

## Editorial

After 1989–90 major political, economic and societal changes took place in the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries. Due to marketisation of state assets, liberalisation of prices and growing exposure to international competition and globalisation, profound economic restructuring commenced leading to rapid de-industrialisation, growing wage and income disparities in these countries.

At the same time the egalitarian principles of state-socialist redistribution of income and goods were replaced by the rules of the market which set off profound changes in the socio-spatial organisation of cities. The market principles of resource allocation together with a growing exposure to the global economy formed basic preconditions for robust shifts in urban land-use, growing social inequalities, and the spread of new functions.

The tremendous and sometimes very spectacular changes of post-socialist cities in CEE attracted great interest among urban geographers. The great attention has been well reflected in the growing body of literature focusing on various aspects of urban restructuring. The ambitious aim of this special issue is to further enrich our knowledge on post-socialist urban transformation.

The majority of the eight papers included in this special issue were presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> EUGEO Congress held in Rome 5–7 September 2013. They cover a wide range of topics that are thought to be relevant in recent processes of post-socialist urban restructuring. The diversity of contributions is guaranteed not only by the topics and methodological approaches, but also by the countries and cities covered. I sincerely hope that this set of papers will significantly contribute to the better understanding of the phenomenology of the post-socialist urban space.

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## CONVERGENCES AND DIVERGENCES OF GEOGRAPHY IN EUROPE

**Fifth EUGEO Congress on the Geography of Europe**

**30 August – 2 September 2015**

**BUDAPEST, Eötvös Loránd University**



The programme will include keynote lectures, oral sessions, poster sessions, thematic panels, scientific and social events. Researchers and experts from all over the world are invited to submit proposals to: [info@eugeo2015.com](mailto:info@eugeo2015.com)

The aim is to facilitate the exchange of new ideas and to offer opportunities for networking within an informal atmosphere. The Congress venues are centrally located and well connected by public transport.

PhD students and early career researchers are encouraged to actively participate and will be offered a reduced fee.



Further information and online registration:  
[www.eugeo2015.com](http://www.eugeo2015.com) – [info@eugeo2015.com](mailto:info@eugeo2015.com)