



*The [New Urban Agenda](#) 2016-2036 was approved by the United Nations on 20 October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador, endorsed by 167 countries, including Greece. The ancient city of Quito ‘in the middle of the earth’, now the highest capital city in the world, is demonstrating the local leadership needed to make a more liveable city for and by its people. Many other cities are to follow but *what about Athens, one of the cradles of urban civilization?**

**Lecture 1 – What can the New Urban Agenda do for the mother of all cities?**

**Frank D’hont (Planner)** As ambassador of the International Society of City and Regional Planners ([Isocarp](#)), senior advisor of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements ([UN-Habitat](#)), urban geographer-planner Frank D’hont will highlight takeaways from the New Urban Agenda, most relevant to redress the urban crisis Athens and Greece are currently facing, including themes as social, economic and environmental resilience, metropolitan mobility, planning and governance. We will make the link with the United Nations’ [Sustainable Development Agenda 2030](#), earlier approved by all UN-countries. He will also refer to the [International Guidelines on Urban and territorial Planning](#), approved by 56 UN-member states in 2015, for which he is currently drafting the handbook for local application. The Planning Guidelines provide a moral and technical compass to localise the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well an opportunity to create a new momentum in Greece and Athens to revitalize and re-think its city- and metropolitan planning and development.



**Lecture 2 – What can the New Urban Agenda do to make Athens more healthy and accessible for all?**

**Sébastien Goethals (Architect-Urbanist)** active member of Isocarp, founder of [Citilinks](#) and urban advisor for emerging cities in Asia and Africa, will focus more in-depth on the urban mobility chapter of the New Urban Agenda and how it could help Athens metropolis overcoming a mobility conundrum and make the city more liveable, walkable and healthy.



Both lecturers are from Belgium but reside in Athens. Therefore, their aim is not just academic knowledge- and experience sharing, but also actively engaging in new ways forward, by exploring new partnerships between all drivers of change. Questions and discussion will be most welcome!

The lectures will take place on Friday 27 January 2017, 6-8pm, at [Harokopio University](#), Eleftheriou Venizelou Avenue in Athens. The lectures are initiated and will be introduced and moderated by Professor Pavlos Delladetsima, Department of Geography Research Group.

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