

WG2 webinar on 4 June 2020 – Cost Action Narrating Urban Places

Participants:

Murad Arslan
Nevena Dakovic
Dalia Dijokiene
Juan Garcia
Nuno Granco
Klaske Havik
Michael Kelly
Adriana Martins
Sernaz Naslan
Sonja Novak
Matej Niksik
Kris Pint
Svava Riesto
Luisa Seixas
Matthew Skjonsberg
Henriette Steiner
Angelos Theocharis
Kestutis Zaleckis
Saskia de Wit

Meeting Chairs: Svava & Henriette (minutes)

Agenda and minutes:

-welcome

-presentation and celebration of the Vademecum, which is our first co-produced piece of work

Kris presents the Vademecum and extends thanks to everyone who has contributed to and worked on the Vademecum on behalf of the editorial committee – and extends thanks to all the contributors. It came into being at a tough moment, but we made it and we are all very pleased with it and hope it will come to good use in the project and elsewhere.

Klaske lets us know that the graphic designer and the publisher are now moving into print phase. The digital version is online here: <https://writingurbanplaces.eu/wup-news/vademecum-77-minor-terms-for-writing-urban-places/>. As soon as the printed version is ready, author copies will be shipped to everyone. And there will be a discount to order extra copies. Klaske will check with COST whether the digital file can be shared on the websites of our institutions/universities. In any case it is possible to place the abovementioned link on your own / institutional website.

Rather than one large launch, the Vademecum will be presented in several small launches in various places across Europe- authors are encouraged to do local launches if they want. It would be great to post news about book launches at the COST website, perhaps we can all be invited to smaller events involving the Vademecum since we are so digital now.

-activities in the COST action during the coming year

Klaske gives an overview of the situation in the network – some events were cancelled given the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the website has become a more active online meeting point. Please check it out for news, calls and information, including information about STSM (Short-term-scientific mission) possibilities.

WG3 is working on a journal issue on “Narrative Methods fro Writing Urban Places”. Possibly, some WG2 members will be approached to act as reviewers for articles. Please do let us know if you would be interested in such a task.

WG4 posts a call for fieldwork projects that members of the network are involved in, and that the network could contribute to. They aim to present the projects in a small expo at the midterm conference. <https://writingurbanplaces.eu/call-wup/call-for-projects-field-work-exhibition-writing-urban-places-porto-conference-18-19-november-2020/>

As of May 1st, we are in the new project year, the Cost-action’s report has been approved by the EU. We hope to transfer unused funds due to the COVID-19 situation to the coming year.

Main event for the coming year is the mid-term conference (Porto, 17.-18. November 2020). Hopefully, we can meet physically by that time, but we might move to online or hybrid or online formats. At the mid-term conference, each working group will present their work to the other groups. We could then present the Vademecum as the collaborative output of WG 2 (and others).

In Spring 2021, we plan a series of cross-WG workshops. The precise topics and format for these workshops will be collated during the midterm conference.

Input in the form of ideas or possibilities to host a workshop are welcome. At the website we will post specific information about deadline for input (Adriana suggested this).

-international workshops within the COST action – plans and possibilities

We hope it will be possible to meet in a series of international workshops next cost-year (May 2020-May 2021). These workshops would then take place in different cities, and involve a more thematic way of working which can move across the working group and can take place as a series of workshops in the spring 2021, named after the key terms of the network. Also the Tallin workshop is moved to the next year.

-activities in our working group in the coming year – bring in your ideas and proposals

It's still possible to propose events and bring in ideas for activities and events for WG 2. Please also think about round table events or sessions at conferences.

Discussion about the possibility to use the network to talk about pandemic-related questions, e.g. social distancing, proximity etc.

Please think about it and by September where we will have a new WG2 webinar and we can discuss 1) what we will present as a group at the mid-term conference of the cost action (=how we will present the Vademecum, 2) what will happen in WG 2 next year also, 3) how the Vademecum can be used in various contexts.

Michael Kelly suggests to use the Working Group meetings to give presentations of ongoing work, etc. also through the webinars. Please everyone send proposals and if you would like to contribute, please get in touch! We will have to see how we can move forward and find a rhythm and workflow and organization both digital and in the hopeful spirit that we will soon have **real** meetings again.