



Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability

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Conference Convenors of the SMUS Conference 2023

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Call for Abstracts (Deadline: 13.10.2022)

## 3rd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) & 3rd RC33 Regional Conference Asia: India, 20.–26.02.2023, Onsite conference hosted by IIT Roorkee (India)

Dear Colleagues,

We hereby invite you to submit an abstract for the “3<sup>rd</sup> International and Interdisciplinary Conference on **Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability**” (“SMUS Conference”), which will simultaneously be the “3<sup>rd</sup> RC33 Regional Conference Asia: India”, and take place on site at the **Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee** (IIT Roorkee, India) from **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, to Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

### About the Conference

The “Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability” (GCSMUS or SMUS) together with the Research Committee on “Logic and Methodology in Sociology” (RC33) of the “International Sociology Association” (ISA) and the Research Network “Quantitative Methods” (RN21) of the European Sociology Association” (ESA) will organize a **3<sup>rd</sup> International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability** (“**SMUS Conference**”), which will simultaneously be the “**3<sup>rd</sup> RC33 Regional Conference Asia: India**”, and take place on site at the **Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT Roorkee, India)** from **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, to Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. The six-day conference aims at continuing a global dialogue on methods and should attract methodologists from all over the world and all social and spatial sciences (e. g. anthropology, area studies, architecture, communication studies, computational sciences, digital humanities, educational sciences, geography, historical sciences, humanities, landscape planning, philosophy, psychology, sociology, urban design, urban planning, traffic planning and environmental planning). The conference programme will include keynotes, sessions and advanced methodological training courses. With this intention, we invite scholars of all social and spatial sciences and other scholars who are interested in methodological discussions to suggest an abstract to any sessions of the conference. All papers have to address a methodological problem.

Please find more information on the above institutions on the following websites:

1. Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (GCSMUS): <https://gcsmus.org/>



1

The [Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability](#) is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service - DAAD with funds from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ)



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2. ISA RC33: <http://rc33.org/>
3. ESA RN21: [www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn21-quantitative-methods](http://www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn21-quantitative-methods)
4. IIT Roorkee: <https://www.iitr.ac.in/>

If you are interested in getting **further information on the conference** and other GCSMUS activities, please **subscribe to the SMUS newsletter** by registering via the following website: <https://lists.tu-berlin.de/mailman/listinfo/mes-smusnews>

## Conference Session

1. Co-Production (of Knowledge) as Pathway to Decolonization of Knowledge in the Global South
2. Decolonizing Social Science Methodology.
3. Fieldwork in the Global South – Shedding Light into the Black Box
4. Assessing the Quality of Survey Data
5. Comparing Social Survey Data Collected During a Global Crisis? The Uncertainty of Comparative Research
6. Culturally Sensitive Approaches – Potential New Directions of Empirical Research
7. Application of Quantitative Techniques in Spatial Analysis
8. Ethnography as Spatial-Temporal Method
9. Ethnographic Methods: Constructing Public Space
10. Visualizing Urban Nature: Ethnographic Approaches and Explorations
11. Multimodal Data Integration for Spatial Research
12. How Modality Matters? Learning from the Multiplicity of (Non-)Digital Discourse Analytical Approaches
13. Discourse Analysis, Historical Analysis and Biographical Research: Multi-Method Approaches in Interpretive Empirical Research
14. The Individual and the City: Urban Life Stories
15. Measuring Change in Urban Space(s)



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16. The Longue Durée in the 21st-Century Social Sciences: Methodological Challenges of Analyzing Long-Term Social Processes
17. Design Methods for Accessibility and Social Inclusion
18. Applying Spatial Methods in Homelessness Studies: Methodological and Ethical Challenges
19. Analysing Hidden Forms of Violence and their Spatialities: The Methodological Challenges of the Research on Intimate Partner Violence and Sexualized Violence
20. Spatial Methods in Healthcare Research
21. Methods of Transnational Organisational and Economic Research
22. Methods for Studying the Spatial Dimension of Global Digital Infrastructures
23. Digitalization, Political Participation and Transformation in the Global South
24. Cross-Cultural Research Methods in Community-Oriented Approaches in Human Behavior
25. Spatial Methods in Transdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability
26. Methodological Overlaps, Misunderstandings and Conflicts between Spatial Planning and Social Sciences

### Submission of Abstracts

If you are interested in **presenting a paper in any SMUS India 2023 session**, please submit an **English-language abstract** containing the following information to SMUS India 2023 via the official conference website (<https://forms.gle/cBfN9MCN3VzBRq3w6>) between **15.06.2022** and **13.10.2022**.

- Mention the Session Number and Name
- Paper Title
- Speakers (= name(s), email address(es), institutional affiliation(s))
- 1000-2000 Word Abstract (= short description of the proposed talk. The abstract should explain which methodological problem is addressed, why this is relevant, how the paper refers to the session and what the general line of argument will be.)
- Only one submission per individual will be entertained

Please note that all sessions must adhere to the **rules of session organization** comprised in the RC33 statutes and GCSMUS Objectives (**see below**). Please note that you can give a **maximum of two papers** at the conference, including joint papers. The conference organizers



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will inform you if your proposed paper has been accepted for presentation at the conference. For further information, please see the conference website or contact the session organizers.

Please also kindly **forward this call to anybody to whom it might be of interest.**

Best wishes,

Gaurav Raheja, Manish Kumar Asthana, Shubhajit Sadhukhan

## Rules for Session Organization

1. There will be no conference fees.
2. The session organizers and speakers will be expected to provide for their own funding for accommodation and travel expenses. However, members of SMUS partner institutions will be able to apply for a travel grant via their home institution. In addition, there will be travel grants for non-SMUS scholars from India who present a paper or organize a session. Travel grants will be high enough to fully cover travel costs and living expenses. Details on the application process will follow in autumn this year.
3. The conference language is English. All papers therefore need to be presented in English.
4. All sessions have to be international: Each session should have speakers from at least two countries (exceptions will need good reasons).
5. Each paper must contain a methodological problem (any area, qualitative or quantitative).
6. There will be several calls for abstracts via the SMUS, RC33 and RN21 Newsletters. To begin with, session organizers can prepare a call for abstracts on their own initiative, then at a different time, there will be a common call for abstracts, and session organizers can ask anybody to submit a paper.
7. SMUS, RC33 and RN21 members may distribute these calls via other channels. SMUS members and session organizers are expected to actively advertise their session in their respective scientific communities.
8. Speakers can only have one talk per session. This also applies for joint papers. It will not be possible for A and B to present at the same time one paper as B and A during the same session. This would just extend the time allocated to these speakers.
9. Session organizers may present a paper in their own session.
10. Sessions will have a length of 90 minutes with a maximum of 4 papers or a length of 120 minutes with a maximum of 6 papers. Session organizers can invite as many speakers as they like. The number of sessions depends on the number of papers submitted to each session: for example, if 12 good papers are submitted to a session, there will be two sessions with a length of 90 minutes each with 6 papers in each session.
11. Papers may only be rejected for the conference if they do not present a methodological problem (as stated above), are not in English or are somehow considered by session organizers as not being appropriate or relevant for the conference. Session organizers may ask authors to revise and resubmit their paper so that it fits these requirements. If session organizers do not wish to consider a paper submitted to their session, they should inform



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the author and forward the paper to the local organizing team who will find a session where the paper fits for presentation.

12. Papers directly addressed to the conference organising committee, suggesting a session. The conference organizers will check the formal rules and then offer the paper to the session organizer of the most appropriate session. The session organizers will have to decide on whether or not the paper can be included in their session(s). If the session organizers think that the paper does not fit into their session(s), the papers has to be sent back to the conference organizing committee as soon as possible so that the committee can offer the papers to another session organizer.

## Social policy and crises – multiple perspectives

ESPAAnet Germany doctoral workshop, 16 & 17 March 2023 at WZB Berlin, Germany

European welfare states are at the center of various crises. In contrast to earlier decades, current crises are often not crises of the welfare state, but rather exogenous developments that affect social policy making and/or need to be addressed by social policy measures. These developments include longer-term political, demographic and macroeconomic trends, e.g. party system change and aging societies, as well as shocks such as the economic and financial crisis, refugee migration, climate change, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Ukraine war.

Questions about the consequences of the crises for European welfare states arise on several levels. First, at the level of citizens, the effectiveness and efficiency of welfare state programmes under changing conditions are an issue, specifically of crisis measures, as well as attitudes towards social policy and redistributive measures. Second, the specific consequences of crises for policy fields and institutions must be studied, because fiscal and administrative pressures from crises may differ. Political reactions may imply scaling back of welfare provision, expansion or reorientation to meet changing demands, or new crisis policies. Third, crises affect political actors. Social policy-making may be influenced by changing majorities, transformations of party systems, and the emergence of new actors such as populist radical right parties. Administrative units, businesses, and organizations involved in lobbying and implementation may also be reorganized in the context of crises. Finally, the question of how crises play out can be asked at the level of welfare states. Consequences of qualitatively different developments and shocks may vary across welfare states: Which (types of) welfare states are most affected by exogenous shocks? Which prove to be more resilient?

ESPAAnet Germany cordially invites **contributions from doctoral researchers** at any stage of their dissertation that address the relationship between social policy and crisis(es) at one of the many levels. Comparative papers are highly welcome, as well as those taking a longitudinal perspective. Methodologically, the workshop is open to a broad range of methodological approaches and analytical perspectives. Admitted participants will be expected to submit their workshop paper by 15 Februar 2023, and give a 15-minute presentation at the workshop. Each paper will receive individual feedback by a senior scholar at the workshop.

There will be keynotes given by Dorottya Szikra (Central European University) and Minna van Gerven (Tampere University). Confirmed paper discussants include: Antonio Brettschneider, Lena Hipp, Philipp Lersch, Katrin Menke, Zerrin Salikutluk, Hanna Schwander, Nhat An Trinh, Katharina Zimmermann.

This ESPAnet Germany workshop is a joint endeavour of the working group on welfare state research of the German Political Science Association (DVPW) and the Social Policy Section of the German Sociological Association (DGS). It is organized by Hannah Zagel, Florian Blank, Katja Möhring, and Michaela Schulze, and funded by DIFIS – Deutsches Institut für Interdisziplinäre Sozialpolitikforschung. It will be hosted by the **WZB Berlin** on 16 and 17 March 2023. Please apply with a short abstract (max. 1 page, including research question, theory, and analytical approach) to the organizing team ([espanet2023@wzb.eu](mailto:espanet2023@wzb.eu)) by **15 November 2022**. The abstract should clarify how the research relates to the workshop topic. Notification on acceptance of abstracts will be sent on December 15th, 2022.