

Nikos Katsikis
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Nikos is an urbanist working at the intersection of urbanization theory, urban design and geospatial analysis. He holds a Doctor of Design degree from Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD). He is currently Research Tutor at the Royal College of Arts, London, where he is collaborating in the development of a new research program on Environmental Architecture and directing the research studio; and Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Luxembourg, where he is working on the establishment of a new Master program on Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization, while at the same time teaching studios and seminars. In parallel, he is affiliated researcher at ETH-Zurich Future Cities Laboratory and at Urban Theory Lab, Harvard GSD. At the GSD he is also on the editorial board of the journal *New Geographies* (since 2012), co-editor of *New Geographies 06: Grounding Metabolism* (Harvard University Press, 2014), and he has served as Lecturer in Urban Planning and Design (2014-2015) and Teaching and Research Associate (2010-2014, 2015-2016). He has organized conferences on *Architecture and Politics* (2017), *Urban Autonomy* (2016), *Geographical Urbanism* (2015), *Urban Metabolism* (2014), *Regionalism and the Mediterranean* (2013) and the *Limits of the Urban* (2012). He holds a professional degree in Architecture with highest distinction (2006) and a Master of Science in Architecture and Spatial Design (2009) from the National Technical University of Athens. He is a licensed architect in Greece (2006) and has practiced architecture and urban design as an individual, and as an associate (2006-2009). His recent work includes contributions in *Harvard Design Magazine*, *New Geographies* and *MONU*; book chapters in *Implosions / Explosions: Towards a Study of Planetary Urbanization* (ed. Neil Brenner); *Doing Global Urban Research* (ed. Michael Hoyler); *The Horizontal Metropolis* (ed. Paola Vigano); the edited volume *Manhattan: Grid for Ordering an Island* (with Joan Busquets), *Positions on Emancipation* (with Florian Hertweck); and the forthcoming book with N. Brenner, *Is the world urban? Towards a Critique of Geospatial Ideology*. His research is supported by scholarships and grants from the Fulbright foundation, the Onassis foundation, the Leventis foundation, the Real Estate Academic Initiative, the Weatherhead Institute for International affairs, the Brailard Foundation, the Milton Fund and the Graham Foundation for the Arts.

EDUCATION

- **2009-2016: Doctor of Design (DDes)**
Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)
Dissertation title: “From Hinterland to Hinterglobe: Urbanization as Geographical Organization”
Dissertation advisors: Neil Brenner (chair), Pierre Bélanger (GSD), Hashim Sarkis (MIT)
- **2006-2009: Master of Science (MSc), Architecture & Spatial Design**
School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
GPA: 9/10, Distinction
Thesis Title: “Redefining Spatial Programming”
Thesis Advisor: Dimitris Papalexopoulos
- **2005: Erasmus Exchange Student**
Technische Universität (TU) Berlin, Institut für Stadt und Regionalplanung
- **2000-2006: Professional Diploma, Architecture**
School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
GPA: 9.43 / 10, Highest Distinction
Design Thesis Project: “A11 Interchange: Designing a Mobility Environment”
Design Thesis Advisors: Dimitris Papalexopoulos, Dimitris Filippidis
Research Thesis Project: “Node-Network-City”
Research Thesis Advisor: Maria Mantouvalou

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- **Since 2017: Research Tutor**
Environmental Architecture Program, School of Architecture
Royal College of Art, London, UK
- **Since 2016: Post-doctoral Fellow**
Program in Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization
University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- **2014-2015: Lecturer in Urban Planning and Design**
Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA
- **2012-2016: Research & Teaching Associate**
Urban Theory Lab, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA
- **2011-2015: Research & Teaching Associate**
New Geographies Lab, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA

PRACTICE

- **Since 2010: Terra Urbis**
Founder of Urbanization Research & Consulting Bureau
www.terraurbis.com
- **2006-2009: SPArch – Sakellaridou, Papanikolaou and Associate Architects, Athens**
Associate Architect, Assistant Digital Design Manager
www.sparch.gr

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Post-doctoral Fellow | University of Luxembourg

- **Fall 2018: Geographical Urbanism II: Landscapes of Densification in Luxembourg**
Urban Research Studio, Master in Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)
- **Fall 2017, Fall 2018: Globalization and Planetary Urbanization**
Seminar, Master in Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)
- **Spring 2018: Dialectical Urbanism**
Urban Design Studio, Master in Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization
Co-Instructor (full syllabus furnished upon request)
- **Fall 2017: Geographical Urbanism I: Landscapes of Diversification in Luxembourg**
Urban Research Studio, Master in Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Research Tutor | Royal College of Art

- **Summer 2018: Environmental Futures in the Lithium Triangle III**
Research studio, Environmental Architecture Program, School of Architecture
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)
- **Spring 2018: Environmental Futures in the Lithium Triangle II**
Research studio, Environmental Architecture Program, School of Architecture
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)
- **Fall 2017: Environmental Futures in the Lithium Triangle I**
Research studio, Environmental Architecture Program, School of Architecture
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Lecturer in Urban Planning and Design | Harvard GSD

- **Spring 2015: Territorial Organization beyond Agglomeration**
Seminar, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Instructor and course designer (full syllabus furnished upon request)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Research Associate | Harvard GSD

- **Spring 2013, Spring 2014: Extreme Territories of Urbanization - UTL Research Seminar**
Research Seminar, Urban Theory Lab
Instructor: Neil Brenner
- **Spring 2012, Fall 2013, Spring 2014: New Geographies Lab Research Seminar**
Research Seminar, New Geographies Lab
Instructor: Hashim Sarkis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Teaching Fellow | Harvard GSD

- **Spring 2012: Rethinking the Manhattan Grid**
Urban Design Studio, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Course Instructor: Joan Busquets
- **Spring 2011: Histories and Theories of Urban Interventions**
Lecture, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Course Instructor: Neil Brenner
- **Fall 2011: New Geographies**
Lecture, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Course Instructor: Hashim Sarkis
- **Spring 2011, Fall 2011: Grids - Score for Designing the City**
Urban Design Seminar, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Course Instructor: Joan Busquets.
- **Fall 2010: Sustainable New Cities**
Research Seminar, Department of Urban Planning and Design
Course Instructors: Spiro Pollalis, Andreas Georgoulis.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Teaching Fellow | National Technical University Athens

- **Spring 2008: Architectural Design Studio 04**
Second year undergraduate studio, School of Architecture
Course Instructors: Paraskevi Babalou, Agni Papaioannou
- **Fall 2007: Urban Planning and Design Studio 09**
Fourth year undergraduate studio, School of Architecture
Course Instructors: Paraskevi Babalou, Andreas Kourkoulas

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Since 2017: The Eco-Century Project**
Research Director, funded by the Braillard Foundation and the University of Luxembourg
- **Since 2017: Architecture and Green Technologies in the Lithium Triangle**
Research Associate in the Environmental Architecture programme, Royal College of Arts, London
- **Since 2016: Territories of Extended Urbanization Research Project**
Research Associate on Agricultural Operational Landscapes, ETH- Zurich Future Cities Laboratory.
- **Since 2012: Urban Theory Lab**
Research Associate, Harvard GSD
Director: Neil Brenner
- **2011-2015: New Geographies Lab**
Research Associate, Harvard GSD
Director: Hashim Sarkis
- **2011-2012: Gulf Encyclopaedia of Sustainable Urbanism**
Research Assistant, Harvard GSD
Director: Spiro Pollalis.

PUBLICATIONS | Papers

- Nikos Katsikis, “Operational Landscapes of Forestry: A global Survey” in Leah Whitman-Salkin (ed.) *Harvard Design Magazine 45: Into the Woods* (Harvard GSD, 2018)
- Nikos Katsikis, “The Other Horizontal Metropolis” in Cavalieri C., Viganò P. (eds), *The Horizontal Metropolis in the Contemporary Urbanisation* (Springer, 2018).
- Nikos Katsikis, “Visualizing the Planetary Urban”, in Harrison J. and Hoyler M. (eds.) *Doing Global Urban Research* (SAGE, 2018)
- Nikos Katsikis, “Geographical Urbanism,” in Esposti L. (ed.), *Milan, Capital of the Modern* (ACTAR, 2017).
- Nikos Katsikis, “On the Geographical Organization of World Urbanization”, *MONU: Magazine on Urbanism, 20* (2014)
- Nikos Katsikis, “Two Approaches to World Management”, in Brenner N. (ed.) *Implosions / Explosions: Towards a Study of Planetary Urbanization* (Jovis 2013)
- Nikos Katsikis & Urban Theory Lab, “Visualizing an Urbanized Planet: Materials”, in Brenner N. (ed.) *Implosions / Explosions: Towards a Study of Planetary Urbanization* (Jovis 2013)
- Nikos Katsikis and Neil Brenner, “Is the Mediterranean Urban?”, in Petrov A. (ed.) *New Geographies 05: The Mediterranean* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2013)
- Nikos Katsikis, “Fixing Space through Infrastructure”, in Gassner, Kaasa and Robinson (eds.), *Writing Cities 3: Distance and Cities* (London: LSE, 2012)

PUBLICATIONS | Books & Edited Volumes

- Nikos Katsikis and Neil Brenner, *Is the World Urban? Towards a critique of geospatial ideology* (forthcoming, ACTAR, 2019)
- Florian Hertweck and Nikos Katsikis (eds.), *Positions on Emancipation: Architecture between Aesthetics and Politics* (Basel: Lars Muller Publishers, 2017)
- Joan Busquets with Nikos Katsikis (eds.), *Manhattan: Rectangular Grid for Ordering an Island* (ORO Editions, 2017)
- Nikos Katsikis and Daniel Ibanez (eds.) *New Geographies 06: Grounding Metabolism* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014)
- Nikos Katsikis, Lily Baum Pollans and Cressica Brazzier (eds.) *Writing Cities 04: Limits and the Urban* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard GSD, MIT DUSP, 2014)

PUBLICATIONS | Journal Editor

- **2012-2018: New Geographies Journal**
Editorial Board Member, Harvard GSD, Harvard University Press
Editor in Chief for: *New Geographies 06: Grounding Metabolism* (with Daniel Ibanez, 2014)
Editorial Team for:
New Geographies 07: Geographies of Information (Ali Fard & Taraneh Meshkani, 2015)
New Geographies 08: Island (Pablo Perez Ramos & Daniel Daou, 2016)
New Geographies 09: Posthuman (Ghazal Jafari & Mariano Gomez, 2018)

CONFERENCES | Presentations

- Nikos Katsikis, “Operational Landscapes of Primary Production: The American Midwest”, in *Territories of Extended Urbanization*, January 16, 2018, Singapore ETH Centre, Singapore.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Postcards from the Low Earth Orbit”, in *Postcards from the Anthropocene*, June 22-24, 2017, Edinburgh School of Landscape Architecture, Edinburgh, UK.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Operational Assemblies”, *Association of American Geographers Meeting*, April 5-9, 2017 Boston, MA.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Planetary Urbanization and the Production of the Hinterglobe”, in *Spaces and Flows Conference*, November 10-11, 2016, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Composite Geographies of Planetary Urbanization”, in *What is the Urban? Registers of a World Interior*, April 04-05 2016, Iowa State University, De Moines, IA.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Terra Urbis”, in *Lafarge-Holcim Forum for Sustainable Construction*, April 07-09 2016, Detroit, MI.
- Nikos Katsikis, “The other Horizontal Metropolis”, in *The Horizontal Metropolis Conference*, November 12-14, 2015, EPFL, Lausanne.
- Nikos Katsikis, “The ‘new’ New Exploration”, *Association of American Geographers Meeting*, April 22, 2015 Chicago, IL.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Computing an Urbanized Future”, in *Futures Past: Design and the Machine*, November 21-23, 2013, MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA.
- Nikos Katsikis and Neil Brenner “Is the Mediterranean Urban?” in *The Mediterranean: Region Making by Design Symposium*, March 14-15, 2013. Harvard GSD, Cambridge MA.
- Nikos Katsikis, “The Mediterranean: From Geography to Design”, in *What is the Mediterranean? Symposium*, February 6, 2013, Bartlett School of Architecture, London, UK.
- Nikos Katsikis, “‘Fixing’ Space through Infrastructure”, in *Writing Cities Conference: Distance and Cities*, May 2011 Harvard, MIT and LSE Cities program, London, UK.
- Nikos Katsikis and Io Karydi, “Patras: The Suburban and Waterfront Condition”, *10th Scientific Symposium of Cephalonia: Cities and Regions in Greece and Mediterranean in the 21st Century*, July 2010, Cephalonia, Greece.

CONFERENCES | Organization

- **2017: Positions on Emancipation**
Conference co-organizer, March 31-April 1, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- **2016: Autonoma: International Conference on Urban Autonomy & the Collective City**
Conference co-organizer, July 1-2, Onassis Cultural Center, Athens
- **2015: Geo-graphical Urbanism**
Conference organizer, November 29, 2015, Pirelli Tower, Expo Belle Arti, Milan
- **2014: Projective Views on Urban Metabolism**
Conference co-organizer, February 7, 2014. Harvard GSD, Cambridge MA
- **2013: The Mediterranean: Region Making by Design**
Conference organizer, March 14-15, 2013. Harvard GSD, Cambridge MA.
- **2012: Writing Cities Conference 2012: Limits and the Urban**
Conference co-organizer, May 19-21, 2012. Harvard, MIT and LSE, Cambridge MA.

EXHIBITIONS

- Nikos Katsikis, “Composite Geographies of Global Accessibility”, cartography and animation in the exhibition *New Issues for the Future of the City*, Harvard GSD, Cambridge, MA, November 2016.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Metabolic Landscapes of Urbanization”, experimental cartography in the exhibition *New Cities Future Ruins*, Dallas, TX, December 2016.
- Nikos Katsikis with Urban Theory Lab GSD, “Cartographies of Planetary Urbanization”, cartographic installation at the *Shenzhen Biennale of Urbanism*, Shenzhen, November 2015.
- Nikos Katsikis with Urban Theory Lab GSD, “Operational Landscapes: Towards an Alternative Cartography of World Urbanization”, cartographic installation at the Melbourne School of Design, Melbourne, March 2015.
- Nikos Katsikis, “Visualizing Planetary Urbanization”, video animation, Centre for Geographic Analysis (CGA) Exhibition and Annual Conference, May 2-3, 2013, Harvard University, Cambridge MA, May 2013.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **A.G. Leventis Foundation Grant**
For Doctoral Studies, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design.
- **Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship**
For Doctoral Studies, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design.
- **Alexandros S. Onassis Foundation Scholarship**
For Doctoral Studies, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design.
- **Fulbright Foundation Scholarship**
For Doctoral Studies, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design.
- **Zosimas Foundation Scholarship**
For Graduate Studies, Architecture & Space Planning, National Technical University Athens.
- **Ploumistos Award**
Highest Ranked Graduate, School of Architecture, National Technical University Athens.
- **Stamos Stournas Award**
Highest Ranked Student in the 3rd & 4th Year in the School of Architecture.
National Technical University of Athens.
- **Lyssandros Kaftatzoglou Award**
For the Highest Ranked Student in the 3rd Academic Year in the School of Architecture. National Technical University of Athens.
- **Honorary Award by the Technical Chamber of Greece**
For exceptional performance, 3rd, 4th & 5th academic year, School of Architecture.
National Technical University of Athens.
- **Honorary Scholarship & Award by the State Scholarships Foundation of Greece**
- For exceptional performance, 2nd, 3th & 4th academic year, School of Architecture.
National Technical University of Athens.
- **Honorary Admission Scholarship by the State Scholarships Foundation of Greece**
For the 2nd Highest Ranked Admitted Student in the School of Architecture.
National Technical University of Athens.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- **The Eco-Century Project Grant, Brailard Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland**
Research project: *Composite Metabolic Landscapes: The case of Luxembourg.*
- **Graham Foundation Grand for Individuals**
With Neil Brenner for the book: *Is the World Urban? A Metageographical Analysis.*
- **Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Research Incubation Fund**
With Neil Brenner for the research: *Vizualising Planetary Urbanization.*
- **Graham Foundation Grand for Organizations**
With New Geographies for: *New Geographies 07, New Geographies 08.*
- **Real Estate Academic Initiative (REAI) Grant**
With Neil Brenner for research in Urban Theory Lab, Harvard GSD.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- **Royal College of Arts, London, UK**
Structure of the studio curriculum and development of network of research collaborations of the new research Master program on Environmental Architecture.
- **University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg**
Design and structure of the curriculum of the new academic Master program on Architecture, European Urbanization and Globalization; overview of the accreditation process by the European Union.

INVITED JUROR, REVIEWER & CRITIC (selected)

- Peer Reviewer for Urban Studies journal.
Special issue: "Why Does Everyone Think Cities Can Save the Planet?", edited by Hillary Angelo and David Wachsmuth.
- Final review of ENSA-V P45: Bangkok studio.
ENSA-V, National School of Architecture of Versailles. Instructors: Susanne Stacher.
- Final review of MIT 4.163J /11.332J: Medelin Urban Design Studio.
School of Architecture and Planning, MIT. Instructors: Lorena Bello, Jota Samper.
- Final review for Territorial Intelligence in Landscapes of Production seminar.
Harvard GSD. Instructor: Luis Valenzuela
- Final review for MIT 4.189: Preparation for M.Arch. Thesis.
School of Architecture and Planning, MIT. Instructor: Rania Ghosn
- Peer reviewer for Resources - Territories Panel.
Organized by Rania Ghosn at the 103rd Annual meeting of the ACSA, Toronto.
- Final review of GSD1605: Barcelona's Grids: in Search of New Paradigms studio.
Harvard GSD. Instructor: Joan Busquets.
- Final review of GSD1112: Second Semester Core Urban Planning studio.
Harvard University GSD. Instructors: Alex Krieger, Gareth Doherty, Rafael Segal.
- Final Review of Master A Foundation Graduate Studio.
Boston Architectural College. Instructor: Zenovia Touloudi.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- **Since 2006: Licensed Architect Engineer**
Technical Chamber of Greece (Greece / European Union)

LANGUAGES

- **Greek**
Native
- **English**
Advanced, Toefl, 2009; Certificate of Proficiency in English, Cambridge, 1998
- **German**
Intermediate, Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung, Goethe Institut, 2004

REFERENCES

- **Neil Brenner**
Professor, Harvard GSD
nbrenner@gsd.harvard.edu, 617-495-2521
Dissertation Advisor, Research and Teaching Supervisor
- **Hashim Sarkis**
Dean, MIT SA+P
hsarkis@mit.edu, 617-253-0241
Dissertation Advisor, Research and Teaching Supervisor
- **Joan Busquets**
Professor, Harvard GSD
busquets@gsd.harvard.edu, 617-496-8811
Research and Teaching Supervisor