

March 10 & 11, 2025

CONFERENCE

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# (Re)Connecting River and City - The Seine in Paris and the Ile-de-France

## A Model for Nature Positive Approaches in World Heritage Cities for Climate Resilience

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Conference organized by **Carola Hein**, Sorbonne University - "Major Changes" Research Chair - Water and Heritage, Professor of the History of Architecture and Urban Planning at the Delft University of Technology, Professor at the University of Leiden and at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, holder of the UNESCO Chair "Water, Ports and Historic Cities", Director of the LDE PortCityFutures Centre, and 2024-2025 resident-fellow at the Paris IAS.

Coorganized by:



This two-days event, organized by Carola Hein, and co-organized by the Paris IAS, Sorbonne Université, UNESCO Chair on Water, Ports and Historic Cities and UNESCO World Heritage Centre, will take place in the center of Paris, echoing the themes covered during the conference. At a time of climate change, it is urgent to rethink the relationship of residents and built heritage with rivers, seas, and other water bodies. **Ecosystem thinking and value-based approaches can help (re)create livable, sustainable and just spaces in line with historical practices while protecting, adapting and learning from history and heritage.**

The conference explores the multiple layers of spatial interventions and cultural practices for and with water. It focuses on four aspects of living with water, called here “**water values**” — swimming, shipping, safety and wastewater — and the ways in which their interaction is negotiated along the Seine in Paris and the Ile de France in the context of global change as a model for World Heritage Cities. It proposes and tests a value-case approach for transdisciplinary, multi-stakeholder engagement with rivers from an ecosystem perspective. The conference therewith connects the fields of water to support the (re)launching a much-needed debate on multiple water uses to collectively create sustainable and just practices around water and their relationship to heritage at a time of climate change.

It will bring together **diverse stakeholders from academia and practice** to share their insights and expertise on multiple water uses and imaginaries in World Heritage Cities including on the Seine in Paris and the Ile de France as models for world heritage cities at a time of climate change around the world.

**With the support of**



**In collaboration with**



**Carola Hein** is Professor and Chair History of Architecture and Urban Planning at Delft University of Technology, and Professor at Leiden and Erasmus universities. She holds the UNESCO Chair Water, Ports and Historic Cities and director of the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus PortCityFutures Centre. She has published widely in the field of architectural, urban and planning history and has tied historical analysis to contemporary development. Among other major grants, she received a Guggenheim fellowship, an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship and Volkswagen Foundation grants for a mixed method digital humanities projects. Her many honors include the Sarton Medal in 2020, awarded to an outstanding scholar in the history of science. She serves as President of the International Planning History Society (IPHS).

In September 2024, Carola Hein has joined the Paris IAS for a 10-month research residency. She holds the "Major Changes" Chair, created in collaboration with Sorbonne University, on the theme of water and heritage. The research project "Water and Patrimony" studies the history and heritage of water systems in Paris and the Ile de France focused on the River Seine. In collaboration with colleagues from Sorbonne University and other stakeholders, it proposes a value-based methodology to propose new narratives and sustainable strategies for the River Seine in Paris and its watershed. The research findings will be published in a special issue of the open access journal Blue Papers.

# Monday, March 10

at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study  
except from 5.30pm to 8.00pm at the Atelier Néerlandais

*Convener and general moderator:* **Carola Hein** (Sorbonne Université "Major Changes" Chair)

9.00 am - 9.30 am **WELCOME**

**Saadi Lahlou** (Director of the Paris IAS)

**Gabrielle Bouleau** and **Laurence Lestel** (PIREN-Seine, Zone Atelier Seine)

**Elisabeth Angel-Perez** (Vice-President of Sorbonne Université in charge of research and innovation)

**Pierre Rabadan** (Deputy for Sport and the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Ville de Paris)

**Paul Vinot** (Director of cabinet, Ville de Paris)

**Lazare Eloundou Assomo** (Director of UNESCO World Heritage Centre)

9.30 am - 10.15 am **NEGOCIATING CONFLICTING VALUES FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT: A VALUE CASE APPROACH FOR THE SEINE IN PARIS AND THE ILE-DE-FRANCE**

**Carola Hein** (Sorbonne Université "Major Changes" Chair)

10.15 am - 11.00 am **PERSPECTIVES AND REFLECTIONS ON THE SEINE IN PARIS AND THE ILE-DE-FRANCE FROM HOSTS**

**Laurence Lestel** (METIS, Sorbonne Université)

**Nathalie Ginoux** (OPUS, Sorbonne Université)

11.00 am - 11.20 am **URBAN HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION**

**Jyoti Hosagrahar** (Deputy Director of UNESCO World Heritage Centre)

11.20 am - 11.50 am **COFFEE BREAK**

11.50 am - 1.00 pm **REFLECTIONS ON NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS AND THE POWER OF HERITAGE FOR CONNECTING RIVERS, CITIES, AND HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPES**

**Niccolò Bassan** (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO)

**Matthias Wantzen** (UNESCO Chair "River Culture")

**Deborah Abhervé** (AScA)

**Paola Viganò** (IUAV Venice, EPFL)

1.00 pm - 2.00 m **LUNCH BREAK**

2.00 pm - 3.00 pm **CIRCULAR PRACTICES AND LIVELIHOODS: WASTEWATER (ROUNDTABLE)**

*Moderator:* **Catherine Carré** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

**Anita Ravlic** (Musée des Egouts)

**Hélène Noizet** (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

**Jean-Claude Deutsch** and **Jean-Pierre Tabuchi** (Eurydice)

**Mathieu Fernandes** (EHESS, CNAM)

**Reinout Rutte** (Delft University of Technology)

**Service de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement de la Ville de Paris**

3.00 pm - 3.15 pm **COFFEE BREAK**

3.15 pm - 4.30 pm **CLIMATE ACTION AND URBAN LOGISTICS: SHIPPING (ROUNDTABLE)**

*Moderator:* **Carola Hein** (Sorbonne Université "Major Changes" Chair)

**Raphael Morera** (EHESS, GRHEN)

**Morgane Sanchez** and **Hélène Robier** (HAROPA)

**Florian Linde** (CEREMA)

**Susan Dunne** (ENSA Paris Malaquais)

**Bruno Delsalle** and **Noémi Mené** (International Association of Ports and Cities - AIVP)

**Benno Bultink** (MinIENW: Connected River)

4.30 pm - 5.00 pm **CONCLUSIONS AND REFLECTIONS**

5.30 pm - 6.30 pm **WELCOME DRINKS - *Atelier Néerlandais*** (22 avenue Victoria)

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm **ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE: SWIMMABLE CITIES PART I (ROUNDTABLE) - *Atelier Néerlandais*** (22 avenue Victoria)

*Moderator:* **Valérie Plagnes** (Sorbonne Université)

**Benoît Hachet** (EHESS)

**Emmanuelle Lallement** (Université Paris 8)

**Julia Moutiez** (CRH-LAVUE)

**Clément Brun** (Université de Bordeaux)

**Bruno Gouyette** (Ville de Paris)

**Léonard Bertrand** and **Annabelle Nantier** (Ville de Paris)

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm **ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE: SWIMMABLE CITIES PART II (ROUNDTABLE) - *Atelier Néerlandais*** (22 avenue Victoria)

*Moderator:* **Lukas Vroom** (City of Rotterdam)

**Yixin Cao** (Université de Strasbourg)

**Adriaan van der Linden** (Leisurelands)

**Tilly Stroo** and **Elizabeth Hameeteman** (Wavemakers United)

**Lukas Vroom** and **Jorg Pienemann** (City of Rotterdam)

**Chris Romer-Lee** (Swimmable Cities)

# Tuesday, March 11

at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study

*Convener and general moderator:* **Carola Hein** (Sorbonne Université "Major Changes" Chair)

9.00 am - 10.15 am **SAFETY AND SECURITY: WATER MANAGEMENT (ROUNDTABLE)**

*Moderator:* **Laurence Lestel** (METIS, Sorbonne Université)

**Philippe Agard** (Sorbonne Université)

**Sébastien Dupray** (CEREMA)

**Sophie Minssart** (Saint-Nazaire Regional Urban Planning Agency)

**Josef Konvitz** (Independent Scholar)

**Peter Gotsch** (NTNU)

10.15 am - 11.00 am **COFFEE BREAK**

11.00 am - 12.15 pm **METHODS AND VISUALISATION: DESIGN (ROUNDTABLE)**

*Moderator:* **Kathleen James-Chakraborty** (University College Dublin)

**Laurent Hodebert** (ENSA de Marseille)

**Richard Sabatier** (ENSA Versailles)

**Yvonne van Mil** (Delft University of Technology)

**Valérie Jeanne-Perrier** (CELSA) and **Sahima Hamlaoui** (BOREA - MNHN Paris)

**Zuzanna Sliwinska** and **Lea Kayrouz** (Delft University of Technology)

12.15 pm - 1.00 pm **CONCLUDING DISCUSSION: CONNECTING MULTIPLE VALUES**

1.00 pm - 2.00 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

2.00 pm - 3.30 pm **ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE FOR WOLRD HERITAGE CITIES**

*Moderator:* **Marie-Thérèse van Thoor** (Delft University of Technology)

**Eddy Moors** (IHE Delft Institute for Water Education)

**Ruben Fernandes** (Aguas e Energia do Porto - AEdP)

**Gaetan Siew** (UIA Ambassador to COP29)

**Ellen Schultz** (Fairmount Water Works)

**Tino Mager** (ICOMOS DE)

**Jean-Paul Corten** (Dutch Heritage Agency)

**Ivana Katuric** (Urbanex) and **Natasa Miric** (DURA - Dubrovnik Development Agency)

**Ouafa Messous** (ENA Rabat)

**Leon Buskens** (NIMAR Rabat)

3.30 pm - 3.45 pm **COFFEE BREAK**

3.45 pm - 6.00 pm

**PART I URBAN HERITAGE FOR RESILIENCE / INTRODUCTION TOOLS AND ACTIONS OF WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE / MODERATION**

**Jyoti Hosagrahar** (Deputy Director of UNESCO World Heritage Centre)

**Carola Hein** (Sorbonne Université – "Major Changes" Chair – Water and Heritage)

**PART II URBAN HERITAGE FOR RESILIENCE / INTRODUCTION TOOLS AND ACTIONS OF WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE / MODERATION**

**Belhadj Hammou Abdallah** (World Heritage Site Manager – M'Zab Valley)

**Mohammed Ali Mwenje** (World Heritage Site Manager – Lamu)

6.00 pm - 7.00 pm **CLOSING ADDRESS & DRINKS**

**Saadi Lahlou** (Director of the Paris IAS)

*Outlook:*

**Eriberto Eulisse** (Wamunet): *Ancient Hydro-Technologies*

**Linda Lilienfeld**: *The Water Film Prize 'Back to Our Future'*

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The event will take place in two different sites.

- The Paris Institute for Advanced Study (Paris IAS)

17 quai d'Anjou, Paris 4

+33 (0)1 56 81 00 52

information@paris-iea.fr

www.paris-iea.fr

- Atelier Néerlandais

22 avenue Victoria, Paris 1

Mandatory registration on the [Paris IAS website](#).

More information:



The Paris Institute for Advanced Study is supported by:

