Updates from the ANR Project on Space and Politics in Capital Cities

Ankara, Astana, Abu-Dhabi, Cairo, Moscow, Tehran
Interventions by the team in recent seminars, workshops and conferences

**Corten Pérez-Houis** presented his paper “From the «traditional» red brick to the industrialized cement block in Khartoum and Cairo: a linear route towards a modern and standardized city?” at the NUSE (Network of Urban Studies in Egypt) seminar in the Cedej (Cairo) on 15 March.


**Laura Monfleur** participated at the SpacePol workshop in Cairo in January with the presentation “The politics of synecdoche: from nation to authoritarian State in Tahrir Square”. She participated also in a round table about methodological issues.

**Gülçin Erdi** and **Adrien Fauve** represented SpacePol during the Scientific Day of Prospective of the Urban, organised by the Institute of Human and Social Sciences of the CNRS on 2 June in Marseille. More info: [https://urbain.sciencesconf.org/](https://urbain.sciencesconf.org/)

Publications

**Roman Stadnicki** has a chapter titled *Branding Backlash: the erring of Urban Advertising in Gulf Cities* in “Branding the Middle East Communication Strategies and Image Building from Qom to Casablanca”, published by DeGruyter, 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gülçin Erdi will be participating at the "4e colloque du Réseau international d'études de la production de l'espace" which will take place in Lyon and Saint Etienne at the end of June, with the paper “La production symbolique des villes capitales : une lutte idéologique et politique?”/ “La producción simbólica de las capitales: ¿una lucha ideológica y política?”

Corten Pérez-Houis will also be participating at the "4e colloque du Réseau international d'études de la production de l'espace" which will take place in Lyon and Saint Etienne at the end of June. His paper is called “De la brique rouge au parpaing de ciment, ou comment l'Etat militaire prend le contrôle de l'urbanisation du Caire (Égypte)”/ “From red brick to cement block, or how the military state is taking control over Cairo’s urbanization”. For more info: https://productionespace.sciencesconf.org/
**Corten** will also present in the symposium « Marginal urbanities. The hidden face of planetary urbanisation » (https://www.usi.ch/en/feeds/24001), organized by the University of Italian Switzerland (Università della Svizzera Italiana), with the paper “The daily building of a capital city from its margins: the red brick supply chain and the urbanization processes in Cairo (Egypt)” on 10 July.

**Corten** will also participate in the the RGS-IBG Annual International Conference (https://www.rgs.org/research/annual-international-conference/programme/), in the session “Socio-Ecological Landscapes of Global Manufacturing” with the paper “Deserted factories: The recent decay of the industrial red brick production in Egyptian construction sector and cities” on 30 August.


**Anahi Alviso-Marino** will participate in the conference “Fountains Failures Futures: The afterlives of public art” held in Lund on 28/29 September. More info: https://fountainsfailuresfutures.rsvpify.com/?securityToken=FGXZ0nOZPrPZz3fgkgPo61m0SRDF0F2t

**Gülçin Erdi, Azadeh Mashayekhi, Adrien Fauve** and **Laure Assaf** will participate at the GIS Moyen-Orient et Mondes Musulmans in a special panel organized by SpacePol: “Symbolic and Political Production of Space in Capital Cities in the Middle East and Muslim World” in Lyon on 11-13 July.

**Gülçin Erdi and Savaş Zafer Şahin** will participate along with Emrah Söylemez and Pınar Çobanımlaz at the “Turkologentag 2023 - Fourth European Convention on Turkic, Ottoman and Turkish Studies” in the panel “A capital city still in the (un)making?: Ankara in its centenary of becoming capital of modern Turkey” at the University of Vienna on 21-23 September.
TURKEY ELECTIONS MEDIA INTERVENTIONS

Our Project Director Prof. Gülçin Erdi intervened in several media outlets in the run up to the elections:

8 May France24 Élections en Turquie : la campagne se durcit à 6 jours de la présidentielle

https://www.france24.com/fr/vid%C3%A9o/20230508-%C3%A9lections-en-turquie-la-campagne-se-durcit-%C3%A0-6-jours-de-la-pr%C3%A9sidentielle

11 May Radio France Erdogan peut-il perdre l'élection ? Emission spéciale en direct d'Istanbul en Turquie


12 May Ici Radio Canada Élections en Turquie : « C’est l’avenir de la démocratie qui est en jeu »

https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1978988/erdogan-turquie-elections-vote?fbclid=IwAR25cKaHqWk4QpbgRg7s43-pA1676OjyrESWv6K1pB2hIb6FknRUNFCbtmE
15 May RTS


29 May France24 Édition spéciale en Turquie : Erdogan, un président indéboulonnable ?

https://www.france24.com/fr/%C3%A9missions/le-d%C3%A9bat/20230529-turquie-erdogan-r%C3%A9%C3%A9lu-un-pr%C3%A9sident-ind%C3%A9boulonnable

Gülçin also participated in the special event held at Sciences Po Paris on 30 May, Elections présidentielle et législatives en Turquie : résultats, analyses et perspectives with the participation of Didier BILLION (IRIS), Hamit BOZARSLAN (EHESS), Ahmet INSEL (Université Galatasaray), Gülçin ERDI (IFEA).
ANKARA: BEING OR BECOMING A CAPITAL
Conference held in Ankara 26 and 27 April

The SpacePol Ankara event took place at the Institut Français Ankara and the Ankara Citizens Council on the 26 and 27 of April 2023. The importance of promoting Ankara’s international visibility and discussing its development was emphasized. The event focused on the history and growth of Ankara as a capital city, highlighting the contributions of leaders and institutions. Topics discussed included the cost and significance of city branding, the establishment of museums and architectural debates, and the concept of collective memory in urban museums. It was a great success in terms of audience numbers and participation, with great discussions and presentations by the fantastic speakers. You can access the video recordings of the conference clicking on the photographs below:

26 April Institut Français Ankara

Prof. Dr. İlhan Tekeli
27 April Ankara Citizens Assembly
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