



# Beyond Intercultural Relations. Social Interactions in Superdiverse Cities

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# Introduction



## MAIN AIMS OF THE PRESENTATION

- To show that in our heavily racialized and polarized superdiverse cities, a new glocal post-ethnic, post-racial urban generation is slowly emerging through artistic and cultural practices and projects
  - Move beyond intercultural relations
- To think about how cultural policies could respond to this evolution and encourage it

# Introduction:

# Outline



1. The global context
2. Polarization, divisions, fragmentation and separation in superdiverse cities
3. Everyday Multiculturalism, Neo-Cosmopolitanism and the Arts in Multicultural Cities: the emergence of *glocal* communities of artistic practices
4. How could cultural policies respond/adapt?
5. Conclusion

## 1. The Global Context



1. Anti-immigration attitudes and movements and the dilemmas of migration and asylums policies
2. The persistence of racism:
  1. The return of old time racialism
  2. The *banalisation* of racist speech
  3. Racial, ethnic, gender and religious discrimination persists in employment, housing, education, policing, etc.
3. The politicisation of hatred across Europe, the US and beyond
4. The difficult resistance: criminalisation

## 2. Polarization, divisions, fragmentation and separation in superdiverse cities

1. No ghettos in the strict sense but trend towards ethnic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic homogenization of many parts of European cities
2. Strong sense of belonging to the municipality, district or neighbourhood

### 3. Everyday Multiculturalism, Neo-Cosmopolitanism and the Arts in Multicultural Cities

- Work by Peters, Harris, Wise and Velatutham on everyday multiculturalism
  - Work by Wessendorf on common place diversity
  - Work by Gilroy on conviviality
  - My work on immigration and the arts
- group border-crossing and interculturalism :**  
Exchange, mixing, *métissage*, cohesion, interactions, solidarity: neo-cosmopolitanism rooted in the neighbourhood experience are also real

### 3. Everyday Multiculturalism, Neo-Cosmopolitanism and the Arts in Multicultural Cities

- Develop on the ground often without links with normative thinking, without theorization
- "mixed" neighbourhoods where intercultural sociability and conviviality develops
- "Everyday multiculturalism" and urban youth experience (not only youth !): new ways of urban life
- Traditional forms of categorisation loose salience in day life and cooperation between people
- Beyond intercultural relations

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### 3. Everyday Multiculturalism, Neo-Cosmopolitanism and the Arts in Multicultural Cities

- “Glocal communities of artistic practices” in dance, music, theatre:
  - Priority to the project
  - Anchored cosmopolitanism
    - Strong local feeling of belonging
    - Strong identification with similar “groups” elsewhere
  - transnational connections
    - the role of internet and social media
    - patterns of mobility
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kD9wy1cHPBs>


### 3. Everyday Multiculturalism, Neo-Cosmopolitanism and the Arts in Cities



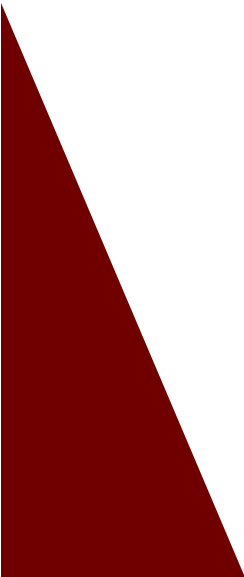
## 4. How could cultural policies respond/adapt?

- 2 levels of discussion:
  - Cultural Policies stricto sensu
  - “Integration Policies” (including cohesion, urban policies, etc.)

#### 4. How could cultural policies respond/adapt?



-Historically cultural policies have been developed within the nation-state framework by ignoring immigrants and their descendants



-The question of the representation of diversity in cultural policies: do official cultural institutions support immigrant artists? Do local cultural policies become multicultural? How do immigrant and ethnicized minority artists mobilize to change cultural policies?

#### 4. How could cultural policies respond/adapt?

Can arts and culture (the participation in artistic and cultural projects) stimulate the construction of a shared local citizenship from below and encourage co-integration ?

**Fieris Feeries:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvdCchZFRNE>

## 5. Conclusion

- Realism - pessimism in the short term: in the current very difficult economic, social and political context, intergroup (« ethnicized », « racialized ») tensions and conflict persists especially at the local level and assimilation remains the doxa
- Realism - « quiet optimism » in the long term: prospects for the development of a local post-racial citizenship in cities beyond intercultural relations
- Public intervention is necessary but not sufficient