



European Network for Housing Research

**Activity Report
ENHR Working Groups 2020**

The aim of this report is to provide material for the annual assessment of the Working Groups by the ENHR Coordination Committee.

ENHR Office, Delft, The Netherlands
June 2021

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(Yellow: updated WG reports)

INTRODUCTION

This report contains an overview of the activities in 2020 of 18 out of 27 Working Groups. Each WG page also contains the central theme, aims and future plans of the WG. Some WGs also mention policy implications. More information about the undertakings of each Working Group in 2020 and in previous years can be found on the ENHR website (<https://www.enhr.net/pageperworking.php>). This 2020 report is to be found at <http://www.enhr.net/annualassessment2.php>.

During 2020 the following changes took place:

- Introduction of new WG Housing and New Technologies (in preparation).
- WG Housing and Refugees: status 'in preparation' prolonged with one year.
- WG Housing, Migration and Family Dynamics: new coordinator Isabel Palomares-Linares.
- WG Residential Buildings and Architectural Design: Maja Lorbek joined as new coordinator.
- WG Social Housing Institutions, Organisations and Governance: Marco Peverini replaced David Mullins who stepped down earlier.

The joint output of 2020 (and also 2017-2019) is summarized in the table below. Plans for 2021 are included in the next table, when indicated.

2017 (all WGs)	
Workshops	28 workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16x Tirana, • 12x elsewhere and in co-operation with non-ENHR partners
Books	1 edited book: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Regulating the city -Contemporary urban housing law' (WG Housing Law)
Special issues, papers and book chapters	2 special issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Wealth and Welfare – Edward Elgar (WG Home ownership and Globalisation); • International Journal of Housing Policy – Taylor & Francis (WG Social Housing)
2018 (25 out of 27 WGs)	
Workshops	37 workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22x Uppsala • 15x elsewhere and in co-operation with non-ENHR partners
Books	2 edited books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing governance and finance – Routledge (WG Social Housing: Institutions, Organisations and Governance + EFL) • New developments in southern European housing II -Pisa University Press (WG Southern European Housing)
Special issues, papers and book chapters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 papers (WG Collaborative housing) • 1 book chapter (WG Collaborative housing) • 1 participation in special issue International Journal of Housing Policy (WG Collaborative Housing)
2019 (24 out of 26 WGs)	
Workshops	27 workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19x Athens • 8x elsewhere and in co-operation with other WGs or non-ENHR partners
Books	2 edited books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Partnerships (WG Social Housing and Globalisation) • Third volume of the Southern European Housing book series (WG Southern European Housing)
Special issues, papers and book chapters	2 Special issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing, Theory and Society (WG Collaborative Housing) • Critical Housing Analysis (WG Housing, Migration and Family

Indicated plans for 2021

Workshops	<p>20 workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10x Nicosia ENHR conference: • 5x elsewhere and in co-operation with non-ENHR partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar “Housing and New Technologies: New methodologies and paradigms in housing research”. • Online event (WG Housing, Migration and Family Dynamics) • Workshop ‘Recent Trends in European Rental Market Regulation’ • WGs ‘Housing Finance’ and ‘Private Rented Markets’ in cooperation with the German Economic Institute (IW – Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft). • Panel on “New Politics of Housing – Policy Developments in a Changing World” at the 26th World Congress of Political Science in Lisbon (July 2021, Chair: Thorsten Heitkamp), with participation of members of the Southern European Housing Working Group (WG Southern European Housing) • 5x ENHR 2021 online seminar on Housing Related Impacts Of The Pandemic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of COVID-19 on metropolitan housing and land markets (WG Metropolitan Dynamics Urban Change, Markets and Governance and WG Land Markets and Housing Policy) • The COVID-19 pandemic effects on housing and policy & research responses (WG Policy and Research) • The consequences of COVID-19 for sustainable communities and housing (WG Towards Sustainable Communities and Housing: Actors, Interventions and Solutions & WG Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability of Housing) • How COVID-19 has affected older adults and their housing conditions (WG Housing and Living conditions of Ageing Population) • COVID-19 and housing in Southern Europe (WG Southern European Housing)
Books	
Special issues, papers and book chapters	
Other	

The annual report can be found at <https://www.enhr.net/annualassessment.php> as of April 2021.

Dirk Dubbeling
ENHR Secretariat

Collaborative Housing

<https://enhr.net/collaborative-housing-2/>

Proposed in November 2015

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Central themes

The Working Group focuses on five central themes:

- Wider social, economic and technological trends underpinning contemporary collaborative housing initiatives
- The organisational dynamics of collaborative housing: management, stakeholders and networks
- The links between collaborative housing initiatives and wider policy and institutional frameworks
- Collaborative housing, urban planning and neighbourhood dynamics
- Epistemological frameworks, methods and ethics in collaborative housing research.

Activities in 2020

Publications:

Print special Issue "Collaborative Housing in Europe: Conceptualising the field" in *Housing, Theory and Society* (Vol. 37, Issue 1), guest edited by working group members Darinka Czischke, Claire Carriou and Richard Lang and including contributions from other regular WG participants. See: <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/shou20/37/1>.

Joint funding applications

Successful funding bid to the "Urban Migration" Joint Call of the JPI Urban Europe by working group members Melissa Fernandez (Uni Lancaster) and Richard Lang (JKU Linz) together with colleagues from Chalmers University in Gothenburg.

Events:

Virtual special workshop session "The history of housing cooperatives", 20 November 2020, organised by Richard Lang and Jardar Sørvoll. This virtual workshop partly replaced the Working Group's planned workshops at the cancelled 2020 ENHR annual conference. The very successful workshop was a whole day event and included 28 presentations and attracted some 40-50 attendants over the whole day. Participants came from institutions in 16 countries and their contributions covered cooperative housing practice on four different continents. It turned out that one of the advantages of

this format was that we could welcome contributors who normally find it difficult to come to ENHR conferences due to financial and time limitations.

Future plans and activities

2021 ENHR conference, Nicosia

The Working Group plans to organise a series of workshop sessions for the 2021 ENHR conference to be held in Nicosia. We invite abstracts related but not limited to the year's ENHR conference topic, with a particular focus on the links between collaborative housing forms and housing in unstable contexts.

Other

The group will continue to discuss the following activities and ideas:

- Further joint publication opportunities
- Joint research funding proposals
- Building links with other existing networks/projects in the field and with professional networks such as social housing federations.
- Fostering links to practice and policy through the organisation of joint events, e.g. through seminar series, workshops, etc.

Policy implications

The Working Group facilitates comparative perspectives and exchanges of different views on collaborative housing. Outcomes of workshops should influence discussions in relevant scholarly, professional and policy communities as well as to identify directions for concrete action. First cooperation links have already been made with social housing federations especially in France and in the Netherlands. These federations are very interested in collaborations with researchers on this topic to help them to engage in European knowledge transfer for innovative practices of development and management of collaborative housing schemes.

Other

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Comparative Housing Policy

<https://enhr.net/comparative-housing-policy/>

Created in 2006

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Aim

The aim of the Working Group is to:

- promote the comparative international study of housing policies and systems;
- provide a forum for the assessment of Europe-wide policies relating to housing and of the potential role of the European Union and in this regard;
- promote the development of comparative methodologies; and
- collect and disseminate information on housing policies in individual countries

Activities in 2019

The group attempted to organise a workshop in Edinburgh, but it did not go ahead due to insufficient interest.

Future plans and activities

We are currently advertising a workshop in Oxford in March 2020 with Dr Julie Lawson. It remains to be seen whether there is sufficient interest.

Policy implications

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Other

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Disadvantaged Urban Neighbourhoods and Communities

<https://enhr.net/disadvantaged-urban-neighbourhoods-and-communities-2/>

Created in 2001

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Central themes

This Working Group focuses on urban neighbourhoods and local communities. We are interested in the social mechanisms behind and the implications of concentrated poverty and deprivation, segregation between various socio-economic groups, and broader social inequalities between residents. Other topics of interest are social networks, social capital or social cohesion, and neighbourhood effects, as well as policies targeting these matters, such as social mix and de-concentration policies. Another focus concerns the question how neighbourhoods and their residents deal with the impacts of macro trends such as welfare state retrenchment, austerity regimes, and budget cuts.

While quantitative modelling has become prominent in the workshop, we very much welcome qualitative research. Furthermore, we are particularly keen to discuss new approaches focussing on analysis of register data, (linked) open data and social media feeds, specialised evaluation approaches (e.g. realist evaluation) and mixed-methods designs that innovatively combine qualitative and quantitative approaches. The workshop has always maintained very high standards in the research it selects and it is intended that this approach will continue.

Activities in 2020

We had no activities this year due to cancellation of the conference this year.

Future plans and activities

We are hopeful with a vaccine in sight that a conference may happen in 2021. However, if the current COVID 19 crisis continues we will consider some sort of online seminar event or series.

Policy implications

Many of the researchers involved in the Working Group are conducting cutting-edge research, sometimes with close involvement of policymakers. In light of the complexities of making an impact on urban policies, both locally and nationally (let alone on EU level), we feel that we need to continue or even strengthen our efforts to disseminate research findings among policymakers. We are open to suggestions on how the Working Group might facilitate impact and knowledge exchange in this area.

Oter

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East European Housing & Urban Policy

<https://enhr.net/east-european-housing-urban-policy-2/>

Created in 1990

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Central themes

The central focus of this Working Group has been on housing policy reforms, rental housing, privatisation, social housing programs in the context of spatial transformation of Central and East European cities.

The working group facilitates a comparative perspectives and exchange of different views on housing reforms in the region. The researchers from different countries present papers on a variety of topics such as comparative evaluation of housing policy reforms, affordability, rental housing provision and house price dynamics. This research is designed to influence the policy dialogue in the scholarly and professional communities as well as to identify directions for action.

Activities in 2020

The Working Group held an online workshop in June 2020. As dictated by the circumstances that prevailed during the year, the discussion focused on challenges that emerged due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications on people's lives and interactions in cities. Twelve housing researchers from nine countries in the region shared information on the various approaches that had been adopted by their respective governments to tackle the difficult situation including also the emergency housing policy responses that had been implemented. Generally, governments had introduced mortgage deferrals, rent freezes and no eviction policies with some attempts to protect the homeless. While there was, at the time, as yet no empirical knowledge on the long-term implications on living styles and related housing policy responses, there already was anecdotal evidence 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 online discussion generally indicated that it was very likely that the coronavirus episode may force people to rethink where they want to live in the future, reinforcing a perception that less dense residential environments may be a healthier place to live.

Future plans and activities

While the COVID-19 pandemic is, hopefully, likely to be eliminated or at least its strength significantly minimised, its occurrence may have a long-lasting impact also on the way we, as researchers, conduct our business. We certainly need to think and act differently and adjust our housing research objectives and activity. In this context, we are aiming at facilitating 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 realise 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.

Along these lines, there are plans to organize a WG workshop at the 2021 ENHR conference which is planned to take place in Nicosia (Cyprus). Topics of particular interest will include, among others, all COVID-19 related issues, especially, its immediate and expected long-term impacts in the housing sector and housing policy implications. Welcome too are, of course, also contributions on other recent

housing policy orientations and their impact on housing affordability and the consequent characteristic tenure structures and the role of the state in the area of housing provision.

Policy implications

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Other

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Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability of Housing

<https://enhr.net/energy-efficiency-and-environmental-sustainability-of-housing/>

Created in March 2012

Coordinators

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Central themes

The housing sector is responsible for a large share of the total global use of energy and so, it has a significant and negative impact on the environment. Since energy efficiency and environmental sustainability have become main arenas of debate pursued by governments across the world, the housing sector will have to face the challenge in terms of planning, design, construction of new housing and renovation and maintenance of the existing stock. Evaluation of the performance of buildings, building materials and services has also come into focus. Today for all actors participating in the housing sector the environmental aspects are getting more attention next to social, cultural, and economic aspects. Thus, the aims of the Working Group are:

- To analyse how environmental sustainability and energy efficiency is affected in housing, its different phases such as production, renovation, maintenance and to evaluate new concepts and technologies related to it;
- To evaluate new concepts and technologies related to the concept
- To explore different methods, tools, and approaches for environmental sustainability of housing. Furthermore, the effectiveness of policies and regulatory tools to improve the energy performances and reduce the environmental impact;
- To provide a forum for debates about a linkage between these.

Within this concept, the Working Group's scope is housing design, production, renovation, maintenance and new building concepts related to sustainability, energy efficiency, building sustainability assessment methods and tools, LCA, LCC, performance assessment, energy behaviour, actual energy use, indoor air quality, regulatory, policies and practices in relation to these issues and theoretical and methodological issues associated with research.

Activities in 2020

In 2020, due to Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) The WG did not organise any workshops.

Future plans and activities

On, February 22 2021, an online seminar "The Consequences of Covid for Sustainable Communities and Housing" was organized in collaboration with "Towards Sustainable Communities and Housing" Working Group. The seminar hosted old ENHR participants as well as researchers who did meet ENHR first time.

Policy implications

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Other

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Home Ownership and Globalisation

<https://enhr.net/home-ownership-and-globalisation/>

Created in 2005

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Central theme

This Working Group was in part established around a group of researchers who have participated in a number of EU-funded projects (HOSE, OSIS, DEMHOW & NEUJOBS). Collectively, these projects were largely concerned with understanding and explaining the relationships between globalisation and home ownership markets as they have been emerging in Europe. This research attempted to map the main developments in labour and financial markets, social security systems and housing markets, as well as security and insecurity within home ownership. Since the Global Financial Crisis, attention has been increasingly given to declines in home ownership across European societies as well as emerging fault lines, socially, economically and generationally, in access to and wealth generated from owner-occupied housing.

The most recent EU-funded projects (HOUWEL and HOWCOME), completed in 2017, addressed home ownership in context of social transformations related to welfare systems and structures of social inequality. In 2019, a new research project, 'Closing the housing gap: a spotlight on intergenerational inequalities', looking, comparatively, at unequal access to home ownership, and funded by the Australian Research Council, was initiated as a collaboration between ENHR members in Australia and Europe.

Activities in 2020

In 2019, a new research project, 'Closing the housing gap: a spotlight on intergenerational inequalities', looking, comparatively, at unequal access to home ownership, and funded by the Australian Research Council, was initiated as a collaboration between ENHR members in Australia and Europe.

In 2020 a Working Group was planned to take place at the end of May at Hafen-City University, Hamburg, co-organized with Yuca Meubrink and Monika Grubbauer. This was expected to be an 'integrated' event addressing, in part, policy responses to housing problems in London and Hamburg. For obvious reasons this meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for 2022, depending on pandemic conditions.

Future plans and activities

In 2021, the working group is planning a one-day, virtual workshop in Spring/Summer. Specific dates, conference themes and further arrangements will be announced in due course. This meeting is certainly expected to address the impact of Covid on home ownership patterns and practices across Europe as well as diminishing access to home ownership and the continuing polarization of housing wealth around existing owners.

Policy implications

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Other

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Housing, Migration and Family Dynamics

<https://enhr.net/housing-migration-and-family-dynamics/>

Proposed in October 2014

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Central themes

The Housing and Family Dynamics Working Group was established in 2014 to provide a forum for the dissemination and discussion of research examining how families interact with housing systems. Examples of research conducted by members of the Working Group includes, but is certainly not confined to, the following areas:

- Quantitative research examining how demographic events such as leaving the parental home, childbirth, employment transitions or changes in partnerships are linked to residential moves, as well as housing and neighbourhood transitions in different countries.
- Studies of family relations and housing pathways — including work exploring intergenerational social mobility within housing systems, practices of family support in housing markets, and the socialisation of housing aspirations/preferences.
- Research into international and internal migration flows, in particular the ways these reshape and are affected by housing systems and family networks.
- Analyses of how family life is affected by housing conditions, design and systems of housing welfare and support.
- Theoretical and applied research drawing on constructionist perspectives, discourse analysis and/or innovative participatory research methods to understand family practices and relational interactions within housing systems.

Activities in 2020

The functioning of Working Group in 2020 was significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic with which the WG convenors had to cope and which practically prevented the organization of any offline international workshop or seminar.

Future plans and activities

We have thus decided to organize an online workshop on January 28-29, 2021 involving currently twenty presentations within four panels bringing (virtually) together researchers from various European countries and focusing on issues of residential mobility, (im)migration and young adults housing.

Policy implications

An important goal of the Working Group is to bring policy more deeply into research on housing, migration and families. Papers discussing family, migration and housing policy developments are always welcome at workshop sessions.

Past examples of policy relevant work undertaken by group members include:

- Work on how men and women's housing careers are affected differently by separation.
- Studies of the transmission of inequality between generations through European housing systems (for example through family assistance to enter homeownership in young adulthood).
- The ways in which family relations and dynamics of family formation are influenced by housing and welfare systems.

- Analysis of debt (mortgage and family loans) discourse, focus on arguments used to justify intergenerational transfers and parental help in obtaining formal mortgage loans.
- Analysis of the impact of housing debt (and other housing conditions) on partnership stability.

Other

In 2019 the working group was joined by the Migration, Residential Mobility and Neighbourhood Change Working Group, adding an important spatial element into the group's thematic focus.

The Working Group functions primarily as a network and has a mailing list with roughly 45 members.

As work on housing and family dynamics is diverse and is often spread thinly across fields and disciplines, an important goal of the Working Group is to provide a collegial network which brings together researchers with varied expertise to exchange ideas, findings and insights about the links between families and housing.

Importantly, the team of WG coordinators was joined by Isabel Palomares-Linares which further enhanced the capacity and ability of WG to organize either separate workshops and seminars or panels during the general ENHR conferences.

Housing and Living Conditions of Ageing Populations

<https://enhr.net/housing-and-living-conditions-of-ageing-populations/>

Created in 1992

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Central theme

The central theme of this Working Group is the housing and living conditions of older people.

Activities in 2020

The plan was to participate in the ENHR2020 conference but due to the pandemic this conference was postponed until 2021.

Future plans and activities

The WG plans to be present at the ENHR 2021 conference in Nicosia (Cyprus). Interested participants are encouraged to submit abstracts and papers directly on the conference website and are welcome to contact any of the coordinators for further information about participating in the conference as well as in our working group.

Other

There are no registered members of the group, but it consists of researchers active or interested in the field, interested persons and participants in the group activities. Usually several researchers are involved in writing papers to be presented at the ENHR conferences. The group of 20 of researchers that presented papers in Athens (the last conference, in 2019) included participants from several countries in Europe and even from Australia, Japan and China.

The ENHR Network provides excellent opportunities to meet researchers from all over Europe (and the world) in paper presentations/discussions as well as plenary activities and social events. From our point of view, this has become the main role of the network in order to facilitate meetings and cooperation between researchers. The ENHR has got an overriding meeting and knowledge dissemination based role, which is an important role indeed. The Working Group is a regular participant in the ENHR conference.

The coordinators and the participants in the group are working in constellations and minor networks with different initiatives and projects, within the theme of the Working Group. Successful cooperation has example been established between several ENHR participants and their students for example between universities in Australia, Japan and the Netherlands. Similar co-operations take place also among researchers in Sweden, Wales and Spain and Sweden, Finland and Norway. These groups meet for common and comparative research projects, symposia and research exchange and is ongoing. This has resulted in scientific articles and reports as well as the applications for scientific grants. In addition participants in the network can make use of the expertise of their fellow participants.

By the end of 2020 Sarah Hillcoat-Nallétamby left her role as one of the coordinators of the working group due to a change in jobs. Her contributions to the coordination of the working group are greatly appreciated and we are sorry to see her leave us.

Housing Economics

<https://enhr.net/housing-economics/>

Created in 1997

Coordinators

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Central theme

We welcome contributions on whatever currently is the interest of those who feel at home under the heading Housing Economics. We want to provide an arena for discussion also of the technical aspects of modelling and econometric aspects of the work of housing economists.

Activities in 2019

Arranging the workshop at the annual ENHR conference was the main, or even the sole, activity in the WG Housing Economics. Somehow, this resembles the activity over the last 15 years. The ENHR conferences has always been a core activity, and we have on infrequently intervals arranged additional workshops. In 2019, we arranged a workshop at the Athens conference.

Future plans and activities

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Other

The three coordinators are elderly males and due to different health issues, none of us participated in Athens. In practise, Viggo Nordvik has done most of the actual coordination and he will withdraw from the coordinator role. This is really not a problem as the HE-group, or to be more concise: the HE-gang, has always been a kind of self-organising gang.

Housing Finance

<https://enhr.net/housing-finance/>

Created in 1990 (in preparation 1989)

Coordinators

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Central theme

- To initiate and stimulate research in housing finance: mortgage systems, mortgage loan types, debt, developer finance, risk management; regulation and government involvement
- To support the publication of research analyses and findings;
- To ensure an effective network among researchers; and
- To support the dissemination of knowledge about housing finance, mortgage systems, policy change and market development.

Activities in 2019

On 30th September and 1st October the European Mortgage Federation hosted a joint EMF-ENHR Seminar in Brussels on Housing Finance. In two days several researchers presented their papers. In the joint session with EMF major challenges in the field of housing finance were overviewed and special attention was given to issues such as variable interest loans, financing energy efficiency, funding affordable housing, buy-to-let loans and barriers to homeownership

In September we once again held a successful workshop at the 2019 ENHR International Conference held in Athens. There were four sessions with more than 10 papers and interesting discussions following the presentations. The Working Group will continue to make regular contributions to the debates on housing finance and regulation as well as on the impact of subsidy changes on the capacity to meet housing objectives.

Future plans and activities

We plan to run a workshop in Nicosia (annual ENHR conference) in June 2020.

Policy implications

The analysis of how housing finance systems have developed over the last twenty-five years -and especially since the financial crisis is both an evaluation of national and international policy since the deregulations of the 1980s and provides an indication of how the implementation of regulatory and other changes will impact on national housing markets and individual households' aspirations. The Working Group will continue to make regular contributions to the debates on privatisation and regulation as well as on the impact of subsidy changes on the capacity to meet housing objectives.

Other

There are over 100 people on the Working Group e-mail list, a large proportion of whom are active both in contributing to seminars and conferences and taking part in monitoring activities.

Housing in Developing Countries

<https://enhr.net/housing-in-developing-countries/>

Created in 1990

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Central theme

Future population growth (more than 80 per cent of it in urban areas) will be concentrated in developing countries where substandard and informal housing has been predominant for long. Yet the explosive growth of urbanization in the developing world has not been matched by a commensurate growth in the supply of decent housing. The shortcomings of policy, lack of political will, limitations of housing finance, poor land management in urban areas, lack of security of tenure, and lack of infrastructure and services are just some of the issues that confront citizens and policy-makers in developing countries, and indicate an urgent need for research, analysis and action.

Sub themes

The group supports a transdisciplinary approach to housing and urban issues, considering for example:

- Environmental pollution by crowding and intense construction
- Resource scarcity (financial, economical, etc.)
- Support to socio-cultural identities
- Homelessness and unaffordability of urban housing
- Global Urbanization dynamics
- Squatter settlements and gated communities
- Diversity of needs for urban housing typology
- Urban transformation to allow renewal of urban housing stock and to offer the residents to get old in their same home environments
- Collective self-help and local government practices.

These issues require complementary resource mobilisation by governments and the private sector. Social and political negotiation processes need to moderate to mediate conflicting demands on urban land and/or services for housing and commercial development especially promoted by international investors. A fair assessment of claims and negotiation results can only rely on joint research of scholars, intellectuals and housing practitioners. Thus the search for future liveable cities seems most urgent in the urban areas of the developing world since they are most affected by the crises and require the integration of projects into policies most urgently.

Activities in 2020

The following list shows the selected scholarly activities of our workshop members in relation to globalization, sustainable development, urban dynamics, urban culture, affordability, gentrification, transformation, informality, resilience issues. These themes have been focused on during various annual ENHR conferences in the past.

Publications in journals

Tanrıverdi Çetin, Çağın and Yurdanur Dülgeroğlu Yüksel, *Tracing the hidden dimension of line in architectural representation*, in: A/Z Itü Journal Of The Faculty Of Architecture, Vol 17, No 1 March 2020, Journalagent, pp. 115-128.

Yanar B., Erkut Gülden, *Municipalities' Policies towards Syrian Refugees: Istanbul Case*, in Şehir Ve Medeniyet Şehir Araştırmaları Dergisi, (Transl. Journal Of City And Civilization), ISSN:1308-8386 Vol. 6, No 12, June 2020, pp. 189-214.

Book chapters

Sezgin E., Erkut Gülden. *Development Agencies and Transformation of Spatial Planning System in Turkey*, in Dinçer İ. Enil Z (eds), Kent Ve Planlama: Hüseyin Kaptan'a Armağan, Book (Transl.: City And Planning: In Memory Of Hüseyin Kaptan), ISBN 978-625-7008-21-1, YEM Yayın, Dec. 2020, pp. 149-168.

Ntema, J., Anderson, Isobel and Marais, L., *Housing and Possible Health Implications in Upgraded Informal Settlements: Evidence from Mangaung Township, South Africa*, pp. 71-85, in Nubi, T., Anderson, I., Lawanson, T. and Oyalowo, B.(eds) (2021) *Housing and The Sustainable Development Goals in Urban Africa*, Singapore: Springer. (Research, continuing from ENHR 2019 in Athens, with the theme: sustainable development and Housing in Developing Countries; in particular South Africa and was completed in 2020).

Nubi, T. and Anderson, Isobel, *Africa's Housing Sector as a pathway to achieving the SDGs*, pp. 1-12, in Nubi, T., Anderson, I., Lawanson, T. and Oyalowo, B. (eds) (2021), *Housing and The Sustainable Development Goals in Urban Africa*. Singapore: Springer. (Research, continuing from ENHR 2019 in Athens, with the theme: sustainable development and Housing in Developing Countries; in particular South Africa and was completed in 2020).

Reports and documents

Ocakçı M, Erkut Gülden, Terzi, F., *Spatial Strategic Plan of Turkey, Current Situation Synthesis and Spatial Evaluations*, - project report, Preparation of Turkey's Spatial Strategic Plan 1st stage, İTÜ Rectorate, Ministry of Environment and Urbanism of Spatial Planning Directorate. (Project started in 2019 and was published in 2020).

Ocakçı M, Erkut Gülden, Terzi, F., *Marmara Region Spatial Strategic Framework Document*, İTÜ Rectorate, Association of Marmara Municipalities. (Project started on 15 June 2020 and was completed on 9 February 2021).

A series of on-line participatory meetings were held on October 2020. 17 Provinces and 196 Municipalities, members of NGO 's and members of professional organizations of the Marmara Region as part of a survey research. The project report is in press for publication.

Conference papers

Kosta Mathey, (6 March 2020) Conference: Die Nachhaltigkeitsagenda der Vereinten Nationen: Konzept, Entstehung und Wirkung der Sustainable Development Goals. Position paper: *Concept, Evolution and (expected) Impacts of the SDGs in the Urban Context. Application of Sustainability Principles in Urban Renewal Efforts*. At Schader Stiftung Darmstadt, Germany.

Dülgeroğlu-Yüksel, Y., Ahsen Özsoy, Gülçin Pulat Gökmen, *The Women's Role in the Everyday Life of Fragile Urban Settlements in a Changing World*, accepted for presentation at IAPS Conference (International Association of People and Space), Quebec city, Canada. Scheduled for June 21-26, 2020, yet face-to-face attendance was cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic.

Future plans and activities

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Other

Possible name change

During 2020, within our workshop group, we have started to discuss the possible change of the title of our workshop, considering that it is too general and comprehensive. We are in the process of negotiating and coming up with some alternatives, before offering a renewed title different from all the other 24 workshops, yet with the common goal of exploring innovative research approaches, and sharing research from different cultures, not only from European researcher from all over the globe. 'Developing Countries' is not necessarily a good description for the countries and regions formerly denominated as 'developing', apart from being old-fashioned and in some cases discriminatory. Comments in respect to the ENHR Working Group's Performance

Size of the Working Group

The Working Group is comparatively small in size but has shown a high level of resilience. Especially in ENHR conferences, a substantial number of papers tend to be announced, of which typically only half are being presented during the event. The main reason of this limitation can be explained by the fact, that the name of the group attracts mostly authors from overseas. This audience tends to face higher costs of participation while average income levels in their countries of origin are far below European scholars. This situation obviously implies an economic barrier to these potential presenters. You may argue that they know this limitation below, but these authors may believe that 'acceptance of the abstract or manuscript' at least is a kind of placebo.

Some ideas for improving performance

The economic barrier can be reduced by placing the session of this group in rooms which are equipped with tele-conferencing equipment, which would enable hybrid virtual and physically present presenters. Virtual presenters should be permitted to pay a nominal participation fee only (to be paid in advance to make sure that they present a paper).

The denomination of the group can easily undergo a 'cosmetic' fix, i.e. using a more up-to-date name like, for example, Global South. However, more interesting would be, additionally, to extend the organizing group to invite interested and interesting' colleagues originating from and living in these parts of the world.

Housing Law

<https://enhr.net/housing-law/>

Created in 2004

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Central theme

The general aims of the group are to promote dialogue and European research on the importance of law, rights and regulation to all aspects of housing, land and planning. These objectives continue to be very broad to accommodate national differences.

Besides their political, social, and economic implications, housing, land and planning are profoundly influenced by varying national legal environments. International exchange in this area has always been handicapped by quite different national approaches and traditional groupings of legal and socio-legal expertise, despite drives towards European harmonization have not explicitly dealt with land law, but affect this strongly.

This group aims to promote exchange and debate between people in the same area as well as promoting understanding of the multiple types of relevant law. Legal, economic, sociological and philosophical theories are welcome, as well as sociological empirical work on the implementation of law, to improve understanding and expertise across borders.

Activities in 2020

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Future plans and activities

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Policy implications

Members of the Working Group are/were involved in several research projects funded by the European Union and national governments (e.g. the TENLAW project). In most of the papers presented at the Working Group meetings the presenters discuss policy implications of their legal research too.

Other

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Land Markets and Housing Policy

<https://enhr.net/land-markets-and-housing-policy/>

Proposed in 2009, Established 2010

Coordinators

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Central theme

The working group addresses how policy and planning systems and (local) government institutions influence the supply of land for various categories of housing. Policies for development gain, cost recovery policies, negotiations, and the role of law and institutions might serve as key words. Resulting from the interplay between market forces and national policies for housing, spatial planning and land use, the way land for housing is being provided varies largely across countries.

We welcome contributions assessing the workings of land markets in relation to housing, as well as the nature of, and the effect of regulations and interventions. This working group addresses models in which land is made available for housing and discusses commonalities and divergences across countries. Sometimes policies evoking clashes with EU rules of the common market. International comparison and exchange may bring up suggestions for improving some of these national policies and practices. And – wherever such rules apply – it may help to find an effective balance between national land-related policies supporting social and affordable housing and the EU rules on State support and fair competition.

The working group is open for theoretical and practical approaches. In theoretical respect, the Working Group welcomes a variety of approaches of markets, state intervention, institutional dynamics and governance, including new institutional economics, the theory of social origins of non-profit regimes, the perspective of Law and Economics, and so on.

The topic of this group is cross disciplinary and we welcome contributions using various approaches and disciplines, such as, economy, sociology, architecture and law. Regarding this last aspect, the group works in close cooperation with the Legal Aspects of Housing, Land and Planning Working Group.

Activities in 2020

Due to the COVID19 crisis no sessions have been organised in 2020.

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Future plans and activities

Together with the WG Metropolitan Dynamics: Urban Change, Markets and Governance we will organize joint activities, and a joint online workshop on “Effects of COVID19 on metropolitan housing and land markets” at the ENHR 2021 online seminar on housing related impacts of the pandemic.

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Other

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Metropolitan Dynamics: Urban Change, Markets and Governance

<https://enhr.net/metropolitan-dynamics-urban-change-markets-and-governance/>

Created in 2005

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Central theme

The working group "Metropolitan dynamics: urban change, market and governance" (established in 2005 by Ronald van Kempen and Iván Tosics) aims to deal with the spatial dimensions of housing policies. Changes in housing, whether through new construction, refurbishment, demolition, tenure change, etc. have always also a spatial dimension, through which housing can be considered as a tool to address urban development challenges (densification, suburbanization) and social problems (affordability, homelessness, segregation) through spatially defined strategies.

Considering this spatial aspect, the WG aspires on multi-disciplinary analysis, how housing processes can be steered with governance and spatial planning tools in urban areas – from the neighbourhood through the city till the metropolitan area level. Thus the spatial level can be smaller but also larger than the area covered by the administrative city borders. The WG also recognises that 'housing' is much influenced by other policies and sectors, such as planning, transport, environment, local government services and financing, financial regulation, welfare and taxation.

Within the broader topic outlined above, a special interest area of the WG is the operation of local housing markets in the functional urban area. The territories around the core city, from where city jobs are accessible by daily commuting, play special role in the urban housing market, both on the higher (rich suburbs) and on the lower end of the housing hierarchy (transitory areas for those who cannot afford housing within the city). On this metropolitan scale many critical challenges can be handled: urban sprawl and unsustainability, affordability and accessibility, infrastructure and services, segregation or fiscal imbalances. A widespread failure to match housing supply and demand in terms of location, quantity or type of housing may be attributable to problems at this scale. Across a range of countries, change and reform is bringing a new focus to this metropolitan scale, whether from downward devolution to city regions or upward consolidation of local government, often in a climate of fiscal stress. to analyse the relationship between cities and their urban regions, which shows substantial changes over time, marked by growth (urbanization) or decline (desurbanization) of the whole area, or by processes of inter-regional restructuring (suburbanization or re-urbanization). The changes, either gradual or more sudden, influence to a great extent the functioning of the housing market within these urban regions and have differential effects on different parts of that region (also within different neighbourhoods in a city). Causes of changes can usually be found in macro-developments, such as economic growth/decline, migration/ demographics, changes in incomes and preferences and, at least in some countries, also in specific policies on different spatial scales.

This Working Group is the most urban and planning oriented of ENHR, dealing with all aspects of urban development. The organizers of this WG are counting on growing interest of those members of the ENHR, who are "infected" by urban topics, spatial and/or geographical approaches.

Activities in 2019

The Metropolitan Dynamics WG in the 2019 Athens Conference

12 papers were presented in four sessions with discussants and an open discussion in each session. The presentations were very diverse, covering local housing and urban development projects (private renting, new trends in working-living relationships, socio-spatial inequalities in large cities) from

Sweden, England, Poland, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, Serbia, China... Only 3 of the 12 papers were related to metropolitan areas, the other represented all other kinds of spatially related topics.

Future plans and activities

The WG Metropolitan Dynamics planned to organize in the 2020 Nicosia ENHR Conference a joint Workshop with the WG Land Markets and Housing Policy. The planned title and topic for the workshop was planned to be announced as follows.

WG X: Governing metropolis – land and housing

Welcome to this workshop on land, housing and governance in metropolitan areas. This is the workshop for researchers who are interested in two of the ENHR Working Groups: Metropolitan Dynamics: Urban Change, Markets and Governance; and Land Markets and Housing Policy. The analysis of housing policies and policies for land for housing must take the metropolitan context into account. On one side, the dynamics of metropolitan areas involve powerful mechanisms of price formation, spatial distribution, wealth distribution and variations in liveability and social cohesion. On the other side metropolitan areas are also breeding ground for new initiatives and the rethinking of established policies and habits. All over Europe we see new initiatives within the area of housing and land use.

Our ambition with this joint workshop (which might lead to the merger of the two working groups) is to establish an arena for scholarly and practical discussions which depart on and take account of metropolitan dynamics. Under this umbrella we welcome papers on metropolitan housing policy initiatives across Europe, papers on land market dynamics and papers addressing land markets institutions, policy, actors and tools. Our aim is to conduct multi-disciplinary analysis, how housing processes can be steered with governance and spatial planning tools in urban areas – not necessarily on metropolitan area level but giving priority to the spatial dimension. We are waiting for your abstracts for this most urban-oriented workshop of the ENHR'2020 conference in Nicosia!

Willem Korthals Altes, Berit Nordahl, Christiane Thouzellier, Iván Tosics

This would have been a first test for a planned merging action between the two Working Groups. The leaders of the two Working Groups planned to make a decision about merging on the basis of the experiences gained during the joint workshop.

Unfortunately due to the COVID pandemic the Nicosia conference had to be postponed with one year. For the moment our idea remains the same: to test in 2021 the merging of the two working groups. If having larger number of interested people, we could better concentrate on the core topics of the working groups, while keeping the advantages of geographical diversity.

Other

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Minority Ethnic Groups and Housing

<https://enhr.net/minority-ethnic-groups-and-housing/>

Created in 1993

Coordinators

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Central themes

- Housing conditions, housing preferences and residential mobility of minority ethnic groups.
- Concentration and segregation of minority ethnic groups.
- Living in multicultural neighbourhoods.

Activities in 2020

Due to Covid-19, ENHR was cancelled, as we all know, and therefore we have no activities to report for 2020.

Future plans and activities

We do hope that we will be able to meet for the ENHR 2021, where we plan to host a session at the conference.

Policy implications

Papers in our workshop are relevant for a variety of policy fields, like social mixing, immigrant integration, planning for diversity, housing allocation, and social cohesion.

Other

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Policy and Research

<https://enhr.net/policy-and-research/>

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Central theme

The ENHR Working Group on Policy and Research was re-launched in July 2014 under the auspices of the ENHR co-ordination committee with the aim to provide a platform for exchange and mutual learning between researchers, policy makers and practitioners involved in housing across Europe. Rather than carrying out regular workshops and/or issuing calls for papers annually, this Working Group aims to act transversely cross the existing thematic ENHR Working Groups in a co-ordinating and enabling capacity. The aim is to organise a panel discussion or a dialogic plenary session or a dialogic Working Group session where policy makers and researchers can discuss a given housing related topic and/or other collaborative activities every second year.

Activities in 2020

In 2020, the WG has have very low activity due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its resulting effect. However, during the year 2020 the WG was involved in some discussions on affordable housing.

Future plans and activities

The Working Group has planned to have a session in the ENHR Conference in Nicosia. The session will focus on green recovery in housing.

Policy implications

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Other

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Private Rented Markets

<https://enhr.net/private-rented-markets/>

Created in 2008

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Central themes

The Private Rented Markets Working Group was first proposed at the ENHR Conference in Ljubljana in 2006. It was formally approved as a full working group by the ENHR Coordination Committee for the Dublin ENHR Conference in July 2008. The purpose of this group is to provide opportunities to present papers on private rented housing markets. The research themes include:

- Characteristics of rental markets in Europe, USA and Asia-Pacific
- Private rented housing as a means of social inclusion
- Low income households and private rented markets
- New immigrant communities and private rented accommodation
- Dynamics of the relationship between private and social rented sectors
- Private rented sector as a means of promoting social mix
- Residential property management
- Landlord behaviour and decision-making
- State regulation of private rented markets
- Dispute resolution between landlords and tenants
- Housing benefit and private rented markets
- Licensing of HMOs
- Minimum dwelling standards and enforcement
- Design standards for apartment complexes
- Supply of private rented accommodation

The working group also provides an opportunity for the discussion of associated themes – for example, housing finance, housing and minority ethnic groups, legal aspects of housing land and planning – and engages in joint working group sessions with other working groups to advance expertise on common themes.

The working group holds an annual conference in Spring followed by workshop sessions at the ENHR main conference in June/July. Spring conferences have taken place in Dublin, York, Granada, St. Marienthal (Germany), Oxford, Derry and London. The working group has also published papers in a special edition of the International Journal for Housing Policy.

Activities in 2019

The Working Group together with the Home Ownership and Globalisation Working Group met in Vienna, the 16-17th May 2019 and hosted a workshop titled “Between Property Wealth Accumulation and Private Renting” held at TU Wien, Vienna University of Technology. Our sincere thanks to Richard Ronald for securing the venue and additional funding to ensure the workshop was both very productive and enjoyable. Papers presented to the workshop addressed the increase of private investment into the housing market in Vienna, the impact and cost of relying on the private sector to meet housing need, alternative tenure options and their continued evolution together with the impact of changing housing situations on the distribution of housing wealth. There was lively debate and discussion around the financialisation of housing, the degree to which it is occurring and its impact.

The Working Group Private Rented Markets also met at ENHR 2019 and hosted two workshop sessions around the conference theme “Housing for the Next European Social Model” at Harokopio University, Athens, 27-0 August 2019. The Working Group welcomed papers on the role of private rented housing in accentuating segregation or promoting inclusion, the role of the sector in respect of migrant communities and themes relating to the sector and housing densification. Contributions

covered the regulation of rental sectors, the respective rights of landlords and tenants which are part of this regulation, the imbalance in the tenant-landlord relationship and the growing financialisation of housing generally and its relevance to private rented markets. Our thank to Ann-Marie O'Reilly for her Trojan work in supporting the administration of the working group.

Future plans and activities

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Policy implications

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Other

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Research on residential Architecture and People

<https://enhr.net/residential-buildings-and-architectural-design/>

Proposed in 2010; established in 2011

Coordinators

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Central themes

This Working Group focuses on relationships between architecture, urban design and people. The main topics are:

- the development of residential houses under diverse historical, cultural, political, economic circumstances
- the reflection of socio-economic and cultural characteristics of inhabitants on spatial arrangement of residential buildings and urban units
- sustainability of residential buildings, adaptability of buildings and urban units to different programmes and uses
- social, political and economic forces that shape the form of residential buildings and complexes within cities
- architectural and urban design of residential buildings in the process of transformation of cities.

The Working Group was proposed in 2010 and established in 2011. Its main topic has developed from the wide range of architecture–community relationships towards the questions of public space in cities, transformations of an urban tissue under different economical and social conditions and the development of architectural form.

Activities in 2019

This year our workshop in Athens took place in five sessions. We had 18 contributions. 12 of these authors submitted well-prepared full papers; one person did not show up.

The presentations were from Turkey (Dogus University, Istanbul University, Istanbul Commerce University, Istanbul Cultural University), Australia (University of Sydney), Romania (University of Bucharest), Austria (Vienna University of Technology), Italy (Politecnico di Milano), Belgium (University of Leuven), Finland (Aalto University Helsinki) and the Netherlands (TU Delft).

The workshops worked very well, except one person, all participants presented their research topic, however not every paper was present before the workshop. The topics were very different, related with social housing, new forms of housing, gated communities, homes for the elderly, esthetical issues, climate design, transformation and renovation, shelters and micro-compact housing. Not always but often did the papers focus on the users. Some innovative or experimental housing concepts were shown.

As we already realized in 2018, architects start to work together with other disciplines like sociologists or anthropologists in an interdisciplinary research. This year we did not have presentations of architects only showing their work (we had this in the last years). All papers were based on research and of high quality. We see this as a very positive and promising result of changing our title a bit and explicit asking for research papers.

Future plans and activities

In 2020 we will again be very clear that we only accept papers that show research done in this field. We welcome interdisciplinary research, done in collaboration between architects and for example sociologists or anthropologists.

Other

We managed to find a new coordinator at the conference in Athens: Dr. Maja Lorbek from the Vienna University of Technology. She participated in the sessions and will be part of our coordinator team now.

Residential Context of Health

<https://enhr.net/residential-context-of-health/>

Created in 1998

Coordinators

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Central theme

The Working Group was named "Housing and Health" during the period 1998-2000. In connection with the Gävle conference in 2000 the Working Group changed its name to "The Residential Context of Health." The new name more clearly indicates that the concerns of the Working Group extend beyond those traditionally addressed in the housing-and-health field, namely, connections between physical health outcomes and physical characteristics of housing. In addition to such connections, the Working Group also takes interest in the role of psychological, social and cultural factors in shaping relations between the residential context, including housing, and health more broadly conceived.

Activities in 2020

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Future plans and activities

The WG held the latest in its long series of workshops at the annual conference in Athens. As discussed there, the WG prepared to convene a similar workshop at the ENHR conference planned for Nicosia in 2020. Those plans were upset by the pandemic. We reached out to the members of the WG through the EHNR Newsletter (2020, number 3) to gauge interest in an on-line workshop, but we received no expressions of interest in such an offering. We are now looking to holding a workshop in Nicosia next year.

Policy Implications

The research contributed to this Working Group is of continued policy importance. The provision of healthy housing and the significance of the broader residential context are increasingly recognized by governments as essential to wider productivity and population health processes. Recent advances in method, theory and data in this field suggest the importance of pursuing emerging links with other disciplines and fields.

Other

Workshop contents sometimes overlap with those addressed in workshops hosted by other Working Groups, such as Residential Environments and People, so cooperation with those groups could on occasion be advantageous. From the perspectives of the coordinators, however, cooperation would be dependent on the willingness of the other Working Group to follow the workshop format that has been applied so consistently to good effect these past many years.

Coordinators

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Central theme

Residential environments are designed and restructured by people for people. The relationship between residential environments and people is mutual. Residential environments afford functions for and communicate meanings to people through the ways in which they are shaped, and human beings design functions and attach meanings to residential environments through their everyday life and activities. The Working Group Residential Environments and People focuses on the relationship between people and residential environments from the perspective of the individual. People's attitudes, perceptions, preferences, values, choices and evaluations of the features and qualities of residential environments provide us with important information on the ways in which residential environments are used and (re)shaped. Such information may well provide a better understanding of the mechanisms behind residential preference and choice, values associated with residential environments, residential satisfaction, the quality of residential environments, the meaning of place, and the design of residential environments.

Activities in 2020

As the ENHR conference was cancelled in 2020, so was the workshop Residential Environments and People. Members of the working group continued with their individual research, some of them started a joint project. Nadine Roudil (Université de Paris Val de Seine) and Hélène Bélanger (Université du Québec à Montréal), supported by a research team, realized a France-Quebec study on the impacts of confinement measures on dwelling. A second phase of the study is in preparation, this time focusing on the impacts on teenagers.

Future plans and activities

This year workshop will focus on "resilience to uncertainties and instabilities" approached from the individual perspective of people and their residential environment (the dwelling or the neighbourhood). The pandemic situation highlighted the basic questions of how we use the residential environment, what the needs of everyday life of the population are and how they are met in the residential environment. The current conditions, in which most countries of the world introduce restrictions on free movement in public spaces, limited opportunities for social gatherings and strongly encourage a home office to standard work, cannot better reveal the relationship between the housing environment and people.

In what way people adapt their environment to the new situation? How do people respond to their living environment within these constraints? The way people use and (re) shape their environment at different scales is informative about their resilience or resilience to new conditions.

Selected papers will get a peer review and will be published in a special issue of a scientific journal.

Policy implications

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Other

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Social Housing and Globalisation

<https://enhr.net/social-housing-and-globalisation/>

Proposed in November 2010

Coordinators

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Central theme

In this working group, we explore issues related to globalisation and its consequences on policies and social practices concerning social housing. Societal changes appear to be at the core of transformation taking place in the field of social housing and more broadly, in the field of public actions related to housing. While housing policies are redefining themselves at different scales and under new values and norms, it appears quite clearly that the “European model”, is under redefinition in the different national frames, but also challenged at a worldwide scale.

Housing policies are redefined “between local and global”, displacing the debate on path dependence and engaging new types of partnerships, conflicts, negotiations. In this context, we continued to explore innovative models to provide affordable, social housing in cities.

The Working Group should allow discussing further on these political and scientific challenges, hopefully by comparative and collaborative case studies analysis, and projects that bring these different levels together. Social housing epopee should then be observed through actions and representations, at all possible stages and from local to global.

Activities in 2019

Our activities in 2019 included:

- workshops at the ENHR Conference in Athens
- an edited book ‘Housing Partnerships’ (including 17 chapters; see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/cities/files/cities/affordablehousingweb.pdf>)
- a new Research Initiative on best practices of mixed-income affordable housing in Canadian and global cities (see www.ucalgary.ca/cities/future-affordable-housing).

Future plans and activities

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Policy implications

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Other

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Social Housing: Institutions, Organisations and Governance

<https://enhr.net/social-housing-institutions-organisations-and-governance/>

Created in 2001

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Central themes

The overall objective of the working group is to explore and develop concepts for analysing institutional and organisational change and dynamics in affordable housing provision. Government policies, management reforms and rapidly changing social and economic contexts have placed new expectations on social and public landlords. In addition, policies encouraging partnering with the private sector and/or direct private market provision of social/public housing have blurred the lines between public and private housing activities. The processes and outcomes relating to these changes are the main focus for participants in this working group. Four main themes have emerged out of our workshops and international collaborations to date:

- Housing as a system / network
- The dynamics of institutional and organisational transformations
- Governance and regulation of housing
- Partnerships for affordable housing.

Activities in 2019

Athens ENHR Conference 2019

The Working Group enjoyed another full workshop programme in Athens with 19 papers by 31 authors from 16 countries. Each session attracted between 20 and 35 participants. Papers developed and extended our core working group agenda themes and provoked lively discussions and collective insights as summarised below.

Our opening session was on our long-standing theme of neighbourhood renewal and coordination of the local actors with contributions from France, the Netherlands and Sweden. Next, we focused on housing organisations, their scale, governance and capacity for social responsibility against the neo-liberal tide with papers from England, Flanders and Northern Ireland. Then a pair of interesting papers about lettings and leavings from social housing in Vienna and Flanders allowed us to focus on who lives in social housing, their rights and choices. The next two sessions responded to our special call on social enterprise and innovation introducing new actors to social housing. Seven papers on different social enterprise models within and alongside mainstream social housing were presented covering Czech Republic, England, France, Hong Kong, Hungary Italy and Poland, Slovakia and Spain. Our Final session was a tour de force with four papers around broad theme of neo- liberalism and financialisation and attitudes to social housing covering Australia, Austria, Netherlands and Portugal.

Our discussions revealed some key differences in the role and meaning of social housing, for example the extreme variations in the proportion of the population within the income eligibility range from 10% in Flanders to 90% in Vienna. We heard evidence of the advantages of good social housing (income increases with residence time in Flanders, new social housing provides alternatives to 'coffins and cages' in Hong Kong and a new 'killer argument' for state and market support is the role of social

housing as 'infrastructure'. We also heard of the challenges including stigma in the UK, empty municipal homes in Italy, requirements for higher income households to leave their homes in Flanders and general under-investment in social housing especially in Spain and Portugal.

We concluded that social housing is still swimming against the neo-liberal tide but it is not always sinking, emphasising the value of the group's hybridity framework. Key factors enabling resistance included municipal support and land holdings (as in Amsterdam and Vienna) and the social mission of some housing companies and stakeholders. In what proved to be the liveliest debate of the workshop, the way in which paradox could be embraced to manage competing logics was introduced from Northern Ireland while the continued erosion of social purpose in the face of neo-liberalism was argued from England.

Social enterprise and civil society action can create viable and sustainable alternatives and supplement state led models. These models have proved adept in solving 'wicked problems': countering nimbysm to build social housing in Paris suburbs, bringing empty homes into use and create employment and hope in the north of England, turning around Milan municipal housing estates through cooperatives and to linking housing and employment integration through social lettings agencies and related social enterprises in Eastern Europe. However, most social enterprises have not so far been scalable to address macro problems and are rarely independent of state support in one form or another and may simply represent 'neo-liberalism by stealth' as Nicholls and Teasdale recently put it.

Financialisation could mean 'finalisation' of affordable housing as one slide typo suggested but we also learned that finance itself could have a social mission as recent AHURI work emphasised. This depends on negotiating a social mandate for lending packages. The experience of cities such as Amsterdam, Barcelona and Vienna suggests that urban housing strategies can make some headway in countering neo-liberalism.

Future plans and activities

Our working group is planning to organise a full series of workshops (Coordinated by Gerard van Bortel and Nicky Morrison). The workshops will be connected to the ENHR 2020 conference theme, connecting the dynamics of institutional and organizational transformations in social and affordable housing to the diverse manifestations of instability, uncertainty and change. How can we increase the resilience and robustness of affordable housing systems and networks in unstable contexts?

Other

Founding-member David Mullins steps down as working group coordinator

We want to thank David as one of the founding members of the working group for his contribution to many years of success full ENHR workshop sessions, numerous special issues and his support of many early career researchers and countless additional activities. We also are very gratefully to David for representing the interests of the working group in the ENHR Coordination Committee.

New member coordination group

The working group has already begun to make plans for the next ENHR conference in Cyprus and following the standing down of David Mullins after 17 years as group co-ordinator, Anita Blessing, Gerard van Bortel and Nicky Morrison have found Marco Peverini, PhD student at the Politecnico di Milano, willing to join them as the fourth working group co-ordinator. We have contacted the ENHR Coordination Committee to confirm Marco's appointment. Marco already successfully chaired on of the workshop sessions in Athens. We are delighted with Marco joining the coordination team, and strengthening the Southern European perspective.

Southern European Housing

<https://enhr.net/southern-european-housing/>

Proposed in March 2014

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Central themes

The central themes of this Working Group include, but are not limited to:

- Housing market paths after the bust - learning from the past, thinking of the future: trends and facts, possible policy implications
- Vulnerability and affordability in housing: coping with consequences (foreclosures, non-performing mortgages, negative equity, homelessness, etc.), risk factors / groups and coping strategies (individual / familiar versus institutional action – financial sector, government activities, civil society movements)
- Public housing policies in an era of shrinking welfare states and weak national governments
- The future of social housing: heading towards marginalization or a more important role in affordable housing provision?
- Real estate sector after the boom (lessons learnt: dealing with the overstock, new construction versus investment in the existing housing stock, territorial impacts, etc.)
- Emerging practices and perceptions in tenure status: homeownership and the new role of renting
- Legislative regulation: corrective function / preventive function
- Exploring Southern European housing models and residential architecture in a global context: what special features in terms of competitiveness they possess?
- Mobility, residential trajectories and territorial dynamics: emerging patterns and regional specificities
- Dealing with financial stress in the housing systems: access to mortgage credit and homeownership, borrowers with repayment difficulties
- Financialisation of Southern European housing markets: outcomes, challenges and risks.
- Housing in former overseas territories: coping with difficult framework conditions

Activities in 2020

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Future plans and activities

- Workshop at the ENHR annual conference in Cyprus 2021.
- Panel on "New Politics of Housing - Policy Developments in a Changing World" at the 26th World Congress of Political Science in Lisbon (July 2021, Chair: Thorsten Heitkamp), with participation of members of the Southern European Housing Working Group.
- Participation of the Southern European Housing Working Group in the ENHR Online Seminar "Housing Related Impacts of the Pandemic", February 2021
- Preparation of new volumes of the "Southern European Housing" book series with Pisa University Press/Italy, which capture perspectives on housing from different disciplinary backgrounds like economics, law, urban sociology, architecture and urban development. The publication welcomes contributions on Southern European housing but remains open to comparative research with other European countries. After publication of the first three volumes in 2017, 2018 and 2019 the publication of the fourth volume is scheduled for 2020.
- National Working Group meetings (to be determined).

- Coordination group meetings (by Skype).
- Interactive forum, e.g. for information on new publications.
- Regular survey on the most important research results and publications of the members of the Working Group. Publication in the ENHR newsletter (if relevant).
- Erasmus agreements as a prerequisite for the exchange of personnel for research / teaching purposes.
- Joint comparative research projects to be proposed until the end of 2020.
- Increasing the membership base (particularly in South East European countries like Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Romania).

Policy implications

Policy implications are expected to be generated especially through national meetings of the Southern European Housing Working Group members. These meeting are aimed at a controversial sharing of research findings, future housing policies and programs, as well as discussions on the interplay of Housing with Urban Development, land use, demographic change, etc. Relevant stakeholders in the field of housing will be invited to these national meetings.

Nevertheless, it is too early to talk about housing policy implications resulting from the work of the Working Group. This is partly due to the little attention dedicated to Southern European Housing issues by scientists. The launch of the new "Housing in Southern Europe" book series intends to fill this gap. Nevertheless, the coordinated cooperation of housing experts who work in all areas of housing has led to a higher awareness of the difficult housing situation of parts of the population in Southern European countries. As mentioned, future findings may be incorporated in part in political decision-making processes. However, this requires detailed previous discussion and an intensive exchange of views on housing policy issues in Southern European countries.

Other

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Towards Sustainable Communities and housing: actors, interventions and solutions

<https://enhr.net/towards-sustainable-communities-and-housing-actors-interventions-and-solutions/>

Created in 2001

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Central theme

This interdisciplinary Working Group focuses on research relating to the sustainability of various aspects of housing in the urban context.

Activities in 2020

The Working Group initiated proceedings to establish a formal relationship between it and the Sustainable Communities Research Theme at the Earth Institute, University College Dublin.

Future plans and activities

With the Housing Agency, Dublin, the Working Group had organised an international conference on Housing, Energy and Sustainable Communities to be held in Dublin in May 2020 which had to be cancelled due to Covid19 but it is hoped that this will be held in the near future.

The Working Group is progressing plans to establish a formal relationship with the Sustainable Communities Research Theme at the Earth Institute, University College Dublin.

Policy implications

The working group topic has a major focus on policy as much of the research of its members, and papers presented at the conferences, have important policy implications. For example, in the context of climate change and other environmental, social and economic challenges, its work on various aspects of the sustainable regeneration of housing is important for building resilience in urban neighbourhoods and communities. Several of the working group members are engaged in advising policy makers in their local/national context.

Other

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Welfare Policy, Homelessness, and Social Exclusion (WELPHASE)

<https://enhr.net/welfare-policy-homelessness-and-social-exclusion-welphase/>

Created in 2003 (First workshop held in 2004)

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Central theme

The WELPHASE Working Group was founded in 2003 and has given a workshop at every annual ENHR conference since 2004. In the initial phase homelessness was the core focus of the Working Group. Increasing awareness of the relationships between homelessness and housing, social exclusion and welfare policy, is reflected in the papers presented at more recent WELPHASE workshops. Thus the papers usually reflect a considerable thematic diversity, albeit framed by the overarching focus of the Working Group on homelessness, housing and social exclusion, and welfare policy.

Activities in 2020

Given that the annual ENHR conference in Nicosia had been cancelled, WELPHASE held instead an online event. On September 3rd, 2020 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 and Margaret Buckley'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.

Future plans and activities

The WELPHASE workshop fits well into the general theme of the 2021 ENHR conference in Nicosia: "Unsettled Settlements: Housing in Unstable Contexts". The conference aims at exploring the experiences of transient, fragmented, changeable and unpredictable housing in different contexts. Housing precarity and instability is central to our Working Group.

Working Group Coordinators look forward to receiving a broad range of papers concerning housing exclusion and homelessness in various settings, as well as welfare policy analyses and evaluations. We appreciate a variety of theoretical and practical approaches, as well as methods, that reflect current interests of the researchers and we hope to have a fruitful discussion on those issues in a comparative perspective.

The WELPHASE Working Group welcomes papers at different stages of development varying from papers already accepted by a journal to drafts. Following the procedure of earlier workshops, a discussant is appointed to papers circulated within the workshop participants in advance, but also leaving time for questions and a general discussion. In this way, the workshop offers a valuable opportunity to receive comments and proceed with papers which are at the draft stage.

If circumstances don't permit the conference to proceed in Nicosia, WELPHASE coordinators will organize an online event. Also, the ongoing practice of keeping up contact with frequent ENHR conferences participants, exchanging research and policy news, as well as latest publications will be intensified.

Policy implications

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Other

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WORKING GROUPS IN PREPARATION

Housing and Refugees

<https://www.enhr.net/housingandref.php>

Created in 2017

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Advisory Board

Bence Komlósi, Architecture for Refugees
Alice Pittini, Housing Europe

Central theme

The Housing and refugees WG aims to connect academic, research and professional on the theoretical and empirical debate on housing for forced migrants and displaced communities in Europe. In line with this approach, the WG has decided to develop a governance composed by an academic coordination board (three member) and a practitioners' advisory board (two members).

Activities in 2020

The activities of the ENHR Housing and refugees Working Group were very limited due to the Covid-19. The Covid-19 outbreak has put the group under a severe stress, almost all Universities went in lockdown which meant providing remote teaching, remote supports to the students and convert, when it was possible, research and civic actions towards Covid-19. Since January 2020 some universities has suggested not to travel or attend international research meetings. The situation became more severe after 8th March 2020. When the preparation of the following Conference in Cyprus was supposed to start, the pandemic situation spread across Europe and some of committee members were aware that they would be denied the possibility to travel abroad. In this situation, it was very difficult to keep up with the international committees and it was clear quite soon for some members of the WG coordination board that they could not attend the conference even if this would have taken place.

This would be very problematic because the theme of the conference was strongly connected to the WG and the conference would be a good opportunity to reinforce the WG. The already fragile situation of the working group has become more problematic during the pandemic. In additions, the cancellation of the Conference has weakened the WG and make the working relationship between the members frail.

Future plans and activities

The future activities and plans of the WG:

1. Prepare the participation of the Housing and refugees WG to the Cyprus conference Unsettled settlements: Housing in unstable contexts, September 2021
2. Look for some academic member to be part of the coordination board
3. Due to this quite unexpected situation and an overall acknowledgement of the continuous (and even increasing) relevance of the WG within ENHR, to ask for an extra year and wait until the next Conference in Cyprus to decide the future of the WG

Policy implications

The decided governance of the WG has direct policy implications. The role of Bence Komlósi (Architecture for Refugees) and Alice Pittini (Housing Europe) is to collaborate to bridge the gap between academics and practitioners and in special engagement has been shown by Alice Pittini regarding lobbying of the issues at the EU level.

Other

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Housing and new Technologies

<https://enhr.net/housing-and-refugees/>

Created in 2020

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Central themes

The Working Group aims to promote dialogues and discussions on the impact of new technologies on housing (research) from an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective. In particular, the group covers the following topics:

- 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.

Activities in 2020

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Future plans and activities

We will organise the Webinar “Housing and New Technologies: New methodologies and paradigms in housing research”.in January 2021.

The Working Group plans to be present at the ENHR 2021 Conference and to decide on a joint publication.

Policy implications

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Other

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