



Centre for Urban and Regional Studies

The **CURS-Centre**, founded in 1968, is a multi-disciplinary unit, specializing in urban and regional planning research and education. Its main functions are transdisciplinary education, national & international research, provision of information services and expertise.

Members of the Palco-research group are:

Liisa Horelli, PhD (environmental psychology)

Sirkku Wallin, Doctoral student, M.Sc. (planning geography)

Joanna Saad-Sulonen, Doctoral student, MA (new media)

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Participatory Local Community – an issue of time policy and time planning (Palco), 2009-2012

Palco is a transdisciplinary umbrella for researching, *how and on what conditions gendered community informatics (CI)-assisted time planning, development and governance sustain the mastering of the increasingly glocal everyday life.*

The sub-themes below contribute to the understanding of everyday mobilities, complexity management, participatory design and planning as an issue of time policy and politics:

- **Managing Urban Complexity**

analyses the methods and results of a five-year long action research in a neighbourhood of Helsinki. The main research question is, *how have the co-creation of new local governance structures and CI-assisted arenas for gendered participation with public, private, people-partnerships contributed to the management of urban complexity,*

- **Walking and cycling as locally-based activities of everyday life**

will generate new understanding of gendered mobilities and their spatio-temporal context. The case-study in Herttoniemi, Helsinki, will enlighten the question, *how practices of walking and cycling are (or could be) rooted in the gendered practices of everyday life and their local socio-material and temporal preconditions..*

- **Digital tools for ICT-mediated participation**

asks *what is the significance and role of the design of digital tools and services in citizen participation.* The case study in Roihuvuori, Helsinki, identifies gender- and age-sensitive relationships and dynamics between actors and technologies by analyzing the design and use of the Urban Mediator (UM), an online platform for sharing location-based information.

