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National Economic
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Centre for European Regional
and Local Studies
University of Warsaw

Call for papers
“Four years on: how have capital cities dealt with the crisis”
One day seminar

RSA Research Network “The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities”

26th October 2012
Kyiv National Economic University
Kyiv, Ukraine

The second seminar of RSA Research Network ‘*The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities*’ will take place in Kyiv, Ukraine on 26 October 2012. The venue for the seminar will be the main building of Vadym Hetman Kyiv National Economic University (KNEU) (Prospect Peremogy, 54/1, Kyiv).

The deadline for submitting abstracts is 1 October 2012.

Seminar objectives

Capital cities are in the forefront of the global economy. As their country’s gateway to the external world, they often enjoy greater benefits from global flows of people, capital, ideas and goods. They are also their country’s administrative, and often business, centre, and thus gain higher than average benefits from public sector employment and services. At least in times of plenty. But what happens to capital cities during a squeeze, when capital flows are scarce and the profitability of businesses is affected by a liquidity crisis, lower demand and a systemic economic crisis? How are they affected by dramatic deficit-cutting and budget-saving measures, by a shrinking public sector and by reduced public services as a result of distressed public finances? The global economic crisis which struck in earnest in 2008 led to tectonic changes in the global economy and in many national economies, especially the most advanced, forcing many governments to introduce a strict economic regime. At the same time financial markets have less capital to offer, which makes it more challenging than before to grow or even sustain a business.

All this leads to smaller tax revenues and to a freeze in many investment projects, greater levels of unemployment and lower incomes. Capital cities, which usually attract the most

mobile and productive workforce, are facing challenges that are difficult to address with fewer resources. Thus, public spaces are suffering and cities' spatial structures are affected by stagnating economic activities.

The second seminar of the Research Network 'Impact of Global Economic Crisis on Capital Cities' will continue the discussions started at our first seminar in Warsaw in September 2011. It will look at the fundamental question of whether the crisis has been an opportunity or a challenge for the development of capital cities in Europe and around the globe.

The seminar 'Four years on: how have capital cities dealt with the global economic crisis?' will take place in Kyiv, Ukraine, and will provide a greater perspective on how the capital cities of Eastern Europe are dealing with the crisis. However, case studies from all around Europe and world will be discussed.

Seminar participants are invited to present papers elaborating on the following issues:

Global aspects: How have capital cities been affected by the reduction of global capital flows, declining demand for goods/services and reduced business activities? How are changing migration patterns (international and domestic) affecting capital cities? How are cities adjusting to new financial regimes imposed by international creditors (when relevant)?

Domestic policy aspects: How are capital cities adjusting to national economic policies which focus on cutting the budget deficit? To what extent are a decline in tax revenues and cuts in public spending affecting the economy, the social sphere and space of capital cities? What new policy and regulatory measures were brought in to combat the effects of the crisis, and is there any evidence of their positive (negative) impact? Is there any evidence of success for attempts to 'spend one's way out of recession' (including big sport events)? How are the labour markets of capital cities adjusting to new conditions, and what changes have been introduced to stimulate higher levels of employment?

Spatial aspects: How are the spatial structures of capital cities being affected by new economic regimes, declining personal incomes and rising unemployment? Were cities affected by a freeze in large-scale capital projects, both private and public, and what effect has that had on the city's landscape?

Sector aspects: What sectors of cities' economies are the biggest losers and winners in the aftermath of the crisis? How has the crisis affected SMEs and big companies located in capital cities? How are universities and other HEIs adjusting to the new financial situation? What are the impacts of the crisis on housing, welfare and social services, transport, construction, etc?

Presentations on other topics related to the impact of the global economic crisis on capital cities are also welcomed.

Programme

The seminar will formally begin with registration and an opening plenary on the morning of Friday, 26 October 2012, and will be followed by several workshops and informal networking opportunities during the breaks. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Thanks to RSA support, seminar participants are invited to a friendly and informal dinner in the evening of Friday 26 October. Please **let us know** if you are planning to join the dinner.

We are considering organising a guided city tour on Thursday afternoon, 25th October, or Saturday morning, 27th October. Confirmation and further details will be available at a later stage. Please, let us know if you are interested.

Target Audience

The event is open to researchers and practitioners from different countries who have specific interest in the various aspects of the development of capital cities around the world, and in the effects of global economic crisis on local and regional economies.

Registration

Abstracts in English of up to 2500 characters should be submitted before 1 October 2012 to Olga Mrinska at omrinska@gmail.com.

Local co-organiser KNEU is planning to publish a volume of abstracts which will be included in the seminar pack. More details will be available at a later stage.

The working language of the seminar is English.

Registration fee

To take part in the seminar, participants are required to pay a registration fee of 20 Euro or 200 UAH. For PhD students and early career researchers (up to 30 years old), participation is free. In exceptional cases, organisers might consider offering a reduced rate or free participation, upon submission of well-grounded explanations of individual circumstances.

The conference registration fee should be paid via bank transfer before 1 October 2012.

For payments in Euro use the following bank account:

CORRESPONDENT BANK: VTB BANK (DEUTSCHLAND) AG
FRANKFURT, GERMANY
SWIFT: OWHBDEFF

BENEFICIARY'S BANK: PJSC INTEGRAL-BANK
KIEV, UKRAINE
/0104365390
SWIFT: ITGRUAUK
ACCOUNT: 2600 9 2040002

BENEFICIARY: NGO 'European integration Promotion Foundation'

Please mark clearly the purpose of payment 'Charitable contribution to organising RSA Seminar'

For payments in Ukrainian Hryvnia use the following bank account:

ПАТ "Інтеграл-банк"

Код банку 320735

Поточний рахунок 260022040001

Бенефіціар ГО "ФУНДАЦІЯ СПРИЯННЯ ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКІЙ ІНТЕГРАЦІЇ"

Please mark clearly the purpose of payment “Благодійний внесок на організацію семінару RSA”

Cash payment at the point of registration is also possible but has to be agreed with the organisers beforehand.

Bursaries

Thanks to financial support from the Regional Studies Association, we will be able to offer several travel bursaries to RSA members only (up to 150 Euro per person). Priority will be given to graduate and postgraduate students, young researchers (up to 30 years old) and participants who experience acute financial difficulties; as well as to participants from countries with national income below 75% of the EU average. The bursary can cover travel and accommodation costs. Applicants are encouraged to minimise their costs by using economy fares, budget airlines/trains, sharing accommodation, and booking economy hotels/hostels. Bursaries will be offered on a first come, first served basis. RSA individual membership is a precondition for receiving the bursary.

Please contact **local organiser** for more information, including on how to become RSA member and to see whether you might be eligible for a bursary.

Accommodation

Some recommendations as for the accommodation options in Kyiv will be provided by local organisers in the nearest time. This includes University’s hotel with the moderate rates in the vicinity of seminar venue.

Organiser

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Local co-organiser

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Information about the Research Network

The RSA Research Network “The impact of global economic crisis on capital cities” is looking at various cases of how capital cities have reacted in the wake of global economic crisis, at different dimensions of mitigating the consequences of this crisis, and whether and how they have changed through the crisis: government policies, business adjustments, social and human innovations, perceptions and brands of the cities. The Network’s findings will not only enrich empirical research but will also be useful for more practical areas such as developing and implementing central and local-level policies aimed at improving the competitiveness and resilience of city economies at different stages of the economic cycle.

The Network is a virtual marketplace for the exchange of ideas, news, projects, information on publications and events. It is open to all researchers and practitioners, young and old, from across the globe, who are interested in the development of capital cities, globalisation, the recent global economic crisis and its impact on cities’ economies, welfare, society, and environment. Along with regular virtual communications, the Research Network is organising two seminars: in Warsaw on 23 September 2011 and in Kyiv on 26 October 2012.

The research network receives financial support from the Regional Studies Association.

Please visit the network blog at <http://capitalcitiesaftercrisis.blogspot.com/> or write to the network organisers for further details:

- **Dr Olga Mrinska, Institute for Local and Regional Initiatives, Kyiv, Ukraine:**
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- **Maciej Smetkowski, EUROREG, University of Warsaw, Poland:**
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