Cities and regions are facing new challenges today. The aftermath of the economic crisis has created a completely new environment which affects the functioning of cities and regions. Unbalanced development on different geographical scales from global to local, and inequalities in wealth and prospects within cities raise important issues for the theory and policy of urban and regional development.

This conference will focus on issues regarding inequalities, inclusive and sustainable development within a changing European context. Current challenges for urban and regional development will be covered through a variety of interdisciplinary thematic topics which are relevant to Regional Science theory and policy.

**Thematic topics**

- Decentralization and multi-level governance
- Smart cities, technology and innovation
- Urban renewal, environment and sustainable development
- New challenges, circular economy, blue growth and climate change adaptation
- Local sustainability and new forms of local governance
- Local government reforms and the restructuring of the state
- Territorial governance and new forms of participation and planning
- Inclusive development: meeting new social challenges in cities and regions
- Population, demographic change and migration, refugees
- Urban planning, urbanization and urban environment
- The challenges and interplay between rural and urban areas
- Resilient cities and regional development
- Culture, tourism and local development

**Key note speakers**

- Prof. Andres Rodriguez-Pose, LSE
- Prof. Alain Ayong Le Kama, Université Paris X, Président de l’Association des Economistes de l’Environnement et des Ressources Naturelles
- Prof. Philip McCann, University of Groningen

**Languages** : English, French

**Venue** : Panteion University, Athens

**Congress Dinner** : The Acropolis Museum

**European Regional Science Association**
http://www.ersa.org/

**Association de Science Régionale De Langue Française**
http://www.asrdlf.org/