



**INHABITANTS WORKSHOP WS 28**  
**[2nd China-Europa Forum \(www.china-europa-forum.net\)](http://www.china-europa-forum.net)**

***The urban inhabitants of China and Europe:  
citizens as builders of the cities of the future?***



**Rome, Italy, October 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 2007**

► Meeting place : *Sala della Pace, Provincia di Roma, via IV Novembre 119/A*

## TOPICS

Each workshop is divided into 4 sessions allowing a balance between presentation and debate, **on the following main topics** :

The world has become urban. The very big city is the very embodiment of the modern world. Its organisation is greatly determined by national and local public authorities. Its production and management are often dominated by property developers and managers or by managers of large-scale services. But the city is also one of the foremost public goods, and housing one of the essential needs and the guarantee of dignity.

Poorly organised as social forces except on a small-scale, the inhabitants of cities only rarely have their word to say and their influence in urban choices, except through their periodic voting, and increasingly often today, through the setting up of participative procedures. But while the middle classes often have the economic and political means to make themselves heard, this is not the case for the poorest inhabitants. Many, moreover, have an insecure status that takes the form of massive expulsions and casting out to the outskirts of cities. Over the last 20 years or so, new methods of organisation and stronger aspirations, especially for the respect of rights, have appeared. In China, the massive displacements of populations to the outskirts of cities or in old neighbourhoods under the pressure of local public authorities and property developers is stirring up increasingly sharp reactions.

How, in China and in Europe, can the ideas of right to the city, right to housing and right to dignity be expressed and above all gradually materialise? How can the inhabitants be, alongside the local public authorities and businessmen, the co-builders and co-managers of the city?

This will be a core question of the inhabitants workshop.

**RECALL** : *In order to facilitate the dialogue, each participant is required to send before the workshop to : [office@china-europa-forum.net](mailto:office@china-europa-forum.net) and [info@habitants.org](mailto:info@habitants.org) a short note of one to two pages on the main issues of the workshop, which will be put online on the dedicated website.*

**WEDNESDAY OCT. 3<sup>rd</sup> : arrivals of European and Chinese participants**  
**19:00 : welcome aperitif and dinner at hotel**

**THURSDAY OCT. 4<sup>th</sup> : 09:00-18:00 : Sala della Pace, Provincia di Roma, via IV Novembre 119/A**

09:00 : ■ **Opening session** : Welcome by the President of the Rome province, Enrico Gasbarra and  
**Introduction :**

- Presentation of the **participants**
- Presentation of the **topics** and the running of the debates
- Designation of a **moderator** for each of the 4 sessions
- Designation of **rapporteurs** in charge of listing the major common issues and challenges for each area
- Designation of a **spokesperson** for Brussels plenary session.

09:30-13:00 : ■ **SESSION 1 : Presentation of the situation in China ; major challenges for the future**  
■ **Debate** ■

*11.00-11.15: Coffee break*  
*13.00-14.00 : Lunch break (workshop site)*  
*16.00-16.15: Coffee break*

14:00 -18:00 : ■ **SESSION 2 : Presentation of the situation in Europe ; major challenges for the future** ■ **Debate** ■ **First conclusions** ■

18:30 : Meeting Vivere 2000 Co-operative (Sonnino sq.)

20:00 : Dinner in Trastevere

22:30 : Return hotel

**FRIDAY OCT. 5<sup>th</sup> : 09:30-18:30 : Sala della Pace, Provincia di Roma, via IV Novembre 119/A**

09:30-11:30 : ■ **SESSION 3 : What can be learnt from similarities and differences?** ■ **Debate** ■

*11.00-11.15: Coffee break*  
*13.00-14.00 : Lunch break (workshop site)*  
*16.00-16.15: Coffee break*

14:00-18:30 : ■ **SESSION 4 : How to reinforce the dialogue between China and Europe ?** ■ **Debate**  
■ **Poolings and preparation of the conclusions to be presented at Brussels plenary session (6-7 October)** ■

19:00 : dinner Restaurant Bibo (center town)

21:00 : Uto Ughi and others in concert (Basilica di Santa Sabina all'Aventino)

info: [www.utoughiperroma.com/programma\\_05\\_10.html](http://www.utoughiperroma.com/programma_05_10.html)

23:00 : Return hotel

**SATURDAY OCT. 6<sup>th</sup> : 04:30 : Departure from the Hotel for Roma Fiumicino airport towards Brussels, to attend the China-Europe Forum**

## PARTICIPANTS

### CHINA

Li Lulu, vice-dean school of sociology and population studies, Renmin University  
Cai Suisheng, Chairman of Guangdong Association of Realtors, Member of Housing Policy Expert Committee of Ministry of Construction  
Li Fangping, lawyer Open Constitution Initiative, in defense of the urban inhabitants' housing right  
Qin Hui Professor of History, Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, Qinghua University, Beijing  
Sun Weili Chairman of Guangzhou House Owner Association  
Yang Zijiang, Deputy General Manager of Marketing Center Shanghai Dahua Group, Shanghai  
Zhong Xiaohui, Master of London School of Economics, now is research assistant of University of Bristol, UK

### EUROPE

Cesare Ottolini, coordinator of International Alliance of Inhabitants  
Yves Cabannes, Chair Development Planning Unit, University College London, convenor for the UN Advisory Group on Forced Evictions, UK  
Alp Altinors, spoke person People's Coordination against demolition, Turkey  
Birsen Kaya, spoke person Popular Coordination Against House Demolitions - Istanbul, Turkey  
Christine Schoeffler, represents the inhabitants association « Vereniging Poortgebouw », Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Peter Blakeney, expert on housing project under self-management, Netherlands  
Joseph G. Jones, Responsible of Thames Valley Gypsy Association, UK  
Carine Clement, Director of the Institute of Collective Action and member of the Working Committee of the network « Soviets Union of coordination in Russia », Russia Fed.  
Jacquy Tiset, International person in charge of the Confédération Nationale du Logement, France  
Vincenzo Simoni, National secretary of Unione Inquilini, Italy  
Maurizio Crocco, Co-operative of self-recovery housing Vivere 2000, Rome, Italy  
José Luis Carretero Garcia, founder of the Plataforma para la Vivienda Digna, Spain  
Alfredo Jose Ramos Pérez, co-operative of self-recovery of housing, COVIJO, Madrid, Spain  
Simona Panzino, Action, inhabitant association, Rome, Italy

### WORKING LANGUAGES

**Italian, English, Chinese, French.**

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