



**Ben Davy**

Professor of Land Policy, Land Management,  
Municipal Geoinformation

**Self-nomination**

Respectfully, I am nominating myself as candidate for the office of President of the Association of European Schools of Planning.

*Article 22b  
requirement*

I am a professor at the School of Spatial Planning, TU Dortmund University (Germany), one of AESOP's founding member schools.

*My AESOP history*

Since 1998, when I attended my first AESOP congress in Aveiro, Portugal, I have been inspired by the intellectual exchange typical of the AESOP community. I owe the AESOP community much of my personal development as planning theorist and educator.

Together with Rachelle Alterman and Willem Salet, I co-organized the first of AESOP's tracks on planning and law during the 1999 annual congress in Bergen, Norway. Since then the law track has grown into one of AESOP's largest regular congress tracks. In 2007, together with Rachelle Alterman, Leonie Janssen-Jansen, and Willem Salet, I have been one of the co-founders of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights (PLPR), one of AESOP's most successful spin-offs.

I enjoyed mentoring at AESOP PhD workshops in Wien (2005), Manchester (2009), Belfast (2013), Stare Lesna (2015), and Aveiro (2017, invited).

From 2006 through 2014, I have been one of two AESOP country representatives from Germany.

In 2008 and 2012, I have been involved in two unsuccessful bids by the School of Planning, TU Dortmund University, for hosting an AESOP annual congress.

In 2012, I have assisted in organizing a Silver Jubilee Event at TU Dortmund University by delivering a lecture on »Do planners have heroes?«

<b>My goals</b>	As AESOP President, I would like to invite all members of the Executive Committee and the Country Representatives to join me in pursuing the following goals:
<i>Continuity and change</i>	My most important goal would be to find a balance between the continuous prosperity of AESOP and the making of changes demanded by a generation of planners who had no voice in the definition of AESOP's aims and institutions.
<i>Annual congress</i>	European spatial planning can prosper even in times of austerity, nationalism, xenophobia, and alternative truths – provided it finds spaces of uninhibited and open exchange, committed to mutual respect, the freedom of expression, and the right to make mistakes while being curious. Each annual congress can and must offer such a space. Therefore, the academic quality of future annual congresses will be a key objective of my presidency.
<i>AESOP/ACSP</i>	Disappointingly, the 2013 Dublin event was pronounced to be the last joint AESOP/ACSP congress. Although I understand that AESOP and ACSP pursue different goals, I find a regular exchange between European and North American planners indispensable. Therefore, I would like to explore opportunities to re-establish such an exchange. This aspiration shall not be construed as limit to stronger relationships between AESOP and African, Asian, Australian, or Latin American planning schools.
<i>Young academics</i>	As co-mentor of several PhD workshops, I cherish AESOP's programs to promote and support young academics. Such programs must account for the interests of PhD candidates but also of early career academics. AESOP's policy for identifying suitable office-holders should specifically invite early career academics to assume leadership roles.
<i>Academic publishing</i>	Over the past years, large international publishers have increasingly made worse the conditions for authors and editors. Considering the fact that most authors and editors receive no fees for their efforts, the take-it-or-leave-it contracts imposed by many international publishers are one-sided and unfair. A professional association like AESOP has the moral obligation of organizing collective action in favor of authors and editors.
<b>Disclosure</b>	In April 2017, I have suffered an acute myocardial infarct. With the help of doctors and therapists, my health condition has improved. I feel, however, a duty to disclose to AESOP's ExCo and CoRep that my health is still delicate and may remain so for some time.



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<b>date/place of birth</b>	April 30, 1956 (Wien, Austria)
<b>nationality</b>	Austrian
<b>office address</b>	<p>✉ TU Dortmund University, School of Spatial Planning, D-44227 Dortmund, Germany</p> <p>☎ (0049-231) 755 2228 • Fax (0049-231) 755 4886</p> <p>E-Mail: benjamin.davy@udo.edu</p> <p>Websites: www.bodenpolitik.de, www.floorgroup.de</p>
<b>academic degrees</b>	1980 <i>Magister et Doctor iuris</i> and 1991 Habilitation as »Universitaetsdozent« of constitutional and administrative law (University of Wien, Law School)
<b>employment</b>	<p>1980–1998: Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Assistant Professor at the Department of Law, Faculty of Planning and Architecture, TU Wien (Austria)</p> <p>since 1998: Professor of Land Policy, Land Management, Municipal Geoinformation, School of Spatial Planning, TU Dortmund University (Germany)</p>
<b>research interests</b>	planning theory; property theory; planning law; real estate assessment; land management; geoinformation and cartography; environmental policy; boundary studies; planning philosophy; social policy and human rights
<b>research experience</b> (selected)	<p>2011–2015: Principal investigator of the research project »Socio-ecological Land Policy« (funded by <i>Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft</i>)</p> <p>»The Road to Global Social Citizenship« (together with Ulrike Davy and Lutz Leisering, both University of Bielefeld), cooperation group funded by the <i>Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung (ZiF)</i> at the University of Bielefeld, 2011</p>

2007–2015: »Financial Assistance, Land Policy, and Global Social Rights« (together with Ulrike Davy and Lutz Leisering, both University of Bielefeld), (see [www.floorgroup.de](http://www.floorgroup.de))

2000–2004: lead investigator of »Ruhr 2030: Region of Cities« (funded by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research and the Ministry of Urban Design and Housing of North Rhine-Westphalia)

research/teaching stays:

- Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia)
- Harvard Law School (Cambridge, MA)
- Australian National University (Canberra)
- University of Cambridge (U.K.)
- Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen (Netherlands)
- Center for Interdisciplinary Research (Bielefeld)
- University of Stellenbosch (South Africa)
- Hebrew University (Jerusalem, Israel)
- India National Law School (Bengaluru, India)
- 55 certified peer reviews for international planning and land policy journals
- Essay Editor »Planning Theory« (since 2011)
- member of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights (since 2007), Conference Chair of the Fourth Conference of PLPR in Dortmund (2010), Vice President (2010–2011), President (2012–2016)
- member of the editorial boards of »Planning Theory & Practice« (since 2007), »Journal of the American Planning Association« (since 2015), and »Der öffentliche Sektor / The Public Sector« (since 2015)
- member of *Vereinigung der Deutschen Staatsrechtslehrer* (since 1991)
- AESOP country representatives from Germany (2006–2014)
- Mentor at AESOP PhD workshops in Wien (2005), Manchester (2009), Belfast (2013), Stare Lesna (2015), Aveiro (2017, invited)
- member of several real estate assessment boards in North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany)
- Fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies (since 2015)

**academic  
citizenship**

**books,  
edited journals***(selected,  
in English)*

- (forthcoming) (guest edited together with Sony Pellissery and Harvey M. Jacobs) *Land policies in India*. Springer
- (2016) (guest editor) *Planning, land, and property: Framing spatial politics in another age of austerity*. Special Issue of *Der öffentliche Sektor / The Public Sector* 42 (1)
- (2014) (guest editor) *Spatial planning and human rights*. Special Issue of *Planning Theory* 13 (4)
- (2013) (guest editor, together with Ulrike Davy & Lutz Leisering) *Exploring global social citizenship: Human rights perspectives*. *International Journal of Social Welfare* 22, Supplement 1
- (2012) *Land policy. Planning and the spatial consequences of property*. Farnham, UK & Burlington, NC: Ashgate (2012; published in 2016 as Routledge paperback)
- (1997) *Essential injustice. When legal institutions cannot resolve environmental and land use disputes*. Springer: Wien & New York

**peer reviewed  
articles and  
chapters***(selected,  
in English)*

- (forthcoming) After form. The credibility thesis meets property theory. *Land Use Policy*
- (2016) Land values as the social construction of scarcity. *Der öffentliche Sektor / The Public Sector* 42 (1) 131–145
- (2015) (together with Lutz Leisering & Ulrike Davy) The politics of recognition: Changing understandings of human rights, social development and land rights as normative foundation of global social policy. In: Frauke Lachenmann, Tilmann J. Röder & Rüdiger Wolfrum (editors) *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law* 18: 565–600
- (2014) Polyrational property: rules for the many uses of land. *International Journal of the Commons* 8 (2) 472–492
- (2013) (together with Ulrike Davy & Lutz Leisering) The global, the social and rights. *International Journal of Social Welfare* 22, Supplement 1: S1–S1
- (2013) (together with Sony Pellissery) The citizenship promise (un)fulfilled: The right to housing in informal settings. *International Journal of Social Welfare* 22, Supplement 1: S68–S84
- (2013) Do planners have heroes? In: Izabela Mironowicz (editor) *AESOP Yearbook Silver Jubilee*. Wrocław: Association of European Schools of Planning Secretariat General: 274–281

- (2011) (together with Sony Pellissery) Climate change and global social policy. *Global Social Policy* 11 (1) 106–113
- (2009) *Flächenhaushalt* reconsidered. Alternatives to the federal 30 hectares goal. In: Arnold van der Valk & Terry van Dijk (editors): *Regional planning for open space*. London: Routledge: 279–300
- (2009) The poor and the land: poverty, property, planning. *Town Planning Review* 80 (3): 227–265
- (2008) Plan it without a condom! *Planning Theory* 7 (3) 301–317
- (2007) Mandatory happiness? Land readjustment and property in Germany. In: Yu-Hung Hong & Barrie Needham (editors): *Analyzing land readjustment. Economics, law, and collective action*. Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy: 37–55
- (1996) Fairness as compassion: Towards a less unfair facility siting policy. *Risk: Health, Safety & Environment* 7 (2) 99–108
- (1995) »Trust me.« Leviathan, law, and locally unwanted land uses. *Der öffentliche Sektor – Forschungsmemorandum* 21 (3–4) 34–56
- (1995) The Austrian Environmental Impact Assessment Act. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review* 15: 361–376

**other publications**

»Faces of Land Policy« (»*Gesichter der Bodenpolitik*«), a series of posters published annually since 2005 (open access) at [www.bodenpolitik.de](http://www.bodenpolitik.de)