

# Save the date

15-16 October 2019  
Warsaw, Poland

# Who profits from heritage?



**Communities, capital  
and urban space**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Informed Cities Forum

Co-produced by OpenHeritage & Actors of Urban Change

[www.informedcities.eu](http://www.informedcities.eu)





**Are you looking for new ideas, tools and partners to help you change your city?**

We invite you to join more than 100 urban thinkers and practitioners from across Europe in the Praga district of Warsaw for the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Informed Cities Forum.

The 2019 edition will zoom in on urban regeneration processes, examining their real and potential impacts on people and places. Building on the experience of the OpenHeritage project and the Actors of Urban Change community, the forum will explore new ideas and tools to empower local communities and safeguard urban commons.

The event will gather a mix of urban activists, social entrepreneurs, local and European policy makers, researchers, investors and funders to exchange and learn from one another in a unique arena. The aim is to bring together practical urban regeneration experience with financial and regulatory expertise in order to increase social, economic and environmental benefits for our communities.



## Heritage: People. Places. Potential. Why Praga?

Cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, has the potential to bring people together around shared values and help them work towards a more prosperous future.

However, in many European cities cultural heritage has been forgotten, exploited for private profit or interpreted to fit current political needs. To resist and reverse these processes, we need to understand:

- What is the economic, social and environmental impact of urban regeneration processes, both real and potential?
- Who is or should be involved in these processes, how can we share responsibilities and solve conflicts?
- What kind of financial, legal or practical solutions exist to safeguard community interests and what kind of support is needed to strengthen and share them?

Praga is known for its strong community ties, industrial heritage and vibrant arts scene. Located on the right bank of the Vistula river, Praga largely missed out on the rapid transformation the entire city underwent starting in the 1990s. To remedy this, the city has developed an Integrated Urban Regeneration Programme (2015-2022) focused on priority areas within Praga, where high levels of poverty, unemployment and crime co-exist with low quality of built environment. At the same time, Praga, with its central location and recent infrastructure investments, is a prime candidate for gentrification, as evidenced by a number of vacant buildings and lots currently under development.

Is there a different path that Praga can follow, learning from the mistakes of many European cities? Participants will dive straight into local debates and conflicts, meeting activists, policy makers and experts involved in shaping this unique neighbourhood.



# Meet us in Warsaw



Participation is free of charge and registration will open in June 2019.

For more information, please contact us at [info@informedcities.eu](mailto:info@informedcities.eu) or visit [www.informedcities.eu](http://www.informedcities.eu)

We welcome ideas and suggestions concerning the programme of the event. If you would like to contribute to the event, please get in touch with us to discuss your ideas.

## Actors of Urban Change

empowers urban changemakers to work collaboratively for more sustainable, inclusive and just cities. Its community-driven, international good-practice network promotes sustainable participatory urban development in Europe. To do this, the programme fosters collaboration between actors from the non-profit, public and private sectors. Actors of Urban Change is a programme by the Robert Bosch Stiftung in cooperation with MitOst e.V.

[www.actorsofurbanchange.org](http://www.actorsofurbanchange.org)

## OpenHeritage

identifies best practices of adaptive heritage re-use implemented across Europe. The project develops inclusive governance and management models for overlooked heritage sites and tests them in six Cooperative Heritage Labs. Working together with residents, local businesses and municipalities, OpenHeritage tries out new forms of engagement and uses crowdfunding and crowdsourcing mechanisms to create active communities united around heritage.

[www.openheritage.eu](http://www.openheritage.eu)

## Informed Cities

is a series of international events on urban governance, renowned as a space for open exchange and learning. Each Informed Cities Forum is rooted in the reality of a specific city, placing local challenges and solutions in the European context. Informed Cities events bring together people from across sectors and disciplines to address the most pressing questions facing European cities, to gather inspiration and contacts, as well as to share practical knowledge and experience. The Informed Cities series is managed by the [ICLEI European Secretariat](http://www.iclel.eu).



**ACTORS  
OF URBAN  
CHANGE**



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