At 14 pm CET RSAI President Eduardo Haddad opens the meeting, thanking attendees for their participation in previous meetings.

Apologies are received from Prof. Carlos Azzoni (LARSA Representative). The following RSAI Council members, ex officio members, LRPC members, and invitees join the meeting:

- Andre Torre (ERSA President)
- Andrea Caragliu (RSAI Executive Director)
- Briam Kim (PRSCO Representative)
- Daniela Luminita-Constantin (Councillor at large)
- Eduardo Haddad (RSAI President)
- Eveline Van Leeuwen (ERSA representative)
- Francisco Carballo Cruz (ERSA Representative)
- Isabelle Thomas (Councillor at large)
- Jouke Van Dijk (Councillor at large)
- Kingsley Haines (LRPC)
- Lily Kiminami (PRSCO Representative)
- Martijn Smit (Newsletter Editor)
- Patricio Aroca (LARSA representative)
- Rachel Franklin (PRSCO President)
- Rosella Nicolini (Councillor-at-large)
- Sandy Dell’erba (NARSC representative)
- Tomaz Dentinho (RSPP EiC)

1. **Approval of the minutes of the Feb. 26, 2021 online meeting (Annex 2)**

   The minutes of the Feb. 26, 2021 meeting are unanimously approved.

2. **Report on the Jul. 15, 2021 LRPC meeting (Roberta Capello)**

   Prof. Haddad reports on behalf of Roberta Capello, Chair of the LRPC, on the contents discussed during the Jul. 15, 2021 LRPC meeting. The LRPC discussed the composition of the Presidential Search Committee, and stressed the need for gender balance. For the LRPC, Andrés Rodrigues-Pose and Roberta Capello were proposed as members of the Presidential search committee.

   During the LRPC, the second item discussed was the changing landscape in the publication open access. Prof. Haddad also asked the LRPC suggestions to expand the association in Africa and the Middle East. LRPC members provided substantial guidance.

Andrea Caragliu explains that the World Congress caused a gross profit of 28,000€ for the Association. However, roughly 5,000€ have been left at the Mogador hotel as a deposit, and are at risk of not being redeemable. Prod. Dell’erba remarks this is a small sum. André Torre congratulates for the organization of the event.

4. **Postponement of the NERSA/NARSC 2021 Summer School to 2022**

The Executive Director reports that the LOC of the event in Cornell has decided to postpone the summer school to 2022 in order to maximize the chances to hold it in presence. The dedicated funding received from the RSAI will be frozen at Cornell.

5. **Opening of new position as Councillor-at-large for 2022-2024 (end of Maria Abreu’s term)**

Andrea Caragliu reports that the elections of a new Councillor-At-Large to replace Prof. Abreu on the Council will be opened in October. In the meanwhile, candidatures for the possible elections are being received, open to all members.


Andrea Caragliu reports about the good financial state of the association and proposes to do some free thinking about its future use. Prof. Dentinho says that, on the basis of financial regulations in Portugal, the profits of the association are going to be smaller because the RSAI will have to report the fees for the 2020 edition of the World Congress. Account are unanimously approved.

7. **Election of Executive Director for 2022-2024 (Annex 4)**

Andrea Caragliu leaves the room. The Council decides without Prof. Caragliu on Zoom, and agrees to approve his candidature for a second term as Executive Director. Andrea Caragliu is let back in Zoom, and the Council congratulates him on the re-election.

8. **Selection of the Search Committee for the election of the incoming RSAI President, 2023-2024**

Prof. Haddad introduces the topic of the selection of the Search Committee for the election of the incoming RSAI President, 2023-2024. He clarifies the election will take place at the November meeting of the Council. Prof. Franklin stresses it should be crystal clear that by tradition the next President will come from ERSA. André Torre proposes to open the call for candidatures, and then close it at the end of October 2021.

The Council agrees to nominate the following members: Eduardo Haddad (President), Mark Partridge (Immediate Past President), Andrés RodríguezPose and Roberta Capello (LRPC members), Elizabeth Mack (NARSC representative), André Torre (ERSA representative), Carlos Azzoni (LARSA representative), and Brian Kim (PRSCO representative). Patricio Aroca proposes to approve the composition representative; Sandy Dell’erba seconds. The Council approves the composition of the Search Committee. Andrea Caragliu will notify its members of the next steps.

9. **Organization of the 2023 RSAI World Congress**

Eduardo Haddad explains the management discussed with Chinese colleagues the possibility to organize the next world congress. Rachel Franklin makes a request to minimize the number of Regional Science conferences; she also suggests the World Congress to be joined with another international Regional Science event. Isabelle Thomas agrees on the topic. Rosella Nicolini adds she agrees, and she also advises to recover the proposal from Buenos Aires. Rachel Franklin suggests to consider joining the World Congress with PRSCO. Eduardo Haddad agrees with the need to limit the number of events, but he also adds World Congresses are crucial in expanding new sections. Isabelle Thomas adds the RSAI should somehow reinvent itself. Jouke Van Dijk remarks there is no reason why world congresses should not be merged with
supranational events. Rachel Franklin adds that the RSAI should be at the forefront of the discussion, rather than lagging behind. Kingsley Haynes replies that the mixed approach could be split in two sub-parts, one in remote, and one, before or after, in presence. Sandy Dell’erba agrees that could be a good idea.

Eduardo Haddad summarizes this way: the Council suggests to merge the event with a supranational event. Kingsley replies this could be asked the LRPC. Eveline Van Leeuwen adds it would be great to find places that are strategic to both institutions. André Torre says financial issues may arise, but Rachel Franklin replies that NARSC has a long-standing tradition in this respect. Tomaz Dentinho proposes to have the next two World Congresses in China and Africa. RSAI may learn from the pandemic experience. In Portugal events have been split into mixed in presence-in remote and this helped younger scholars join.

André Torre reports that 80% of ERSA attendees were under 40. Isabelle Thomas replies that this implies that members over 40 were thus discouraged from joining online. Kingsley Haines adds that the decision is more complicated than how it has been presented. The decision to organize World Congresses is also meant to strategically create new sections.

10. Selection of new RSAI Newsletter Co-Editor (Martijn Smit, Annex 5)

Martijn Smit explains that Graham Clarke has stepped down from co-editing the RSAI Newsletter. A call for a co-editor was released with deadline in August. Two candidatures were received: one from Don J. Webber (University of Sheffield) and another from Mina Akhavan (Politecnico di Milano). André Torre asks details, and Martijn Smit provides a detailed discussion of the two candidatures. Jouke Van Dijk suggests that given the amount of work to be done three editors could be conceived, but Martijn Smit replies that coordination costs would become relevant. A selection committee made up of Martijn Smit (RSAI Newsletter Editor) and Andrea Caragliu (RSAI Executive Director) was approved in the previous meeting of the council, and after reviewing the selection criteria the committee proposes to select Dr. Akhavan. Her candidature is unanimously approved by the Council.

11. Call for applications for the new Editor-in-Chief of Papers in Regional Science, 2022-2024

Andrea Caragliu explains that a public call for candidatures will be open within mid September. Patricio Aroca asks whether Roberta Capello can be renewed for another term and whether any criterion must be followed (such as geographical origin). Andrea Caragliu reports that Prof. Capello reached the maximum number of terms she can be renewed.


Rosella Nicolini, member of the PiRS editorial board, explains that the journal did great over the past academic year. It turns out the journal is top ranking among Regional Science journals, with only one with a higher ranking. The IF of the Journal went up to 2.866, from 2.2 in 2020. Submissions increased substantially (700 so far for 2021). The rejection rate is about 80%. She adds that these good numbers will be crucial in renegotiating the contract with Wiley. Eduardo Haddad congratulates Roberta Capello and the whole editorial team for these last 9 years.

13. RSPP Report 2020 (Tomaz Dentinho, Annex 7)

Tomaz Dentinho explains that RSPP’s strategy was to increase the numerator and denominator of the IF. Presently the simulated IF is equal to 1.5, hoping to reach 2 next year. Lots of citations were received in 2021 and good special issues guest-edited. Plans are still to have more successful special issues. André Torre congratulates Tomaz Dentinho for his great job. Prof. Dentinho replies submissions from North America and Europe may increase.

14. RSPP Proposal of a YouTube Channel (Annex 8)

Andrea Caragliu explains the proposal to activate a YouTube Channel for Regional Science Policy & Practice. Tomaz Dentinho adds that the editorial team is happy about the idea, but also suggests to be cautious. Prof. Dentinho advises to try and see how things will evolve in one year. Francisco Carbalho adds it is good to be
creative and try. Francisco Carballo proposes to approve the creation of the channel; André Torre seconds the proposal. The Council unanimously agrees.

15. Proposed composition of the incoming RSAI dissertation award
Andrea Caragliu explains that the award committee has served many years, and its Chair, Prof. Laurie Schintler, has resigned. She has provided several suggestions for possible replacements: these include Sarah Low, Yuri Mansuri, Isabelle Thomas, Ana Maria Bonomi Barufi, Soushi Suzuki, Daniela L. Constantin, Alan Murray, Kara Kockelman. Eduardo Haddad suggests to get in touch with these members to ask their willingness to serve. Tomaz Dentinho also suggests Nij Tintsin and Sumana Banerjee. Sandy Dell’erba suggests instead to make an open call. The Council agrees and decides to organize one to canvass bottom-up candidates within the end of September.

Rachel Franklin suggests to set up a protocol: send email to all national sections to suggest names, to make the process more transparent. Sandy Dell’erba adds that, on the basis of his experience on the diversity committee for NARSC, data are crucial, and that information on age and gender should be collected upon registration. Prof. Franklin agrees, but stresses that privacy rules could differ between the EU and the UK.

16. Activation of diversity, honors, and communication committees
Eduardo Haddad reminds the Council that after the previous council meeting the management would expect suggestions from Council members on the rules and composition of the new committees to be activated, so that they can be made working as of 2022. Andrea Caragliu adds suggestions should come within a month.

17. AOB
A suggestion by Sandy Dell’erba is to have a report on the web site a continuously update list of webinars on Regional Science that people could consult. Sandy Dell’erba asks about the open access paradigm, and suggests to get in touch with colleagues from other disciplines. Tomaz Dentinho adds that the association has 4,500 members, and this is really a remarkable achievement. For RSPP, Prof. Dentinho says increasing issues (up to 12 per year) could be a viable strategy for further strengthening the journal.

18. Next meeting
The next meeting will be held in November, around the period of the NARSC Congress (Nov. 8-11, 2021).

With no more points to discuss, at 4 pm CET Andrea Caragliu adjourns the meeting.
At 12.05 pm CET RSAI President Eduardo Haddad opens the meeting, thanking attendees for their participation in previous meetings, and welcoming new Council members. He also explains his motivation as incoming President, and praises Mark Partridge for his help in the transition. He also notifies the Council that he and Andrea Caragliu will get in touch with Presidents of Supranationals for enhancing mutual relations. Prof. Haddad further explains that the purpose of today’s meeting is to activate three new committees.

The following RSAI Council members, ex officio members, LRPC members, and invitees join the meeting:

- Andre Torre (ERSA President)
- Andrea Caragliu (Executive Director)
- Carlos Azzoni (LARSA Representative)
- Daniela Luminita-Constantin (Councillor at large)
- Eduardo Haddad (RSAI President)
- Francisco Carballo Cruz (ERSA Representative)
- Isabelle Thomas (Councillor at large)
- Jouke Van Dijk (Councillor at large)
- Lily Kiminami (PRSCO Representative)
- Mark Partridge (Immediate Past President)
- Peter Batey (LRPC and RSAI Archivist)
- Peter Stenberg (NARSC Representative)
- Rachel Franklin PRSCO President)
- Roberta Capello (PIRS EiC)
- Tomaz Dentinho (RSPP EiC)

1. **Apologies (Annex 1)**
   - Rosella Nicolini (Councillor at large)
   - Eveline Van Leeuwen (ERSA representative)
   - Serena Erendira (LARSA representative)
   - Patricio Aroca (LARSA representative)

2. **Approval of the minutes of the Nov. 18, 2020 online meeting (Annex 2)**

   Item 2: Jouke Van Dijk says he is not sure about the outcome of the decisions on the LRPC.
Mark Partridge explains he eventually did not write the LRPC to summarise the discussion. Peter Batey adds that in the November meeting he took notes of the discussion itself, on what regional science is, and what the LRPC can do. Notes were not circulated. Eduardo Haddad proposes a joint meeting with himself, Prof. Partridge, and Prof. Batey.

Prof. Partridge asks Prof. Van Dijk what the exact question is on. Roberta Capello stresses that the LRPC is in the Constitution, and described that its role is precisely described. André Torre asks whether the LRPC met before. Eduardo Haddad replied they met on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021.

Prof. Partridge explains that the gist of the letter from the President to the LRPC was to elicit strategic advice. He also requests a modification for point 9: involvement of general membership as suggested by the strategic planning committee.

André Torre seconds the minutes. Minutes are unanimously approved.

3. Activation of diversity, honors, and communication committees (Annex 3)

Eduardo Haddad explains he and the Executive Director went through notes, minutes, and rules. Eventually they came up with a proposal for rules, goals, and ways of electing members. They also came up with proposals of potential members for both the three new committees, as well as regular ones for this year.

Andrea Caragliu explains the proposal. He explains that the goal of the diversity committee should be promoting the presence of a balanced composition of members in the RSAI activities; stimulating candidatures to RSAI awards by different members whenever appropriate; and to draft a list of recommendations to guide future developments of the Association. Members of this committee should remain in charge for two years. For the first term, two members will remain in charge for three years, in order to guarantee historical memory. The RSAI Council would nominate five members of the committee, one for each supranational plus the RSAI President. These members would report to the RSAI Council whenever necessary.

As for the communication committee, its goals would be promoting the branding of the Association and the marketing of its activities all over the world; guaranteeing an effective and active presence of the Association on the main social media. Members would remain in charge for two years. For the first term, two members will remain in charge for three years, in order to guarantee historical memory. The RSAI Council would nominate five members of the committee, one for each supranational plus the RSAI Executive Director. Committee members would report to the RSAI Council whenever necessary.

Lastly, as for the honors committee, its goals would be guaranteeing the smooth and timely constitution of the awards committees; proposing the RSAI Council names for all award committees; playing the role of support during the whole period of activities of each award committee, verifying that deadlines are met and procedures are followed according to the rules; and proposing the RSAI Council possible amendments of existing award rules if appropriate. Members would remain in charge for two years. For the first term, two members will remain in charge for three years, in order to guarantee historical memory. The RSAI Council would select five members of the committee, one for each supranational plus RSAI President and Executive Director, and Committee members would refer to the RSAI Council whenever needed.

Rachel Franklin suggests that a committee could actually deal with diversity, inclusion, and equality. She is also worried that the committee won’t be heard. The Council should draft a statement on what it believes our policy should be. Eduardo Haddad replies that the goals of the committee could be left as they are, and then let the committee ask the Council to promote a statement. Mark Partridge adds that the work seems to go the right direction. Rachel Franklin replies that a two-sentences statement from the Council may guide the work of the Committee.
André Torre claims materials came in too late. Moreover, boundaries of committees’ powers should be clarified. Rachel Franklin proposes to approve the committees today and open its membership to non-Council members. Jouke Van Dijk supports the choice of exact goals. Relations should be structural. André Torre agrees to postpone their activation and think about the goals, the structure, and proposition of each committee. Roberta Capello adds that these are important issues, but we still have to start from something. To be practical, she suggests to provide suggestions starting from what is already being proposed, bearing in mind that all suggestions must be consistent with the Constitution. Francisco Carballo-Cruz reminds that minutes say that (point 3) there are a number of suggestions from the strategic committee.

Jouke Van Dijk asks if there are other committees. Rachel Franklin stresses that rules should be changed. Eduardo Haddad replies that the Honors committee can make proposals to change rules. Rachel Franklin says that membership of these awards adds visibility to their members.

Tomaz Dentinho asks to add a member of the RSPP editorial board among Peter Nijkamp award committee members.

Roberta Capello adds that these are important issues, but we still have to start from something. To be practical, she suggests to provide suggestions starting from what is already being proposed, bearing in mind that all suggestions must be consistent with the Constitution. Francisco Carballo-Cruz reminds that minutes say that (point 3) there are a number of suggestions from the strategic committee.

Jouke Van Dijk asks if there are other committees. Rachel Franklin stresses that rules should be changed. Eduardo Haddad replies that the Honors committee can make proposals to change rules. Rachel Franklin says that membership of these awards adds visibility to their members.

The final decision about the activation of the new committees is postponed to the next meeting. Council members agree they will send the President and Executive Director suggestions for possible modifications on the rules and composition of the committees before the Council meets.

4. Composition of 2021 awards committees (Annex 4)

The President makes the following proposal for activating the 2021 awards committees:

- **Hirotada Kohno award:**
  Eduardo Haddad (RSAI President); Serena Erendira (Council member); Roberta Capello and Bob Stimson (Past Presidents)

- **Peter Nijkamp award:**
  Mark Partridge (Immediate Past President, Chair); Juan Cuadrado-Roura and Anna Nagurney (Fellows); PiRS board member (ask PiRS Editors: Julie Le Gallo)

- **Martin Beckmann award:**
  PiRS – to be decided in Spring by the PiRS Editorial Board

- **Jean Paelinck award:**
  Chair: member of the LRPC (Budy Resosudarmo). Four members from the Fellows (two stay on board only for one edition, Jouke Van Dijk and Michael Batty, two more stay for four years, Janet Kohlase and Isabelle Thomas, two editions); then they rotate.

5. Updates on the 2021 RSAI World Congress (Abdellatif Khattabi and Andrea Caragliu)

Andrea Caragliu explains that at the date of the meeting 262 abstracts have been received and the organization of the online congress is proceeding smoothly.
André Torre supports the congress. He praises the idea to involve members from developing Countries. He also adds the online congress is a great opportunity to attract people from all over the world. Eduardo says he can guarantee additional funding for the congress.

6. Change in the composition of the RSPP Editorial Board (Tomaz Dentinho)
Tomaz Dentinho explains his proposal to enlarge the Board by involving Jian Wang and Abdul Shaban. Roberta Capello asks how many editors RSPP has. The board is moving from 13 to 15. Roberta Capello asks whether this is not an excessive number. Roberta Capello also suggests to check that Prof. Wang belongs to the RSAC, China’s national section.

Rachel Franklin that gender balance is a complicated issue and while attracting good women from Europe and North America is easy, Asian and Latina American women are way less represented.

Rachel Franklin proposes to hold a conversation on the rules. Jouke Van Dijk expresses distress with the proposal and argues for a change in the rules.

Votes: Rachel Franklin votes against.

Abstains: André Torre, Jouke Van Dijk, Isabelle Thomas, Lily Kiminami, Daniela Constantin.

All other members approve the new editorial board. The new composition is approved by majority.

7. 2021 RSPP award (Tomaz Dentinho)
Tomaz Dentinho explains the way winners of the RSPP 2021 have been selected.

8. AOB
Roberta Capello explains that the LRPC met as usual. If the Council feels, the LRPC may produce a report to be presented at the Council. Eduardo Haddad adds that he plans to enhance the Council-LRPC relations and get useful advice. Peter Batey reports that he’s happy to go ahead with the call with two LRPC members, Immediate Past President, and Current President.

9. Next meeting
Will be held either around the world congress, or around the ERSA Congress if no urgent matter is to be discussed.

With no more item to be discussed, at 2.15 pm CET the meeting is adjourned.
## RSAI Council Members

### 2021 RSAI Council Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Email address</th>
</tr>
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</table>

### LRPC Members

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</table>

### RSAI Ex-Officio Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roberta Capello</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roberta.capello@polimi.it">roberta.capello@polimi.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomaz Dentinho</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tomas.lc.dentinho@uac.pt">tomas.lc.dentinho@uac.pt</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter W. J. Batey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pwjbatley@liv.ac.uk">pwjbatley@liv.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Boyce</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dboyce@uic.edu">dboyce@uic.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martijn Smit</td>
<td><a href="mailto:M.J.Smit@uu.nl">M.J.Smit@uu.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiroyuki Shibusawa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hiro-shibu@tut.jp">hiro-shibu@tut.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serena Erendira Serrano</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sesohi@hotmail.com">sesohi@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisabete Martins</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Elisabete.martins@apdr.pt">Elisabete.martins@apdr.pt</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Invited Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abdellatif Khattabi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ab_khattabi@yahoo.com">ab_khattabi@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiumin Li</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lixm@nenu.edu.cn">lixm@nenu.edu.cn</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note from the Executive Director in 2020

During 2020, four RSAI Council Meetings have been held, all online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first meeting involved a consultation of RSAI Council members concerning the election of members of the various RSAI Awards committee. Three additional meetings took place on the Zoom platform, on July 20, 2020; Aug. 31, 2020; and Nov. 18, 2020. For all meetings, detailed minutes are available on the RSAI webpage. Let me stress that this practice should not be taken for granted: to the best of my knowledge this does not happen in similar Learnt Societies representing our benchmark.

In 2020, the RSAI Council composition changed as follows:

- Eveline Van Leeuwen stepped in as ERSA representative in place of Jouke Van Dijk;
- Patricio Aroca replaced Jaime Bonet as LARSA representative.
- Carlos Azzoni replace Eduardo Haddad as LARSA representative.
- Daniela Luminita-Constantin stepped in as Councillor-At-Large in place of Laurie Schintler.
- Eduardo Haddad stepped back on the Council as President Elect.

The RSAI has maintained, and possibly improved, its positioning in terms of scientific publications. *Papers in Regional Science* has further increased its impact factor from 2.22 (2019) to an astonishing 2.858 (2020), further strengthening its positioning with respect to other leading Regional Science Journals. *Regional Science Policy and Practice* published 6 issues in 2020, achieving substantial improvements across most indicators on Scimago (absolute number of citations; citations per paper; number of citable products; etc.). Last but not least, Martijn Smit edited two issues of the RSAI Newsletter, published and distributed online by the RSAI in May and November 2020.

COVID had of course a vast impact on the activities of the association. The most visible example is the decision to postpone the 13th World Congress of the RSAI, to be held in Marrakech, in June 2020, to 2021, due to the unsafe global health conditions.

Despite COVID-19, the Association help up tight and maintained its policies and support to global research and learning activities on our discipline. However, some problems were felt. One instance is related to the number of RSAI members, which bounced back from the all-time high of 4,448 in 2019, to 3,905 in 2020. This is due to the economic contraction that hit many Countries, as well as to the reduced intensity of activities in many national sections, for some of which the main source of revenue is the organization of a national congress that, at least in regular form, was not possible throughout 2020. However, given the rather peculiar time, and the tough situation, I consider a 12% decrease in the number of members as a success. This is in my view due to the efforts made by all RSAI members and national associations to keep up the organization of workshops, congresses, and events despite the difficulties of smart working, social distancing, and economic difficulties.

Along the same lines, i.e. despite the COVID-19 pandemic, as in previous years the RSAI committed relevant efforts in acknowledging the best work of regional scientists. In particular, with the Nurturing Talent programme the following initiatives have been approved for financial support:

- 33rd ERSA Summer School 2020, “Regions in transition, what implications for tourism and manufacturing?”, 15-19 June 2020, University Campus of Sion, Switzerland

• Workshop “Regional Development Effects of the Use of Ocean Goods and Services”, 8 July, 2020, Angra do Heroísmo, Azores, Portugal

• Intensive program for nurturing the future generation of researchers in Regional Science - Black sea Basin, 13 – 15 May 2020, Centre for European Studies of Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași

• The 3rd Annual Intensive Course Program in Urban, Transport, and Environmental Economics, January 13th – February 7th 2020, Department of Economics FEB UI, Kampus UI Depok, Indonesia

• Workshop for young scientists, Methods in Regional Science: Data science, machine learning and BigData, 1-2 June, 2020, Marrakech, Morocco

• Workshop “Resilience” Studies in Regional Science: Methods and Approaches, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad Or India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

• Summer Workshop “Spatial Agent-Based Modeling”, June or July 2020, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

• 2020 AERUS meeting (Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

However, as the COVID-19 pandemic struck, not all such initiatives did take place. In particular, one event was canceled; three did take place, either before the COVID-19 pandemic struck, or by moving the event online; and the remaining five were postponed. The Association thus maintained, or was refunded, roughly 40 per cent of total funds allocated to Nurturing Talent initiatives, which will tentatively reinvested for future similar events.

Lastly, in 2020 the net balance on the Association’s bank account increased to 449,087.48 € as of Dec. 31, 2020, up from 369,513.94 € in January 2019.

To conclude, I would like to thank the whole RSAI Council and Long Range Planning Committee for their continuous support of RSAI activities. Despite objective difficulties we all acted towards the greater benefit of the Association, and as I write these words, and the pandemic is not over, I feel like such difficulties are actually making the RSAI stronger, rather than weaker, and making us further understand how interesting being part of the Association is.

Andrea Caragliu

RSAI Executive Director in 2020
CONTENT

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1. RSAI Council Members

Table 1. –RSAI Council Members in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Caragliu</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrea.caragliu@polimi.it">andrea.caragliu@polimi.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eduardo Haddad</td>
<td>President Elect</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ehaddad@usp.br">ehaddad@usp.br</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Franklin</td>
<td>PRSCO President</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rachel.franklin@brown.edu">rachel.franklin@brown.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lily Kiminami</td>
<td>PRSCO Representative</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kiminami@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp">kiminami@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Kim</td>
<td>PRSCO Representative</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:briankim66@snu.ac.kr">briankim66@snu.ac.kr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Reid</td>
<td>NARSC Executive Director</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:neil.reid@utoledo.edu">neil.reid@utoledo.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Stenberg</td>
<td>NARSC Representative</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nordacad13@gmail.com">nordacad13@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Dall’Erba</td>
<td>NARSC Representative</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dallerba@illinois.edu">dallerba@illinois.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre Torre</td>
<td>ERSA President</td>
<td>2019-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andre.torre@wanadoo.fr">andre.torre@wanadoo.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francisco Carballo Cruz</td>
<td>ERSA Representative</td>
<td>2017-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fcarballo@eeg.uminho.pt">fcarballo@eeg.uminho.pt</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eveline Van Leeuwen</td>
<td>ERSA Representative</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eveline.vanleeuwen@wur.nl">eveline.vanleeuwen@wur.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serena Serrano</td>
<td>LARSA President</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sesohi@hotmail.com">sesohi@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricio Aroca</td>
<td>LARSA Representative</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patricia.aroca@uai.cl">patricia.aroca@uai.cl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Azzoni</td>
<td>LARSA Representative</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cazzoni@usp.br">cazzoni@usp.br</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amit Batabyal</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aabgh@rit.edu">aabgh@rit.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumana Bandyopadhyay</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sumona_bm@yahoo.com">sumona_bm@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosella Nicolini</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rosella.nicolini@uab.cat">Rosella.nicolini@uab.cat</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Abreu</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ma405@cam.ac.uk">ma405@cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniela Constantin</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dconstan@hotmail.com">dconstan@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Caragliu</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrea.caragliu@polimi.it">andrea.caragliu@polimi.it</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. –RSAI Council Members in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Partridge</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:partridge.27@osu.edu">partridge.27@osu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eduardo Haddad</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ehaddad@usp.br">ehaddad@usp.br</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>ERSA Representative</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fcarballo@eeg.uminho.pt">fcarballo@eeg.uminho.pt</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jouke Van Dijk</td>
<td>ERSA Representative</td>
<td>2015-2019</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jouke.van.dijk@rug.nl">jouke.van.dijk@rug.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serena Serrano Oswald</td>
<td>LARSA President</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sesohi@hotmail.com">sesohi@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaime Bonet</td>
<td>LARSA Representative</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jbonetmo@banrep.gov.co">jbonetmo@banrep.gov.co</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eduardo Haddad</td>
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<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ma405@cam.ac.uk">ma405@cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Schintler</td>
<td>Councillor at large</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lschintl@gmu.edu">lschintl@gmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Caragliu</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>2019-2021</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrea.caragliu@polimi.it">andrea.caragliu@polimi.it</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. RSAI Publications

*RSAI Journals - 2020 Financial Statement*

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
\text{Online Only} & 2019 & 2020 \\
\text{Subscribed Content} & 6,569 & 6,124 \\
\text{All Journals Licence} & 60,856 & 55,719 \\
\hline
\text{Subtotal: Subscription} & 124,198 & 125,924 \\
\hline
\text{Online Open} & 7,917 & 8,154 \\
\hline
\text{Subtotal: Open Access} & 7,917 & 8,154 \\
\hline
\text{Rights} & & \\
\text{Backfiles} & 16,667 & 17,167 \\
\text{Article Sales/Pay Per View} & 2,971 & 2,629 \\
\hline
\text{Subtotal: Other} & 20,591 & 20,819 \\
\hline
\text{Total Revenue} & 152,706 & 154,897 \\
\hline
\text{Royalty Calculation} & & \\
\text{Royalty-bearing Revenue} & 152,706 & 154,897 \\
\text{Royalty Percent} & 35.0\% & 35.0\% \\
\text{Income to the RSAI} & 53,447 & 54,214 \\
\text{Advance to be Paid in January 2020 (85\% of Royalty)} & & 46,082 \\
\text{*(EUR55,344)*} & & \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

**N.B.**
- Licensed income will grow marginally and income from title-by-title subscriptions will have a small attrition.
- Income from Rights fluctuates year on year.
- Income from OnlineOpen fees can also fluctuate year on year but for this forecast, we have projected 3\% growth.
- *The exchange rate used on 29 October 2019 is £1 = €1.15759*
RSAI Newsletters

Edited by Martijn Smit and Graham Clarke, two issues were published.
A change in the editorial team: co-editor Graham Clarke is retiring and leaves the editorial team after many, many years of being a pillar of support.

2020 November

2020 May

3. RSAI Awards

The Hirotada Kohno Award

Congratulations to David A. Plane who was the winner of the 2020 Kohno Prize. David A. Plane, a Professor Emeritus of the University of Arizona, has been a lifetime contributor to regional science. His research focuses on population geography and regional science, U.S. migration and settlement patterns, the role of the life course in affecting mobility, and methods for modeling activity patterns and temporal change in spatial interaction systems.

The Martin Beckmann RSAI Annual Award

The winner of the Martin Beckmann Prize 2020 was the article Quality of government and regional resilience in the European Union. Evidence from the Great Recession, by Roberto Ezcurra and Vicente Rios, published in Volume 98, Issue 3, June 2019, Pages 1267-1290.

Jury: Janet Kohlhase, Dan Rickman and Jouke van Dijk.

Motivation: Through an elegant scientific approach, the paper examines the relationship between quality of government and regional resilience in the European Union during the Great Recession. The results show that the quality of government is an important factor when shaping the regional reaction to the crisis. The analysis clearly demonstrates that higher quality of government is associated with greater regional resilience over the Great Recession. The paper gives emphasis to the role played in this context
by spatial spillovers induced by the quality of government in neighbouring regions, which turn out to have an important role.

**The Peter Nijkamp Research Encouragement Award**

Yi Niu, from Capital University of Economics and Business, Beijing, China, received the 2020 Peter Nijkamp RSAI Research Encouragement Award for a Mid-Career Scholar from a Developing Country.

**RSAI Dissertation Award**

In 2020 the winner of the RSAI dissertation prize was Daria Denti for his Thesis entitled “Essays on the Economic Geography of Oppressive Violent Deviant Behaviours". She was supervised by Professor Alessandra Faggian (GSSI), and Professor Simona Iammarino (London School of Economics and Political Science). Congratulations!

**The Jean Paelinck RSAI Award**

Not awarded in 2020.

**Czamanski Dissertation Award**

Sicheng Wang was the 2020 Czamanski Dissertation Award for his dissertation entitled "Travel behavior of ridesourcing: A data-driven analysis".

**RSAI Fellows**

In 2020 the following RSAI Fellows have been elected:

Jouke Van Dijk
University of Groningen, THE NETHERLANDS

Juan Cuadrado-Roura
University of Alcalà, SPAIN
RSPP Annual Paper Award

The winners of the RSPP Annual Paper Award 2020 was:


AND


RSAI Founder’s Medal

Prof. Geoffrey Hewings, Emeritus Director of REAL, has been awarded the 2020 Founder’s medal!

The proposal, made by the committee Mark Partridge (President); Lily Kiminami (PRSCO); Andrés Rodrigues-Pose and Philip McCann (ERSA); and Dan McMillen (NARSC), was approved as suggested by the award rules by the previous winners of the same award.

4. RSAI Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3100</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3043</td>
</tr>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>3550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>3978</td>
</tr>
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<td>4288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>4364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>3726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. RSAI Accounts of 2020

In 2020 RSAI achieved a net surplus of 81,786.54 € (Net profit for the exercise).

There are sections that do not have enrolled members in 2020 due to the pandemic; there are sections that have relatively few members relative to the population of the respective areas of influence.

The Costs with the program NURTURING NEW TALENT INITIATIVE in 2020 was only 17,502.08€, because of the Covid-19, some events were postponed to 2021 and some move to online and they return the remain (not used) support.

The bank account evolved from 369,513.94 € in December 2019 to 449,087.48 € in December 2020.

### Table 4. Accounts from January 2020 till December 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank account in Euros</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward from 2019 (01-01-2020)</td>
<td>369 513,94 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Balance carried forward (31-12-2020)</td>
<td>449 087,48 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margin of 2020</td>
<td>79 573,54 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accounts from January 2019 till December 2019</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Costs</th>
<th>NET PROFIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>8 610,71 €</td>
<td>-8 610,71 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>3 322,95 €</td>
<td>-3 322,95 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEBSERVER, NEW WEBSITE AND CONGRESS SYSTEM</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSAI SECRETARIATE</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>5 000,00 €</td>
<td>-5 000,00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHERS (credit card system charges and other bank charges)</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>287,76 €</td>
<td>-287,76 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit cash money from 2020</td>
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<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund VAT 2019 from State</td>
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<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return transfer</td>
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<td>- €</td>
<td>- €</td>
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Memberships

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RSAI WORLD CONGRESS 2020

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<td>Refund Registration fees</td>
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**TOTAL**

| Total                                | 185 606,23 €| 106 032,69 €| 79 573,54 €|
REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Qualified Opinion
I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Regional Science Association International - RSAI, registered in Portugal with the fiscal tax number 509754990, which comprise the balance sheet as at 12/31/2020 (showing a total of 467,136,64 € and a total of equity funds of 451,183,87 €, including a net profit of 81,786,54 €), the income statement by nature, and the management RSAI Report and Accounts of 2020. In my opinion, except for the effects of the situations described in the section below "Basis for the qualified opinion", the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the entity as of December 31, 2020, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards for Non-Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System.

Basis for the qualified opinion
(1) As contingent expenditure, the amount paid in the year 2018 to lawyers outside of Portugal is not considered a cost in the previous year of 2019, but it should have been deferred to 2021 when the World Congress took place, and in online version, when revenue accruals were recorded in the previous year of 2019, and it keeps classified with impact of 889 €. (4) In the revenues it was accounted for in the year 2020, the amount of 21,245 € of the PIRS and RSPP royalty final income which was of the year 2019, despite the fact that it was only debited in March 2020, and again in March 2021 the final income of the PIRS and RSPP royalty of the year 2020 in the amount of 14,993,77 € wasn't accounted for in the year 2020, with the net effect of 6,251,23 €. (5) The net income of the registrations for the World Congress 2020, which took place online in 2021, in the amount of 33,286 € were not deferred for the year 2021, as well as an expense of 32,826 €, with a net effect of 32,966,18 €, and (6) an expense with digital papers that was deferred to 2020, in the amount of 479,70 €, was not imputed to costs in the year 2020, and kept incorrectly deferred; and, consequently the net effect of these 6 situations was overvaluing the profit of the period of the year 2020 in 38,686,11 €, and also overvaluing the equity funds in 14,106,50 €.

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and further technical and ethical standards and guidelines as issued by Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas (the Portuguese Institute of Statutory Auditors). My responsibility under those standards is further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section below. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas code of ethics.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of management and the supervisory board by the financial statements
The management is responsible for:
- the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view of the entity’s financial position, financial performance in accordance with the Accounting and Financial Reporting Standard for Non-Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System;
- the preparation of the management report in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;
- designing and maintaining an appropriate internal control system to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- the adoption of accounting policies and principles appropriate in the circumstances; and
- assessing the Entity’s ability to continue as a going concern, and disclosing, as applicable, the matters that may cast significant doubt about the Entity’s ability to continue as a going concern.

The supervisory body is responsible for overseeing the entity’s financial reporting process.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
My responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered materials if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient
and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;

- obtain an understanding of the internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;

- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern;

- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation;

- communicate with those charged with governance, including the supervisory body, regarding among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.

My responsibility also includes verification that the information contained in the management's report and accounts of 2020 is consistent with the financial statements.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements
About the management’s report & accounts of 2020
In my opinion, the management’s report & accounts of 2020 was prepared in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory requirements and the information contained therein is consistent with the audited financial statements and, having regard to my knowledge and assessment over the Entity, I have not identified any material misstatements.
Angra do Heroísmo, August 19, 2021

José António Narciso da Rosa Figueira Pinheiro (Auditor number 1107)

José António Narciso da Rosa Figueira Pinheiro
Office: Rua de São João, 9, 1º
9700-182 Angra do Heroísmo
Phones: +351 295215667/8 - 917285097, Fax: 295215663
Economist/Auditor, registered in Ordem de Revisores Oficiais de Contas, with the number 1107
# Balanço

Em 31 de Dezembro de 2020

**Valores em EURO**

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### Income Statement at December 2020

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<td>7623;7627/8 653;657/8</td>
<td>Impairment of Investments non-depreciable / amortizable (losses / reversals)</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Increases / Decreases in fair value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78...+791</td>
<td>Other income and gains</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>54 065,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-685+69...</td>
<td>Other expenses and losses</td>
<td>-34 744,44</td>
<td>-91 865,36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>761</td>
<td>Expenditures / reversals of depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7624/6</td>
<td>Impairment of depreciable / amortizable assets (losses / reversals)</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7915</td>
<td>Operational results (before financial costs and taxes)</td>
<td>81 786,54</td>
<td>7 503,40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6911/21/81</td>
<td>Interest and similar income</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812</td>
<td>Interest and similar expenses paid</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812</td>
<td>Profit before Taxes</td>
<td>81 786,54</td>
<td>7 503,40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812</td>
<td>Taxes on profits</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td>0,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Net profit for the exercise</td>
<td>81 786,54</td>
<td>7 503,40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Professor Haddad, dear Eduardo:

It is my pleasure to submit my candidature for Executive Director of the RSAI. This would be the second term for me on the Council, so hopefully my motivation letter will differ from the one I applied with three years ago.

_Taking stock of the past three years_

These past three years have been an amazing adventure for me. I personally learnt a lot from managing day-to-day operations of the Association, and while I leave it to the Council to decide whether these have been successful, I am happy here to report a few results achieved by the Association during the three years when I served as Executive Director.

Despite the recent difficulties linked to the COVID pandemic, the RSAI remained stably around 4,000 individual members. Some national associations suffered from the economic downturn due to the pandemic, or struggled to get stable funding due to the lockdown restrictions that made it impossible to organize national congresses, that for many sections represent the main source of income. Still, most sections held up tight and the association actually expanded to places where it was not present, or strong.

The Association’s financial position remains remarkably strong. In this sense, I took over from the excellent job of my predecessor, Prof. Dentinho. During my three years as Executive Director, our bank account went up from a balance of € 354,888.50 in January 2019 to € 524,696.07 €, as of June 17, 2021. This signals a substantial capacity to spend for new initiatives meant to support research and teaching activities, to fund local workshops and summer schools, and more broadly to allow Regional Science to continue its global development.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Association kept supporting roughly 12 workshops per year, and managed, against all odds, to gather more than 500 scholars for the 13th World Congress, unfortunately postponed from 2020 to 2021 and moved from its initial venue (Marrakech) to an online platform. The congress further strengthened our positioning in Africa, where as you well know the only active section is Morocco’s, and where I would love to invest as Executive Director in the next three years.
**Reasons for my interest in applying for a second term as Executive Director of RSAI**

Building on prior achievements, I would love to follow up to my previous work and possibly further strengthen the Association’s status.

A priority of my second term would be to further expand in terms of national sections in Africa and the Middle East. Building on the good feedback received from the 2021 World Congress, plans would be to host two/three more events in Morocco in 2022, one in Tunisia, and one in Ghana, with additional interest (to be confirmed) from Egypt and with more room for expansion in South Africa and Mozambique. We would hope these events to nurture local talents and attract young scholars to our discipline and themes, so that a national section can be eventually formed and allowed to join the global community. As for the Middle East, I am leveraging on good contacts among Iranian scholars, both working at home or abroad. In the area, Iran could play a major role in connecting the Armenian section with areas further in the core of Asia (e.g. Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh).

With plans to eventually detach a continental Asian supranational section from current PRSCO, this would further strengthen its composition. Ideally, during the next three years plans would be to also accomplish the restructuring of the Association’s supranational sections, so as to better accommodate the many Asian national sections joining the RSAI over the past few years.

Our Association also faces major challenges from the current changing landscape in scientific publications. The past few years saw a major rise in Open Access publishing, and this is not yet reflected in the contract that the RSAI presently shares with its journal’s publisher, Wiley. The next Executive Director term will also be dealing with the negotiations for renewing the contract, and I would be happy to support this important step by leveraging on my prior experience with the company.

**Strategy in managing the day-to-day operations of the Association**

The first term as Executive Director allowed me to prioritize chores and duties for the Association. I now have quite some experience in its yearly calendar, and managed, with the huge help from many members of the Council and LRPC, to make myself acquainted also with the needs of national and supranational sections. I am therefore confident I can provide a stable and steady flow of support for the daily operations of the Association. Of course, would the Council decide otherwise, I would be happy to transfer my knowledge to anyone taking on this important task after me.

For any doubt on my candidature please do not hesitate to write me at andrea.caragliu@polimi.it. Thank you very much in advance for considering my candidature,

Kind regards,

Andrea Caragliu
Academic/Professional experience

July 13, 2018, in service from November 2, 2018
Associate Professor of Regional and Urban Economics, Politecnico di Milano, ABC Department.

November 2, 2015 – November 1, 2018
Assistant Professor, Regional and Urban Economics (With tenure: Ricercatore TD Senior), Politecnico di Milano, ABC Department.

July 1, 2013 – November 1, 2015
Assistant Professor, Regional and Urban Economics (Ricercatore TD Junior), Politecnico di Milano, ABC Department.

Post-Doc fellow, Research Unit in Regional and Urban Economics, Politecnico di Milano, ABC Department.

Visiting scholar, Free University Amsterdam, Spatial Economics Department

April 5, 2004 – December 31, 2006
Economic consultant, Municipality of Alessandria, Italy.

July 11, 2001 – October 10, 2001
Internship, International Trade Center (ITC), Geneva, Switzerland.

Education

October 8, 2015
Ph.D. in Spatial Economics, VU University Amsterdam.
Title of the Final Dissertation: “The economics of proximity: regional growth, beyond geographic proximity”.
Promotor: Prof. Peter Nijkamp.
Co-Promotor: Prof. Roberta Capello.

February 25, 2010
Ph.D. in Management, Economics and Industrial Engineering, Politecnico di Milano.
Full Ph.D. scholarship (Scuola Interpolitecnica).
Title of the Final Dissertation: “Innovation, territorial capital and regional growth”.
Supervisor: Prof. Roberta Capello.

The dissertation has been awarded the Merit Prize of the Italian Regional Science Association (runner-up for the Giorgio Leonardi Award) and the Merit Prize of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union.

June 30, 2005
Master of Science in Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

March 15, 2003
First degree in Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

Professional service

Jan. 1, 2019-Dec. 31, 2021
RSAI Executive Director

Jan. 1, 2018-Today
Deputy Coordinator, Master of Science Programme in Management of Built Environment, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Jun. 1, 2017-Today
Member of the Board of the Ph.D. Programme in Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano
June 2019 Lecturer for the 2019 ERSA Katowice Summer School
July 2016 Member of the LOC and lecturer for the 2016 ERSA Milan Summer School
Jan. 1, 2016-Dec. 31, 2021 Book Review Editor, Papers in Regional Science
Sep. 1, 2013-Dec. 31, 2018 Co-Editor, RSAI Newsletter
2013-2016 Auditor, Italian Section of the RSAI (AISRe)

Awards
October 2017 Referee of the year award (Regional Studies)
December 2010 Merit prize of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union for the doctoral thesis competition “Local and regional authorities in the European Union”
June 2010 Diploma of honor (runner-up) in the Giorgio Leonardi Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation in the academic year 2009-2010 (Italian Association of Regional Science - AISRe).

Selected publications

Special issues edited

Articles on refereed journals
Dear Prof. Martijn Smit,

I wish to apply to the position for RSAI newsletter. This position caught my attention since I am interested in editorial activities in general.

Currently, I am a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Adjunct Professor at Politecnico di Milano (PoliMi)- Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU), where I received my PhD degree in Spatial Planning and Urban Development (2015). I also hold a master’s in Urban Planning and Policy Design (2011) from the same school. I also have a 5-year bachelor’s degree in Architectural Engineering (at Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran 2007).

During the past few years of my academic life, I have been working with several international research teams on various topics ranging from port city studies, logistics, globalization, mobility studies, to sharing economy and new working spaces (such as coworking spaces). Regarding the latter, I am a member of the Italian management committee (MC) and a Working Group Leader of the COST Action (CA18214, 2019-2023) ‘The Geography of New Working Spaces and the Impact on the Periphery’. I have published my research findings in several peer-reviewed journals, books, and book chapters. Throughout these years of research work, I have actively participated in more than 20 national and international workshops and conferences (AESOP, ERSA, RSA, etc.) mainly as a presenter and as Chair and organizer of special sessions. I have also collaborated in organizing several seminars, conferences, and workshops. I am also active as a reviewer for numerous national and international journals. Since 2017, I am a member of the editorial board and English proofreader of the bi-lingual Journal of Urbanistica, which belongs to the National Institution of Planning in Italy (INU).

Please find enclosed my curriculum vitae. Looking forward to your feedback, I thankfully salute you to consider my application.

Yours sincerely,
Mina Akhavan
PERSONAL INFORMATION

MINA AKHAVAN

Milan 20131, Italy
mina.akhavan@polimi.it; mina.akh84@gmail.com
Skype: mina.akhavan
ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7965-3618

Sex: Female

CURRENT POSITION and AFFILIATION

Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Adjunct Professor
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi). Italy

National Scientific Qualification for Associate Professor in Urban Planning
Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale alle funzioni di professore di 2 fascia nel settore concorsuale
08/F1 Pianificazione e progettazione urbanistica e territoriale (dal 03/06/2021 al 30/06/2030)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

01/ 2012 - 03/ 2015
PhD in Spatial Planning and Urban Development (XXVII Cycle)
Politecnico di Milano (PolMi)- Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU)
Thesis title: 'Port Development and Port-City Interface Dynamics'
Supervisor: Prof. Ilaria Mariotti, DASU, Politecnico di Milano
Co-supervisor: Dr. César Ducuet, CNRS, Géographie-Cités, University of Paris-I Sorbonne

Principle subjects/ Main PhD courses: Research methodology; Bibliographic essay; Planning practices in a global perspective; Global cities: problems and policies; Transport policies

10/ 2009 - 12/ 2011
M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy Design
Politecnico di Milano (PolMi)- Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU)
Thesis title: ‘New Waterfronts in Changing Harbour Cities in Europe’
Supervisor: Prof. Patrizia Gabellini, DASU, Politecnico di Milano
Co-supervisor: Prof. Andrea Di Giovanni, DASU, Politecnico di Milano

Principle subjects/ Main courses: Urban design studio; Urban Policies Design Studio; Spatial Development Studio; Real Estate Market; Social foundations of Spatial Development; Urban and Regional Governance; Economic Assessment of Urban Transformations and Policies, Public Economics

B.Sc. in Architectural Engineering
Shahid-Beheshti University- School of Architecture and Urban Planning (Tehran- Iran)

Principle subjects/ Main courses: Architectural Design Studio (five in total); Technical Design Studio; Human-Nature-Architecture; Statics; Surveying; Surveying of Historical Buildings; Management and Workshop Constitutions; Introduction to Basics of Fundamental Planning; Urban Spaces Analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research interest and activities

1. During doctorate studies (2012 onward): port-cities development issues; maritime infrastructures and logistics; global/world cities and network of flows – mainly commodity

2. Since 2015 onward: Sharing economy and new workplaces; more specifically, studying coworking spaces (CSs) in Italy; location determinant and urban effects of CSs in peripheral areas; policies that foster the development of CSs in peripheral areas; investigating the well-being and happiness of coworkers in CSs.


4. Since 2017 onward: Mobility studies; more specifically, focus on the mobility of the elderly population and its impact on their well-being and quality of life; capability approach.

Career break for maternity leave

07/ 2019 - 12/ 2019

Postdoctoral Research Fellow ('Assegno di Ricerca' in Italian)
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi), Italy
This project aims to understand which suitable public transport policies could contribute to increase positive social connections and health conditions of the ageing population - the focus is on Varese and Milan (Lombardy) and Padua (Veneto).
Research team: Elena Maggi (Principal investigator, UNINSUBRIA) + Ilaria Mariotti (POLIMI) + V. Rebba (UNIPD) - [Polimi-DAStU share of funding: 60,000 euro]
Main responsibilities/ duties: Developing and applying research ideas and methodologies (qualitative and quantitative), in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team; data collection and analysis; project write-ups, contributing to publications or disseminating research findings; collaborating in organizing disseminating events and meetings with academic colleagues, professionals, and stakeholders

06/ 2018 – 10/2020

Postdoctoral Research Fellow ('Assegno di Ricerca' in Italian)
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi), Italy
Research Projects: 'MOBILAGE. Mobility and Aging: Daily Life and Welfare Supportive Networks at the Neighborhood Level' (funded by Fondazione Cariplo 2018-2020)
The project concerns about the older adults as a vulnerable population in an ageing society and the importance of mobility and accessibility on enhancing their well-being and quality of life.
Research team: Massimo Bricocoli (Principal investigator), Ilaria Mariotti and Fulvia Pinto (Polimi-DAStU) + Aleid Brouwer (University of Groningen) + Lilli Gargiulo (University of Federico II, Naples)
[Polimi-DAStU share of funding: 99,000 euro]
Main responsibilities/ duties: Developing and applying research ideas and methodologies (qualitative and quantitative), in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team; data collection and analysis; project write-ups, contributing to publications or disseminating research findings; collaborating in organizing disseminating events and meetings with academic colleagues, professionals, and stakeholders

09/ 2019 - current

Research Collaborator and Group Leader in the European COST Action
CA18214 - The Geography of New Working Spaces and the Impact on the Periphery (Chair: Ilaria Mariotti)
https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA18214
The Action involves 28 European countries, including USA, Canada, Israel and Lebanon (2019 - 2023)
Main responsibilities/ duties: Group leader of WG2, responsible for monitoring activities in WG2; organizing meetings and seminars; preparing tasks and deliverables

06/ 2020 - current

Research Collaborator and member of the "Leiden Delft Erasmus PortCityFutures programme"
PortCityFutures brings together a highly engaged research community of researchers from Leiden, Delft and Rotterdam universities, who are interested in the spaces, the governance, and the culture of port-city-regions
https://www.portcityfutures.nl/research-0
Research team: Collaborating in a multidisciplinary team in developing innovative ideas, proposal and projects as well as methodologies; contributing to publications or disseminating tasks

03/ 2015 – 01/2018

**Research Collaborator at LaBELT (Laboratorio di Economia Logistica e Territorio)**
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi). Italy
Director: Prof. Falvio Boscacci, co-director: Prof. Ilaria Mariotti:

*Main responsibilities/ duties:* Data collection and analysis; project write-ups; contributing to publications or disseminating research findings

02/ 2017 – 01/2019

**Research Collaborator and member of the following research projects:**

- **FARB** research project: ‘New Working Spaces. Promises of Innovations, Effects on the Economic and Urban Context’ - Coordinator Prof. Ilaria Mariotti [amount of funding: 28,000 euro]
  
  *Main responsibilities/ duties:* theoretical framework, data analysis and project write-ups for conferences and publications

- **FARB** research project: ‘New Methods for Studying Transnational Urbanism and Architecture’ - Coordinator Prof. Davide Ponzini [amount of funding: 28,000 euro]
  
  *Main responsibilities/ duties:* Data collection and analysis; and project write-ups for conferences and publication; Mentoring and supervising the works of less experienced researchers of the team or students (either those conducting an internship period within the research team or those developing their thesis)

03/ 2018 - current

**Research Grant Preparation**

**Collaborative projects:**

- **MOBILAGE. Mobility and Aging: Daily Life and Welfare Supportive Networks at the Neighborhood Level.** Funded by Fondazione Cariplo (2018-2020)


- ‘**The Geography of New Working Spaces and impacts on the Periphery.**’ Funded by the European COST Action 18214, (2019-2023) - Chair: Ilaria Mariotti

- ‘**Milano Collabora.**’ Funded by the Municipality of Milan (2019-2020). Partners of the project: Polimi-DASU + TRAILab, Università Cattolica di Milano

**Individual projects:**

- Horizon 2020- Marie Skłodowska-Curie EU Individual Fellowship (at Delft University, Department of Architecture - supervisor Prof. Carola Hein,) Not funded - Evaluation: 90.20% (panel SOC threshold 93%) – awarded Seal of Excellence.

07/ 2016 - 11/2017

**Collaborator and member of the research project:**

‘**Learning from Gulf Cities**’ - Coordinator Prof. Davide Ponzini

A joint project with the New York University- Prof. Harvey Molotch

*Main responsibilities/ duties:* collecting data and analysis, organizing workshops and exhibitions; write-ups (a book chapter, see the section on publications)

Collaboration in organizing an exhibition in NYC Abu Dhabi Institute (13-14 November 2017)

11/ 2013 - 05/ 2014

**Visiting PhD Researcher**

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)- laboratoire UMR 8504- Géographie CitésL’Université Sorbonne Paris I (France)

Developing my PhD research project under the supervision of Dr. César Ducruet; collaborator in the project ‘World Seastems’ (European Research Council Starting Grant –FP7)

01/ 2012 - 03/2015

**Doctorate Thesis Research**

DASU, PoliMi, Italy

Dissertation: ‘‘Port Development and Port-City Interface Dynamics’’

Supervisor: Prof. Ilaria Mariotti; co-supervisor: Dr. Cesar Ducruet
02/ 2011 - 12/ 2012  Master’s Thesis Research
DAStU, PoliMi, Italy
Dissertation: ‘Public Spaces Along New Urban Waterfronts of the European Port Cities’
Supervisor: Prof. Patrizia Gabellini; co-supervisor: Prof. Andrea di Giovanni

05/ 2011 - 07/ 2011  Intern - Research Assistant
Rapu+ Research Laboratory, DAStU, PoliMi
Developing the research: ‘Framing common spaces. Survey and concept design within the contemporary city from Rho to Monza’
Responsible: Prof. Andrea di Giovanni

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

10/ 2019- current  Member of the European COST action Management Committee (MC) for Italy Working Group (WG) Leader in the project:
CA18214 – ‘The Geography of New Working Spaces and the Impact on the Periphery’ (Chair: Ilaria Mariotti)
https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA18214, DAStU, PoliMi is the Action Grant Holder
The Action involves 28 European countries, including USA, Canada, Israel and Lebanon. It is a four-year project (2019-2023) (130,000 euro each year)

01/ 2020- current  Representative of postdoctoral researchers at the Board Council
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi)

UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU), Politecnico di Milano (PolMi). Italy, courses in:
S.Y. 2020-2021 2nd semester  ‘Environmental Economics and Sustainability’ (in Final Studio) - 44 students - B.Sc. in Architectural Design
S.Y. 2019-2020 2nd semester  Urbanism’ (in Final Studio) 35 students – M.Sc. in Architecture and Urban Design
S.Y. 2018-2019 2nd semester  Urbanism’ (in Final Studio) 39 students – M.Sc. in Architecture and Urban Design

Teaching Assistant /lecturer
DAStU, PoliMi, Italy
Main duties: Gave a series of lectures within the framework of the course plan; regular supervision and assisting students while developing their projects and course assignments; assisted in evaluating the final projects; grading based on oral/written examinations.
Courses in:
S.Y. 2018-2019 1st semester  ‘Urbanism: issues and tools’ (Prof. Bertrando Bonfantini) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design
S.Y. 2017-2018 1st semester  S.Y. 2016-2017 1st semester
S.Y. 2018-2019 1st semester  ‘Economia del territorio e dell’ambiente’ (Prof. Ilaria Mariotti) - M.Sc. in Architecture
S.Y. 2017-2018 2nd semester  ‘Urban Planning’ (Prof. Corinna Morandi) – B.Sc. in Architecture
S.Y. 2016-2017 2nd semester  S.Y. 2015-2016 2nd semester
S.Y. 2017-2018 2nd semester  ‘Contemporary City: Description and Projects’ (Visiting professor: Prof. Joerg Knieling; Prof. Darko Radovic; Prof.
MINA AKHAVAN

CURRICULUM VITAE

S.Y. 2016-2017 2nd semester
Juan Luis de las Rivas Sanz) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design

S.Y. 2015-2016 2nd semester

S.Y. 2016-2017 2nd semester
‘Digital Cities- Urban Innovation and Planning’ (Prof. Davide Ponzini) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design

S.Y. 2016-2017 2nd semester
‘Urban Planning Studio’ (Prof. Davide Ponzini) - B.Sc. in Architecture

S.Y. 2016-2017 1st semester
‘Urban Planning & Design Studio’ (Professors Antonio Longo and Andrea Di Giovanni) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design

S.Y. 2016-2017 2nd semester
‘Master Plan Studio’ (Professors Giuseppe Marinoni and Giulia Fini) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design

S.Y. 2015-2016 1st semester
‘Urban Planning & Design Studio’ (Prof. Bertrando Bonfantini) - M.Sc. in Urban Planning and Policy design

S.Y. 2012-2013 2nd semester
‘Urban Planning Tools’ (Prof. Valeria Fedeli) - B.Sc. in Urban Planning

International Workshop Senior Tutor
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU), Politecnico di Milano, Italy
M.Sc. in urban planning and policy design
Main duties: Tutored a group of highly motivated international students in a two-week design workshop; part of the organizing team for the final exhibition and presentation of the workshop; assisted in evaluating and grading the students based on their project, group work and involvement class activities

01/ 2018
- ‘Milan International Design Workshop (MIAW) 2018’ (Prof. Luis Basabe)
  Topic: ‘Living Periphery- Architecture as Public Space’

02/ 2016
- ‘Milan International Design Workshop (MIAW) 2016’ (Prof. Darko Radovic,)
  Topic: ‘Off Campus- The Future of Leonardo Archipelago’

10/’2013 - 06/’2014
PhD School Tutoring Activity
Politecnico di Milano - PhD School
Activities related to preparation of information documents, providing logistical and didactic advice for the first year PhD students of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU)

PhD student supervision

11/ 2018 - 05/ 2019
Co-supervisor of the visiting student Parviz Aghaei from Shahid Beheshti University (Tehran, Iran), Faculty of Earth Sciences during his 6-month period at DASIU-Polimi
His PhD thesis: Production and Reproduction of Space in the Second Order of Capital Accumulation

09/ 2017 - 03/ 2018
Co-supervisor of the visiting student Zeinab Adeli - Tarbiat Modares University (Tehran, Iran) during her 6-month period at DASIU-Polimi
Her PhD thesis: Explaining the Dynamics of Making and Shaping of Places and Non-Places in Contemporary Urban Development

Thesis supervisor
DASIU-Polimi

Graduation date

10/ 2020

07/2020
Linda El Sahli - M.Sc dissertation: ‘Beirut Coworking Spaces: BDD in Depth Look’

12/ 2019
Snezana Bobic - M.Sc dissertation: ‘Towards a sustainable tourism strategy at the Mediterranean World Heritage Sites as popular destinations for cruise tourism’

07/ 2019
Pesic Tanja - M.Sc dissertation: ‘Aleppo Revitalisation’

07/ 2019
Radovic Olga - M.Sc dissertation: ‘RE: BUILD ALEPPO - Reconstruction proposal for the Old City of Aleppo’
12/2018  

**Thesis co-supervisor**  
DAStU-Polimi

09/2020  
Milad Abbasi Lakhani – B.Sc. dissertation: ‘Proliferation of Coworking Spaces In Tehran: Towards a Decentralizing Model of New Workplaces’

09/2019  

07/2019  

07/2019  

12/2018  
Anastasiia padenkova- M.Sc. dissertation: ‘Urban modification through co-working spaces: Creation of local community. The case of Milan’

07/2018  
Lucas Lorenzo Mattana- M.Sc. dissertation: ‘The Transnational Patterns of Development. Investigating the urban effects of Dubai Ports World on port hinterland and urban development’

07/2018  
Apollonios Tsiatinis- B.Sc. dissertation: ‘The Development of the Port-City Through the Free Trade Zone Policy: the cases of Dubai, Djibouti and Jeddah’

10/2017  

**EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES**

07/2017- current  
Member of the Editorial Board and English Proofreader  
Journal of Urbanistica (INU)

2019  
**Guest editor**  
Special Issue ‘Teaching the Contemporary City abroad’ sullarivista Territorio, Issue 88/2019 (With Mario Paris)

2014 - current  
**Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer/ Referee**  
Annals of regional science; European Planning Studies; Growth and Change: A Journal of Urban and Regional Policy; IJTE - International Journal of Transport Economics; Journal of Regional and City Planning; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health; Regional Studies; Territorio

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

03/2007-08/2009  
**Architect and Urban Designer**  
Rahan Sazeh Consulting Engineers; Tehran (Iran)  
Designer in architectural and landscape projects; Design assistant in urban projects; Assistant and supervisor in project reports and researching.

04/2006-02/2007  
**Intern- Design Assistant**  
Armon Sannat Construction Consulting Firm+ Nekas Firm (Tehran/Iran)  
Design assistant in architectural and landscape projects; detailed designer and AutoCAD Aids

2004- current  
**Freelance ESL Teacher +Translator**  
Professional English teacher  
Language editor (English); translating professional texts: Farsi to English; English to Farsi; Italian to English; Italian to Farsi); Interpreter (Farsi, English and Italian)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

2017 - CURRENT  
Associazione italiana di scienze regionali (A.I.S.Re) – Italian section of European Regional Science Association

2018 - current  
Regional Studies Association (RSA)

**PERSONAL SKILLS**
MINA AKHAVAN

CURRICULUM VITAE

Social skills and competences
Open-minded; good interaction skills in social and technical events; highly interested to meet and interact with people from multi-cultural and interdisciplinary backgrounds; having good ability and capacity to respect the beliefs, practices, cultures, traditions, and positions of others.

Organizational skills and competences
Commitment; leadership (coordinating people in projects developments) with sense of organization; self-motivated and strong sense of taking responsibility in both individual and team works; ability to work in teams and provide leadership qualities in challenging scenarios; Independent learning; excellent writing skills for publication; good verbal skill in presentation.

Computer skills
Software Packages: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign, MS Office, QGIS, R, STATA, AutoCAD

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

08/2020 Winner of the Best Poster Award 2020 at the annual conference of AISRe, the Italian Section of the Regional Science Association
06/2018-12/2020 36-month Postdoctoral Fellowship- Politecnico di Milano, DASITU
03/2018 Winner of the conference bursary, Regional Studies Association (RSA) Annual Conference 2018
04/2016 Winner of the Best Paper Prize for Young Researchers, The International Journal of Transport Economics, Genoa, Italy
11/2013-05/2014 Six-month grant, Erasmus Student Mobility Placement (provided by European Commission)-visiting PhD/researcher in Paris
11/2012 Winner of the Best Poster Prize, The International Conference: Urban Change in Iran. University College London, United Kingdom

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS

1-8 July 2018 31st ERSA Summer School (competitive selection process)
University of Economics, Bratislava, Slovakia

20 February 2017 Learning from Gulf Cities Workshop
Topic: ‘Architecture and Urban development in fast-developing countries of the Persian Gulf region’
DASITU, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

3-10 July 2016 29th ERSA Summer School (competitive selection process)
Topic: ‘Space, Territory and Growth: Advances in Regional Science’
ABC, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

5-8 July 2014 AESOP PhD workshop (competitive selection process)
Topic: ‘From control to co-evolution’
Faculty of Architecture of Delft University of Technology- The Netherlands

06/2012-09/2012 Urban Design Workshop+ Sustainable Campus
Topic: ‘Creative Sustainable Campus of Politecnico di Milano’
DASITU, Politecnico di Milano, Italy and ETH Zurich

11-19 March 2011 The Athens Programme (competitive selection process)

Farsi (Persian) Native
English Advanced/Bilingual Proficiency
Italian Full Professional Proficiency
French Elementary Proficiency
Arabic Elementary Proficiency

Languages

English Advanced/ Bilingual Proficiency
Italian Full Professional Proficiency
French Elementary Proficiency
Arabic Elementary Proficiency

International Workshops:

- 31st ERSA Summer School (competitive selection process)
- Learning from Gulf Cities Workshop
- 29th ERSA Summer School (competitive selection process)
- AESOP PhD workshop (competitive selection process)
- Urban Design Workshop+ Sustainable Campus
- The Athens Programme (competitive selection process)
Organizational Experience

15 June 2021
Organized a (closed) Special Session at the RSA Annual Congress (ONLINE)
Convenors: Mina Akhavan, Mina Di Marino, Grzegorz Micek
Speakers: Mina Akhavan, Mina Di Marino, Ilaria Mariotti and Grzegorz Micek

2021 (TBC)
Part of the organizing team and scientific committee
With Dr. Steve Harding, Birmingham City University + Dr. Bastian Lange, Leipzig / Vechta + Prof. Ilaria Mariotti, Politecnico di Milano.
The cycle of conferences ‘The geographies of new working spaces and their effects on peripheries’
Sponsored by DFG (German Research Foundation), Maison des Sciences de l’Homme and Villa Vigoni
Competitive selection process
Postponed to September 2021 due to Covid-19 Emergences

06-24 July 2020
Part of the organizing team and scientific committee of the International Summer School on Workplace Management – SSWM2020 (ONLINE)
Politecnico di Milano
Participants: About 50 International Master Students and PhD candidates
https://www.rec.polimi.it/sswm/

28 May 2020
Organized and moderated a Live WEBINAR
“Gender issues and parents in smart-working due to the Covid-19 pandemic”
Speakers: Anita Fuzi (researcher and coworking expert), Julianne Becker (co-founder of Coconut), and Gosia Kramer (co-founder and CEO of The Luxemburg Office)
https://www.facebook.com/COSTActionCA18214NeW.Sp/photos/a.104951537822602/141670050817417/ COST Action 18214

12-14 February 2020
Part of the organizing team of the COST Action 18214 MC Meeting
Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies

17-30 August 2019
Organized a Special Session at the 2019 ERSA Congress
“Transportation and Mobility in an Ageing Society. Perspectives, Trends and Drivers”
Convenors: Mina Akhavan and Aleid Brouwer
Lyon, France

7 June 2018
Part of the organizing team of a one-day international seminar- part of the FARB Programme
“New Working Spaces. Promises of Innovations and Effects on the Urban Context”
Speakers: Mina Akhavan; Simonetta Armondi; Stefano di Vita; Divya Leducq; Fabio Manfredini; Ilaria Mariotti; Corinna Morandi; Carolina Pacchi; Ivana Pais; Darja Reuschke; Stefano Saloriani; Veronique Schutjens
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU)- Politecnico di Milano

23 February 2018
Part of the organizing team of a one-day national seminar- part of the FARB Programme
“Nuove produzioni e spazio urbano”
Speakers: Mina Akhavan; Simonetta Armondi; Stefano di Vita; Fabio Manfredini; Ilaria Mariotti; Corinna Morandi; Stefano Saloriani
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU)- Politecnico di Milano

20 February 2017
Part of the organizing team of a one-day international seminar
“Learning from Gulf Cities”
Speakers: Mina Akhavan; Laura Lieto; Harvey Molotch; Michele Nastasi; Davide Pozini;
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU)- Politecnico di Milano

6 June 2014
Organized a one-day PhD International Seminar
“The Future of hub Port City Development? Opportunities and challenges of contemporary urban development in global port-cities.”
Speakers: Mina Akhavan; Cesar Ducruet (CNRS- Paris); Markus Hesse (University of Luxemburg)
Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU)- Politecnico di Milano

INVITED LECTURER/ SPEAKER
26-27 May 2021
Two-day Event: Rural Coworking – European Coworking Assembly
Presentation title: ‘Rural Coworking Spaces in Italy’
University of Groningen
Lecture of the for the course Entrepreneurship & Regional Development
Lecture title: ‘State-of-the-art Studies on Coworking Spaces’

October 2020
Sharjah Architecture Triennial, Sharjah, Emirates
29 April 2020
SOS School of Sustainability, Bologna, Italy
Lecture title: ‘Revisiting Urban Changes in Iran’
31 October 2018
City University, Tripoli, Lebanon
Lecture title: ‘Coworking Spaces and New Social Relations: a focus on Social Streets in Italy’
18-21 June 2018
Villa Vignoni, German Italian Centre for European Excellence (Italy), Como, Italy
Symposium Star Architecture, International Architectural and Planning Firms and the Urban Transformation of European Cities (II)
with Davide Ponzini
24-27 November 2017
Villa Vignoni, German Italian Centre for European Excellence (Italy), Como, Italy
Symposium Star Architecture, International Architectural and Planning Firms and the Urban Transformation of European Cities (I)
Presentation title: ‘Transnational architecture firms and their strategies: explorations of the European space’

PUBLICATION LIST
Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

MINA AKHAVAN


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**Online Journal Articles**


Akhavan M. (2015). Port-City Relation in Dubai: From an Entrepôt to the (logistics) hub of the Middle East. *PORTUSplus_the online Journal of RETE*, RETE Publisher, Venice, ISSN: 2039-6422.

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**Books**


Akhavan M. (2020). *Port Infrastructure Developments and Port-City Interface Dynamics*. Springer. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-52578-1

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**Book Chapters**


MINA AKHAVAN


**CONFERENCE PAPERS and PROCEEDINGS**


Akhavan M., Mariotti I. (2015). ‘Investigating the maritime transport structure of the Middle-East: how competitive is Dubai hub Port-City?’ *In the XVII Conference of the Italian Association of Transport Economics and Logistics*
Mina Akhavan

**Conference Papers Presented by Co-author**

- Mariotti I., **Akhavan M.** Piccito G. (2019). ‘Coworking spaces and well-being in core vs. periphery: an application of SEM’. In the A. I. S. Re. Italian Association of Regional Science- the XL Annual Conference, 16-18 September. L’Aquila, Italy.
- Pinto F., **Akhavan, M.** (2019). ‘Age friendly neighborhood’: strategie di mobilità urbana e governo del territorio per una società che invecchia’. In the A. I. S. Re. Italian Association of Regional Science- the XL Annual Conference, 16-18 September. L’Aquila, Italy.
- Mariotti I., **Akhavan M.** (2019). ‘The Location of Coworking Spaces in Urban vs. Peripheral Areas’. In the 59th ERSU Congress 28-31 August. Lyon, France.
- Mariotti I., Brouwer A., **Akhavan M.** (2019). ‘Stated and revealed preference for ageing in place in Milan’. In the 59th ERSU Congress 28-31 August. Lyon, France.
- Brouwer A., **Akhavan M.** (2019). ‘Relationship between Mobility and Quality of Life in the Elderly: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the literature’. In the 59th ERSU Congress 28-31 August. Lyon, France.
- Pinto F., **Akhavan M.** (2019). ‘Mobilità urbana e governo del territorio per una rinnovata qualità di vita della popolazione anziana’. In the XXII National Conference SIU 2019, 5-7 June, Matera-Bari, Italy.
- Mariotti I., **Akhavan, M.** (2018). ‘The Role of Proximity Typologies in Enhancing the Performance of Coworking Spaces in Italy’. In the Regional Studies Association Global Conference 29 June- 1 July 2018, Beijing China.

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**CURRICULUM VITAE | 1/14**

(SIET). Bocconi University, 29 June-1 July. Milan, Italy


**Akhavan M.** (2014). ‘The Port Development Impoused by the Globalization Trends in the Emerging Global Cities of the Middle East- The Case of Dubai’. In the DEVPORT International Conference, University of Le Havre, 12-13 June. Le Havre, France


RESEARCH IMPACT
(google scholar – April 2021)

Citations 170
h-index 7

Updated July 2021
Summary

The positive trends encountered in 2020 continue. The positive aspects are the following:

1. The constant increase of IF. **This year it went from 2.22 to 2.856.** This result should not be read as something given for granted. The 2021 impact factor of PiRS has increased from 2.22 to 2.856, showing a decisive increase in the positive trend of the last few years. Interestingly enough, the strongest competitors of PiRS have all increased their impact factor, but are still below Pirs, apart from Regional Studies.
2. The **number of cited documents grew from 137 to 178**, while non cited ones went from 42 to 56.
3. According to Scimago, in 2020 the total citations grew from **323 to 494**, **while the per document citation went from 2.4 to 2.9.** PiRS keeps its position in the best quartile for what concerns both Environmental Science and Social Science (Geography, Planning and Development).
4. **The total number of submissions has grown from 438 to 668.** The rejection rate is around 79%, which is a strong signal of the seriousness and selectivity of the Editors in choosing high-quality contributions.
5. **No backlog exists any longer.**
1. Editorial Team and Editorial Board

In November 2020, Michael Lahr was elected by the RSAI Council as new Editor of Pirs, since Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen decided to leave her role of editor for an important appointment in the Government. I would like to thank Sharmistha for her professional work and welcome Michael as a member of our team.

I take the opportunity also to thank my team for its brilliant contribution to the journal, witnessed by the positive results achieved also this year.

2. Editorial statistics

2.1. Number of submissions and rejection rates

Table 1 presents the number of submissions and rejection rates, together with pending manuscripts, i.e. papers that are in the website system at different stages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
<th>Acceptance rate</th>
<th>Rejection rate</th>
<th>Pending manuscripts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2020, the number of submissions grew to more than 400. The acceptance rate was in 2020 around 7%, but still some papers are in review (51). Figure 1 shows the total number of submissions is driven by European scientists. The share of authors (in author pages) from Americas is growing.

2.2. Decision making process and reviewers
The **good performance in terms of a decision process reached over the last 7 years improves** in all phases of the process to publication (Table 2). On average, the first decision takes place in one month, the second in around 2 months. Also the speed of publication after the final decision has improved, reaching less than 6 months. What is impressive is that it is now half of what it was in 2019. The positive effects of the solution to the backlog are still there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First decision</th>
<th>Second decision</th>
<th>Third decision</th>
<th>Final decision of acceptance to Early View</th>
<th>Final decision to publication in issue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3,2</td>
<td>2,9</td>
<td>1,3</td>
<td>2,6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3,1</td>
<td>2,5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>11,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,6</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>4,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>3,1</td>
<td>12,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>0,6</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>3,2</td>
<td>15,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,1</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>2,9</td>
<td>21,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>18,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,8</td>
<td>2,1</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>3,2</td>
<td>18,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>2,1</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>2,1</td>
<td>18,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>9,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>1,8</td>
<td>5,8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of referees has diminished a little, as Table 3 reports, reaching the total number of 408. The geographical distribution of referees has registered an increase in Europe and a decrease in the Americas and PRSCO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Reviewers</th>
<th>ERSA</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>PRSCO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2.3. Authors by geographical areas and by disciplines**

Figure 2 presents the geographical distribution of submissions. **The trends show a drastic increase of authors from the Pacific area, probably as the result of the high number of Chinese papers submitted.** European submissions are therefore no longer the highest, while the Americas’ shares remain stable. Interestingly enough, the increase in the total submissions are due to an increase in submission from PRSCO.
3. Impact Factor

The 2021 impact factor of PiRS has increased from 2.22 to 2.856, showing a decisive increase in the positive trend of the last few years. Interestingly enough, as Figure 4 shows, the strongest competitors of PiRS have all increased their impact factor, but are still below PiRs, apart from Regional Studies.

Figure 4. Impact factor from 2004 to 2020 for the most important regional science journals.
In the figure, PiRS ranks second, after Regional Studies, and close to International Regional Science Review and Journal of Regional Science.

PiRS increased its position in Economics, and maintained its position in the other fields. In Economics it achieved 143/549 (Economics), compared to 99/363 in 2020. The journal went very close to move to the best quartile in Economics (Q1), which should remain the aim in the next years.

According to Scimago (30 June 2021), in 2020:

1. The number of cited documents grew from 137 to 178, while non cited ones went from 42 to 56.
2. According to Scimago, in 2020 the total citations grew from 323 to 494, while the per document citation went from 2.4 to 2.9. PiRS keeps its position in the best quartile for what concerns both Environmental Science and Social Science (Geography, Planning and Development).
3. The total number of submissions has grown from 438 to 668. The rejection rate is around 79%, which is a strong signal of the seriousness and selectivity of the Editors in choosing high-quality contributions.

4 Editorial Policies

Given the good results, our recipe for the success of the journal remains the one of last year:

1) a good and efficient management of the journal, which guarantees a good and attractive image for the journal;

2) the launch of special issues on strategic topics. We have in the pipeline an interesting special issue on the development of regional science from different national perspectives;

3) a selection of papers to be published based on the novelty of the themes treated, together with scientific rigor.
5. Concluding remarks

After 9 years of editorship of the journal, it is for me time to leave to another colleague this effort. Just to remind to myself the road I did in leading the journal, I started in 2012, with an impact factor of 1.18, and I leave after nine years with an impact factor of 2.856. I am not at all fond of bibliometrics, since it is after from being a proxy for scientific quality. What it means to me is only that the journal has increased its visibility and is now more read than before. As an editor-in-chief, this is an important result.

During these years, I worked a lot for the journal, but I am totally sure that I received more than what I gave. I went through rather different “phases”; a phase of pessimism at the beginning related to the tough competition with other very well established journal, to positive feeling obtained when good achievements where reached through a thorough editorial strategy of special issues and selective issues. I was put in front of a lot of scientific and managerial challenges over these years, and I learnt a lot from them. My experience allows me to list the successful elements that one needs to lead a journal like Pirs, not necessarily in an increasing order of importance:

- a solid editorial team, with dedicated people, that are ready to work for the journal with seriousness and with modesty;
- a brilliant, professional and enthusiastic editorial manager. Elisabete Martins is a fundamental resource for running the journal in an efficient way;
- a bright publisher, with a long term business strategy. The change of contract with WB was in this respect a success. I could rely on a contract that was taking the cancelling of the backlog as a fundamental issue for the image of the journal. This was indeed one point of a success in increasing the number of submissions;
- right scientific ideas in the right moment. The Brexit special issue, anticipating other journals’ initiatives, was a success in terms of citations;
- the reinforcement of the foundations of regional science, that are at the basis of our academic legacy. Issues revising old theories like agglomeration economies in modern ways, or issues comparing the development of the discipline in different parts of the world were very much appreciated and cited.

I would like to thank my editorial board colleagues, who have done in these years a wonderful job. Elisabete Martins will remain my favorite editorial manager; without her constant support, I could not have made it over these 9 months. Last, but not let, I would like to thank RSAI for its trust in my capabilities to manage the flagship journal of the association for a long time. For one aspect I am pleased to leave my position of Editor in chief: I can start again submitting my own works to Pirs!

Good luck to the next Editor-in-Chief and his/her editorial team!

Roberta Capello
Editor-in-chief Papers in Regional Science

also on behalf of the other members of the Editorial Team
David Folch, Julie Le Gallo, Michael Lahr, Rosella Nicolini, John Winters, and Andrea Caragliu

Milan, Italy
1 July 2021
SUMMARY

This report refers to the activity of RSPP during 2020. The number of papers grew from 77 in 2019 to 126 in 2020. The number of citations increased from 94 in 2019 to 213 in 2020; for 2021, the number of citations can be 350. In 2019 RSPP got 29770 downloads and in 2020 the number of downloads was 45140, with an increase of more than 50%. The estimated impact factor grew from 0.8 in 2019 to 1.5 in 2020. The estimated impact factor for 2021 can be above 2.0, which is achievable with a strong effort in the promotion of citations. The strategy to publish special issues on relevant themes will continue with volumes being prepared on China, the Global South, Ukraine, Post Pandemic Cities and Mediterranean dilemmas, beyond others already in the system.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report refers to 2020. In Section 2, we analyze the journal metrics, in Section 3 we highlight the aims and actions of the editorial team and in Section 4 we conclude.

2. EDITORIAL STATISTICS

2.1. Pages, Papers and Citations

The number of pages, articles and citations per year increased from 2017 - with 18 articles, 303 pages and 41 citations – to 2018 with 25 articles, 410 pages and 87 citations – to 2019 with 61 articles, 94 citations and 988 pages, and to 2020 with 126 articles, 213 citations and 1293 pages.

![Figure 1: RSPP Pages, Articles and Citations per Year (RSPP Editorial Office)](image)

Figure 1: RSPP Pages, Articles and Citations per Year (RSPP Editorial Office)
For 2021, the number of articles and pages will stabilize around 210 and the same will happen with the number of pages. The good prospect is that the number of papers cited per year may increase from 213 to 350.

The geographical distribution of the authors, counted by the number of pages, indicate a relative recuperation of the contributions from the Americas, mainly from Latin America, compensated by a decrease in the papers coming from Europe and the maintenance of share of papers coming from other regions. The expansion of the editors to Asia will bring a Special Issue on the Global South that will bring a higher contribution from Asia and Africa.

Figure 2: Geographical distribution of authors by pages (RSPP Editorial Office)

Figure 3: Disciplinary distribution of authors by pages (RSPP Editorial Office)

The disciplinary distribution of the authors’ affiliation measured by the number of pages is increasingly concentrated in economics and some geography. Anyway, with the exception of 2018, it seem to have an asymptotic stabilization with 60% contributions from economists, 20% from geographers and 20% from others.
2.2. Decision making process and reviewers

The number of submissions increased from 2019 to 2020 and the rejection rate decreased from 67% to 58% (Table 1), but still have 54 articles from 2020 in revision without a final decision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
<th>Acceptance rate</th>
<th>Rejection rate</th>
<th>Pending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0,50</td>
<td>0,50</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0,63</td>
<td>0,37</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0,52</td>
<td>0,48</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0,31</td>
<td>0,69</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0,65</td>
<td>0,35</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>0,53</td>
<td>0,47</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>0,49</td>
<td>0,51</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>0,33</td>
<td>0,67</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>0,42</td>
<td>0,58</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of reviewers increased from 2019 to 2020 associated with a move to a balanced distribution of reviewers between Europe and the Americas but a smaller weight from other regions in Asia and Africa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Reviewers</th>
<th>Europa</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0,41</td>
<td>0,35</td>
<td>0,24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0,47</td>
<td>0,33</td>
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<td>0,50</td>
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<td>0,24</td>
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</table>

2.4. Performance Indicators

According to Google Scholar, citations on Regional Science Policy and Practice was 265 in 2017, 327 in 2018, 417 in 2019 and 638 in 2020.

The estimated impact factor grew from 0.8 in 2019 to 1.5 in 2020. The estimated impact factor for 2021 can be above 2.0, which is achievable with a strong effort in the promotion of citations.

![Figure 4: Downloads and Citations (Wiley, 2021)](image)
Indicators collected by Wiley are also interesting (Figure 5). Downloads registered a steady increase since 2017 and, with a time lag of two years citations also begin to grow in 2019.

![MONTHLY TREND OF DOWNLOADS](image)

**Figure 5: Downloads and Citations (Wiley, 2021)**

The steady increase in the number of downloads reveals an intensification of seasonality with higher searches during lecturing periods in spring and autumn indicating the opportunity to publish papers pedagogically appealing.

Cite Scores estimated by Scopus indicate a general improvement in 2020 for all categories, after the decrease in 2019 explainable by the strong increase in the number of papers from 2018 to 2019. Since the number of papers is stable since 2020 it is expectable that the Cite Score will increase in 2021 and the percentile in the various categories.

![Cite Score Trend](image)

**Figure 6: Cite Score Trend (Scopus, 2021)**

### 3. AIMS AND ACTIONS

The aim for 2020 was to stabilise the number of articles of 2019 with six issues per year while increasing citations.

In 2020, the editorial team was further increase to include Abdul Shaban from India and Jian Wang from China. The editorial team has now 15 members, four from Asia, 6 from Europe and four from the Americas. The Editorial Board has 64 members, 17 from the Americas, 31 from Europe and 16 from Asia and
Africa.

The strategy to create special issues with thematic cover pages provided a distinguished image of every issue and an easier perception of the topics addressed by RSPP (Figure 8).

In 2020, the Jury of the RSPP Annual Paper Award composed by Gordon Mulligan, David Plane, Phillip McCann, Neil Reid and Tomaz Dentinho selected two papers (Figure 9).


The money spent in 2020 (see Annex) was less than what was expected due to Covid-19. Nevertheless, RSPP sponsored the participation of Andre Torre in a Congress of Portuguese Economists in Porto generating a few articles edited by Nuno Martins. RSPP supported the participation of Bharat Dahiya in the Indian Regional Science Congress in Amity University of Kolkata in February 2020 that stimulated the submissions of papers by Indian colleagues. Finally, RSPP advanced the payment to Alessandra Faggian, the RSPP key speaker of the RSAI World Congress in Marrakech postponed to 2021.

There are two issues published in 2021 and the other four are almost ready. The first part of 2022
has already committed issues and for the second part, we expect one issue edited by Abdul Shaban on the Global South, one by Jian Wang on China and, eventually, one on Ukraine, edited by Gabriela Pascariu and creating the context to launch one issue on Post Covid Cities and one on Mediterranean Dilemmas.

4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

RSPP achieved the goal established in 2017, to reach an impact factor above one in 2021. Nevertheless, according to Wiley, this is not enough to get official Impact Factor and a strong effort in citations and promotion of citable articles is due to secure that the estimated impact factor can grow from 1.5 in 2020 to above 2.0 in 2021.

Soon RSPP team will prepare a blog for the journal to diffuse scientific evidences in social media and boost citations.

June 2021

The Editorial Team

Abdul Shaban, Ana Vinuela, Budy Resosudarmo, Carlos Azzoni, Emmanouil Transos, Eveline Van Leeuwen, Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, Isabelle Nilsson, Jian Wang, Katarzyna Kopczewska, Neil Reid, Patricio Aroca, Tiago Freire and Tomaz Dentinho
### RSPP Accounts 2017

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<th>Description</th>
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<th>Expenses</th>
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**TOTAL** 5,000,00 € 1,747,35 €

Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues) 250,00 €

Closing Balance for 2017 3,002,65 €

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### RSPP Accounts 2018

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**TOTAL** 8,086,65 € 6,284,95 €

Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues) 250,00 €

Closing Balance for 2018 1,547,50 €

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### RSPP Accounts 2019

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**TOTAL** 6,547,50 € 7,188,71 €

Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues) 250,00 €

Closing Balance for 2019 891,21 €
### RSPP Accounts 2020

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**TOTAL** 4 108,79€ 932,01€

**Balance** 3 176,78€

Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues) 250,00€

**Closing Balance for 2020** 2 926,78€

### RSPP Accounts 2021

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**TOTAL** 7 978,78€ 669,45€

**Balance** 7 309,33€

Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues) 250,00€

**Closing Balance for 2021 (June)** 7 059,33€

RSI payment to RSPP is transferred to ACDA ([www.acda.pt](http://www.acda.pt)) that hires Eng. Elisabete Martins and takes and overheads of 5%.
Proposal for an RSAI/RSPP YouTube Channel

Introduction
The proposal is to launch a Regular You-Tube channel for Regional Science Policy and Practice within the institution scope of Regional Science Organization, International. The idea comes from Pritam Ghosh mr.ghosh.pritam@gmail.com, from the Indian Regional Science Association, specified by the Editor in Chief of RSPP, circulated by the RSAI Presidency, by the RSPP Editorial Team and by the RSAI Editorial Board. The proposal is to launch an experimental project for one year, with the support of 1000 euros, coming from RSAI/RSPP funds, to the first editor of the RSAI/RSPP You Tube Channel.

Context
Several International research organizations and publishers have already launched their YouTube channels during this pandemic period. The Regional Science organizations (international and different countries) are organizing conferences, lecture series, workshops, and seminars throughout the whole year in different countries. Pritam Ghosh says, “We can upload and share the important lectures and special issues through this YouTube channel. We can also share lectures / special secessions among students and scholars through the YouTube live stream (same date and time). Subscribers of the channel also can access or listen to the lectures or special sessions. In this way, we can reach thousands of research scholars and students worldwide and motivate them.

Q&A
a) Who will be the owner/manager?
RSAI/RSPP YouTube Channel belongs to RSAI and is managed by RSPP editors. Pritam Ghosh will be, in the first experimental period of one year, the guest editor of the RSPP / RSAI Youtube channel, coordinated by the RSPP editorial team and with the official support of Elisabete Martins.

b) What will be the regularity?
The regularity of the RSAI/RSPP YouTube Channel can be each two months, which coincides with the regularity of RSPP.

c) What will be the structure?
The Structure of the RSAI/RSPP YouTube Channel fits the design of a webpage with:
- 2 minutes presentations of RSPP published papers done by the authors that can be included in the papers themselves by Wiley;
- 5 minutes Lessons on methods like Katarzyna Kopczewska has done regarding clusters http://regionalscience.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=370
- 1 minute Call for papers;
- RSPP keynote presentations in Congresses (and others if allowed);
- Debates and brainstorms on emerging issues;
- Selected presentations from other Youtube files;

d) Who is editing and with what quality?
RSPP should edit its own material and a minimum quality should be required (even if we ask contributors to ameliorate their input.

e) What about revenues from eventual publicity and other sources?
Revenues from eventual publicity and other sources will be collected by RSAI and, with the approval of the RSAI Council, allocated to RSPP account which movement is presented annually in the RSPP Report to the RSAI Council.
Dear Tomás and all,
The proposal looks very interesting. At first, I didn’t understand well the advantages and possible fruits of it. But, after reading more carefully the short note annexed, I support the idea of launching such ‘experience’.
(It will demand a rather high personal work by Dr. Pritam Ghosh, of course, and possibly one year shouldn’t be sufficient to know the effects)
Best regards,
Juan
Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura
Dear Tomás,
From a general point of view, the proposal looks interesting, of course. I personally don’t understand well how it will work. In my opinion, some more details on the mechanics of such ‘Regular You-Tube Chanel’ for RSAI could be needed.
Best regards,
Juan
Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura

Sounds like an intriguing idea, I am a little sceptical but willing to learn. Regards
Kingsley

This is a brilliant idea. Will help to popularize the journal among early career academics and students.
Regards
Shaban

Dear Tomas, dear all
I found it a very good idea in order to diffuse our ideas and our productions
I deeply support this idea
Best regards
André
André Torre

Tomaz and colleagues
I like the idea especially if it is pitched as an enhancement to RSPP and RSAI in general.
My recommendation would be to go ahead and experiment – see what is effective (and how that can be measured) and report back to Council next year.
Geoff
Geoffrey J.D. Hewings

I have got the email I have shared on the YouTube Channel. I am so proud of Pritam. He is representing the Indian Section with valuable work.
Sumana Banerjee (in whatsup)

Dear Tomaz,
This is a good attempt to further promote the journal impacts with proliferation of social media. I find many journals ask authors whether agree to spread their research results in the Twitter after accept. Look forward to further news on our efforts.
Best
Jian Wang
Fantastic idea Tomaz.

**Neil Reid**

Thank you Tomaz for keeping me posted!!
No comment at all: just keeping the finger crossed for the success of the very promising initiative.

Best

**Rosella Nicolini**

Dear Tomas
I think it is an excelent idea. Just consider the Data Protection law, Property Rights, confidentiality issues involved in all these activities
Very best

**Jordi Suriñach**