

Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

1. Paper / Proposal Title:

Housing Policies, Housing Market and Migrants Integration. The Case of the Metropolitan Area of Milan

2. Format:

Verbal presentation

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4. University or Company Affiliation:

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5. Abstract (300 words):

Italy became a country of immigration around the middle of the eighties, when the migration phenomena overlapped with a pre-existing, almost chronic, housing crisis, only partially amenable to what Judith Allen calls the "Mediterranean model" of housing welfare. Nevertheless, the mass media and the public debate started to focus on the "folk devil" of the immigrant as a competitor in the housing welfare and market (as well as by the "folk devil" of the immigrant as a criminal or bearer of urban disorder and decay). According to our hypothesis, there is a strong relation between housing policies and dwelling problems, on the one hand, and cohabitation problems on the other. With the access to housing being one of the main obstacles to migrant integration, we propose an analysis of the metropolitan area of Milan that represents a paradigmatic case of housing and migrant populations. Particular attention is placed in the relation between housing policies, migrant settlement and multiethnic relations. From metropolitan and regional survey data collected in the last ten years, we analyze in detail this problematic issue and discuss some perspectives for the future of housing welfare and inclusive policies.

6. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Alfredo Agustoni is senior lecturer and aggregate professor in Urban and Environmental Sociology at the "G. d'Annunzio" University of Chieti and Pescara. His research interests concern globalization, migrations and local communities, housing policies and the relations between energy and society. He's author of several books, chapters and articles on reviews on these issues. We remember *Sociologia dei luoghi ed esperienza urbana*, *I vicini di casa*, *Società urbane e convivenza interetnica*.

Alfredo Alietti is senior lecturer and aggregate professor in Urban Sociology at the University of Ferrara. He has been involved in research at national and European levels on racism, inter-ethnic relations in urban setting, socio spatial segregation and urban requalification of deprived areas. He has co-authored *Metamorfosi del razzismo* and *Società urbane e convivenza interetnica*.