

**CALL FOR PAPERS – Brazilian Journal of Urban and Regional Studies**  
(Revista Brasileira de Estudos Urbanos e Regionais - RBEUR)

**CITIES AND INSURGENCIES:  
NEW AND OLD CONFLICTS, AGENCIES AND RIGHTS**

In recent years we have been witnessing major changes in urban struggles with the intensification of popular protests and the rise of new actors, agencies and spatial issues. Crowds gathering in Zuccotti Park, Pier José Estelita (in Recife), Taksim Square, Tahrir Square and Estação Square (Belo Horizonte), reinvigorating the political meaning of streets and squares; demonstrations in São Paulo, Paris, Athens, and Montreal against evictions, gentrification and police violence, or for housing, leisure facilities, public transportation, civil, social and environmental rights; reticular uprisings, sometimes virulent, including digital uprisings, which have been reaching the centers of political and economic powers and producing scale effects yet unknown: everywhere, bodies in public and virtual forms of engagement has transformed the city into a highly disputed realm.

Expressions of popular unrest are not at all unusual to modernity, and many of them have either focused on the living conditions in cities, or raised important political, legal, technical or planning responses. As we all know, social movements like the Paris Commune in 1871, the Vaccine Revolt in Rio de Janeiro in 1904, or the Stonewall riots in New York City in 1969, have tactically taken control of urban materials, building up significant spatial events of resistance. Remarkable chapters in the history of urban planning and policies, on the other hand, as the garden city movement in England, Situationism in France or the City's Statute in Brazil, are incomprehensible without the reference to various expressions of popular struggles and uprisings.

The fact is that the phenomenon has been time to time challenging political forces, public powers and academic knowledge, and "holding in check" traditional visions of the urban social movements. Not surprisingly, many books, dissertations, seminars, conferences and exhibitions, as well as journals' thematic issues, in Brazil and abroad, have been dedicated to the study of urban counter-powers, squatters, occupy and sit-ins movements, street protests, riots etc, led by workers or cyber-activists, slum residents or street art collectives, homeless groups or theater-activists, among other insurgent forms of production of the common realm and the building of the right to the city.

This thematic issue of the Brazilian Journal of Urban and Regional Studies aims to bring together contributions to the understanding of such processes in their current multiplicity as well as in their historical expressions. How present and past social movements have been taken control of urban territories and materials? How innovate or in continuity are such mobilizations in relation to previous agendas and past substrates of social action? What is the social background of these movements and actors, their codes of cohesion, their dynamics, rhetoric, micro and macro-strategies, and performances? Which means, technologies and languages have they been making use of? Which collective wills and city projects do they constitute and how do their

agendas articulate to new and old spatial policies (regional, environmental, urban, real estate policies)? How effective have they been in terms of spatial justice? Which institutional and cultural goals have they achieved in terms of urban regulation? Which are their limits and flows, their alliances and conflicts in face of governmental powers and the business world?

What is envisaged here is not so much to produce an inventory of successful or virtuous alternatives in terms of urban design, planning or management, not just an analysis of best practices in terms of the social production of the city, in its various and appealing kinds. The primary goal here is to approach insurgent experiences and imaginaries in their socio-spatial concreteness and their political vibration, as a major part of the transformations of cities and territories and as a critical ingredient essential to their understanding in contemporary times.

**NEW DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: September 13, 2015.**

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