RESEARCH SEMINAR DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Planning the Post-COVID City

Dr Stefania Fiorentino and Ms Ada HY Lee Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge 24 Feb 2022 (Thu) 4:30-6:00 pm (UTC+8)

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The way we live, plan and experience cities have changed during the pandemic. Some of these changes might carry longer-term impacts, requiring new planning and governance solutions on issues as diverse as public transport, commercial vacancies, housing density and leisure. Disruptions to cities are nothing new in the history of planning – past environmental and health emergencies alongside economic and political disruptions have led to the development of new planning theories and practices in Europe since the late 19th century. Yet the areas for intervention stimulated by COVID-19 are layering upon other major issues like climate change and political uncertainties, extending the scope and redefining the scale of key planning priorities. Our research is exploring both the long history of major disruptions to cities and how cities around the world are responding to the current, pandemic-led challenges. After an initial historical search drawing lessons learnt from previous disruptions, we have collected primary data interviewing major planning stakeholders in selected global cities. These data will be useful to speculate implications for the post-COVID city and the future direction of planning and regeneration.



Stefania Fiorentino joined the University of Cambridge, Department of Land Economy, in October 2020. She holds a PhD in Planning Studies from the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, where she has also lectured and worked as a researcher. Her research interests concentrate on the intertwining relations between planning and local economic development. As an academic, she is active influencing policy making and she is regularly consulted by institutional bodies (e.g., the EU Commission, local authorities, Centre for London, etc.). She is currently leading a funded research project on Planning the Post-COVID with Professor Philip Allmendinger.



Ada Lee started her career as a transport and development journalist in Hong Kong, where she is from. The job inspired her to pursue an MPhil in Environmental Policy at the Department of Land Economy in 2014. After finishing her studies, she returned to Hong Kong to work as a research assistant at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She returned to Cambridge for her PhD in 2018, studying under Professor Phil Allmendinger. Ada's PhD examines land-related conflict in Hong Kong, informed by the theory of postpolitics. Currently she is working on a research project on Planning the Post-COVID City with Professor Phil Allmendinger and Dr Stefania Fiorentino, and another one on planning theory with Dr Franziska Sielker.





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