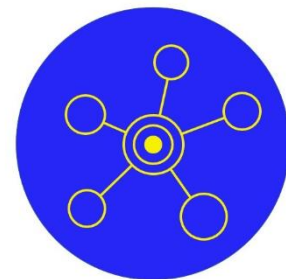


SETTLE - Population imbalances in Europe: challenges of urban concentration versus rural depopulation

Newsletter 3 2nd Quarter 2021

This project studies population imbalances in Europe, their challenges, and opportunities, by contrasting two different territorial subjects: rural areas suffering from depopulation versus growing urbanization areas with a high concentration of population

The objectives of this analysis are to describe the settlement paths of population in Europe and their growth dynamics; to detect through economic and social models the factors conditioning these dynamics; to know the socioeconomic challenges in terms of services and infrastructure as well as the opportunities for a better cohesion between these two territorial realities; and to describe relations between rural areas and cities.



SETTLE

Erasmus + Project

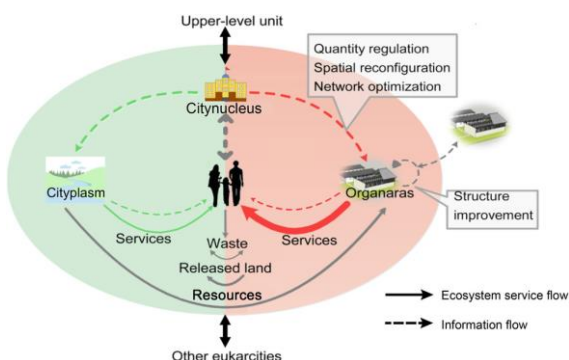


Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Main facts of population in Europe: The city as a cell

Europe, as well as the rest of the world, is becoming increasingly urban. Cities take organaras as the operating units and can optimize urban structures, processes and functions by learning from eukaryotic cells in traits and principles that have been optimized via evolution over billions of years. The rapidly urbanizing world can provide much empirical evidence for such studies.

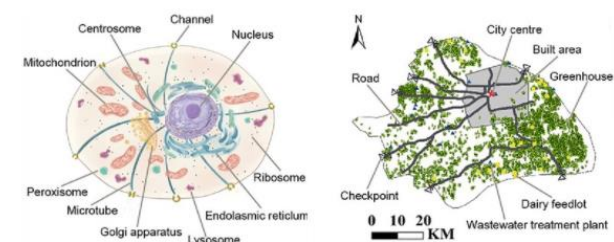
The super-cell city model provides a solid basis in principle and in methodology for finding shared features among living systems and two levels of quasi-living systems (eukarcities and organaras).



The super-cell city model encourages transdisciplinary studies and motivates an action-based, problem-driven urban research into university curriculum involving cities and cells. Through analogizing with cytology studies, the planning and management of cities can establish a set of life principles based on eukaryotic cell structure and process, and connect multiple disciplines, including science, engineering, policy and culture in a coherent manner to promote in-depth research and practices.

The analysis of the super-cell is just the tip of the iceberg, and the purpose of interdisciplinary studies is to introduce a methodology for analysing an important feature of the changing world.

At present, more and more places are taking cities as governance units worldwide. We suggest that the super-cell city model not only contributes to the development of every city, but also contributes to sustainable global development by guiding all cities towards supporting a model optimized for humans and sympathetic to the environment.



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TOPICS for the CONFERENCE PAPERS

Due to the pandemic situation and after consultations with the Erasmus + Agency, we must tell you that the Conference will be postponed for some months, **to be held in 2022 Spring**. Those who have sent abstracts will receive an evaluation of the Scientific Committee by mid May 2021, as it was first forecasted, so that you can keep on working on your papers for an extended time.

For those that did not send a paper yet, **the abstracts reception will be open up to the end of 2021** on the topics suggested below.



- Regional policy design for a balanced population
- Depopulation
- Rural-urban proximity
- Services infrastructure and welfare for population in cities and rural areas
- Population imbalances and migration
- Entrepreneurship and university talent attraction leading to urban concentration
- Environmental and legal aspects of sustainability in smart cities and depopulated areas
- Systemic transformation and influence on population
- Population statistics advances
- Others related to population imbalances (to be evaluated by the Scientific Committee)

The SETTLE network

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NEWS

International Conference of Regional Science (AECR) “full cities, empty territories”

The Madrid Association of Regional Science and the Spanish Association of Regional Science are pleased to invite you to participate in the XLVI International Conference on Regional Science (Reunión de Estudios Regionales – RER), which will take place at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid on November 24, 25 and 26, 2021. Issues such as demographic evolution are decisive in a society like ours, which is increasingly aging, and with a lower rate of generational renewal.

[Read more](#)

4th Conference of the European Society of Historical Demography

While researchers in all disciplines and from all parts of the world have increasingly turned to the question of how we confront today's unfolding epidemiological crisis, using broad historical lenses and a long empirical research tradition of historical demography can contribute substantially to this debate. The conference leading theme is Human–environmental nexus in the past: understanding links between demographic variability, ecology and disease.

[Read more](#)

ARTICLES

Drivers of depopulation and spatial interdependence in a regional context

There is a growing consensus on the need to propose specific policies to tackle the ongoing population decline in extensive rural areas of Southern Europe. Developing policies to target this issue requires assessment of the spatial, economic and structural conditions that explain why a municipality experiences depopulation. This study explores the drivers of population growth in the municipalities of a Mediterranean region.

[Read more](#)

Useful City or the truth about systemic context of depopulation and shrinking cities

The phenomenon of depopulation and shrinkage of cities has been observed. The process of urban depopulation has recently become the theme of numerous reports and alarmist research works. However, the diagnostic background of this phenomenon has got a narrow methodical foundation, studied with the number of residents. The diversity, complexity and dynamics of processes taking place in contemporary cities are ignored.

[Read more](#)

WHO is WHO in POPULATION?

European Network for Rural Development

The European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) serves as a hub for exchange of information on how Rural Development policy, programmes, projects and other initiatives. They support effective implementation of EU Member States' Rural Development Programmes by generating and sharing knowledge, as well as through facilitating information exchange and cooperation across rural Europe.

<https://enrd.ec.europa.eu>



Population Matters

Population Matters is a UK-based charity working globally to achieve a better future for people and planet. They campaign, inform, undertake research and do all we can to encourage an open, fair-minded and constructive debate about population and sustainability. They empower choice and support human rights, women's empowerment and global justice.

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