

Student Team



Hana Bajt

hana.bajt@gmail.com
ail.com

Currently a master's student of Graphic and Interactive Communications at University of Ljubljana. As a visual person, I love to see how cities constantly transform and bring people closer with the always evolving art and music scene. Eager to learn, I am always on the lookout for new learning opportunities and experiences to fuel my personal and professional growth.



Yumeng Bian

yumeng.bian@vub.be

I'm Yumeng Bian. I moved to Hungary in 2017 and now I am studying Business economics in my freshman year at Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Trying to be more meaningful, and doing more meaningful things. Although not much in this project was related to my major, I learned a lot of new knowledge.



Amelie Klamm

amelieklamm01@gmail.com

I'm Amelie, a curious 22-year-old master student in Communication at the University of Gothenburg. Originally from Germany, I have a background in linguistics, Plain and Easy language translations and project management. I love to learn and speak new languages and I highly value intercultural exchanges, even at a smaller level like playing the international sport of Flag Football. I consider transparent communication as essential in transformations in cities, especially regarding aspects of inclusion and accessibility.



Tisa Kučan Lah

tisa.kucan@gmail.com
ail.com

I am a second year student at the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, CREOL - Cultural Diversity and Transnational Processes in Ljubljana. During my studies and in my own time, I like to focus on topics related to sustainability and communal lifestyles. I am interested in areas of research that reveal the cities we live in, what their future looks like and who they are designed for.



Joy Liang

giaoyi.liang@warwick.ac.uk

In my current postgraduate studies of Art, Enterprise and Development at the University of Warwick, we explored many examples of creative cities around the world, and have learnt how a seemingly small idea can work wonders, as well as how there are lessons to be learnt in the construction of a city. I was born and raised in Beijing and has witnessed the city's rapid development over the last 20 years. I am glad to share with you the story of the city's growth.



Wahiba Ramdane

wahiba.r@gmail.com

I'm Wahiba, an 18-year-old with a passion for high fashion and travel. As a law enthusiast, I find fulfillment in exploring the intricacies of legal principles and engaging in lively debates. Alongside my legal interests, I indulge in the world of high fashion, appreciating its creativity and artistry. Traveling is another cherished hobby, as it broadens my perspective and exposes me to diverse cultures.



TeamWork EUTOPIA 2023

Transfo-Polis: A creative and collective work towards ecological cities

As part of the 2023 EUTOPIA TeamWork programme, six students from five partner universities of the EUTOPIA alliance worked on the **project "Transfo-Polis" in cooperation with Les Ateliers**. The aim was to share our experiences and understandings of transformations in our different cities. The result is **visualised in three posters and a manifesto**, which are used as a communication tool before and during Les Ateliers' international urban design workshop **"Metamorphosis - Recomposing cities and territories in the face of climate change"** in September 2023. In our collective working process, we first shared our **individual testimonies of transformations in our cities**, which are presented in this manifesto. Then, we took a more **creative approach** and compiled the posters through identifying **common themes in transformation**, i.e., changes in *transportation*, *construction* and the *role of art*. Below you find the main messages we want to share with you.

Food for thought:

- to focus on **different levels of change** in cities
- to consider **historically rooted change**
- to emphasise the importance of **greener, sustainable transport**
- to re-think the **temporary usage of unused or abandoned, old spaces**
- to **use art to beautify changes in the city**
- to consider that **change can be uncomfortable and is not always positive**
- to encourage **communication with people** to increase engagement in changes



Manifesto of the cities

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Ljubljana is the capital city of Slovenia and despite being relatively small with only 280.000 inhabitants, it offers a delightful blend of history, culture, and art. Throughout its history, Ljubljana has experienced various changes, from its early prehistoric times to hosting Celts, Romans, and Slavic tribes. It was later ruled by the Austro-Hungarian Empire and became part of Yugoslavia until Slovenia's independence in 1991. Today, the city **continues to evolve**, and two notable transformations are the **Cukrarna gallery** and the **new cultural center Rog**. These projects **repurpose old industrial buildings**, providing **cultural spaces** for allowing artists to grow. They also raise concerns about the lack of greenery and inclusivity. The projects are a good opportunity to **rethink the importance of sustainable and inclusive changes** in the city, considering the challenges posed by climate change and social equity. Other recent transformations in the city include **pedestrianization** and ban of motor vehicles in the city center, **more green spaces**, and social and event areas.

[Insights into our collective working progress:](#)

If you want to read more about each individual testimony and see some pictures of the transformation in each city, you are welcome to scan the QR code below!



Gothenburg, Sweden

Located on the west coast of Sweden, Gothenburg is the second largest city in Sweden with a population of almost half a million. To contribute to a sustainable regional expansion, a total of **8 km of underground railway tunnels** are being built under the city. **The project Västlänken** includes several construction sites around Gothenburg, which are shielded off by high plank panels. **The plank panels are used as a space for creative art displays**, often with a conceptual connection to the construction site or information about the project. For the 400-year-anniversary of the city, **the art on some panels even told the history of the city**. This project is an example of how to combine transformation and art as a way of communicating changes in the city. It is a way of **beautifying transformations** and an **attempt to alleviate negative impacts of change in the city**.

Budapest, Hungary

Budapest is Hungary's main political, commercial, and transportation center and largest city. It is located on both sides of the Danube, known as the **"Pearl of the Danube"**, and is listed as one of the precious world heritages. In the past, it were two cities that were far away from each other. After several centuries of expansion, they city was formed in 1873 by the merger of the cities of Buda and Old Buda on the left bank of the Danube and the city of Pest on the right bank. **The two cities are connected by 8 bridges**, forming a peculiar scene, making the Hungarian capital **a rare beautiful twin city in the world**. It has undergone major changes in many places in recent years, e.g., in human culture, art background, transportation, and architecture. Examples are the **newly built Néprajzi Múzeum and Péntz múzeum** and the **complex process of rebuilding the chain bridge**.

Beijing, China

Beijing is the capital city of the People's Republic of China, with a rich history dating back over 3,000 years. It serves as the economic, cultural and political center of the country, hosting the headquarters of the Chinese government, including the State Council and the Communist Party of China. **The 7.8-kilometre-long Central Axis** is an important urban planning concept that runs through the centre of Beijing, **connecting several major historical and cultural landmarks in a straight line**. It is a prominent feature of Beijing's urban layout and architectural design. Through the construction of the central axis, it can fully **reflect the construction policy and traditional aesthetics of Beijing** from ancient to modern times.

Cergy, France

Cergy is a vibrant city located in the Île-de-France region with a population of ca. 65,000 inhabitants. It is known for its diverse community and modern urban planning and its **proximity to Paris** makes it convenient for residents to access employment and cultural activities in the capital. Cergy has recently undergone notable transformations, one significant project being the **renovation of Cergy-Préfecture train station**. This initiative aims to **improve transportation infrastructure and enhance connectivity** for residents and commuters. The city boasts numerous parks, gardens, and outdoor areas, providing residents with **opportunities for relaxation, exercise, and leisurely pursuits**. **The Axe Majeur**, a majestic axis and park, stands as a **prominent landmark**, attracting visitors with its stunning views and serving as a gathering place for community events and celebrations.