EXERCISE 2
GLOBAL LEARNING

What does it mean to think about processes of social and spatial change in a city like Berlin from the perspective of the global south and vice versa?

Hentschel 2011, George Simmel Kolloquium

Critical urban researchers have complained in recent years on the distribution of the urban world in northern cities and towns of the south: the global fancy cities and creators of modern life styles in the north; the mega-cities and places of informality and the chaotic growth in the south. Also the theory production of the built environment disciplines has been divided along these categories: urban theory from the „North" can pass directly its knowledge and experience to the "South", while the „South" at best offers interesting empirical cases where failures of any theory are (a- priori) expected. (Hentschel 2011, George Simmel Kolloquium)

Inspired by this criticism, we would like to understand in-depth about the dialogue between "North" and "South" through a series of crucial readings.

Your reflections on the readings should advance a better understanding on the nature of this relationship by asking you to summarize critical passages in the text and respond the following key-questions:

- What are the main topics in the dialog?

- Which are the specifics and characteristics of the described North-South relationships?

- What are the main problems and conflicts?

- What are proposed collaboration strategies?

- What are networks and actors related to this relationship, and how are they related?

- And finally a perspective question: How could increase the value of this relationship?

Write two A4 pages (500 words) to your main findings.

READINGS

The following texts can be accessed via our myDrive account using the following login credentials:

AlSayyad, Nezar (2004): Urban Informality as a "New" Way of Life, in: AlSayyad, Nezar and Ananya Roy (eds.): Urban Informality, Transnational Perspectives from the Middle East, Latin America, and South Asia. Lanham/Boulder/New York/Toronto/Oxford Lexington Books, 2004, pp.7–29.

Appadurai, Arjun, Perspekta 34 (2003): Illusion of permanence, interview with Arjun Appadurai, Perspecta, MIT Press, pp. 44-52

Gerometta, Julia et al. (2005): Social Innovation and Civil Society in Urban Governance: Strategies for an Inclusive City, in: Urban Studies, Vol. 42, No. 11, October 2005.

gtz (ed.) (2008): Capacity Works, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, pp. 27-34

Mayer, Margit (2012): The „right to the city" in urban social movements, in: Brenner, Neil et al. (eds.): Cities for people, not for profit, New York Routledge, 2012, pp.63–85.

UN-Habitat (ed.) (2009): The State of the World's Cities 2008/2009, Harmonious Cities, London/Sterling (Virginia), pp. 4–47.

UN-Habitat (ed.) (2009): Planning Sustainable Cities, Global Report on Human Settlements 2009, Nairobi, (Chapter 7), pp.132–151.

Roy, Ananya (2005): Urban Informality. Toward an Epistemology of Planning, In: Journal of the American Planning Association, 71(2), pp.147–158.

Roy, Ananya (2009): The 21st century metropolis: new geographies of theory. Regional Studies 43.6, pp. 819–30.