population.

Housing problems in Poland are very serious due to historical conditions, but also to the lack of a consistent and thought-out housing policy. Essentially, housing problems are pushed into the

background, it is believed that in the market economy people should meet their housing needs without help of public bodies, and only a small group of the most vulnerable households should be given direct help.





ENHR WORKING GROUPS

Basic information concerning the aims, activities and membership of the various Working Groups is available on the ENHR website at <u>www.enhr.net</u>. In this section the Working Groups report on recent activities such as seminars (to be) held, books to be published, etc. The names and addresses of the coordinators are given at the end of the Newsletter in the Who is Who? section. Members of ENHR are encouraged to contact these persons in order to join a particular Working Group or to obtain further information about its activities.

News from Working Groups

WG Collaborative Housing

Claire Carriou, Darinka Czischke, Richard Lang and Henrik Gutzon Larsen (coordinators)

Special issue on 'Collaborative Housing in Europe: Conceptualizing the Field'

A special issue on 'Collaborative Housing in Europe: Conceptualizing the Field' was published in 'Housing, Theory and Society' (Volume 37, Issue 1). It is guest edited by WG coordinators Darinka Czischke, Claire Carriou and Richard Lang. In an effort to pin down the elusive nature of the emerging research field of Collaborative Housing (CH), contributions come from different disciplinary backgrounds and apply various theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches. The papers challenge readers' existing knowledge about forms of collaborative housing and contribute to a better and more comprehensive conceptual understanding of this phenomenon. The resulting special issue comprises six papers featuring empirical data from Denmark (Sorvoll & Bengtsson; Falkenstjerne Beck), Finland (Laine, Helamaa, Kuoppa & Alatalo), England (Thompson), and France (Bresson & Labit). One paper (Lang, Carriou & Czischke) brings together empirical evidence from across Europe through a literature review. You can download all papers and the editorial article (open access) <u>here</u>.

Virtual Zoom Working Group workshop session 'The history of housing cooperatives' Friday, 20 November 2020, 10 AM-1 PM

The main goal of this workshop is to unpack the potential of historical perspectives and methodologies for the emerging research field of collaborative housing research. It should help develop a better understanding of factors that led to present configurations of welfare and housing policies, conditions on housing markets, as well as actor configurations and practices in housing fields. Why have certain intended outcomes not been achieved and what lessons need to be learned for the future?

Depending on the response to this call and quality of submissions, the special workshop conveners will also explore the possibility of a joint publication project.

The workshop will be coordinated by Jardar Sørvoll (Oslo Metropolitan University) and Richard Lang (Johannes Kepler University Linz).

Abstract deadline = 20 September 2020

Notification of abstract approval = 15 October 2020

Optional Full Paper Deadline = 9 November 2020

Abstracts and full papers to Jardar Sørvoll and Richard Lang.

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WG East European Housing and Urban Policy

Richard Sendi and Sasha Tsenkova (coordinators)

The Covid-19 pandemic has posed one of the greatest challenges today with major implications for the way we live, work and interact in cities. It has amplified the housing crisis in many cities in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Now, more than ever, access to an adequate, secure, and affordable home is particularly important. The Working Group held an online workshop in June 2020 - a candid conversation on Covid-19 housing challenges in post-socialist cities. Twelve housing researchers from nine countries in the region shared their views on the way the pandemic is shaping the housing policy response. In general, governments have introduced lockdowns, mortgage deferrals, rent freezes and no eviction policies with some attempts to protect the homeless. The pandemic has been particularly challenging in the biggest cities, where higher density and connectivity allows the virus to take root, although the spread of Covid-19 has been much more modest compared to Western European cities. Early lockdowns have forced people into closely-knit bubbles and the home has become a place to work, educate the children and withdraw from economic and social stress. Some anecdotal evidence is pointing out to a move away from large cities to smaller and less dense places, and shifts in consumer preferences towards suburban living in a single family home. The coronavirus is forcing people to rethink where they want to live in the future, reinforcing a perception that sprawling developments away from density and public transit might be a healthier place to live.

Attempts to control the spread of the disease by minimizing human-to-human contact through different measures of social distancing have also resulted in tactical urbanism interventions in the public realm, schools, work places, parks as well as in innovative adjustments to living spaces to allow work-from-home. Some of these changes are becoming the new normal, prompting significant long-term changes to urban housing markets and city life.

Is this a time to think and act differently about housing? In this context, we made some decisions regarding a more inclusive and diverse engagement with housing researchers, academics and policy leaders in the region. This might reshape the academic nature of the ENHR Working Group, while providing a relevant knowledge exchange platform. We do realize that housing in the region is not necessarily a policy priority and the research capacity remain more limited due to lack of funding and established research institutes that focus specifically on housing issues. There seems to be consensus that on a regional level a network would be beneficial, not necessarily in its academic format promoted so far through ENHR workshops and peer-reviewed publications. While this is still of interest, the current climate of online interaction provides different opportunities for housing researchers and policy makers to share information, resources and collaboration tools to respond, recover and reinvent those aspects of housing in cities that are important in building better housing systems. We feel that webinars, discussions, online small conferences might be a viable alternative in the short term. It might be beneficial if we connect to other groups that deal with housing issues in CEE cities outside of ENHR to leverage knowledge and resources.

WG Homeownership and Globalisation

Caroline Dewilde, Justin Kadi and Richard Ronald (coordinators)

The workshop Between owning and renting: Shifting approaches to housing in the postcrisis context in Europe at the HafenCity University in Hamburg was cancelled, but we are planning to reschedule for 2021. The hope is for a live meeting, otherwise we will be hosting a virtual workshop.

WG Housing and New Technologies (in preparation)

Michel Vols and Rosa Maria Garcia Teruel (coordinators)

New technologies, such as big data analysis, blockchain, crowdfunding, the internet of things (IoT), domotics, robotics, proptech or digital printing, are expected to make an impact on housing, as well as the theories and methodologies that housing researchers use in their research projects. These new technologies change, for example, the way we build, sell, rent, or interact with our homes. By way of example, it is now possible to sell a property just attaching a certain right (e.g. the ownership) to a digital token, and transmitting immediately this token to another person. But while these technologies are facilitating our lives (e.g. connected devices in our homes), reducing costs of buying or renting a property (e.g. blockchain), or allowing consumers to also invest in real estate thanks to crowdfunding schemes, some challenges and open questions arise: are these technologies going to change the way in which we conceive housing? What are the legal and ethical risks for citizens (e.g. data privacy and consumer protection? Can digital printing reduce building costs without reducing the quality of the construction? What are the major benefits of using these tools? How could data science techniques contribute to housing research?

Taking into account that new technologies are increasing attention of scholars and professionals in the field of housing, this Working Group aims to promote dialogues and discussions on the impact of new technologies on housing (research) from an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective.

Some themes of this working group are the following:

- Big data analysis and housing (research).
- Distributed ledger technologies (blockchain) in housing.
- Real estate crowdfunding.
- Proptech.
- Housing digital printing.
- Internet of Things, robots and connected devices in homes.
- 5G Networks in housing.
- Applications of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in the housing sector and housing research
- Interconnected (smart) cities.

Webinar Housing and new technologies: New methodologies and paradigms in housing research, 20 January 2021

Authors are invited to submit their abstracts sending an email to <u>Rosa Maria Garcia-</u> <u>Teruel</u> by November 20, 2020. Each abstract must be original and have a maximum of 300 words. Papers should deal with any topic related to housing and new technologies.

Draft programme

FIRST PART

4:00-4:05 pm. Introduction

4:05-4:15 pm. Presentation of the new ENHR Working Group Housing and New Technologies. Prof. Dr. Michel Vols. Full Professor – University of Groningen (The Netherlands) and coordinator of the Working Group. 'The use of machine learning techniques to analyse (legal) big data on evictions'.

4:15-4:25 pm. Dr. Rosa M. Garcia-Teruel. Postdoctoral researcher – UNESCO Housing Chair, Rovira i Virgili University (Spain) and coordinator of the Working Group. 'Tokanization and blockchain to anhance P2P housing transactions'

'Tokenization and blockchain to enhance P2P housing transactions'.

5 minutes Q&A

SECOND PART

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4:30-6:00 pm. Presentation of selected papers and Q&A (approx. 15' per speaker).

Attendance is free of charge but you should register sending your name, forenames and email to <u>rosamaria.garciat@urv.cat</u>. Abstract submission: November 20, 2020. Authors' Notification: November 30, 2020.

WG Residential Context of Health

Emma Baker and Terry Hartig (coordinators)

Like so many of the other Working Groups, the Working Group Residential Context of Health had hoped to meet in Nicosia this year. And like so many other Working Groups, we now hope that the pandemic will soon pass so that we can meet again. At the time of this writing we do not know just when that might be, but we hope that the conference in Nicosia can go ahead in August/September 2021. When it does go ahead, we will try to be there. This may be a particularly good time to meet, as it will provide an opportunity to take stock of the experiences from the pandemic. The restrictions imposed in so many places have created novel circumstances that have attracted the attention of many researchers interested in the psychological and social processes through which housing, residence and health become related. Many people have had to spend much more time in the home, and many of them have had to carry out most or all of their paid work there. Many of those people have also had to provide educational supervision to their children. The attendant role conflicts, constraints on privacy, other sources of stress, and inability to gain sufficient psychological distance because of mobility limits - we can see a variety of reasons why the relations in the home and relations to the home have become unusually fraught. In light of this set of circumstances, we thought it could be fruitful to open for a digital discussion of pandemic-related housing-and-health topics in lieu of the workshop sessions we had hoped to convene in Nicosia. We are willing to arrange for such a discussion during this Fall (say, in a pair of 90-minute sessions). We are also willing to arrange for a session of open discussion of work on other topics that Working Group members currently have underway. We will send an inquiry to our Working Group mailing list to gauge interest in such a discussion, to get a sense of when to schedule it and how to set it up (e.g., with summaries distributed beforehand). For ENHR members who are not on our mailing list, please do feel free to get in touch with either one of us to ask to be included or to pose any other questions you may have regarding the Working Group.

Terry Hartig (terry.hartig@ibf.uu.se) and Emma Baker (emma.baker@adelaide.edu.au).

WG Southern European Housing

Thorsten Heitkamp, Hector Simon Moreno, Sandra Marques Pereira and Dimitra Siatitsa. (coordinators)

Webinar on Post-Covid-19 Housing Challenges in Southern Europe and beyond

The Covid-19 pandemic unexpectedly disrupted many aspects of the economy and everyday life on a global scale. In this context, housing has emerged, more than ever, as a critical factor of individual safety, deepening existing inequalities and highlighting housing inadequacies. The pandemic has had immediate effects on public policies, housing markets and social practice. Governments needed to implement emergency measures for housing, public health and income protection, while real estate investment processes have been halted. Furthermore, as households have adapted to such new factors as home schooling and working from home, they have had to renegotiate cohabitation processes.

The long-term effects are yet to be seen as we enter a period of uncertainty, although the pandemic has been a significant turning point. A major economic recession, widespread job and income losses and changes in labour are expected, foreshadowing a new period of intensive housing crisis. However, at the same time, the prevailing global experience has triggered

important and necessary discussions and demands for a more sustainable and fairer future. Uncertainty is currently the watchword, and several key drivers for this future, such as the EU strategy for handling it, are yet to be defined.

Given the need to reflect upon the post-Covid challenges for housing, we invite contributions to a webinar on post-Covid-19 housing challenges in Southern Europe and beyond. The webinar will address such questions such as:

- What have been the effects of the pandemic so far on the housing situation and housing markets in southern European countries?
- To what extent have short-term rentals been affected?
- How has the experience of lockdown changed our perception of home, housing needs, neighbourhood and public urban space?
- How has the Covid pandemic changed our perceptions of housing as a common good and the role of public housing policy?
- What new forms of housing mobilisation, housing claims and policy proposals have emerged?

New abstract deadline: 31 October 2020.

Abstracts up to 250 words the WG coordinators Thorsten Heitkamp, Hector Simon Moreno, Sandra Marques Pereira and Dimitra Siatitsa (<u>thorsten.heitkamp@udo.edu</u>, <u>hector.simon@urv.cat</u>, <u>s.marquespereira11@gmail.com</u>, and <u>dimisiat@gmail.com</u>).

WG Welphase

Everlyn Dyb, Joe Finnerty, Magdalena Mostowska and Yoshiro Okamoto (coordinators)

Zoom meeting

On September 3rd, 2020 Working Group had a Zoom meeting which was attended by researchers new to the group as well as frequent participants at ENHR conferences. Two ongoing studies were presented – about homeless service response to the pandemic in Ireland (Joe Finnerty's initial evaluation of an Irish NGO's response to Covid-19) and the portrayal of homelessness during lockdown in the Flemish media (Magdalena Mostowska). A discussion about the homelessness sector in different contexts, as well as challenges of conducting research under pandemic constraints, followed.

Simon Communities of Ireland national conference

On September 28th, Simon Communities of Ireland national conference will take place. Simon Communities of Ireland is a leading NGO providing homeless services in Ireland. The conference will focus on the importance of homelessness prevention and on the response of emergency services to the Covid-19 crisis. The Simon Communities of Ireland have commissioned independent research into the experiences of frontline service providers during the early phases of the Covid-19 period. Joe Finnerty of University College Cork (Ireland) will present his provisional research findings on the study, this will be followed by a panel discussion on the importance of the implementation of structural prevention measures to end homelessness.

For more information, please contact Communications@simoncommunity.com

NEWS FROM MEMBERS



Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), Melbourne, Australia www.ahuri.edu.au/

New research, policy analysis and events

A number of our latest published reports are included here.

Affordable housing in innovation-led employment strategies

This project investigates the role of affordable rental housing in supporting digital innovation and employment growth in metropolitan and satellite cities. Through an international evidence review, case studies and interviews with urban planners and firms, it identifies 'smart city' exemplars for leveraging new economy jobs near affordable rental supply.

Supporting families effectively through the homelessness services system This study investigated the homelessness services system and families to identify what is working well; those elements that could be expanded to improve housing and wellbeing outcomes; and the potential for beneficial system redesign.

Improving outcomes for apartment residents and neighbourhoods

This research investigates the experiences of lower-income apartment residents in relation to planning and infrastructure provision; urban design; building design and management; neighbourhood amenities and facilities; and ongoing place management and community engagement so as to improve wellbeing, community and housing affordability outcomes.

To view more recently released reports, and a full library of AHURI reports visit: https://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/research-library

Covid-19 Research Agenda to assist policy makers

Projects from the AHURI funded Covid-19 Research Agenda will be published in the coming months. The Agenda includes eight priority research projects that will help governments at all levels make the best housing policy decisions during and following the coronavirus pandemic. The eight research projects are:

- After the pandemic, can building homes rebuild Australia?
- Renting in the time of Covid-19: understanding the impact
- Supporting Australia's housing system: modelling pandemic policy response
- Housing affordability stress during Covid-19
- Policy coordination and housing outcomes during Covid-19
- Post pandemic landlord-renter relationships in Australia
- Marginal housing during Covid-19
- Pathways to regional recovery from Covid-19

Find out more at: https://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/covid-19

National Homelessness Conference 2020, 1 and 2 December

After a year like no other, we are pleased to announce that the 2020 National Homelessness Conference will go ahead - online - on 1 and 2 December.

We are developing a conference program that will examine the impacts on our sector from the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic as well as the catastrophic climate disasters of last summer. The program will also cover the major challenges and opportunities in homelessness policy and practice that were in play before, and will continue to be important after the pandemic.

Find out more at: www.ahuri.edu.au/events/national-homelessness-conference

About AHURI

As the only organisation in Australia dedicated exclusively to housing, homelessness, cities and related urban research, AHURI is a unique venture. Through our national network of university research partners, we undertake research leading to the advancement of knowledge on key policy and practice issues.

Our mission is to inform and impact better housing, homelessness, cities and related urban outcomes through the delivery and dissemination of relevant and authoritative research.



Build Aalborg University https://www.build.aau.dk/

BUILD: New Department of the Built Environment at Aalborg University

A new research institute has come into existence: Department of the Built Environment, Aalborg University. For short: BUILD. It is a result of the merger between the Department of Civil Engineering and the Danish Building Research Institute; a longtime ENHR-member. The merger went into effect on January 1, 2020 and has resulted in the birth of Denmark's largest department in construction, civil engineering and the built environment.

The research at the Department of the Built Environment is rooted in the field of engineering, but it also contains important and comprehensive elements from the social sciences and the humanities. This allows us to research, advice and educate a holistic approach to the complex issues of the urban, residential and construction area. The Department of the Built Environment will provide knowledge so that we can help solve some of society's biggest challenges such as the climate crisis, population development, resource scarcity and urbanization.

The Department of the Built Environment is a part of Aalborg University and has more than 250 employees located in both Aalborg and Copenhagen. We cover research within a range of fields from urban water pollution, urban soil, sustainable cities and everyday practices, freight transport, traffic, road modelling, universal design and accessibility as well as transformation of housing and places. While some of these themes seem quite far from the main fields of Housing Research, the variety of our research enables us to work across fields and disciplines to help solve the key challenges of today's societies.

Bundesinstitut fur Bau-, Stadtund Raumforschung (BBSR) www.bbsr.bund.de

Online conference 6 November 2020 Results for the research project 'Housing Policies in the European Union'

The German Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR) and the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (BMI) conducted a research project on the different types of housing policies in the member states of the European Union. The project team consisted of the Institute for Housing and Environment IWU and the Technical University of Darmstadt (Germany).

The distinction between different housing provision systems in EU countries is one central result of the study. Four main groups can be distinguished, considering the structure of the housing stock, the form of use and the social provision function. The systems range from diversified systems with balanced quantities between rental tenures and owner-occupation and a

heterogeneous composition of non-profit/cooperative and market-based rental housing to less diversified systems with a dominance of owner-occupation and only a marginal supply of rental housing, both market-based and social.

Regarding the housing policy instruments, it can be observed that most EU member states use the four main identified housing policy instruments to some extent: 'housing subsidies', 'instruments for homeowners and homebuyers', 'subsidised housing' and 'rent regulation'. In general, subject-oriented instruments have a more widespread distribution among the countries than object-oriented subsidies. Rent regulation is mainly used in western EU countries.

Despite heterogeneous markets and housing policy instruments, there are also commonalities regarding the main factors influencing housing policy decisions in the last ten years. For example, energy efficiency issues and the continuing trend towards urbanisation play a prominent role for most member states. Other common drivers include immigration, demographic changes and on the housing supply side price and rent increases in urban areas associated with financing problems and the lack of social or subsidised housing.

The project was executed against the backdrop of the German EU Council Presidency in the second half of 2020. One of the main objectives was to provide a comprehensive overview of the different programmatic approaches and characteristics of national housing policies. The results of the projects will be presented at the European Housing Policy Conference. The conference is hosted by the Federal Ministry and constitutes the main event in the field of housing for the German Council Presidency. The conference will be held in Berlin on 6 November 2020 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Due to the pandemic, the event will take place as an online conference.

Further information on the research project can be found on <u>www.bbsr.bund.de</u> (or <u>www.bbsr.bund.de/BBSR/DE/forschung/programme/exwost/Studien/2018/wohnungspolitiken-eu/01-start.html</u>). Additional information on the European Housing Policy Conference can be obtained at <u>European-Housing-Policy-Conference@bbsr-registrierung.de</u> and in the near future on <u>www.bmi.bund.de/EN</u>.

Contact

Rolf Müller (rolf.mueller@bbr.bund.de) Jonathan Franke (jonathan.franke@bbr.bund.de)



Delft University of Technology Delft, The Netherlands

www.tudelft.nl/bk/over-faculteit/afdelingen/management-in-the-builtenvironment/

Darinka Czischke invited speaker at Melbourne School of Design's 'MSD at Home' lecture series

The online lecture took place on 26 August 2020 and was titled 'Our common future? The reemergence of collaborative housing in the 21st century'. In her lecture, Darinka discussed the potential of collaborative housing to give answers to a number of current housing 'crises': affordability, environmental, and social. She also reflected on how collective action in housing can be accomplished from the perspective of co-production and co-design processes linking architects and residents. The 180 people strong audience included students, scholars and practitioners from Australia and beyond. The MSD at Home lecture series was launched in the wake of the Corona-induced lockdown measures, as a way to keep students and scholars connected through online exhibitions and events. The recording will be available online at the MSD website.

More information about the lecture <u>https://msd.unimelb.edu.au/events/msd-at-home/msd-at-home-with-darinka-czischke</u>

Peter Boelhouwer: "We need to start building houses fast - and many of them"

ENHR Chair Peter Boelhouwer was interviewed by one of the Dutch leading newspapers about his view on the housing shortage in The Netherlands. "We need to start building houses fast – and many of them." Peter also talks about the Covid-19 effects on the market which are still relatively small, the lack of a centralized housing policy, the low housing production figures and rising house prices.



Call for papers special issue of Energies

Dr. Erwin Mlecnik (TU Delft and ENHR member) will be a co-guest Editor in a special issue of Energies 'Business Models for Energy Renovation of Residential Buildings.'

The aim of this special issue is to gather knowledge of and experience with respect to business models for energy renovations, including analysis of household behavior, supply-side issues, energy performance contract, district level renovation, role of public authorities, financing aspects, policy perspective, transition management, or any other aspect related to business models.

The call for research articles, review articles as well as short communications is now open and the deadline is 10 May 2021.

For details visit the journal website.



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Housing Chair Universitat Rovira i Virgili Tarragona, Spain

www.housing.urv.cat/en/

New books and studies

The UNESCO Housing Chair has recently published the book '*La tokenización de bienes en blockchain: cuestiones civiles y tributarias*' [The tokenization of goods in blockchain: private and tax law issues] (Thomson Reuters Aranzadi, 2020), including the results of research carried out within the framework of the Collaborative Housing project (Ministerio de Economía, 2018) and the project 'The tokenization of real rights in the regulation of the fifth book of the Catalan Civil Code' (CEJFE, 2019).

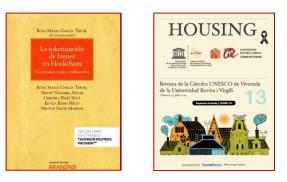
This book is dedicated to the study of the legal consequences of representation of ownership and other limited rights in real estate management in digital tokens that operate in a blockchain. This technological practice makes it possible to represent a certain right (for example, the ownership of a home) in a digital token, which can be negotiated in an agile or even automatic way, thanks to smart contracts, while it is registered in a cryptographically protected distributed blockchain. This makes possible, at least theoretically, a faster, affordable and transnational transmission of goods. However, this system presents some challenges for our private and tax law system.

www.thomsonreuters.es/es/tienda/duo-papel-ebook/la-tokenizacion-de-bienes-enblockchainduo/p/10016091

Special issue of the journal 'Housing' on the impact of Covid-19 on housing

This special issue of the UNESCO Housing Chair is dedicated to Housing and Covid-19. Throughout its more than 80 pages, fourteen authors analyse the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on housing and prospective challenges in the months to come.

Open access issue (in Spanish):http://housing.urv.cat/en/cover/research/newsletter/



The UNESCO Housing Chair – Rovira i Virgili University is included in the interactive map of the UNESCO Chairs by Benecon University Consortium

Benecon Univerity Consortium published the interactive World Map containing all the UNESCO Chairs in the world, aimed at promoting international cooperation and networking between universities. This year the map includes the UNESCO Housing Chair of the Rovira i Virgili University (Spain). The map can be consulted here.

The UNESCO Housing Chair – Rovira i Virgili University is a new partner of the MEDIEM Network

The UNESCO Housing Chair recently reached an agreement with the Catalan Housing Agency to promote the virtual platform MEDIEM (https://cutt.ly/gyDMZpk). Mediem is a network to promote mediation and to share good practices in the field of housing.

InWIS

InWIS www.inwis.de

Pro House

EBZ Business School was closely involved with InWIS research institute in the Professional Housing Management project in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (Pro House), which IWO carried out from 2016 to 2019 with EU funding. EBZ Business School also had the opportunity to successfully apply for the Sustainable Cities - Urban Development Perspectives for Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan (SuCiPUK) project at the Federal Ministry of Education. A central component of this project was implementing two conferences at the locations of the two university partners involved in Almaty (Kazakhstan) and Tashkent (Uzbekistan). Following the 'Housing in Central Asia', is the result of these activities and includes two comprehensive reports from the EU project Pro House: 'Improvement of housing management and living conditions in Uzbekistan in the light of the ongoing housing reform process' and 'Reform of Home Ownership in Kazakhstan - Problems and Prospects'. Both reports were written by German experts in collaboration with the Central Asian partners.



Handbook for housing in Central Asia

Recently our institute published a new handbook for housing in Central Asia which came up from the expertise of two research projects that had been carried out by InWIS/EBZ Business School and partners in Central Asia. The bilingual (German and Russian) handbook 'Das Wohnungswesen in Zentral-Asien' edited by Heike Schröder and Susanne Juranek can be downloaded <u>here</u>. This handbook emerged from two projects, in the course of which the Initiative Housing Industry Eastern Europe (IWO) and the European Education Center for Housing and Real Estate Industry (EBZ).



The Housing Agency www.housingagency.ie/

Recent Research

National Study of Housing Experiences, Attitudes and Aspirations in Ireland The Housing Agency recently published Report 3: The Housing Experiences of Renters and Owners in Ireland from their study Housing Experiences, Attitudes and Aspirations in Ireland study, and this report focuses on the housing experiences of renters and owners in Ireland. This report is the third in a series of report which discuss the results of a nationally representative survey and themed focus groups which aim to better understand current housing experiences and attitudes in Ireland and looks at people's future aspirations for their housing. The focus of this study is on housing tenure and examines levels of satisfaction with homes and neighbourhoods. Tenure is analysed in more detail in the rented sector, with an analysis and comparison of social and private rented housing, while in the homeownership sector there is analysis and comparison of those who own their home with or without a mortgage. A further phase of this study was carried out, which examined Apartment Living in Ireland 2019. This study set out to find out how satisfied people living in apartments were with their homes.

Apartment Living in Ireland 2019

The information in this research study was collected by face-to-face Interviews with more than 500 people living in apartments, two focus groups with families with young children living in apartments and two focus groups with older renters, a literature review and a summary of recent policy changes, legislation and guidelines that impact on the development of apartment living. Contact: <u>Ursula McAnulty</u>

About The Housing Agency

The Housing Agency was set up to support local authorities, approved housing bodies (housing associations) and government in the delivery of housing and housing services in Ireland. The vision of The Housing Agency is to enable everyone to live in good quality, affordable homes in sustainable communities, and it is driven by the understanding of the central role that housing plays in people's quality of life and life chances. One of the Agency's core activities is research, particularly to inform policy and practice. The Agency undertakes in-house research and data analysis, commissions research, works in partnership with other housing bodies on research projects and provides housing research support to other state agencies.



Security and Agency in the Irish Private Rental Sector

Threshold launched research, carried out by Dr. Michael Byrne (University College Dublin) and Dr. Rachel McArdle (Maynooth University), entitled 'Security and Agency in the Irish Private Rental Sector'. The Irish Research Council funded the research, which ran from Summer 2019 to Spring 2020. Numerous amendments have been made to the legislation regulating the Irish private rented sector, since its introduction in 2004. The stated aim of the legislation is to create a rental sector, which is an affordable long-term tenure of choice for individuals and families. This has yet to be achieved.

The aim of the report is to understand tenants' agency in the Irish private rental sector in order to shed light on the role of tenants in policy enforcement, implementation and compliance. Indepth, qualitative interviews with more than 20 tenants in Dublin, Galway and Cork, expert interviews and a review of the grey literature were carried out. Key findings, policy implications and policy recommendations are set out in the report. These have implications for the work of Threshold, both in its service delivery and in its advocacy work.

Threshold launched the research by webinar on the 1st July. Dr. Byrne provided an overview of the research and findings with contributions from Dr. Aideen Hayden (University College Dublin) and Chairperson of Threshold, Ann-Marie O'Reilly, Policy Officer Threshold and guest contributor Dr. Adriana Mihaela Soaita (University of Glasgow). The full report is available here https://www.threshold.ie/publications/security-and-agency-in-irish-private-rented-sector/

Webinar Saving Homes in a Covid Era

Threshold held a webinar 'Saving Homes in a Covid Era' on 29 July. The Covid-19 pandemic and associated public health measures have left us at an unprecedented point in our social and economic history. This critical juncture poses huge challenges but also presents opportunities for taking stock and re-casting the development and delivery of key sectors such as housing. The Covid-19 pandemic has revealed the precariousness of the private rented sector in Ireland in its current form, the risks involved in our over-reliance on it to meet long-term housing need and the shortcomings of our housing system.

In this webinar, and accompanying policy document, Threshold set out a series of proposals to transform the private rented sector and housing landscape in Ireland in the short, medium and long-term, to ensure access to secure, affordable housing of good quality for all during the Covid-19 pandemic, its aftermath and into the future. This was set in the context of the newly forming Government on foot of the General Election earlier in the year. In addition, Threshold Legal Officer, Gavin Elliott, provided analysis of the piece of legislation to pick up from moratoriums on evictions and rent increases, which ran from the 27th of March to the 1st of August in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The 'Future of the Private Rented Sector – policy proposals for the Programme for Government' is available here https://www.threshold.ie/publications/the-future-of-the-private-rented-sector/. A recording of the webinar is available here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6uCLdCn50s

About Threshold

Threshold was founded in 1978. We are a registered charity whose aim is to secure a right to housing, particularly for households experiencing the problems of poverty and exclusion in Ireland.

We do this by:

- Campaigning for suitable housing delivered on a rights base approach
- Analysing existing problems and seeking innovative approaches and solutions through quality research
- Providing independent advisory and advocacy services
- Working in collaboration with others for those disadvantaged by the housing system
- Providing long-term solutions for people who are homeless.

The WG Private Rented Markets is chaired by the Threshold Chairperson Dr. Aideen Hayden and Board member Dr. Paddy Gray.



University of Amsterdam Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences

UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM <u>WWW.UVa.nl/en/about-the-uva/organisation/faculties/faculty-of-social-and-</u> behavioural-sciences/news/news.html

Research project What is Governed in Cities (WHIG): Residential Investment Landscapes and the Governance and Regulation of Housing Production

Major cities have been faced with unprecedented development pressures over recent decades as their populations and economies have expanded, and their built environments have become highly attractive locations for global investment. These pressures have been particularly acute in the production and consumption of housing, much of which is becoming increasingly inaccessible and less affordable for citizens and communities, particularly for young people and those on lower incomes. The WHIG project is one of the first to examine these broader trends using an in-depth comparative approach.

The WHIG project draws on a precise comparative, inter-disciplinary methodology to examine the inter-relationships between contemporary investment flows into the housing markets of major metropolitan centres and the governance arrangements and public policy instruments that are designed to regulate them. Our case studies are the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area, Greater London, and Grand Paris. We contrast the experiences of these European core centres from the perspectives of private sector professionals, policy-makers, and citizens' groups. Furthermore, we draw on financial data, investment market analyses, interviews, and policy assessments to build up a comprehensive account of change and the opportunities for effective reform.

The Open Research Area (ORA)-funded project is being delivered by a multi-disciplinary team based at three European urban research centres: the Department of Geography, Planning and International Development, University of Amsterdam (with Prof. Tuna Taşan-Kok as principal investigator); the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London (with Prof. Mike Raco as principal investigator); and the Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Sciences-Po (with Prof. Patrick Le Galès as principal investigator).

For more information, visit: https://whatisgovernedincities.eu/



University of Cambridge Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning Research (CCHPR)

https://www.cchpr.landecon.cam.ac.uk/

New published research

Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning Research have published a number of papers over the last six months on topics as diverse as the Digital Divide - thrown into stark relief by the UK's recent lockdown, Stakeholder Engagement for Smart Cities and Digital Innovation Projects, and an innovative collaborative project using modular units to house homeless people in Cambridge. All our publications can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

Follow @CCHPR1 on Twitter for our latest research news.

University of Stirling www.stir.ac.uk/

40th Anniversary Year of the MSc Housing Studies

2020 marks the 40th anniversary of the launch of the MSc Housing Studies programme at the University of Stirling, and our associated research activities. Our current programme director is Dr Kim McKee, with core team members Dr Vikki McCall and Professor Isobel Anderson. The blended learning programme, combining flexible online study with occasional on-campus sessions, was highly commended in 2020 in both our internal University Learning and Teaching Review and in our external reaccreditation by the Professional body, the Chartered Institute of Housing.

Recent Research Highlights

Edited Journal Issues

July 2020 saw the publication of a special edition of the journal Social Inclusion on the theme of Home, Housing and Communities: Foundations for Inclusive Society, edited by Isobel Anderson and Vikki McCall from the Stirling team and Joe Finnerty from University College Cork in Ireland.

Kim McKee co-edited a special journal issue in People Place and Policy Online, published in August 2020 - Contemporary youth: Precarity, Resistance and (Re)imagined Futures

Events and networks

Kim McKee organised a virtual seminar on Reconceptualising Housing Tenure in August 2020. This was a collaboration with the Universities of Glasgow and Cardiff, funded by the UK Housing Studies Association and the Housing Association Charitable Trust. The seminar drew delegates from academia and practice both in the UK and internationally. Isobel Anderson is a UK partner in the African Research Network for Urbanization and Sustainable Cities, led by the Centre for Housing and Sustainable Development at the University of Lagos. In August, Isobel presented to the network's online Transdisciplinary Research Workshop on the theme of Africa-UK collaboration.

Keynote Presentations

Vikki McCall was a keynote speaker at the 'Powering Digital' event organised by the Tenants Information Service in August.

Kim McKee was a keynote speaker at the virtual launch of the Evidence4Renting network in June 2020. Network members are drawn from policy, practice and academia.

New projects and awards

Regina Serpa was successful in securing an ESRC postdoctoral fellowship on the subject of migrant homelessness, and will be mentored by Kim McKee.

Vikki McCall and Steve Rolfe are working with colleagues in Dementia Studies on a new 18month research study of 'Inclusive and Assisted Living in Retirement Living Schemes', funded by the Longleigh Foundation and in partnership with Stonewater Housing Association. Kim McKee is involved in a new project, which will consider experiences of living in small spaces, including during the recent Covid-19 lockdown. This work is part of her co-investigator role with the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Research (CaCHE).

Kim McKee and Steve Rolfe have launched a new project funded by Safe Deposit Scotland Charitable Trust on Making a House a Home in the PRS, in collaboration with Edgehill and Cardiff Universities.

Tribute to Alan Ferguson

With great sadness, the housing studies team learned of the recent passing of our former colleague Alan Ferguson. Alan hosted the ENHR Early Career Researcher Workshop as part of

the Edinburgh 2014 ENHR conference, during his period as Director of the Chartered Institute of Housing in Scotland.

Contact: Professor Isobel Anderson isobel.anderson@stir.ac.uk

NEWS FROM PARTNERS



European Federation for Living (EFL) www.ef-l.eu/

Update on projects

As part of our new strategic orientation with a stronger focus on joint development of projects on European level, EFL members pitched their ideas to fellow members earlier this year. An update on our projects:

Mapping Housing Associations' Digital Business Models

The EFL Topic Group on Finance is carrying out a project to investigate and identify successfully implemented digital business models in the European housing sector. The group has come up with one central project idea: an online platform or database aggregating and/or crowd-sourcing digital business models, which will be accessible to all EFL members and possibly others outside the network. This platform could function as a Europe-wide map of functioning and (socially or monetarily) profitable digital business models based on housing associations' input, allowing the industry to pool tried-and-tested solutions and share knowledge. In the coming months, they will present the project to the EFL community and gauge members' interest first via a survey.

European Social Catalyst Fund (ESCF) - Digital Solutions for Ageing Project:

The objective of the ESCF is to bring together public and private resources to enable people in need of support to live as valued and participating members of their communities. The goal of the EFL ESCF Ageing Project is to build a Living Lab to test, evaluate, and develop technologies for elderly people with support needs. In its early stages (now), the project will remain open to the ideas of all project partners within this given framework.

TG Finance - Financing Climate Actions - Survey on Decarbonisation among Social Housing Providers:

The EFL Finance and Investment Topic Group are carrying out a project looking into how housing associations can form solid sustainability strategies and move towards making new and existing housing stock more climate-friendly, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and the new EU Green Deal. As part of this project, they are doing research among EFL housing association members to gain a clearer picture of what is already happening on the ground. The information they gather through this survey will help them to create tools to support EFL members in creating and implementing their sustainability strategies. The survey's results will be key to their efforts to create concrete projects.

Affordable Community Living Design Competition 2020-2021: Call for Advisory Group **Members**

We need volunteers to join the expert Advisory Group for our Affordable Community Living Design Competition. We welcome practitioners, policymakers, academics, and any other professionals willing to lend expertise for a very short time-period. We welcome individuals from the EFL member community who have experience in affordable, social and cooperative housing, urban planning and design, smart city planning, social policy, green and circular construction and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

If you are interested in joining in one of these projects or have valuable expertise for one of the project above, let us know. Please feel free to get in touch with us. Mail to info@ef-l.eu or have a look at our website www.ef-l.eu for more information and online events.

EFL Autumn Conference

On the 22nd and 23rd of October 2020, the EFL Autumn Conference is planned to be held in Berlin, Germany. We also offer the opportunity to attend the conference via a video connection. The theme of the conference is 'The Future of Housing Post Covid'.



HSA conference 2020 Housing, devolution and localities: Inventing a future or more of the same?

The Housing Studies Association will be holding the HSA 2020 conference across the month of November as a virtual event and will be free for members. The conference will involve live plenary sessions, live workshops sessions, and pre-recorded presentations for attendees to engage with.

The conference will look at devolution in its broadest sense, meaning the transfer of decisionmaking powers between actors. The conference will question where the locus of decisionmaking is, and where it should be for housing-related issues.

The challenges facing housing appear to be becoming more complex. This complexity has increased in terms of where the capacity for decision-making lies; within national governments, within devolved governments, at a regional level, or with local communities. It is also demonstrated in the widening set of issues facing both those who try and access social housing, and those who provide it.

Drawing on research and analysis from within the UK and from overseas the event will focus on the locus of decision-making at various levels within the housing sector and asks whether a capacity for innovation enables the challenges faced by the housing market to be met more comprehensively. There are a number of arenas where this can be analysed including: devolution at a national level, devolution at a regional level, organisational decision-making, and community level organisation.

Confirmed plenary speakers include:

- Paul Dennett (Mayor of Salford City Council and Lead for Housing, Planning and Infrastructure in the Greater Manchester Combined Authority)
- Dr Quintin Bradley (Leeds Beckett University)
- Tamsin Stirling (Independent researcher)
- Prof. Peter Roberts (Chair of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive)
- Jess Perera (Institute of Race Relations)
- Andrea Gibbons (University of Salford)
- Prof. Mark Stephens (Heriot-Watt University)
- Jim Ripley (Phoenix Housing)
- Anne McGurk (Phoenix Housing)
- Patricia McQuillan MBE (Moneydig Rural Network, Chair of Rural Residents Forum, Vice Chair of Central Housing Forum)
- Colm McDaid (CEO Supporting Communities NI).

More conference information: <u>www.housing-studies-association.org/events/38-hsa-annual-</u> conference-2020

Other News

Summer housing ruminations in a village of La Mancha

By Jesús Escamilla Romero (Economist, Spain)

This summer, walking through the dry Mancha in Spain, under a scorching heat, I was able to see the vestiges of the deep real estate crisis that broke out twelve years ago. At this time I came in sight of an abandoned project since 2008. Only two lonely cranes remain. Don Quixote would have confused them with two giants and would have fought against them, I thought. The scorching heat reminded me of an article published by The Economist on 31 May in 2003 titled 'Castles in hot air. Is another bubble about to burst?' which promonized the real estate market crisis a few years later, quite tough in Spain. Words were gone with the wind, usually strong in La Mancha.



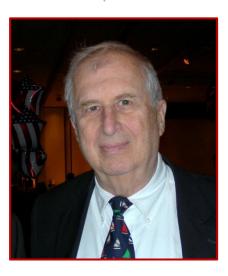
Lack of forecasting in housing demand, excess supply, bigger and bigger prices and mortgages due to the elongation of loan terms and lower interest rates, excessive housing finance, speculation and unlimited appraisal values, fiscal policies to promote to buy housing instead of renting, lack of an efficient and stable rental housing market with affordable prices are not even all of the problems that led to this situation.

And I asked myself, in front of these cranes, have the main causes and 'cranes' of the past crisis been dismantled? Housing prices are quite volatile, potential first time home buyers have to cope with rising rental prices which lengthens the years to save a deposit and enforces buying as best option, instead of renting a non-existent affordable housing. A vicious circle. Honestly, I left that wasteland devastated. There is still a lot of work to do. Isn't there? As Don Quijote would have said: "There is always a swarm of enchanters in attendance upon us that change and alter everything with us, and turn things as they please, and according as they are disposed to aid or destroy us; thus what seems to thee a barber's basin seems to me Mambrino's helmet, and to another it will seem something else" (Chapter XXV)

New members - Welcome

New individual members	Institute	Country	Expertise
Nisan Al Jazairi	Technical University of Prague	Czech Republic	Urban development, affordable housing
Luce Beeckmans	Ghent University	Belgium	Housing, migration, architecture, urban planning, diversity, inclusion
Maryam Khatibi	Politecnico di Milano	Italy	Housing and urban planning, sustainable housing, social housing, co- housing
Dimitra Siatitsa		Greece	
Aleksandra Zubrzycka	University of Warsaw, Faculty of Political Sciences and International Studies, Department of Methodology of Political Sciences	Poland	Housing policy, citizen participation, gender, welfare state, social policy, public policy, discourse analysis, constructivist approach

IN MEMORIAM OTTO J. HETZEL (1933-2020)



Otto Hetzel: link between housing and policy-making, and link between USA and Europe

It was a shock to hear that Otto J. Hetzel died in January 2020. Especially in the beginning of my academic career Otto has played a valuable role. About forty years ago Otto has spent some time in The Netherlands, studying the Dutch housing system. He had frequent contacts with Carel Adriaansens (specialist in housing legislation, later holding chairs in Delft and Maastricht) and me. This was very useful, both for Otto and us, because it considerably increased our understanding of the differences in housing markets and housing policies between the USA and The Netherlands. Otto was deeply interested in the Dutch approach, and acquired a sharp insight in the Dutch housing system. He was interviewed several times by Dutch newspaper journalists about his vision and his critical judgment of Dutch housing policy. In 1981 Otto invited me to participate in the Housing Seminar on Structural Revisions in Government's Housing Role at Wayne State University (Detroit), where Otto has been professor of Law for a long period. Otto helped me in writing a paper on 'Rent and subsidy policy in The Netherlands during the seventies', which was published in the journal 'Urban Law and Policy' (nr. 4, December 1981, pp.299-355), one of my first international scientific publications (I was a slow starter in publishing articles in international scientific journals, and became much more productive in this field after 1981).

When the European Network for Housing Research started, Otto was active in this network right from the start, like a number of his American colleagues, who also wanted to relate housing evidence in the USA to the experiences in Europe. As a result, I have met Otto many times at ENHR conferences. We always had fruitful discussions about actual developments in housing in both the USA and Europe.

Otto was not only an expert in housing issues but also in decision-making and policy-making in general.

With Michael E. Libonati and Robert F. Williams Otto published the book 'Legislative Law and Statutory Interpretation. Cases and Materials' (2008) and together with Steven Gonzales he published the book 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in State and Local Governments. Analysis and Case Studies' (2017).

Heart problems brought an end to the life of Otto J. Hetzel. Personally I am grateful to Otto for his stimulating role when I entered the international scientific community and when he opened my eyes for housing research and evidence in the USA. The European housing research community has to be grateful for the contributions by Otto, in linking academia and practice,

linking housing and general policy-making, and in linking American housing experiences with evidence in European countries.

I offer my condolences to his wife Bonnie, who so often accompanied her husband at ENHR-conferences.

Hugo Priemus

Professor emeritus in Housing, Delft University of Technology and Founding vice-chairman of ENHR

Otto Hetzel, valued member of the Working Group Housing Law, passed away in January this year. He had attended ENHR Annual Conferences for some twenty years, with his wife Bonnie, encouraging young researchers to publish, and sharing his extensive and insightful experiences of US housing law and housing rights. Otto was not just an attorney in Washington DC, specialising in local government and civil rights law, he was steeped in housing law and housing rights, having drafted and helped secure the enactment of the Fair Housing Act – part of the iconic 1968 Civil Rights Act, while he was Assistant General Counsel at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He was Professor Emeritus of Law at Wayne State University (Detroit), having lectured for some 30 years. There he established the Fair Housing Education Programme to train and educate law students, lawyers and the real estate industry to help end discrimination in housing. Otto was an active member of the American Bar Association, and published widely on housing (including a book on UK housing associations), community development, statutory interpretation, civil rights and emergency management. At the ENHR Conference in Belfast in 2016 - which was unfortunately to be his last conference, Otto presented to the Working Group Housing Law his insightful reflections on the Fair Housing Act, then 48 years in existence. Few others could share such knowledge and experience.

Dr Padraic Kenna, National University of Ireland, Galway

IN MEMORIAM BARBARA ČERNIČ MALI (1957-2020)



Our dear colleague Barbara Černič Mali sadly passed away on 2 August 2020 at the age of 63. Barbara joined the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia in 1986, where she stayed and developed into a highly competent researcher until her sudden passing away. Her areas of specialisation included housing research, demographic studies and spatial and economic revitalization of cities or their degraded areas. As an active member of the ENHR she was, from 1998 until 2010 one of the co-coordinators of the Working Group Housing Regeneration and Maintenance.

Some longer-term ENHR members will, above all, remember her as the principle organiser of the first ENHR conference to be held in Slovenia in 1997 in Piran, a beautiful town at the Adriatic coast. Having successfully demonstrated her organisational skills, she was, once again asked by the ENHR Coordination Committee, and gladly accepted, to organise another ENHR conference in Slovenia in 2006, this time in Ljubljana. The conference attracted a larger than expected number of participants and has often been referred to as one of the best organised ENHR conferences.

One of her major contributions in the field of housing research was her leadership of the Slovenian research group that participated in the giant research project on large-scale housing estates in European cities (RESTATE), funded within the EU 5th Framework Programme, that was led by (yet again, the late) Ronald van Kempen. During the implementation of the research project she invited a few young researchers to join the Slovenian team, thus offering them an opportunity to gain knowledge and expertise in housing research. She has, whenever possible throughout her carrier, constantly done the same also in other research projects. She was, indeed, one of the most experienced researchers and educators at the Institute and one of the main contributors to its successful research achievements, both at home and abroad. The Urban Planning Institute will greatly miss her expertise, collegiality, friendliness and pleasantness.

Richard Sendi, Urban Planning Institute, Slovenia

Several ENHR members remember her.

I remember Barbara as a warm, welcoming and vivacious person when I came to Ljubljana for the ENHR conference there in 2006. She seemed so at ease, and able to put others around her at ease, and the conference flowed along so smoothly. We would meet at the subsequent

ENHR conferences, and she re-affirmed those initial impressions from the meeting in Ljubljana. I will miss seeing her when it comes time to gather again. *Terry Hartig*

We have always remembered Barbara as a cheerful and positive partner in work and social activities. Over the last years having lost contact due to the end of joint collaboration, which enabled also private contacts we, that is Christiane and I, still every now and then talked about taking up some joint activities, either in work or in the mountains. Sadly, that never materialised. *Thomas Knorr-Siedow and Christiane Droste*

This a very lively picture of Barbara, taken at the 2008 ENHR Conference in Dublin, where Barbara was part of the Gerslow team, getting the second prize in the slide competition. In fact, Barbara was almost always in this, very lively, happy spirit... this is the picture which I remember of her...

Iván Tosics



Left to right: Clemens Dallmann, Christiane Droste, Barbara Černič Mali and, Thomas Knorr-Siedow.

NEW BOOKS / STUDIES

CREATING COMMUNITY-LED AND SELF-BUILD HOMES. A GUIDE TO COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE IN THE UK By Martin Field

In Creating Community-Led and Self-Build Homes, Martin Field explores the ways in which people and communities across the UK have been striving to create the homes and neighbourhood communities they want. Giving context to contemporary practices in the UK, the book examines 'self-build housing' and 'community-led housing', discussing the commonalities and distinctions between these in practice, and what could be learned from other initiatives across Europe. Individual methods and models of local practice are explored - including cohousing, cooperatives, community land trusts, empty homes and other intentional communities - and an examination is made of what has constrained such initiatives to date and how future policies and practice might be shaped.



CREATING COMMUNITY-LED AND SELF-BUILD HOMES A Guide to Collaborative Practice in the UK MARTIN FIELD

2020, 172 p., ISBN 978-1447344391

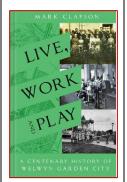
policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/creating-community-led-and-selfbuild-homes

991b938843d98cb6cbce19e0dba4f0e5cd069?locale=gb¤cy=EUR

LIVE, WORK & PLAY. A CENTENARY HISTORY OF WELWYN GARDEN CITY By Mark Clapson

Commissioned by the Welwyn Garden City Heritage Trust to coincide with the town's 100th anniversary, this meticulously researched book is the first new history of Welwyn Garden City for over a decade. It is variously described as authoritative, accessible and providing an essential text on the social history of the town. Professor Mark Clapson is social historian of British 20th century planned communities. He was offered unrestricted access by the Heritage Trust to its archive of recordings made by local residents of their memories, Mark Clapson has illustrated the history with some of these first-hand accounts of living, working and playing in this iconic town, providing a unique insight into its social development. It contains what is considered a definitive treatment of the post war period, the creation of the New Towns and the part played by Welwyn Garden City and its proponents in that remarkable project. Welwyn Garden City was Ebenezer Howard's second garden city and holds a key place in the history of the worldwide Garden City Movement and the British New Towns project.

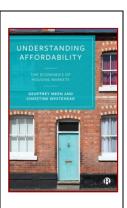
2020, 240 p., ISBN: 9780750994019, The History Press www.thehistorypress.co.uk/publication/live-work-andplay/9780750994019/



UNDERSTANDING AFFORDABILITY By Geoffrey Meen and Christine Whitehead

For many younger and lower-income people, housing affordability continues to worsen. This wide-ranging book sets out clear theoretical and empirical frameworks to tackle one of today's most important socio-economic issues. Housing unaffordability arises from complex forces and a prerequisite to effective policy is understanding the causes of rising house prices and rents and the interactions between housing, housing finance and the macroeconomy. The authors challenge many of the conventional wisdoms in housing policy and offer innovative recommendations to improve affordability. The holistic diagnosis of the authors offers sobering expectations about what various housing policy prescriptions can achieve. Geoffrey Meen is Professor Emeritus in Applied Economics at the University of Reading and is a member of the UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence. Christine Whitehead is Professor Emeritus in Housing Economics and Deputy Director of LSE London at the London School of Economics. Both authors are ENHR member.

2020, 336 p., ISBN 978-1529211856, bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/understanding-affordability



CALENDAR

Send your information about interesting events to ENHR@tudelft.nl

2020

8-11 October 2020, Tirana (Albania)

Web-conference Science and the City. In the era of paradigm shifts

At Polis University, in the context of the Tirana Architecture Week 2020. Moderators of the Housing Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 session are ENHR member Artan Kacani and Maki Morikawa.

Abstract submission deadline = 30 June 2020

Notification of abstract acceptance = 10 July 2020 Full paper submission = 15 August 2020 Abstracts and papers to http://tiranaarchitectureweek.com/submission/

15 October 2020

Housing Europe's Annual Conference Online

The event will be held online jointly with the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA). Housing Europe and SFHA will turn this conference into a call to forget about the price tag and rather focus on the much-neglected social value of housing instead. 8.30-9.00 (BST time) platform open for participants

For programme and registration visit the Housing Europe website.

22-23 October 2020

EFL Autumn Conference 'The Future of Housing Post Covid'

The EFL Autumn Conference is planned to be held in Berlin, Germany. We also offer the opportunity to attend the conference via a video connection. For more information click <u>here</u>.

4 November 2020 (originally scheduled in April)

HSA conference 2020 'Housing, devolution and localities: Inventing a future or more of the same?'

Virtual event and free for members. The conference will involve live plenary sessions, live workshops sessions, and pre-recorded presentations for attendees to engage with. For more information click <u>here</u>.

19-20 November 2020

Webinar on Post-Covid-19 Housing Challenges in Southern Europe and beyond

Given the need to reflect upon the post-Covid challenges for housing, we invite contributions to a webinar on post-Covid-19 housing challenges in Southern Europe and beyond. New abstract deadline: 31 October 2020

Abstracts up to 250 words to ENHR's Southern European Housing Working Group coordinators Thorsten Heitkamp, Hector Simon Moreno, Sandra Marques Pereira and Dimitra Siatitsa.

Friday, 20 November 2020, 10 am -1 pm

Virtual Zoom Working Group workshop session 'The history of housing cooperatives' The main goal of this workshop by ENHRs Working Group Collaborative Housing is to unpack the potential of historical perspectives and methodologies for the emerging research field of collaborative housing research. It should help develop a better understanding of factors that led to present configurations of welfare and housing policies, conditions on housing markets, as well as actor configurations and practices in housing fields. Why have certain intended outcomes not been achieved and what lessons need to be learned for the future? Depending on the response to this call and quality of submissions, the special workshop conveners will also explore the possibility of a joint publication project.

The workshop will be coordinated by Jardar Sørvoll (Oslo Metropolitan University) and Richard Lang (Johannes Kepler University Linz).

Abstract deadline = 20 September 2020 Notification of abstract approval = 15 October 2020 Optional Full Paper Deadline = 9 November 2020 Abstracts and full papers to Jardar Sørvoll and Richard Lang.

1 and 2 December 2020

Online National Homelessness Conference 2020

Conference program will examine the impacts on the housing sector from the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic as well as the catastrophic climate disasters of last summer. The program will also cover the major challenges and opportunities in homelessness policy and practice that were in play before, and will continue to be important after the pandemic. For more information click <u>here</u>.

2021

20-21 January 2021 Cologne (Germany) **Workshop Recent Trends in European Rental Market Regulation** Hosted by the ENHR Working Groups 'Housing Finance' and 'Private Rented Markets' in cooperation with the German Economic Institute (IW - Institut der Deutschen Wirtschaft). Abstract submission = 31 August 2020 Notification = 15 October 2020 at latest. Contact: <u>Prof. Michael Voigtlaender</u> Participation in the workshop is free of charge. Call for paper <u>here</u>.

20 January 2021

Webinar Housing and new technologies: New methodologies and paradigms in housing research

Organised by the new WG Housing and New Technologies. Abstract deadline = 20 November 2020 (max. 300 words) Authors' notification = 30 November 2020 Email to <u>Dr. Rosa M. Garcia-Teruel</u>. Attendance is free of charge but you should register sending your name, forenames and email to Dr. Rosa M. Garcia-Teruel.

15-18 June 2021

Third International Social Housing Festival 2021

Subscribe to the <u>festival newsletter</u> to stay informed on news and get a notification when the festival program is released and registration opens.

WHO IS WHO?

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Peter Boelhouwer (Chairman) The Netherlands



Mark Stephens (Treasurer) United Kingdom



Darinka Czischke The Netherlands



Terry Hartig Sweden



Kath Scanlon United Kingdom

Ad hoc members



Nadia Charalambous Organiser 2021 Conference Nicosia (Cyprus)



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Lena Magnusson Turner Norway



Richard Sendi (contact person CC New Housing Researchers) Slovenia



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Iván Tosics (Vice Chairman) Hungary



Claire Carriou France



Marietta Haffner The Netherlands



Jaana Nevalainen Finland



Catalina Turcu United Kingdom

Institutional members

Below you find their current addresses and contact persons of the ENHR Institutional Members. There is, however, room for more members. Visit <u>www.enhr.net</u> or contact the ENHR Office (<u>ENHR@tudelft.nl</u>) for institutional membership information.

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- VIVE The Danish Center for Social Science Research, Work and Inclusion, Herluf Trolles Gade 11, 1052, Copenhagen, DENMARK. Contact: Gunvor Christensen <u>www.sfi.dk</u>

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

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