



R-INNOVARE LA CITTÀ

Osservatorio
sull'emergenza Coronavirus

RE-INVENTING THE CITY

Coronavirus
Emergency Observatory

The health emergency caused by the spread of Coronavirus has now taken on a global dimension. It is in urban contexts that its economic, social, political and, of course, medical-health effects shows themselves in the most dramatic forms. Cities therefore have to deal with a new scenario.

In the public debate there are those who wonder how the relationships between the different territorial politics (municipal, regional, national, European and global) will change, those who stress the risk of experiencing a further social gap and new levels of inequality within our societies and those who speaks of an epochal change in progress.

Which changes will be needed in terms of mobility, housing conditions, public space, cultural production and welfare, economy?

What will be the consequences for the weakest and most precarious sections of the population?

Before the emergency, through the hard work of the city carried out in recent years, as Urban Innovation Foundation we were engaged in some of the main strategic projects of the city with workshops for participation and involvement in all neighborhoods and secondary schools (General Urban Plan, Plan Territoriale Metropolitano, support for the construction of the tramway, HousINGBO on student housing conditions, "Bologna beyond the barriers" to facilitate accessibility, Bologna Active for mutualistic practices, to name a few) and we were starting a summary report with indications of priorities and interventions for the coming years, the Urban Innovation Plan. If on

the one hand we are aware that many of those projects will have to be reviewed in the light of this new situation (not only from the point of view of the methods of investigation, communication and involvement of stakeholders and citizenship), on the other hand we are aware that this researching and scheduling work is now even more urgent and priority. And, even more now than before, it requires a collective effort organized to renew the city, through the study and analysis of the economic and social effects produced by the coronavirus emergency to identify new priorities and to imagine new solutions and concrete measures in short and long terms able to meet the toughest effects of the crisis.

This collective effort could take the form of an Observatory that brings together multiple skills for a common goal. To encourage the process, we are looking for a stable space to encourage reflection on post-emergency effects and perspectives, convinced that this crisis can and should also open up new spaces for action. We imagine three different steps:

1. A comparison and documentation space, through two main tools:

- **Public talks** with scholars, experts, policy-makers, city-makers broadcasted on our communication channels.
- Construction of a **digital archive of sources and documents** useful for the construction of an overall analysis framework.

2. Analysis of the impact on the city through:

- **Studies and research** starting from the reorientation of the various research projects already started by the Foundation connected to an Atlas of urban transformations, currently in progress.
- **Participatory territorial analysis** through focus groups, interviews, questionnaires, citizen science activities and other synergy methods with the various sectors of the Municipality, the Metropolitan City, the Neighborhoods and citizens' stakeholders.

3. Urban Innovation Plan:

- The investigation work is aimed to provide indications of measures

and actions necessary to contrast the economic and social effects of the crisis and indications of priorities and opportunities for the future.

This first phase will start with the publication of the archive, which we will try to constantly feed, and the public dialogues in live streaming on our digital channels.

Public dialogues: first appointments

March 27, 6.30 pm

— **Joan Subirats**, Councilor for the Municipality of Barcelona and professor of Political Science of the Univ. Autonomous of Barcelona.

March 30, 6.30 pm

— **Chiara Giorgi**, Professor of history of political institutions at the Univ. Rome La Sapienza.

April 3, 6.30 pm

— **Sandro Mezzadra**, Professor of Political Philosophy and Colonial and Postcolonial Studies at the Univ. from Bologna.

April 6, 6.30 pm

— **Philip Golub**, Professor of International Relations at the Univ. American of Paris.

The events will be streamed on the Facebook page of the Urban Innovation Foundation available at this [link](#).

For info on the events: : **info@fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it**

