

Urban Space and Security Policies – Between Privatization and Desegregation Initiatives

Description of event:

The event will build around a recent partnership developed between UN-HABITAT's Safer Cities Programme, the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne/Urban Sociology Laboratory, the Small Arms Survey (Geneva), the University of Geneva, l' Ecole de la Paix (Grenoble), the Consorci del Barri de la Mina (Barcelona) and the city of Bogotá, with support from the Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN), focusing on the urban manifestation of violence and crime, on the analysis of effects of insecurity and feeling of insecurity on urban public space management, and on options for public policy and action.

The role of private, community and public actors will be highlighted, as well as the role played by firearms as violence vector. Emerging responses and experiences will be presented and discussed. Speakers will include the two cities mentioned, the academic institutions, as well as other partners of UN-HABITAT with experience in this field, who will present approaches to urban crime and insecurity in specific spatial contexts, and launch a broader joint initiative on these themes.

Name of organization:

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne/Urban Sociology Laboratory, Switzerland (lead partner of the project), the Small Arms Survey, Switzerland, and UN-HABITAT Safer Cities Programme

Description of organization:

The Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Laboratory of Urban Sociology specialises in analysis of urban development and urban space transformation, with a focus on urban safety. The Small Arms Survey is an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, Switzerland. It is the principal international source of public information on all aspects of small arms, and as a resource centre for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and activists. The UN-HABITAT Safer Cities Programme is a global support programme with field project and advocacy/normative work in the field of urban crime prevention, spearheading local approaches and partnerships for crime prevention at city level.

GIAN is an international research network whose main objective is to create synergies among academic institution and international organizations.

Partner organizations:

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne/Urban Sociology Laboratory, UN-HABITAT Safer Cities Programme, Small Arms Survey (Geneva), Consorci del Barri de la Mina (Barcelona), City of Bogotá, Université de la Paix (Grenoble), University of Geneva, Geneva International Academic Network.

Confirmed speakers:

N/A

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