

## 1. Title and Format

Mapping Climate Change. A walking exploration of Paris in the Anthropocene

No restrictions on participant numbers

## 2. Facilitators/chair(s).

Professor Iain Black, University of Strathclyde

Professor Deirdre Shaw, University of Glasgow

## 3. Summary.

As the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss grow in severity and scope, in this session we set out to understand how Paris is being affected. Walking the boulevards, streets and parks of the 14<sup>th</sup> Arrondissement, we will seek evidence of climate change: its impacts, mitigations, adaptations and causes. Recording our data through participatory photography and audio recordings, we will combine these to produce an annotated photomontage mapping the area walked. Finishing in a local café, we will share refreshments to facilitate the sharing of experiences and understandings, to seek different perspectives and build bonds with our temporary home.

## 4. Purpose.

This activity aims to build community, shared appreciation and knowledge of our temporary home whilst seeking to understand how Paris is being affected by climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

This session is for all ACR participants. It will hopefully entice those whose research and teaching focus on the interlinked planetary emergencies and those curious about how ever-growing levels of consumption within a bounded system is affecting our planet and is itself being impacted. We would welcome local students to act as guides and long-term residents, to gain insight into longer-term changes. Our marketing of the session will seek to reach all these audiences.

This activity will provide participants with the chance to see how the human and natural worlds are being affected by climate change and biodiversity crisis at varying scales, from small localised damage to systematic changes to the cityscape. It will allow investigation of examples from where nature is part of the planned cityscape, where it is being controlled and where it is unplanned. Alongside this, the session will allow us to consider the causes of climate change and its intertwined impacts in places of commerce, recreation and community, at ground level and below. These scales and contexts are of interest to the ACR community.

Even without any evidence being found, this activity will provide an opportunity to explore a host city in a way often missed at conferences; through a leisurely stroll around the area seeking out famous and smaller sites and features often missed. Walking the 14<sup>th</sup> arrondissement will take participants through the Cimetière du Montparnasse where they will see life amongst the death and decay. They will see life clinging (and perhaps prospering) along the busy boulevards such as Auguste Blanqui, and perhaps a few souls will head underground at Les Catacombes de Paris?

The session hopes to bring a deeper understanding of our temporary home and with it experiences that can enhance our scholarly interests. By getting to know our host city a little better, we will take away memories but also perhaps concerns and ownership of problems and their solutions.

Seeing climate change in action within Paris will hopefully translate into greater appreciation of its small and grand scales in our own homes and communities. Through the discussions we will build friendships and mutual understanding of how consumption, in a fossil fuel fuelled economy is impacting a city. This might include nature within the city, the cityscapes, the way residents live and

how planned and unplanned mitigations and adaptations are occurring, built on acts of human and non-human resistance.

As this is an international gathering, we will learn from one another as to how climate change is viewed and interpreted including areas of dispute and the reasons behind these.

Finally, as this community activity is a pilot for a larger study, participants will help us learn about the format, the required instructions, and the necessary skills. If willing, they will also be able to contribute to the ongoing project.

#### 5. Time:

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> preferred. It would also work on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

- 17.30 to 17.45: Meet at the Community track dedicated room for instructions, to find partners and decide where to go.
- 17.45: 19.30: Mapping Climate Change: Off into the 14<sup>th</sup> arrondissement
- 19.30 till later: Finish at Café L'Ecir, 59 Bd Saint-Jacques, this café is close to the conference hotel and is where we can then share experiences. photos, stories and ideas and then perhaps dinner.

#### 6. WIP/readiness status.

The activity and its purpose are fully developed, what remains to be decided is the App or site for uploading the data and building the photomontage. We can use WhatsApp and Instagram but these along with X have significant data security issues. The basic format of recoding and commenting on what we see is unlikely to change, though where and how it is to be uploaded needs to be finalised.

We will seek to avoid asking participants, as far as possible, to download new Apps and set up accounts. Where this is the case, instructions and support will be provided to minimise time and complexity. As this activity will form part of a pilot study for a wider project, relevant ethics forms will be available, and as part of developing the methodology, we will soon be able to finalise the above questions regarding apps, software, and site.

#### 7. Cost.

Only time and data, and whatever might be spent on refreshments afterwards.

Support required: Invite to any local student groups who are supporting the conference asking them to act as guides.