

Special Issue

Slow Cities: Time and Spaces in Post-globalization. Economic, Social and Environmental Challenges

Message from the Guest Editors

It is commonly known that the rhythms of daily life have been accelerating at a steady rate in recent decades, creating an attitude that values time-saving over everything else. However, this way of interpreting reality is now beginning to show its limits and contradictions, the most evident manifestation of which is the emotional tension that accompanies economic and social behaviors, always perceived as inefficient with respect to the demands of quick living. The COVID-19 pandemic event has definitely further exasperated emotional experiences, imposing a critical analysis on accelerated models and an openness towards slow ones. In the age of speed, in which time never seems to be enough, the philosophy of “slowing down” has begun to emerge. It seems, thus, appropriate to redesign the relationship among people, technological innovations, and the built environment, recomposing their space–time distances in such a way that, while allowing freedom from physical obstacles and a great ability to move and act, it also allows people to find the right rhythm of life.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2021)



Sustainability

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Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



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