COST Action CA18126
*Writing Urban Places*
*New Narratives of the European City*

***Core Group***

**Tuesday, February 23, 2023**
Online

Present: Klaske, Dalia, Susana, Sonja, Jorge, Carlos, Dalia, Holly, Slobodan, Onorina

**Meeting agenda**

**1. Budge**

Klaske

* COST has a budget for actions this year. After emailing the proposal to core group members, I received only positive responses; I emailed COST with the budget.
* Changes are as follows:

 1. Training school: 6 extra participants

 2. COST meeting Delft: 16 extra participants (would allow more people from the network and people from cities we are working with to participate)

 3. STSM

 4. Budget for film editing (especially for Tampara)

 5. Invitation from Rennes University in France (4 COST action members involved)

**2. Field work: Tirana**

Slobodan

* Everything is under control, the team is in proposes of preparing workshop documents and advertising
* Very positive about Tirana, it fits very well with previous training

Holly

* Willie and I are coordinating pack of information this week so hopefully will come out soon (next week)

**3. Publication**

Klaske: Micheal Limerick has let me know that the text is on the way

Luis and Susana: Very positive - we have found the work we seek. We have heard from Atlas and have given them a deadline. We need to discuss with Atlas as they will contribute in Porto and Armada; we must ensure they do not duplicate.

Luis: We needed to include other possible contributors, photographer and artists have brought different medium, perspectives and moments to allow us to understand the context of Aramada. We have selected 8 contributors, we will write the text ourselves and ask for visual material which needs to be published with it.

Carlos: The situation in Porto is similar. We have collected the material from almost all contributors. We are working on the introduction to create coherence for the hybrid chapter. We hope to deliver chapter soon.

Klaske: News from Delft, it was unknown if we would contribute in the past. We have been thinking of city of memories, relating to the cemetery. We propose to collect people in the network who have a connection to Delft, and ask for a description of everyday narratives. We have so far collected 8 participants, the outcome may provide a dialogue with multiple forms or a series of fragments. It will be a nice playful contribution to book.

Jorge: Working group 1 is 1000 words missing, we need to rewrite the stories of the people we talked to. Material is there, it just needs rewriting. We hope it will be ready soon.

Slobodan: We have all missed alot of deadlines, is there a next deadline we should all respond to. We began with 3000 words +- 10%, is it possible to extend?

Klaske: I think most texts are longer.

Slobodan: Do we have some limitations?

Klaske: We are trying to provide some flexibility, 2nd June is when we want to present context of book and visual material. The deadline we cannot shift is 14th September. Book must be published online by 14th September. We have 4/5 articles in an advance stage, a couple in between, and a few missing.

Slobodan: Perfect, Skopje text should be ready in 2/3 weeks time for second time review.

Klaske: Working group 3, working group 4, and introduction can come last.

**4. Members**

Susana: Members are missing off the website, we need people to update with bio's and photographs. We could host a call for updates, we also need to discuss who should be on the website, active / non active members.

Jorge: We have an E-COST mailing list which Susana has, and the mailchimp mailing list which Onorina has. We always message one mailing list and miss the other. There is a chance some people will be missed. Holly could make a call through social media to catch them.

Klaske: We also have an issue that people who are not active ask for a certificate for their CV. There has to be a balance between, people who contribute and people who want an association to the network.

Jorge: I propose three stages

Step 1 - anyone who wants to represented by network can reply to the call

Step 2 - anyone who wants to change profile can update their picture and bio

Step 3 - we make a sweep of people who we have no participation from, we can remove them from the website

Does this seem logical? We then arrive to June with a clean and updated network.

Susana - E-COST platform has all bios and emails, which only Klaske, me have access on, we can provide a list of names and emails to check against.

**5. Delft conference**

Klaske: This leads quite naturally to who can participate in the Delft conference. Who contributed very actively to working groups and journals we can priorities for the conference. Then a second group who participate in webinars and training school. Unfortunately we must prioritise as we do not have enough spaces. We also know there will be a large group who cannot come. So please let me know who you would want to invite from your working group / local organising team.

Dalia: How should we do this? a shared list?

Klaske: Yes we should share a list. There is not enough space for all the contributors from vademecum / repository

Susana: Thank you, I will export a list from E-COST and place it on google drive, we can use this to make a list.

Sonja: I think you can do this through E-COST and Salma has permission to do so.

Klaske: I think we should provide 1 list, green people - invited first, orange people - invited second if places left.

Susana: I will make a new list this afternoon.

Slobodan: I have a second dilemma, we have pre-covid and after-covid, we have access members in the beginning, who has drifted away. We have 85 members in working group 4, many have been involved in the meetings early on, however after covid, many are not active. Also a lots of members contributed to fieldwork events.

Klaske: It is up to you, if people are not active now, perhaps they are not interested, please think who is active and who would benefit most from the conference.

About the conference - we could brainstorm a bit of what could be included. We could use the evening before or morning after for an excursion.

I want to propose three blocks.

* 1. Introduction, reflections and conclusions from working groups.
* 2. Small group activities, City walk in Delft and a discussion on future collaborations
* 3. Address events, and cities we have addressed, close with books and journals

Jorge: I would revise one the three, to include some looking into the future, your proposal is all about the past. Would there be a possibility of other initiatives of this sort? Younger researchers could establish there own COST actions etc...

Slobodan: In terms of what Jorge suggested, I wanted to suggest in between in a break, perhaps we should have a core group meeting of what to do next, not in a huge number, but people who have and we think would contribute later on?

Jorge: I am thinking about broader membership, e.g. young researchers, who have been attending working groups and so on to become more independent.

Klaske: I was thinking it could be a parallel session, however it could become part of a session itself, what are future research topics, how to build on the research.

Slobodan: We are planning a meeting in Bucharest at the end of August so we can use Delft as a place to reflect and Bucharest to refine ideas.

Klaske: We could have a core group meeting the day before or early morning on the day of the conference.

Slobodan: Yes that sounds great.

Klaske: Are people in favour of this, having a core group meeting the day before or after the conference? I will add it to be confirmed at the next meetings.

Susana: Do we have plan or budget to invite keynote speakers? From outside the network.

Klaske: Where you thinking of someone in particular?

Susana: Yes, Nick Dunn from Lancaster university is working on future urban studies, who works with narratives. He is an exciting key note speaker, he would be good to discuss future possibilities. https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/lica/about/people/nick-dunn#publications

Klaske: At the next core group meeting we will have a draft of the programme and can discuss it properly at next meeting. There are extras in the field who have followed network but are not a member, Nick Dunn is an example of this.

Angeliki and Saskia want to organise an event, so perhaps we split up to make this accessible.

**6. Final comments**

Sonja: We were discussing the best way to get publications published. We have discussed that our university, will include Other Destinations in university publishing plan and therefore we can have complementary copies made.

As for progress we are missing one or two translations but will have it done by September.

Luis: Writing journal 7, we are making final corrections on pdf, it is nearly finished, we are happy with results and how it developed.

Holly - This week I will work with Willie on the Tirana documentation and social media.

Carlos - We could use repository at the delft event? It could be in part two the activity sections.

Klaske: Now repository is nearly finished, lets organise an online webinar which could also be a meeting for working group 3.

Carlos: that sounds great, let see which moments are appropriate and which formats to use.

Klaske: Rennes has also asked to see both the vademecum and repository at the event in Rennes.

Carlos: That sounds wonderful

Dalia: Tampara book chapter was submitted early February, and we have been catching up on other events. Early may is an exam week here: so maybe we use it as an event with students before may.

Jorge: In regards to the film, I am working on a proposal with Antonio Pauletti for an STSM in Skopje. I have not had feedback from the canakkale film editing, I hope to hear soon. We hope that film can help us transcend the walls of academia. As a working group we are focussing on this.

Slobodan: I am expecting Jorge for the STSM, in early may to Skopje for the film. We are wrapping up the writing place journal and text for the book.

Klaske: Jorge may I ask you to send dates for the meeting in Skopje, Antonio needs to send STSM application.

Klaske: Thanks everyone for being here: we are well on track and lots of great, here is repository for those who have not yet seen it.