

## Special Issue

# Addressing the Challenges in the Development and Management of Public Spaces in Contemporary Cities

### Message from the Guest Editor

Public space is an integral part of urban life in towns and cities. Successful public spaces are designed, developed, and managed in such a way that they are accessible and can attract a range of uses and activities, providing an opportunity for socialisation among the users. Despite their significance as a “common social platform”, the quality of public spaces appears to be deteriorating in contemporary cities against the backdrop of the radical transformation in the post-war era, characterised by the decline of the public realm. Scholars argue that public spaces have been treated as a residual space in contemporary cities and have received the lowest priority in the urban development process. At the same time, the management of public spaces has emerged as another key issue of urban development in contemporary cities, as the quality of public spaces has been significantly influenced by the changing model and degree of their management.

This Special Issue aims to contribute to the ongoing debate on the challenges posed by the changing nature of the development and management of public spaces in contemporary cities.

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## Urban Science

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*Urban Science* is a scholarly international journal which provides a platform for the exchange of theories, ideas, methods, analyses, and comparative studies of urban and regional development. It is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes high quality original articles, theoretical essays, critical reviews, research notes, and shorter communications. Its broad definition of “science” includes both quantitative and qualitative methods of social, environmental, and spatial analysis. There is no restriction on the maximum length of the papers.

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