

# Resituating the Local in Cohesion and Territorial Development

Barcelona Workshop, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Carrer Montalegre 6, Barcelona - Facultat de Geografia i Història



<b>9:00 The Research panorama. H2020 initiatives on Spatial Justice</b>		
9:00	Welcome	Ricardo Piqueras (UB - Faculty Dean) and James Scott (UEF)
9.05	RELOCAL "Resituating the Local in Cohesion and Territorial Development". Introduction to the project	Petri Kahila (UEF)
9.20	IMAJINE "Integrative Mechanisms for Addressing Spatial Justice and Territorial Inequalities in Europe". Introduction to the project.	Michael Woods (Aber)
9.40	COSHMO "Inequality, urbanization and Territorial Cohesion: Developing the European Social Model of economic growth and democratic capacity". Introduction to the project.	Hans Andersen (AAU)
<b>10:00 Panel discussion on "Connecting Concepts on Spatial Justice"</b>		
10.00	RELOCAL on Spatial Justice and Localities	Ali Madanipour (U.Newcastle)
10.10	Intervention by IMAJINE	IMAJINE partner
10.20	Intervention by COSHMO	COSHMO partner
10.30	Reflections by Panel Chair, Ali Madanipour	
10.35	Q&A + Debate	
<i>11:00 – 11:20 Break</i>		
<b>11:20 Panel discussion on "Methodologies and Data"</b>		
11.20	Intervention by COSHMO	COSHMO partner
11.30	The RELOCAL Case Studies Approach	Sabine Weck (ILS)
11.40	Intervention by IMAJINE	IMAJINE partner
11.50	"Egohoods" approach or Dealing with scale barriers	H. Janssen (TU.Delft)
12.00	Reflections by Panel Chair Estelle Evrard,	Estelle Evrard (UL)
12.05	Q&A + Debate	
<i>12:30 – 14:00 Lunch</i>		
<b>14:00 Panel discussion on "Dissemination and Impact of European Research"</b>		
14:00	How do the projects deal with 'impact' and 'measuring impact'. What is considered as 'success' of each project and how it can be measured	All projects
	Joint recommendations for the policy-makers and exploring possibilities for creating a 'cluster' in view of participating in the CDB	
16:30	<b>Closure</b>	

## RELOCAL Partners

Itä-Suomen Yliopisto (Finland)



ILS - Institut für Landes- und Stadtentwicklungsforschung (Germany)



University of Newcastle (UK)



University of Stockholm (Sweden)



NORDREGIO (Sweden)



The James Hutton Institute (Scotland)



Hungarian Academy of Sciences - Research Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (Hungary)



Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)



MCRIT Multicriteria Consulting (Barcelona)



University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg)



University of Lodz (Poland)



Foundation Desire for Social Reflection and Openness (Romania)



University of Thessaly - The South and Eastern European Development Centre (Greece)



Universidade de Lisboa – Lisbon School of Economics & Management



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**Project Full Title**

RELOCAL - Resituating the Local in Cohesion and Territorial Development

**Grant Agreement**

GA. 727097

**Project Duration**

October 2016-to Sep 2020 (48 months)

**Project Coordinator**

University of Eastern Finland

**Website**

[www.relocal.eu](http://www.relocal.eu)

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*Resituating the Local in Cohesion and Territorial Development*

RELOCAL aims to identify factors and policies that condition local accessibility of European policies, local abilities to articulate needs and equality claims and local capacities for exploiting European opportunity structures.

The persistence of territorial disparities in the European Union, coupled with the insecurity that economic crisis and austerity have generated and threaten the territorial cohesion across Europe. Therefore, RELOCAL departs from the basic premise that localities and their functional spaces represent the contextual nexus where the relationship between individuals and spatial justice unfolds. The local plays an important role in the promotion of fairness, spatial justice and well-being in Europe.

For this reason, the proposed project will relate on a bottom-up perspective local development situations to the wider context of European Cohesion, both as a process and policy framework. It will also contribute to conceptually and empirically enhancing the knowledge base on spatial justice and territorial inequalities.

This research will be based primarily on case studies of local contexts (urban and rural neighbourhoods, cities/towns and their regions, intermediate and peripheral rural areas) as they are embedded in broader territorial governance structures that exemplify development challenges in terms of spatial justice.

RELOCAL's conceptualisation of the research and policy tasks at hand are centred around three perspectives that link the local to the wider European context:

- 1) a focus on local capabilities and local assets as a means to understand spatial justice and thus design possible strategies conducive to its promotion,
- 2) a focus on case studies that situate localities and local development trajectories within larger territorial and policy contexts, and
- 3) a focus on scenarios of what could work, and what needs to be done.

RELOCAL will run for 48 months until September 2020. It will involve stakeholders at local, regional and European levels seeking a multi angular debate and general cross-fertilisation of experiences and challenges between territories across Europe. Two high level Policy Workshops will be organised in 2018 and 2019, and a large number of local participatory activities involving key actors in interviews and focus groups.

RELOCAL activities will be documented at the project website accessible at [www.relocal.eu](http://www.relocal.eu)

**RELOCAL** aims at identifying factors that determine local accessibility of European policies and funds, and the local abilities to articulate capacities for exploiting European opportunity structures.

**RELOCAL** departs from the basic premise that the notion of “place” may precondition the chances of local policies and action to successfully promote fairness and well-being.

**RELOCAL** will apply a bottom-up perspective to investigate how local development strategies benefit from the wider context of European Cohesion, both as a process and policy framework.

**RELOCAL** will also contribute to conceptually and empirically enhancing the knowledge base on spatial justice and territorial inequalities.

**RELOCAL** will base its research on the analysis of about thirty case studies of local contexts across Europe, in urban and rural neighbourhoods, cities and towns and their regions, central and peripheral.