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WZB **Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung**

Social Science Research Center Berlin

Urban Governance: Security, Innovation and the Power of Religion

March 18 – 20, 2009

Irmgard **Coninx** Stiftung



WZB and Irmgard Coninx Foundation cordially invite you on the occasion of 40 years WZB and the 10th Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality to a series of lectures on:

Urban Governance:
Security, Innovation and the Power of Religion

(Mega-) Urban agglomerations are often seen as crosspoints of globalization and as a magnifying glass of post-modern developments. They serve as models for the future coexistence and cohabitation of humankind. In these settings, significant economic growth and considerable creative potential exist next to alarming tendencies towards socio-economic and cultural disintegration and deprivation of large parts of the urban population.

Within the scope of three lectures, three internationally renowned scholars will delineate risks and chances of urbanity in the 21st century and analyze potentials of governance from above and below, of innovation and of the power of religious immigrant communities.

Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 6 p.m.

Welcome address:

Jutta Allmendinger, president WZB, and
Ingo Richter, chairman, Irmgard Coninx Foundation

Saskia Sassen
Cities as Frontier Spaces: Where Governance Crises Become Concrete and Urgent

Discussant: **Harald Mieg**

Thursday, March 19, 2009, 6 p.m.

Gunnar Folke Schuppert
Failed States and Public Security

Discussant: **Kurt Shaw**

Friday, March 20, 2009, 6 p.m.

José Casanova
Immigrant Religious Communities and Governance from Below in Global Cities

José Casanova is Professor at the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Georgetown University and heads the Berkeley Center's Program on Globalization, Religion and the Secular. He has published on migration, religion and globalization, and sociological theory. His book „Public Religions in the Modern World" (1994) has become a classic in the field.

Harald Mieg is Hans-Sauer Chair for Metropolitan Studies and Innovation and Director of the Georg-Simmel Center for Metropolitan Studies at Humboldt University Berlin. He is the author of „The Social Psychology of Expertise" (2001) and editor of „Stadtpsychologie" (Urban Psychology, 2006).

Saskia Sassen is the Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology and Member of the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University. She recently published „Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages" (2006; in German „Das Paradox des Nationalen", 2008), „A Sociology of Globalization" (2007) as well as „Cities in a World Economy" (2006). She just completed a five-year UNESCO project on sustainable human settlement (as part of the „Encyclopaedia of Life Support Systems").

Gunnar Folke Schuppert is Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at Humboldt University Berlin and Director of the WZB Rule of Law Center. He teaches at the Hertie School of Governance Berlin. He recently published „Staatszerfall und Governance" (Failed States and Governance, 2007).

Kurt Shaw is founder and executive director of Shine a Light, an NGO established to disseminate local, innovative solutions for homeless and working children in Latin-American cities. He earned a Master's Degree in Religion from Harvard University. He just finished a novel about street kids in New York „Tolstoy Kicks Ass!", published on the net.