

Urban and Regional Resilience: Strategies for Success RSA Russia Conference 2018



Conference Overview¹

The 2018 RSA Russian conference will be held 22-23 October. The Forum is held annually since 2002 and has already firmly and justifiably gained the right to be regarded as the main platform for discussion of methods and tools of strategic planning. This conference will bring together researchers and practitioners from different countries interested in urban and regional development, new development path creation, and urban and regional resilience.

The future development of regional studies and human geography has been informed by a number of critical questions such as: How can we address persistent disparities between prosperous metropolitan regions and less-favored 'peripheries', including small cities and rural settlements? How does centralization of political and economic power influence local and regional development, spatial inequalities, and cohesion? How can we reconcile the imperatives of economic development, sustainability, and human well-being? How do place specific institutional frameworks, cultures, and norms facilitate or hinder development?

This raises the following questions in relation to the long-term resilience of places: What is the role of local, regional, and national level policies and leadership? What role is played by inter-budgetary relations, local self-governance, and inter-municipal cooperation? And in addition, how effective and efficient are the following regional policy instruments: national/regional targeted programs, Special Economic Zones (SEZs), Development Corporations (DCs), Local/Regional Development Agencies, Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects?

Finally, conference key themes are: Urban and regional resilience, Small cities after decline, Small cities in non-core areas: local, regional and national policies on their shrinking and/or revival, Local self-government and inter-budgetary relations.

¹ Conference overview by Christos Genitsaropoulos, RSI Journal