University of Palermo | Department of Architecture
Master Programme in Spatial Planning | Year II
Academic Year 2026-2027 | First semester

Urban and Regional Policies

Module of Planning 2 Studio + Urban And Regional Policies Integrated Course

Prof. Ignazio Vinci

Project work (Part I)

PROJECT WORK

- In the **project work** students will be required to make a **policy analysis exercise on a city or metropolitan area at their choice**.
- The policy analysis exercise should be focused on a **project** or **programme** led by a **municipality** or a **metropolitan authority** in fields such as urban regeneration/renewal, sustainable mobility, strategic planning, etc.
- The analysis must be accompanied by a **description of the social, economic and institutional context** behind the project/programme.
- The output of the project work will consist of a **ppt presentation** that will be part of the final evaluation.
- To carry on the project, students are allowed to create group with a **maximum of three members**.

PROJECT WORK

STEP 1 – Screening and selection

Select a **city of a significant size** after a screening to understand if:

- Relevant urban initiatives have been led or are ongoing in fields like **urban renewal**, **social housing**, **sustainable mobility**, **public space regeneration**, etc.
- **Planning documents** and **materials** are **available**, better if accompanied by analyses and studies from independent experts (article, scientific papers).
- **Information on the projects' implementation process** is available, either from official sources (e.g. institutional websites) or from local media.

PROJECT WORK

STEP 2 – Setting the context

Once you select the urban initiative to be investigated, briefly outline the context where it takes place, making reference to the following aspects.

- The **urban context**: from a demographic, social, spatial points of view.
- The **institutional context**: how urban policies are framed into the local government system, who is responsible for the action plan(s).
- The **governance context**: which kind of cooperation is established with the third sector or other non-public stakeholders.
- The **planning context**: if the planning initiative under observation is embedded or coordinated with other plans or urban initiatives.

PROJECT WORK

Tips to select the case study

EUROPEAN URBAN INITIATIVE | www.urban-initiative.eu/ia-cities

URBACT | urbact.eu

EU URBAN MOBILITY OBSERVATORY | urban-mobility-observatory.transport.ec.europa.eu/index_en

URBAN INNOVATIVE ACTIONS | uia.urban-initiative.eu/en

CLIMATE ADAPT | climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/knowledge/tools/case-study-explorer

URBAN POLICY PLATFORM | urbanpolicyplatform.org

NATIONAL URBAN POLICY DATABASE | urbanpolicyplatform.org/national-urban-policy-database/

C40 CITIES | www.c40.org/about-c40/

Contacts and materials

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Teaching materials for the course will be published on a web page at the following link: **www.ignaziovinci.net/insegnamento/urban-and-regional-policies/**