

- CICI -

Conditions for Institutional and Cultural Innovations

INFO BOX

Project title

CICI - Conditions for Institutional and Cultural Innovations

Funding amount

(from both countries)

761.618,00 €

Project duration

29/05/2018 – 28/11/2021

Partner Institutions

- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- Technical University of Darmstadt

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WHAT WE DID!

Using the example of 10 innovative cities, the research project CICI empirically investigated communicative interaction that has led to a shared understanding of relevant restraints and possibilities of change. We collected 2889 documents (council minutes, media reports, policy documents, etc.) and conducted 173 interviews with local actors. These texts have been analysed using the MAXQDA software.

PROJECT GOALS

The project intended to show how innovation can be developed through discursive interaction that leads to action mobilization and impacts practices in local government and local civil society. A major challenge was to identify the communicative mechanisms and their dosing linked to the prevailing local narrative about the city and its potential for innovation.



SPECIFIC RESULTS AND IMPACT OF THE MEASURE

Within an extremely competitive and demanding environment, cities must improve their resilience and their efficiency to resolve both conventional and novel problems. Ambitious urban leaders and stakeholders are searching for new ways and inventive methods to tackle unsolved problems or further consolidate existing advantages.

The results of the CICI project include an academic book in English, German and Greek and four journal articles, policy papers and a handbook for practitioners, offer of guidance to local actors who need to know what needs to be said and how to get their ideas accepted and promote the necessary innovations in their cities.

THE BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

For the project, the "most different cases design" brings additional value, since cases embedded in Greek and German contexts display a particularly wide variety of characteristics that could hardly be found if cities in more similar countries would be included and compared. Therefore, it was necessary to find a basic definition of innovation that could be applied to cities in Germany as well as in Greece – namely that innovations are referring to the deliberate introduction of something that is understood in a particular local context as new and an improvement. This insight will be published in an article in the International Review of Public Policy (Vol. 4, No. 2).

Furthermore, the research teams are facing quite different circumstances in their countries and learned to adjust, cooperate, and learn from each other, thus promoting their relationships and mutual trust.

INSIGHTS

Executive Options
Αγροποιήτριες από Anastasia Doukaki · 9 Σεπτεμβρίου 2021 ·

Proudly presenting the Ph.D. Training School in the field of "Local Government in Motion, Local Innovation in Changing Context" <https://bit.ly/3yRB3eA>

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT
Hellenic Republic National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

— PhD Training School —

Local Government in motion
Local innovation in changing contexts

Research project on "Conditions for Institutional and Cultural Innovation in German and Greek cities" (CICI)

in collaboration with:

- European Urban Research Association (EURA)
- Standing Group on Local Government and Politics of the European Consortium for Political Research
- International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICSSS)

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