Lecture

Title: “Studying the City: Why and How?”

Abstract: In this lecture we will discuss the challenges and opportunities of modern urban life, and why it becomes increasingly important to study these from multiple academic perspectives.

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. André Gerrits is Professor of International Studies and Global Politics, and Chair of the BA Urban Studies, based in The Hague. Previously, he held the chair in Russian History and Politics at Leiden University and the Jean Monnet Chair in European Studies at the University of Amsterdam. Gerrits was also a Senior Research Fellow at the Netherlands Institute of International Studies Clingendael. He has published multiple articles, edited several collections, and wrote various books on these and related topics. He conducted several research projects financed and / or commissioned by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the European Commission. Gerrits’ main fields of interest include ideas in world politics, Russian domestic and international politics, and EU external relations.

Q&A

Ask all your remaining questions about the study programme!

Preparations:

‘What’s the Greatest Risk Cities Face?’, Politico Magazine, July / August 2017
URL: https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/06/30/biggest-challenge-american-cities-policy-experts-215308

Read the article and answer the questions below. Bring your answers to the Experience day.

1. The Politico article focusses on urban issues and problems in the United States. To what extent do cities in other parts of the world face identical or different issues, especially in Europe and the Global South?

2. What is meant by gentrification in the context of contemporary urban development? Could you give examples and mention the pros and cons of these processes of urban change?

Which specific issues have triggered your interest in Urban Studies? What specific skills and knowledge do you think that academically trained urbanists could contribute to effectively deal with the future challenges of urban life?