

# THE WORD

A FREE Newsletter from  
The BSA Urban Theory and Research Study Group

A study group of the British Sociological Association  
  
 Urban Theory & Research

## WELCOME COLLEAGUES, MEMBERS & FRIENDS...

...to the second edition of the UTR newsletter from the British Sociological Association's **Urban Theory & Research (UTR) Study Group**.

In this edition we have some feedback from members on current projects (see overleaf), as well as an update on the conference this summer. Amongst the benefits members fed back during initial consultations was that there was a lack of general support for publication and networking activities.

Well we hope to contribute to changing this state of affairs, first and foremost by our contribution to the summer conference (taking place at MMU), but also through enquiries into our own collaborative events and generating potential for edited collections and/or themed journal issues as potential outlets for such activities.

The membership of the UTR & any interested partner agencies are actively encouraged to suggest ideas for taking this forward so please do get in touch... Answers on a postcard, e-mail, telephone or passenger pigeon, or even on UTR message board (see links provided here) ...but anyway you know how please do get in touch.

The group thrives on its members and as our ranks grow we can accomplish so much more.

### WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US...

Dr Peter Rogers  
Group Convenor

## WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Please remember to send information and updates to us so we can keep firing out these regular updates for members of the group.

### WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO!

Not in a creepy way but in regards to your work, publications interests, activities or even just thoughts a feelings to discuss with our resident investigator *Kojak*.

Please do get in touch and support the UTR

## THE BRITISH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2007

**Social Connections  
Identities, Technologies, Relationships**

Thursday 12th to Saturday 14th April 2007  
University of East London (Docklands Campus)

### Keynote speakers:

**Bruno Latour** (Ecole des Mines, Paris)  
**Saskia Sassen** (Chicago)  
**Anthony Giddens** (LSE)

Further information and booking forms available from:  
<http://www.britisoc.co.uk/events/Conference.htm>

To date over 480 delegates have booked to attend, which is a fantastic response. If you haven't booked and intend to attend - book now.



## SAGE Prize for the Most Innovative Paper in a BSA Journal

We are very excited to announce that SAGE Publications have kindly offered to 'award an annual prize to the best article published in either; Cultural Sociology, Sociology or Work, Employment and Society.'

The prize will be awarded for the 'most innovative' paper published in the previous year's volume of each journal. Individual authors and teams of authors are eligible.

The prize is £250 worth of SAGE books for a free annual individual subscription to a journal of your choice.

For further details of the prize, please visit our SAGE Prize webpage:

<http://www.britisoc.co.uk/publications/Prizes.htm>

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# UT&R

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## MEMBER PROFILE



**NAME:** Dr Alexandros-Andreas Kyrtzis

**Location:** University of Athens,

**Position:** Associate Professor of Sociology

**Enterprise:** Curator of "Constantinos Doxiadis's Ekistics and the Architecture of Entopia" Benaki Museum, Athens (30/11/2006 – 11/02/2007)

Alexandros' research work focuses in the last five years on creativity, design, power, and technologies of the self in technological and organisational environments. He has also created a link of these interests to the sociological study of urban planning and architecture. He is currently working on several book projects.

**Email:** [akyrtsis@pspa.uoa.gr](mailto:akyrtsis@pspa.uoa.gr)

**LINK:** [www.pspa.uoa.gr](http://www.pspa.uoa.gr)

*'Tell us about Forthcoming Work by UTR members'*

**LET US KNOW AND WE'LL RUN YOUR PROFILE**



## KOJAK INVESTIGATES

**...the state of contemporary urbanism!**

So what is urban research and theory all about these days? This 'Private-eye-in the sky-on-high' can see far from my ivory tower and the vista I see is blurry... perhaps even murky... when considering the disciplinary orientation of urban investigation. This is BOTH a human **and** spatial science, including aspects of social theory and geography, but also economics, politics, philosophy, architecture... the list goes on and on.

I guess it could be said that a key challenge for the future of urban theory and research lies in 'step-changing' the approach of academics; not as belonging to any specific disciplinary discourse... but perhaps as a collaborative body of 'urbanists'?

**KOJAK**

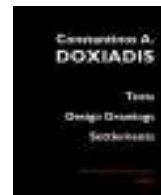
WANT TO **ADVERTISE** YOURSELF TO THE UTR AND BSA MEMBERSHIP?

**WE PROVIDE SPACE FOR ADVERTISEMENT**

CONTACT GROUP CONVENOR TO DISCUSS

## TELL US ABOUT FORTHCOMING WORK BY UTR MEMBERS!

The subject of our member profile this month, Alexandros-Andreas Kyrtzis, has been busy for some time on a number of book projects. One of the most current is a book on the life and work of I.T. specialists in the National Bank of Greece (coming soon).



He is also editing preparing (with Christine Boyer and Anna Hardman) a volume for 'Springer' on grand planning, urbanisation and architecture in the 1950s and 1960s. (Contributors: among others N. Al Sayyad; R. Bromley; S. Cairns; M. Daechsel; J.M. Jacobs; S. Keller; A. Madanipour; A. Picon; H. Sarkis; P. Tournikiotis; M. Wigley.) He has already edited a volume with texts of the architect and urban planner C.A. Doxiadis, entitled '**Constantinos A. Doxiadis: Texts, Drawings, Settlements**' (Athens: Ikaros Publications, [www.ekdoseis-ikaros.gr](http://www.ekdoseis-ikaros.gr) ; see image inset).

*This volume is a valuable companion to those who seek the understanding of the world of grand planning and spatial design in the period 1945-1975 and is addressed to all those interested in recent architectural and planning history, as well as in the history of the connection between geographical ideas, diagrammatic reasoning and planning. It is also addressed to all those interested in spatial aspects of processes of socioeconomic development, reconstruction and related policies.*

**For more information contact:**  
Alexandros-Andreas Kyrtzis

(ISBN: 960839936X)

Athens: Ikaros Publishing Company, 2006

If you have an idea for a **UTR** newsletter, want to run and produce the newsletter, are a member and want to be profiled, or just want to get more involved in the UTR & contribute some news or even – god forbid – a scholarly article or polemic to the cause then contact **Peter Rogers:** [P.rogers@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:P.rogers@mmu.ac.uk)

...& **DON'T FORGET** to **sign up and register** for the UTR online. You can find our registration forms and information about the group online at <http://www.britisoc.co.uk/specialisms/URBAN+THEORY+AND+RESEARCH+STUDY+GROUP.htm>