

Department of Sociology and Social Research

Newsletter



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with Serena Vicari Haddock

Serena VICARI HADDOCK is associate professor of Urban Sociology at the Department of Sociology and Social Research, Università degli Studi di Milano – Bicocca. She completed a Master's degree in Sociology at University of California, Santa Barbara (USA) in 1986 and a Ph. D in Sociology in 1988. Her main research interests are comparative urban development, governance, urban regeneration and integrated policies, and social innovation. She taught courses at University of California, Santa Barbara (USA), Université catholique de Louvain (BE) and Università degli Studi di Pavia. She was coordinator of the Ph. D course in Urban Studies (URBEUR) at Università degli Studi di Milano – Bicocca from 2011 to 2016. She is currently section editor of the Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies and of a companion to Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies.



Her most recent publications are:

- Moini, G., Pizzo, B. and Vicari Haddock, S. (2019). Business immobiliare e governance urbana: i casi di Porta Nuova a Milano e dell'headquarter BNP Paribas a Roma. In d'Albergo, E., De Leo, B., and Viesti, G. (eds.), *Il governo debole delle economie urbane* (pp. 201-212). Bologna : il Mulino
- Vicari, S. and Chiappini, L. (2018). Smart City in Europa: a che punto siamo? Sperimentare e co-creare, il laboratorio urbano di Amsterdam. In Nuvolati, G. (ed.), *Sviluppo urbano e politiche per la qualità della vita* (pp. 29-46). Firenze: Firenze University Press.
- Vicari, S. (2018). Innovazione sociale: potenziali, rischi e limiti. In Balducci, A., De Leonardis, O. and Fedeli, V. (eds.), *Terzo Rapporto sulle città. Mind the gap. Il distacco tra politiche e città* (pp. 203-235). Bologna: il Mulino.
- Peter Brokking, P., García, M., Vaiou, D. and Vicari, S. (2017). Housing and neighbourhood. Basic needs, governance and social innovation. In Martinelli, F., Anneli Anttonen, A. and Mätzke, M. (eds.), *Social Services Disrupted Changes, Challenges and Policy Implications for Europe in Times of Austerity*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Urban regeneration and social innovation

Your main area of expertise is urban development.

I have always dealt with cities. My research has been focused on the evolution of urban systems in historical and comparative terms, transformations in the morphology and in the social and economic structure of cities and the factors that determine them. Today we use the general concept of "urban regeneration" to denote the processes of transformation that affect the city, including the changes that occur as a result of the search for new engines of economic and social development to replace the manufacturing industries and to promote a new, post-industrial economic cycle.

Could you better explain the meaning of urban regeneration and the theoretical approach that you have been using to frame such process?

The term "urban regeneration" has been very successful because its all-encompassing character allows it to be used within development models that may well be very different from each other but whose primary objectives are always to generate new jobs and attract investment. Criticism of these development models has led me to look for alternative approaches that would take greater advantage of endogenous resources and focus less on rendering the city competitive and attractive to investors. The alternative model that I have used in my research starts with a definition of regeneration that focuses on the social needs that remain unmet, both by the market and by the State, and privileges the urbanity of the city, that is, the quality of urban life and of the social relationships that define the city as a cohesive and inclusive physical and social entity.

Social cohesion is quite a fashionable term nowadays. How does that relate to urban regeneration?

Social relationships must be reconstituted, because today they have become worn out or impoverished. With respect to concepts of regeneration based on the promotion of technological innovation or major urban interventions, the model of urban development that begins with this definition opens up significant space for social innovation, defined as a set of initiatives, projects and programs whose purpose is to combat social exclusion. It remains a very broad field of action and policies that are declined in various ways in European cities, depending on the different trajectories of welfare systems and traditions of intervention on the part of the social economy, both at national and local levels. This diversity has been the focus of the European Commission's action, which has given great support to the study, experimentation and implementation of social innovation. This makes social innovation a very interesting lens through which to examine the different development trajectories of European cities.

Your research has also developed around the issue of the governance of urban change.

While my research into social innovation practices and policies has developed primarily since the 1990s, the governance of urban transformation processes has been an area of continuous interest since my doctoral research. At that point I used the "city as a growth machine" model as a reference

theory, but over time it has become necessary to integrate that approach with urban regime theory and to take into account the latest developments in the models used to interpret the action and consequent impact of political and economic elites on the city.

Which are the main trends in urban development that you have been studying?

At present a new form of urban development is emerging in which processes of financialization play a key role. Transformations of urban development are embedded in changes on a larger scale in which financialization has become one of the dominant drivers of urban change. I continue to focus my research on Milan because in this respect it is an emblematic case.

INTERREG-ALPINE SPACE PROJECT MELINDA (MOBILITY ECOSYSTEM FOR LOW-CARBON AND INNOVATIVE MODAL SHIFT IN THE ALPS)

Interreg-Alpine Space project MELINDA (Mobility Ecosystem for Low-carbon and INnovative moDal shift in the Alps) starts, with the participation of the University of Milano-Bicocca!

The Partnership of MELINDA project (2018-2021) is generating innovative solutions for climate friendly mobility of citizens in Alpine Space through user-participation process. The aim is to induce behavioral change and improved policy instruments which will be achieved through:

- Better understanding of user demands in mobility through crowdsourcing
- Participative development of ICT tools for low-carbon citizen mobility
- Generating innovative business models for mobility service providers by involving end-users.

The study envisages the realization of a survey on the population of 6 pilot areas, distributed in just as many European countries:

- The Vorarlberg region (Austria),
- The Greater Lyon (France),
- The Ebersberg bavarian Landkries (Germany),
- The Inter-municipalities Territorial Union of Noncello (Italy),
- The city of Maribor (Slovenia)
- Various Swiss suburban and rural areas in Ostermundigen-Stettlen, Herzogenbuchsee and Emmental and in the North-eastern Switzerland (Switzerland)

A smartphone app will then be realized, tested on a survey population's sub-sample, providing it information on all the available opportunities in terms of sustainable mobility a periodic evaluation of its mobility behaviours' environmental impact, and tailored suggestions aiming to reduce it.

The working group involved in the project is constituted by prof. Matteo Colleoni (scientific manager), dr. Simone Caiello (post-doc researcher), prof. Mario Boffi, Massimiliano Rossetti (Polaris Research Center, Unimib) and Elena Colli (PhD student in Urbeur-Urban Studies, XXXIII cycle).

For further information please write to simone.caiello@unimib.it or refer to the [project website](#) or Melinda's social channels ([Facebook](#) e [Twitter](#)).



AGING IN A NETWORKED SOCIETY. OLDER PEOPLE, SOCIAL NETWORKS AND WELLBEING

The project (funded by the Fondazione Cariplo) aims to investigate the impact of offline and online social networks on older people's physical health, cognitive functions, and well-being, as well as to explore the role of smartphone and social networking sites (SNSs) use on older people's social inclusion and intergenerational relationships. The project is coordinated by a team based in Milano-Bicocca and involves the participation of an international and multidisciplinary team based at the Golgi Cenci Foundation and Bath University. Emanuela Sala, Emma Garavaglia, Daniele Zaccaria and Alessandro Caliendo are leading the three teams.

So far, the research team of Bicocca University has investigated older people's use of SNSs in Europe, documenting that older users are more highly educated and wealthier than non-users and that socio-economic factors associated to SNSs use vary over time and across European countries. The research team of Golgi Cenci Foundation has finalised the scales to use during the social experiment, when assessing the impact of SNSs use on older people's physical and mental well-being and has completed the participants' recruitment process. The experiment will start in the next months. The research team of Bath University in collaboration with AUSER Monza Brianza, has completed the recruitment of participants and will soon begin the collection of log data from participants' smartphones to explore older people's everyday practices of smartphone and SNSs use.

Check out our website at <https://aginginanetworkedsociety.wordpress.com/>

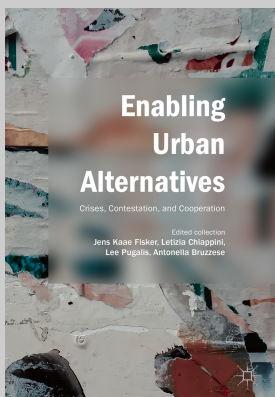
Book Reviews

ENABLING URBAN ALTERNATIVES Crises, Contestation, and Cooperation

Letizia Chiappini

with J. K. Fisker, L. Pugalis, A. Bruzzese (Eds.)

London, Palgrave MacMillan, 2019



More than ever, alternative urban futures are needed if any prospect is to be retained of an urban world that is socially just, environmentally sustainable, and capable of caring for the diversity of urban life. *Enabling Urban Alternatives* is a timely collection of contributions from around the world that grapple in critically constructive ways with the challenge of enacting change by doing the urban differently. As such it is of immediate relevance to anyone – from policy makers and activists to students and scholars – committed to making a difference for urban dwellers in diverse settings. Rising above a mere collection of contributions from different case studies and urban practices, *Enabling Urban Alternatives* explores critically the conditions under which actors enact change by doing the urban differently. The inventory of alternative urban futures is rich and traverses the globe, including policy issues, social order and urban norms in diverse local contexts. The book shows us the broad range of urban knowledge present in any city neighbourhood, but also the tensions and challenges of negotiating space to enable urban alternatives.

SVILUPPO URBANO E POLITICHE PER LA QUALITÀ DELLA VITA *Urban Development And Policies For The Quality Of Life*

Giampaolo Nuvolati (Ed.)

Florence University Press, Firenze, 2018



The book, edited by the Department Director, G. Nuvolati, involves many researchers and professors of the Department. It browses the main fields of the urban development currently exposed to the effects of the economic and socio-relational crisis. In particular it looks to the more innovative answers that cities are giving to promote the quality of life of their citizens, tackling the growing social inequalities, and phenomena such as polarization, unemployment, pollution, ageing society etc. The guiding key words are quality of life, social innovation, sharing economy, lens through which to analyse the different policy areas that each city has to manage. After the first and second framing chapters (G. Nuvolati about quality of life and M. Bernardi about social innovation and sharing economy), all the others are focused on specific policy areas and propose a review of past and traditional policies and practices, the current state of the art in that specific field, and a city-best practice. The topics covered are: smart city with Amsterdam (L. Chiappini and S. Vicari), urban mobility with Turin, Bologna and Milan (M. Colleoni and M. Rossetti), new spaces of work (A. Andreotti), shared housing solutions (S. Mugnano), and urban security with Milan (S. Stefanizzi), eHealth with the case of the Veneto Region (M. Tognetti), tourism and generations with Seoul in South Korea (E. Ruspini and M. Bernardi), food policy with Portland in Oregon (N. Borrelli), innovative digital education with the learning digital district of Cinisello B., Rho, Pero and Carugate (D. Diamantini and G. Mura), and the topic of the shared administration with the case of Bologna (M. Bernardi).

The book offers an overview and a theoretical, methodological and practical path, to study, plan, and implement new strategies of intervention and public policies, and spoke to students, teachers, and operators that work in the social sectors.

Publications

Ilenya CAMOZZI

The strength of memory and the weakness of recognition: Italian associations in Germany
in Ethnic and Racial Studies
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2018.1493208>

Letizia CHIAPPINI

with J. K. Fisker, L. Pugalis, A. Bruzzese (Eds.)

The Production of Alternative Urban Spaces
London, Routledge, 2018

with P. Törnberg

Deus ex machina: makerspaces in Milan and their transformative potential
in K.J Fisker, et al. (Eds.)
The Production of Urban Alternative: an International Dialogue
London, Routledge, 73-92, 2018

with J. K. Fisker, L. Pugalis, A. Bruzzese (Eds.)

Enabling Urban Alternatives: Crises, Contestation, and Cooperation
London, Palgrave MacMillan, 2019

Sebastiano CITRONI

Azione civica e nuove forme di partecipazione
in Polis,
XXXII (3), 315-340, 2018

Il volontariato tra bisogni e trasformazioni
in Autonomie Locali e Servizi Sociali
40 (1), 123-138, 2018

with C. Bassetti

Non-Obvious Discoveries. An Interview with Randall Collins
in Etnografia e Ricerca Qualitativa
11 (3), 477-495, 2018

Alessandra DECATALDO, Brunella FIORE

Is Eating in the School Canteen Better to Fight Weight Gain? A Sociological Observational Study on Nutrition in Italian Children
in Children and Youth Service Review
94, 246-256, 2018

Matteo DI PLACIDO

Serving, Contemplating and Praying: Non-Postural Yoga(s), Embodiment and Spiritual Capital
in Societies

8(3), 1-21, 2018

DOI:10.3390/soc8030078.

Marco GRASSO

Oily politics: A critical assessment of the oil and gas industry's contribution to climate change
in Energy Research and Social Science

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2018.11.017>

Sulfur in the sky with diamonds: An inquiry into the feasibility of solar geoengineering
in Global Policy

<https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.12646>

Just instruments for adaptation finance

in Analyse & Kritik

40 (2), 405-412, 2018

Big Oil's duty of disgorging funds in the context of climate change'

in T. Jafry (Ed.)

The Routledge Handbook on Climate Justice.

Abingdon, Routledge, 251-261, 2019

with V. Dutta

Climate policies of top emitters and evolution of an effective climate regime,

in M. K. Verma (Ed.)

Globalisation, Environment and Social Justice: Perspectives, Issues and Concerns

Abingdon, Routledge, 58-89, 2018

with V. Dutta

A comparative assessment of climate policies of top emitters: Towards strengthening climate diplomacy and action

in R. Oberoi and J. Halsall (Eds.)

From a Borderless to a Gated Globe

London, Springer, 69-89

O. Godard, Global Climate Justice: Proposals, Arguments and Justification (book review)

in Carbon and Climate Law Review (forthcoming)

Emanuele POLIZZI

Costruire il welfare dal basso. Il coinvolgimento del terzo settore nelle politiche locali

Milano, Mimesis, 2018

La ricerca come risorsa per le politiche pubbliche

in E. Polizzi and D. Bidussa (Eds.)

Agenda Milano. Ricerche e pratiche per una città inclusiva

Milano, Fondazione Feltrinelli, 7-17, 2017

Governo collaborativo e catene relazionali di innovazione. Spunti a partire dal caso di Milano.

with T. Vitale

in Quaderni di Rassegna Sindacale

18 (2), 129-147, 2017

Quale accoglienza per il futuro?

in I. Bianchetti and L. Latella

Come la notte al giorno. Storie di vita di una casa accoglienza.

Milano, La Vita Felice, 2018, 95-103

Egidio RIVA

A time for renewal: developing a sustainable community, work and family interface

Community, Work and Family, Special Issue (Ed.)

21 (5), 2018

Egidio RIVA, Mario LUCCHINI

Gender differences in business survival: Evidence on migrant entrepreneurship

in Mondì Migranti

2, 149-168, 2018

with L. Den Dulk, A. Ollier-Malaterre, A.

The skill profile of the employees and provision of flexible working hours in the workplace: a multilevel analysis across European countries

in Industrial Relations Journal

49 (3), 128-152

Firm performance: Taxonomy of European Companies using self-organizing maps

in Quality & Quantity

52 (1), 457-477, 2018

Paolo ROSSI

L'innovazione organizzativa. Forme, contesti e implicazioni sociali

Roma, Carocci, 2018

with E. M. Piras and F. Miele

La promozione della salute come forma di welfare aziendale: la co-costruzione di un'iniziativa di WHP tra prevenzione primaria e processi di simbolizzazione

in Sociologia del Lavoro

150, 202-217, 2018

Emanuela SALA

Data Linkage: What opportunities for survey research?

in Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale

116, 48-60, 2018

2018 SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFECOURSE STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Qualitative and Quantitative Longitudinal Research on Social Change and Its Impacts
University of Milano-Bicocca, 9-11 July 2018

From the 9th to the 11th July 2018 our Department hosted the 2018 Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies (SLLS) annual conference 'Qualitative and Quantitative Longitudinal Research on Social Change and Its Impacts'. Under the scientific responsibility of Carmen Leccardi and Sveva Magaraggia the three days of international conference saw more than 300 registered delegates from all over the world and from many disciplines. Besides keynote speeches, we had 140 oral presentations, 20 posters, 26 symposia and four post conference workshops. It has been a rich, interesting, stimulating and challenging moment of confrontation and scientific exchange on the strategic role played in the study of processes of social change by longitudinal qualitative and quantitative researches.



RETHINKING THE CULTURE OF TOLERANCE. GROUPS, CONFLICTS, AND RECONCILIATION

International Summer School, Fifth edition

University of Milano-Bicocca, 17-23 September 2019

The International Summer School ‘Rethinking the Culture of Tolerance’, as a joint program of the University of Milan-Bicocca, the University of Sarajevo and the University of East Sarajevo, started in September 2017 its second three-year cycle. The title of the fifth edition, that took place in September 2018 at the University of Milano-Bicocca, was “Groups, Conflicts, and Reconciliation”. Lectures, seminars, and round tables explored issues of dealing-with-the-past and of reconciliation, drawing on the experience of post-WWII Europe and focusing on the political, social, juridical and psychological consequences of recent conflicts, particularly in reference to the legacy of the Yugoslav wars (1991-2001) and the current situation in the Middle East. One day of the School was hosted by the University of Milano. With 25 participants from Italy, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Serbia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Ukraine, Armenia, Germany, Iran, Egypt, and the United States, the School involved more than 20 lecturers including academics and researchers from several European universities, experts and practitioners (from the ICTY, The Hague; the Croatian Center for Dealing with the Past – Documenta, Zagreb; the Memorial of the Shoah, Milano), as well as two photographers/visual artists. The Embassy of the Republic of Italy in Bosnia-Herzegovina supported the School with the Patronage for the fifth time, with the special commitment of the Ambassador H.E. Nicola Minasi to the project. Next year, in September 2019, the School will be hosted by the University of Sarajevo.



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