

6. Squatting movement in Europe

Chair: Miguel A. Martinez (Uppsala University, miguel.martinez@ibf.uu.se)

Format: workshop

There has been a substantial number of publications about urban squatting in European cities over the last two decades. This workshop calls for scholars, activist-scholars and activists who want to discuss this academic production and address some critical features of the sociological analysis of urban movements such as squatting.

In particular:

- What social, political and spatial dimensions help explaining the historical development of the squatting movements in European cities?
- What contextual differences and similarities are worth considering when comparing squatting practices and movements?
- To what extent squatters are locally rooted and, at the same time, transnationally connected?
- How many types of squatters, squats and forms of squatting can be identified, and what do we know about them?
- How issues related to housing and urban politics are intersecting with each other?
- What are the conditions for squatting to occur, grow and make an impact in urban capitalism?
- How are the interactions between squatters, authorities, property owners and other social groups?
- Is squatting and similar radical urban protests functional to neoliberal urbanism?
- How repression, legalisation, neutralisation, or cooptation phenomena affected the development of squatting?
- Is it possible to single out ideological views prevailing in squatting movements such as autonomy, right to the city and urban commons?