

INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CITIES: DIPLOMACY AND POLICY IN AN URBAN WORLD



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**DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIUM
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018
12:30 - 2:00 PM
SE 1, ROOM 112**

PRESENTED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UPPP PHD STUDENT SEMINAR SERIES

ABSTRACT

The internationalization of cities and the constitution of a new international space of power involves a much more expressive number of cities than only the usual global cities. Dozens of cities' networks with diverse agendas and their own strategies of action are seeking to interfere in global processes, negotiating with large corporations, multilateral organizations and nation states. The emergence of what could become a new international law subject, the city as a category (geographical connections - spaces of globalization) and/or cities' networks as an organization of power, is related to the democratic environment, degree of social participation, autonomy of the local government and recently to the commoditization of city's space. City as global merchandise is treated here under the conception of rugosities, local and global rationality and creative destruction. The research aims to present this process beyond the disciplinary field of International Relations (IRs), contributing to the understanding of city diplomacy and the constitution of a new world order.

Renato Balbim is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Applied Economic Research IPEA (Brazil), and a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Urban Planning and Public Policy at UCI. He holds a PhD in Human Geography from the University of Sao Paulo (2003). He is former Director of Urban Planning - Ministry of Cities (Brazil, 2008 - 2009), Coordinator of Urban Rehabilitation - Ministry of Cities (Brazil, 2003 - 2007), Senior Consultant at Cities Alliance - World Bank (Brazil, 2005), PhD Professor at Universidade de Brasilia UnB (2004) and Universidade Estadual de Sao Paulo UNESP (2003), and Associated Researcher, University of Sao Paulo (1993-2003). He has several publications including editor and author of 10 books on urban development and more than 50 articles in journals and books. He was Representative of IPEA and Ministry of Cities in several National Councils and Working Groups. Recently he was charged to elaborate the Brazilian National Report for the UN Habitat III Conference. Other areas of specialization/study include: Urban Public Policy, École Nacional d'Administration; Daily Mobility, Institut Français d'Urbanisme; and Urban Restructuration, Université Pantheon-Sorbonne.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATE HARTSHORN, KHARTSHO@UCI.EDU