



Commission on Geography of Governance

NEWSLETTER
Spring- Summer
2014

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Colleagues,

this is the second year, we can enjoy book prepared within the Commission framework. Our book that just appeared - *"Fiscal Austerity and Innovation in Local Governance in Europe"* had been edited by Carlos Nunes Silva and Ján Buček. It is based on contributions presented firstly at conference in Lisbon and further elaborated into book chapters. Although being one of the editors I would like to highlight enormous work done by Professor Carlos Nunes Silva in this book "project". He was real leader in this publication preparation and its successful completion. On behalf of the Commission, as well as on behalf of contributors, I would like to express our great thanks for all his effort devoted to this book. Nevertheless, I also congratulate to all contributors for their co-operation. I believe that within the Commission, we will be able to produce similar publication outcomes also in future.

Within a few weeks we will meet on the occasion of our two events in Poland. I believe that all our sessions during Poznan and Krakow meetings will be successful. Organizers developed large effort to have good condition for work and debates on latest development. As outlined in programme of both events, we will enjoy many other additional inspirations.

To the end of this newsletter, we indicate our future activities in 2015 and 2016. We decide to organize Commission annual meeting in Spring 2015 in Lisbon. As you already know, IGU Regional Conference in 2015 is planned in Moscow. As usually we suppose to have set of sessions within framework of this large IGU event. Future plans are still opened for next period, but for sure we will have sessions within 2016 IGU Congress in Beijing.

With best wishes

Ján Buček,
July 2014, Bratislava



NEW BOOK PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION MEMBERS ALREADY AVAILABLE

As it was already mentioned, following long-term effort, a new book based on the Commission activities "***Fiscal Austerity and Innovation in Local Governance in Europe***" appeared in June 2014. We are very pleased that this book contains contribution prepared by colleagues from various European countries and combine chapters written by well experienced, as well as young scholars. Another positive feature is its multidisciplinary nature. Book is also useful not only to scientists, but also for practitioners. Besides Preface, Introduction and Conclusion, it contains following parts and chapters:

Part I

Ján Buček, Andrej Sopkuliak - *Local self-government finance in Slovakia during the 2008-11 crisis*

Carlos Nunes Silva - *The economic adjustment program impact on local government reform in Portugal*

Hellmut Wollmann - *Public services in European countries: between public/municipal and private sector provision - and reverse?*

Part II

Milan Bufon - *The role of local governance in strengthening cross-border cooperation*

Ilona Pálné Kovács - *Failed rescaling of territorial governance in Hungary: what was the gist?*

Boris Bakota - *Local and regional government reform in Croatia: subsidiarity and innovation in an era of austerity*

Bahdan Sarazhynski - *Local governance in Belarus: the impact of the economic and financial crisis on the administrative division reform*

Part III

Stephanie Steels - *Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and citizen-authority engagement: applying developing world solutions to Europe in an era of fiscal austerity*

Anja Brauckmann - *Regional effects of urban development projects: an innovative tool to support fiscal sustainable urban planning*

Blanka Marková, Iva Tichá - *The economic crisis impact on the social policy of Ostrava City.*

Book details: ***Fiscal Austerity and Innovation in Local Governance in Europe***. Edited by Carlos Nunes Silva, University of Lisbon, Portugal and Ján Buček, Comenius University, Slovakia. Ashgate. 206 pages, ISBN 978-1-4724-3243-8.

Book flyer is enclosed to this newsletter. The direct link to the book's page on Ashgate website is: <http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9781472432438>.

If you would like to use this book on a specific course or module do let us know. Ashgate can set up a discount code to pass on to students on the course to buy copies directly at a 50% discount.

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COMMISSION ACTIVITIES IN SUMMER 2014

As you already know, this year in geography is “Year of Poland”. There are two consecutive events organized by the Commission. The Commission 2014 annual conference will be held in Poznan (Poland) on 14-16 August 2014. We will be hosted by our colleagues from Adam Mickiewicz University (AMU). The conference will be organised under main theme - ***“New challenges in local, metropolitan and regional governance”***.

After this meeting we will move from Poznan to Krakow, the place of IGU Regional Conference. IGU Regional Conference with headline - ***“Changes, Challenges, Responsibility”***, will be held on 18-22 August 2014 at Jagiellonian University.

Summary of our sessions will be provided in next newsletter.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES IN 2015 AND 2016

There are two Commission events planned for 2015. We will have our annual conference in Lisbon in Spring 2015, and we will participate on IGU Regional Conference in Moscow during Summer 2015.

The 2015 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on 'Geography of Governance'

The 2015 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on 'Geography of Governance' will address the theme "Local Government and Urban Governance: Citizen Responsive Innovation in Europe and Africa". The Conference will be organized by Professor Carlos Nunes Silva, Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal. It will be held **in Lisbon, 9-10 April 2015**. Further information will be available soon at the conference website (<https://sites.google.com/site/locgovgeo2015/home>), Commission website, as well as by special calls distributed to corresponding members by e-mail and Commission Newsletter.

IGU Regional Conference in Moscow

We also plan to have sessions within IGU 2015 Regional Conference, which will be held in Moscow in August 2015. It will be organized by Russian Geographical Society, Russian Academy of Science and Lomonosov Moscow State University - Faculty of Geography. It will take place at the main campus of Moscow State University, well-known tower building situated in a park above the Moscow River.

Conference registration begins on 1 November 2014. To register, it will be necessary to create a personal account in the online registration system. There are different fees



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announced, depending on time of registration. Early registration is valid from 1 November 2014 to 10 April 2015, standard registration is applicable since 11 April 2015 to 10 June 2015. Please be aware that participants in the oral and poster presentations during the commission sessions, general sessions and joint sessions must complete their registration and payment up to 31 January 2015. Early registration fees are 399 USD, or 199 USD for students.

More details concerning our Commission activities within IGU Regional Conference 2015 in Moscow will be available during Autumn 2014, and you will be informed by Newsletter as well as by separate mail communication.

More details:

e-mail: info@igu2015.ru

website: www.igu2015.ru

IGU Congress 2016 in Beijing

Until now, there are only very basic information available. It is expected that IGC will be held from 21 to 25 August 2016, at the National Conference Center, Beijing. We will provide additional information depending on availability.

Other

We also will go on in our networking, publication activities, as well as activities in research projects application, geography education based programmes elaboration etc. Any ideas and initiatives are welcomed.

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