

The Role of the Local in Improving Cohesion and Spatial Justice: integrating place-based with top-down approaches to local development

2nd RELOCAL Project Conference
7th March 2019 (Thursday), LODZ, POLAND

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the Second RELOCAL Project Conference "*The Role of the Local in Improving Cohesion and Spatial Justice: integrating place-based with top-down approaches to local development*", which will take place on 7th March 2019 in [Lodz Agency for Regional Development](#) and will be hosted by the Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz, Poland.

The [RELOCAL](#) Horizon 2020 Project is funded by the European Commission and runs from 2016 to 2020. The conference intends to provide the debate on contemporary approaches to local development addressing the challenge of socio-economic and territorial cohesion by emphasizing the role of place and territory, and their specific assets. One of the main aims of the conference is to make a room for joint discussion of representatives of related, ongoing or already finalized projects funded by European Commission Programs, e.g.: IMAJINE (Integrative Mechanisms for Addressing Spatial Justice and Territorial Inequalities in Europe), PERCEIVE (Perception and Evaluation of Regional and Cohesion Policies by Europeans and Identification with the Values of Europe), COHSMO (Inequality, Urbanization and Territorial Cohesion: Developing the European Social Model of Economic Growth and Democratic Capacity), COHESIFY (Understanding the impact of EU Cohesion Policy on European identification). Results of this discussion will be taken forward to shape the further work of the RELOCAL Project.

We invite scholars, practitioners and policy makers to share their conceptual or empirical findings as well as practical experience on identifying policies promoting spatial justice and socio-economic well-being at various levels of governance.

We are interested in papers that will highlight possibilities to integrate different approaches to local development pointing out benefits as well as challenges that are typically encountered when trying to align the policy focus of national-regional and local governments and attempting to ensure that community or regional needs, preferences and autonomy are balanced with the demands for accountable programs at each level of government.

Paper abstracts of 200 words should be sent to: paulina.tobiasz@geo.uni.lodz.pl

Abstracts submission deadline: **1st February 2019**

Full texts of accepted abstracts will be published in a special issue of the scientific journal.



The Conference Preliminary Program:

8.00 – 8.30	Registration and a morning coffee
8.30 – 10.15	Plenary Session
10-15 – 10.40	Coffee break
10.40 – 12.20	Two parallel sessions with 4 presentations in each
12.20 – 13.30	Lunch
13.35 – 14.45	Two parallel sessions with 3 presentations in each
14.45 – 15.00	Coffee break
15.00 – 16.30	Panel session / Round table involving related projects' representatives, SAB, stakeholders
16.30	Closing of the Conference

Conference admission is **free of charge** and we very much hope that you are interested to participate.

For registration to the conference, please fill in and submit the [online form](#) until **1st February 2019**.

You will receive a confirmation within a few days of your registration, together with travel and other practical information.

We very much look forward seeing you in March in Lodz!

Kind regards,

Dr Paulina Tobiasz-Lis
Department of Regional and Social Geography, University of Lodz

On behalf of the RELOCAL Project Team
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ILS – Institut für Landes- und Stadtentwicklungsforschung



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