

FACT SHEET / URC WORKING GROUP

06/25

Mission Statement:

The international 'Urban Cultures' (URC) Working Group, founded at the ISLA Institute of Iberian and Latin American Studies of the University of Augsburg in 2018, seeks to foster transdisciplinary research and cross-cultural study perspectives regarding the diverse dimensions of culture and creativity to comprehend better the sociocultural complexity of our cities from a transareal point of view.

Background:

URC is based on the visionary Strategic Partnership (Erasmus+) Urban Dynamics (2015-2018) that initiated the transversal dialogue between Social Sciences and the Humanities regarding the study of urban complexity from a transatlantic perspective.

Network:

URC Academic Partners from the Universities of Augsburg (Humanities), Santiago de Compostela (Geography), Coimbra (Social Sciences), USAL Buenos Aires (Ibero-American Studies), and São Paulo (Urbanism etc.) join expertise and forces in association with manifold transatlantic urban cultural stakeholders, to address complex challenges regarding urban cultural dynamics in glocal times.

Projects:

Together with workshops, panels, and events related to 'Urban Innovation' (Augsburg 2019), 'Urban Potentials' (Coimbra 2023), 'Urban Architextures' (São Paulo 2025), 'Urban Care/Cura' (Munich 2025), etc., and conferences and lecture series with proceedings dedicated to, e.g., 'Urban Cultures of Participation' (Augsburg 2023), 'Urban Cultures of Transformation' (Buenos Aires 2023), and 'Urban Methods' (Augsburg 2024/25), the URC Working Group has launched in October 2024 an accredited joint, international Urban Cultures Master's Degree Program.

Backing:

Early on, URC promoted activities and measures have been sponsored and supported by European and Latin American institutions, organizations, and funders.

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