

Session 3: Urban Resilience: Normative Frames and Narratives

Peter Rogers

Resilient Cities as a Complex Problem: Change (Dis)order and Disaster

Abstract:

We need to further explore the interplay of threat, hazard and risks in our thinking about resilience, and particularly the governance of the resilient city. In this paper I outline a wider discussion on the typology of resilience. This can be used to clarify an approach that links how we think about resilience to the tools we can use for being resilient, as well as how we enact resilience when implementing our ideas in practice. I will argue that this interplay has not been sufficiently explored, especially when drawn through the strategic rhetoric of 'resilient cities'. This emergent framework for categorising a city as more or less resilient may represent a negative axiomatisation of crisis by democratic capital but it equally may open the door to creative solutions enacted by more resilient citizens, as they take ownership of resilience for themselves. Using a range of conceptual tools from across the social sciences I will highlight both the positive and negative potentials of different approaches to this increasingly wicked problem.

