

AESOP PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

The programmes and activities of AESOP in areas relevant to the subject of Habitat III Conference are as follows:

AESOP Annual Congresses

Every year, usually in July, AESOP holds its Annual Congress, hosted by one of member universities. Congresses are a wide platform of exchange in the fields of **research, education and practice in urban planning**. They usually run around 20 thematic tracks and host outstanding invited speakers. Thematic tracks change from year to year; however, in each year the congress features tracks, such as **Planning Theory and Methods, Planning Law, Housing, Transportation and Infrastructure Planning, Urban Economics, Social Justice and Democracy, Resilience and Sustainable Urbanism, Planning Education**, etc.

Every five years AESOP co-organizes with other GPEAN (Global Planning Education Association Network) member associations World Planning Schools Congress gathering planning schools from all over the world. AESOP congresses are open to all, and generally attract participants from beyond the geography of Europe.

Annual Congresses to date are listed below:

- 1987 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands (Inaugural Congress)
- 1988 - Dortmund, Germany
- 1989 - Tours, France
- 1990 - Reggio Calabria, Italy
- 1991 - Oxford, UK (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)
- 1992 - Stockholm, Sweden
- 1993 - Lodz, Poland
- 1994 - Istanbul, Turkey
- 1995 - Glasgow, UK
- 1996 - Toronto, Canada (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)
- 1997 - Nijmegen, the Netherlands
- 1998 - Aveiro, Portugal
- 1999 - Bergen, Norway
- 2000 - Brno, Czech Republic

- 2001 - Shanghai, China (World Planning Schools Congress)
- 2002 - Volos, Greece
- 2003 - Leuven, Belgium (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)
- 2004 - Grenoble, France
- 2005 - Wien, Austria
- 2006 - Mexico City, Mexico (World Planning Schools Congress)
- 2007 - Naples, Italy
- 2008 - Chicago, U.S. (ACSP-AESOP joint Congress)
- 2009 - Liverpool, UK
- 2010 - Helsinki, Finland
- 2011 - Perth, Australia (World Planning Schools Congress)
- 2012 - Ankara, Turkey
- 2013 - Dublin, Ireland
- 2014 - Utrecht/Delft, The Netherlands
- 2015 - Prague, The Czech Republic
- 2016 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (World Planning Schools Congress)

AESOP Heads of Schools meeting

Heads of Schools Meeting is an annual forum for planning education. We are happy to welcome delegates from our member schools, whether they are heads of the schools or **any key persons designated by the schools, to discuss main problems and challenges for planning education across Europe**. Heads of Schools Meeting usually takes place in spring (March-May).

Heads of Schools Meetings to date are listed below:

- 2006 - Bratislava (Slovakia), 17-18 March
- 2007 - Leuven (Belgium), 14 April
- 2008 - Lodz (Poland), 29-30 March
- 2009 - Lille (France), 27-28 March
- 2010 - Istanbul (Turkey), 17-18 April
- 2011 - Tirana (Albania), 7-8 May
- 2012 - Oslo (Norway), 5-6 May

- 2013 - Gdańsk (Poland), 12-14 April
- 2014 - Lisbon (Portugal), 7-9 March
- 2015 - Madrid (Spain), 12-14 March
- 2016 - Thessaloniki (Greece), 10-12 March

AESOP PhD Workshop for young academics

PhD Workshop is an annual event for 30-40 PhD students from both AESOP member schools and non-members. Guided by high level academic tutors, they share research ideas, findings and concerns in an informal atmosphere.

AESOP PhD Workshop is linked to the AESOP Annual Congress. It is usually organised just before the Congress. Students invited to attend PhD Workshop can enjoy complimentary registration to the Congress.

Recently more than 100 applications are submitted. The selection is made on the basis of the scientific quality of the application and relevance to the topic of the PhD Workshop.

PhD Workshops to date are listed below:

- 1993 - Lodz, Poland
- 1994 - Istanbul, Turkey
- 1995 - Glasgow, UK (
- 1997 - Nijmegen, the Netherlands
- 1998 - Aveiro, Portugal
- 1999 - Finse/Bergen, Norway
- 2000 - Brno, Czech Republic
- 2001 - Lodz, Poland
- 2002 - Volos, Greece
- 2003 - Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 2004 - Aix en Provence, France
- 2005 - Wien, Austria
- 2006 - Bristol, UK
- 2007 - Paestum/Naples, Italy
- 2008 - Jotunheimen National Park, Norway

- 2009 - Manchester, UK
- 2010 - Seili Island, Finland
- 2011 - Kostelec nad Czernymi Lesy, Czech Republic
- 2012 - Izmir, Turkey
- 2013 - Belfast, Ireland
- 2014 - Deft, Netherlands
- 2015 - High Tatra, Slovakia
- 2016 - Leuven, Belgium

European Urban Summer School for young planning professionals

In 2010 AESOP launched a new annual event: the European Urban Summer School (EUSS) for young professionals. AESOP wanted to bring together young professionals and experienced academics and practitioners across Europe to discuss planning issues.

AESOP expected that it would facilitate trans-European understanding of planning matters and, as a consequence, will help to improve the quality of life. These aims corresponded with AESOP objectives enumerated in AESOP Charter. AESOP wished to involve both EU and non-EU countries into the project knowing that AESOP has no geographical limits of the membership.

AESOP has offered its resources in teaching at European Urban Summer Schools. This idea was to facilitate trans-European exchange and to foster a debate on the most important planning topics. It was supposed to promote every involved actors as bodies being able to help politicians and other stakeholders in spatial development and management issues.

This concept didn't involve economic profit. The European Urban Summer School should be a platform of debate and exchange and should be run on as low as possible fee for participants. Tutors do not get any fee for their work.

Lecture Series

The Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) and the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) have launched a joint activity within the framework of the Decade of Planning: a series of lectures in 2012-2013 by well-known planners and other 'urban thinkers', both academics and practitioners. The idea is to attract not only the planning community but also a wider audience of politicians, community leaders and organizations, business and the media to promote planning as a discipline that can contribute to the quality of life, help find new tools of governance of the urban structures and function as an effective mediator between the many

stakeholders. The aim is to find possible answers to present-day and emerging challenges that face planning and planners as a modern discipline in a new role in our contemporary complex and dynamic society. The first two years of lectures formed the part of the activities being organised within the framework of both the Silver Jubilee of AESOP (2012) and the Centenary of IFHP (2013).

In 2014 our partner organisation European Regional Sciences Association (ERSA) decided to join our Lecture Series. An exceptional event under our auspices was launched in Vienna with leading urban planning scholars on 19-23 May 2014.

AESOP Thematic Groups

AESOP Thematic Groups are working groups on specific themes established in order to create more effective platforms for debate and discussion amongst AESOP members. Most Thematic Groups hold their own separate annual meetings and workshops.

AESOP Thematic Groups are listed below:

- Planning and Complexity
- New Technologies & Planning
- Planning, law and property rights
- Transboundary Spaces, Policy Diffusion, Planning Cultures
- Urban Design in Planning
- Transportation planning and policy
- Ethics, Values and Planning
- Resilience and Risks Mitigation Strategies
- French and British Planning Studies Group
- Evaluation in Planning
- Sustainable Food Planning
- Public Spaces and Urban Cultures
- Planning/Conflict
- Sustainable Cities

Awards

Excellence in Teaching Prize. The purpose of the award is to encourage planning schools to apply new pedagogical approaches, technologies and learning techniques in ways which enhance theories, knowledge and skills necessary for good planning practice. The award provides an important opportunity to disseminate new and high quality teaching practices among European planning schools.

Best Published Paper Prize. The purpose of this prize is to celebrate the work of scholars and professionals in the field of planning publishing in European planning journals. It also serves to bring to the attention of planning academics and other interested parties across Europe the range of academic work being undertaken in the field of planning. Annually, the Editorial Boards of almost 50 European planning journals are invited to nominate the best published papers of their journal for the prize.

The Best Congress Paper Prize. The objective of the competition is to promote and disseminate high-quality congress papers and to stimulate the willingness of congress participants to submit and present full congress papers of high quality.