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The city-mountain interchange in the Metropolitan City of Turin (Italy)

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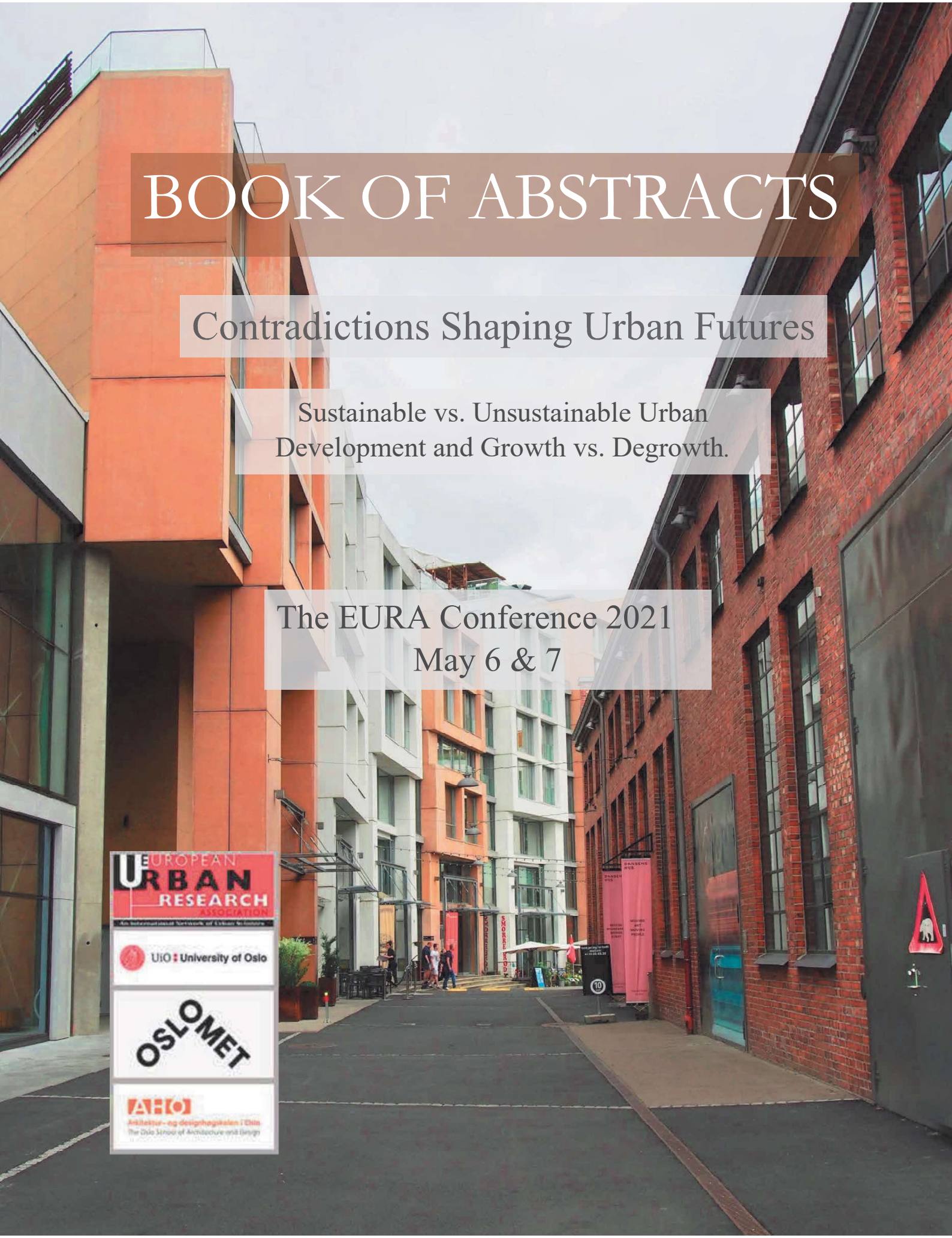
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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Contradictions Shaping Urban Futures

Sustainable vs. Unsustainable Urban Development and Growth vs. Degrowth.

The EURA Conference 2021
May 6 & 7

EUROPEAN URBAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
An international Network of Urban Scholars

UiO : University of Oslo

OSLOMET

AHO
Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design

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Head of project:	Susanne Søholt OsloMet and Per Gunnar Røe University of Oslo
Abstract:	The abstracts explore how contradictions related to sustainable vs. unsustainable urban development and growth vs. growth are shaping our cities. Together the abstracts show how themes and contradictions intersect, are interrelated, but often contested among actors who seek, in their own way to shape their cities. The book contains 68 abstracts organised under six sections: Environmental sustainability, climate change and mobility, Social sustainability and inclusiveness, Urban economic sustainability, degrowth and smart city, Urban governance and participation, Urban and regional planning, Urban planning and design.
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EURA Online Conference 2021

Contradictions Shaping Urban Futures

Sustainable vs. Unsustainable Urban Development and Growth vs. Degrowth

At a time when an increasing share of the global population is living in urban areas, there is a need to re-examine the role(s) cities take in coping with contemporary challenges and contradictions. The EURA conference takes as its inspiration Robert A. Beauregard's book (2018) 'Cities in the urban age' as well as increasing polarizations and protests in cities, accelerated by the pandemic, where different groups take to the streets to make their voice heard. Both the book, the protests and the ongoing pandemic underline that urban policies and issues matter, have impact beyond the urban sphere and are worth fighting over.

In this online event, on May 6 – 7, we will explore how contradictions related to *sustainable vs. unsustainable urban development and growth vs degrowth*, are shaping our cities. The contradictions are not fixed, but intersect and are contested among actors who seek, in their own ways, to shape their city.

Sustainable urban development models, strategies, policies and tools are operating in nearly every geographical and political context around the world. Urban spatial development and growth measures of cities are essential as they influence economic performance, public health conditions, and determine social cohesion and segregation. These measures vary widely in different geographical contexts as regards available approaches, policy instruments and forms of implementation. Compact city policies, for instance, focus on reducing the negative impacts of urban development on the surrounding environment, while green cities place emphasis on green infrastructure and local self-supply within cities themselves. Differences in policy interventions and planning practices are largely due to the miscellaneous drivers that urban regions experience today: multi-locality of live-work arrangements, migration, economic pressures, concentrated growth and transport challenges.

With this point of departure, we welcome and look forward to presentations and engaged debates and possibly contradictions and disagreements about our urban futures.

Oslo, May 2021

Cecilie Sachs Olsen
OsloMet

Susanne Søholt
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A. Environmental sustainability, climate change and mobility

Panels:

A.1 Mobility

Moderator: Le Anh Nguyen Long

Participants: Lejoux Patricia, Joanna Stępień, Brian Garcia, Maja Karoline Rynning

A.2 Climate Mitigation and Leadership

Moderator: Gro Sandkjær Hansen

Participants: Wolfgang Haupt, Carolina Giaimo, Lionel Epiney

A.3 Migration, densification, and mobility transition

Moderator: Susanne Søholt

Participants: Stefan Fina, Song Hee Kang, Vafa Dianati, Biyue Wang

A.2: Climate mitigation and leadership

The city-mountain interchange in the Metropolitan City of Turin (Italy)

C. Giaimo, C. A. Barbieri, F. Corrado, G. G. Pantaloni, S. Salata, M. Bottero, M. Bravi

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Abstract:

The goal of this contribution is to present the results of "Eco-welfare and Inter-municipal Governance: Soil as an Infrastructure for Regenerating Territories", a multidisciplinary research project co-funded by DIST Department of the Polytechnic University of Turin (Italy) in cooperation with a range of institutional and research organizations. The research aims at increasing the understanding on the integration of Ecosystem Services' (ES) knowledge and methodologies within urban and territorial planning processes. One of the trajectories of the research is the investigation of the governance and planning approaches that convey stronger city-mountain interactions in terms of relations and flows of ES.

Turin Metropolitan City presents a great potential in terms of institutional and governance configurations because of the coexistence of urban, rural and mountainous areas within the same administrative framework and policy arena. Alongside this, current contradiction lies in the presence of deep unbalances which still connote the policy focus of the metropolitan institution. This is explicit in the great consideration given to urban (and periurban) areas from the side of spatial policies, while mountainous areas still suffer from a growing economic marginality, demographic decline and infrastructure shortage.

The methodology used by the research consists in the construction of suitability maps which brought to spatialise the multisystemic land qualities of the whole metropolitan territory. Accordingly, the research has brought to identify the spatial systems where the higher biophysical performances are located and, more importantly, to describe how the interchange of Carbon Sequestration and Habitat Quality -as two ES investigated by Ecowelfare research- happens in the metropolitan area. The importance of this lies in supporting the construction of policies at metropolitan level which can more effectively program and allocate economic resources for triggering the eco-systemic performances of highly valuable areas or designing green and blue infrastructures and, more in general, for improving the overall life quality within the metropolitan area.