

Protest and Resistance in the Tourist City

An International Symposium



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27-30 November 2014

Center for Metropolitan Studies
Hardenbergstr. 16-18 | D - 10623 Berlin

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Tourism has become one of the main economic development resources in many cities of the global North and of the global South. Urban leaders have promoted various initiatives and campaigns to support and expand the growth of the tourism sector in their cities in partnership with the private sector, mobilizing the cultural, social and physical capital present in their city in the process. The expansion and prioritization of the tourism sector in urban development strategies and the manifold impacts of the growing presence and prevalence of tourism on urban spaces and on the life of residents have generated new contestations of, and conflicts over, the visitor economy and tourism development in cities. These conflicts often seem to revolve around the negative effects tourism has, or is believed to have, on neighbourhoods, local communities and the urban environment; the way tourism's costs and benefits are distributed; the role tourism plays in spatial restructuring and gentrification processes; and the aims and objectives of boosterist tourism policies at the local and regional levels. Thus far, the rise of urban tourism as a source of contention and dispute in urban social and political agendas has received relatively little systematic attention and analysis. Tied to an eponymous book project, the conference seeks to address this lacunae and will bring together researchers along with activists and practitioners

- to examine and compare the various ways in which community groups, activists and other people and organizations respond to - and challenge - tourism development in cities around the world;
- identify opportunities and pathways for alternative/bottom-up/community-based approaches to urban tourism development and reflect on their potential - and limits - for achieving more equitable and/or 'sustainable' patterns of urban tourism.

We have a limited number of places for additional attendees. For further details and to register please send an e-mail to planungstheorie@b-tu.de. The registration deadline is November 20th 2014.

**Organized by: Dr. Claire Colomb
(UCL, London) & Dr. Johannes
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