



The Town Planning congresses at the Paris International Exhibition of 1937. Ultimate encounters.

Corinne Jaquand

PhD, Ecole nationale supérieure d'Architecture Paris-Belleville ENSAPB, Ipraus-UMR Ausser,
corinne.jaquand@paris-belleville.archi.fr

1937 is an excellent focal point to look at the international planning movement on the eve of the Second World War. Indeed, the International Exhibition of Paris has hosted several congresses devoted to urban planning in the world. Dealing with regional planning, the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning (IFHTP) held its 15th congress, while the CIAM 5, dedicated to “*Logis et loisirs*” (Dwelling, recreation) was organised by Le Corbusier in connection with an exhibition at the Pavillon les Temps nouveaux. This contribution proposes to present the relations between both congresses in the thirties. Emphasis will be put more on the convergences than on the divergences of topics carried out by the experts of the IFHTP and by the avant-garde architects of the CIAM, at a time when planning and politics were challenged by the rise of fascism and the threat of a world conflict.

Keywords: world planning history, cross-cultural exchanges, city planning and politics



Figure 1: International Exhibition “Arts et Techniques”, Paris 1937. Postcard showing Speer Pavillon (Germany) facing Iofan Pavillon (UdSSR) [*Promenades à travers l'exposition. 20 cartes détachables. Série 3 (Boulogne-sur-Seine, M. Chipault), 1937, Front cover*]

Introduction

The Paris International Exhibition of 1937, dedicated to the “Arts et Techniques appliqués à la Vie moderne”, took place in a geopolitical climate of rising tensions. Standing face to face in the axis of the Eiffel Tower, the pavilions of Soviet Union and Nazi Germany (built respectively by Boris Iofan and Albert Speer) were a harbinger of the world war to come (Figure 1)¹.

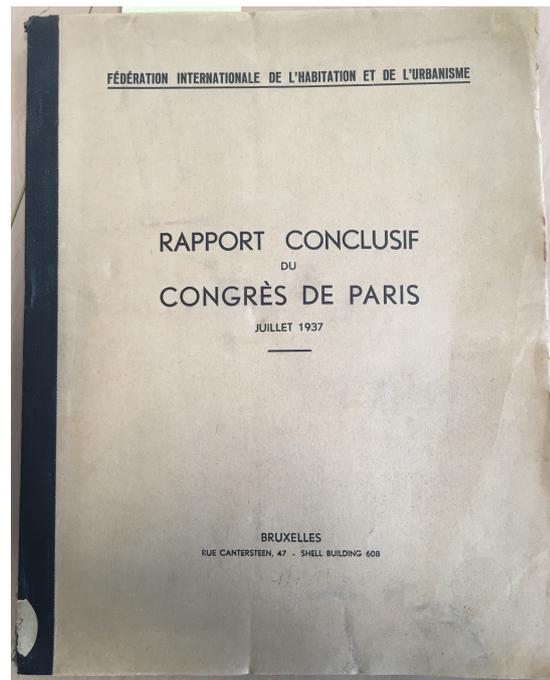
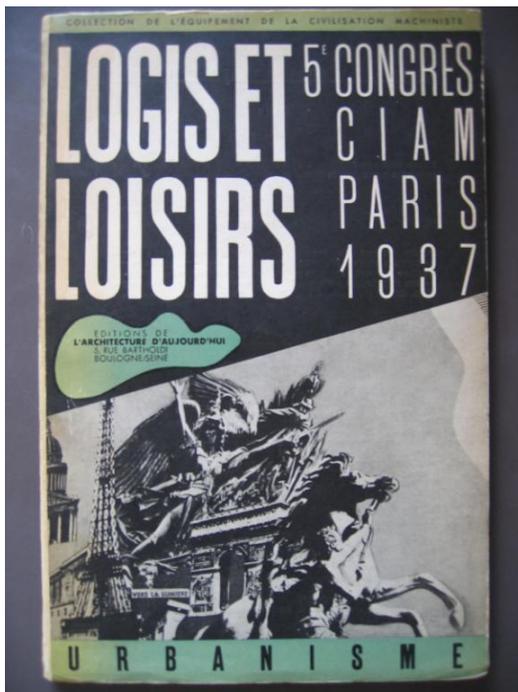
This exhibition is an excellent focal point to look at the international planning movement on the late thirties. From July 4th to 8th, the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning (IFHTP) holds its 15th congress, merging this year with the International Housing Association (*Internationaler Verband Für Wohnungswesen*) (IHA). The joint congress is dealing with housing for the poorest, high-rise construction, national and regional planning. From July 8th to 13th, the Study Group of the Underground Urban Center (GECUS) held its first congress (*Congrès de l'Urbanisme souterrain*). French and foreign experts sail from one conference to another,



The 18th International Planning History Society Conference - Yokohama, July 2018

joining for visits and attending the garden party on the 14th July². Two weeks before from June 28th to July 2nd, CIAM gathered for their 5th congress dedicated to “*Logis et loisirs*” (Dwelling, Recreation)³. Under the rule of Le Corbusier, the Pavillon des Temps nouveaux opens on the Porte Maillot site of the International Exhibition.

The interferences between the IFHTP and the CIAMs deserve to be highlighted in order to go back on the assumed cleavages between avant-garde and operational planners (Figure 2 and 2 bis). If the historiography on CIAM is well established (Mumford, 2002), that on the IFHTP has recently opened a rich corpus (Riboldazzi, 2010, 2011, 2015, Geerste, 2012, 2016, Graham, 2011, Wagner, 2016). In the inter-war period, IFHTP proceedings and thematic bulletins provide a precise apparatus, as the association expands its networks to America, Asia, Australia and Pacific countries. A brief survey of the CIAM’s link to other ‘big’ international congresses still exists (Somer, 2007) but needs to be detailed. By crossing the chronology of the meetings of the CIAM and its organizing committee CIRPAC with that of the IFHTP, we notice temporal coincidences in Berlin 1931 and Paris 1937. Besides some characters are part of both institutions, such as the German Ernst May and the Polish Tadeusz Tolwinski. The comparison of calendars, the crossing of lists, themes and methods, thus show even more convergences. Moreover, it is important to compare how IFHTP and CIAM react to the political tensions of their time.



Figures 2–2 bis: Front covers of the CIAM 5 Report and of the IFHTP congress Report. [*Logis et Loisirs. 5^e congrès CIAM Paris 1937*. Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l’Architecture d’Aujourd’hui, 1938 ; Fédération internationale de l’habitation et de l’urbanisme. *Rapport conclusif du congrès de Paris, juillet 1937*, typed. Brussels: IFHTP, 1937]

IFHTP 1937 and CIAM 5 in international and French context

Founded in 1913 in Paris, the IFHTP is rooted in the garden city movement and brings together officials engaged in operational planning within social housing companies, municipalities, regional planning agencies, public ministries. For their part, the CIAM, organized from 1928 around the nucleus of Siegfried Giedion, Le Corbusier and Hélène de Mandrot, bring together architects mostly without institutional affiliation but sharing a common opposition to academicism.

The two conferences deserve to be watched under the magnifying glass of the French context as well. The year before, in 1936, the Popular Front government came to power bringing social laws in favor of paid holidays that foreshadow new programs for cultural and outdoor recreation. The International Exhibition of 1937 hosted a section at the new Musée d’Art moderne (section 17) showing extension plans for French medium-sized towns as required by the Cornudet law (1919-1924)⁴, and also the Paris Regional Development Plan (*Plan d’aménagement de la région parisienne*) (PARP) which has been formalized in May 1934⁵. The PARP has been outlined by the architect Henri Prost who designed superb perspectives showing landscaped highways to be built in the outskirts



of Paris and a so-called 'Route des parcs' linking Versailles to other historical parks West of Paris. The GECUS exhibition on "The Underground World" (section 17 TER) shows a large electrified model of Paris underground with the metropolitan, sewers, pipelines, geological strata (Figure 3)⁶. Following the IFHTP and GECUS congresses, many visits are taking place in Paris and its suburbs, including new tunnels built along the the ring road and the highway already under construction between Marly and Versailles.

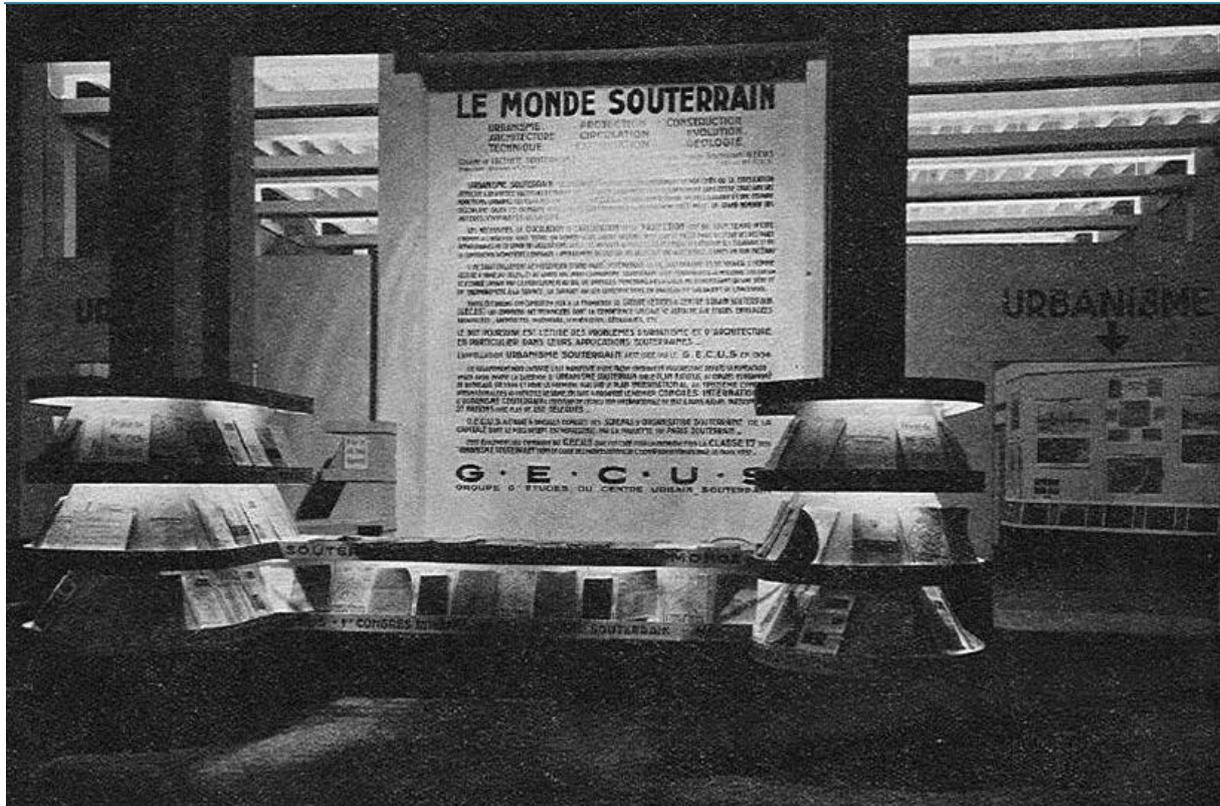


Figure 3: Exhibition of the GECUS "Le Monde souterrain", section 17 TER of the main Exhibition Arts et Techniques at the Musée d'Art moderne [Le Monde souterrain, no.15-16-17 (November 1937): 161].

IFHTP assuming political neutrality of town and regional planning

With its headquarters in London and its presidency entrusted to Raymond Unwin and George L. Pepler, the IFHTP is dominated by the British who favour satellite cities, green belts and industrial decentralization. By changing name in its beginnings the association switches from garden city to large scale urban planning⁷.

The congress process is then reorganized by introducing two different sessions dedicated to housing and urban development. Rapporteurs and session chairs follow a strict protocol inspired by supranational institutions set up after the First World War, like the International Labor Organization. Before each congress, written contributions are gathered in a first book which is sent to the participants who have to register to make comments on the spot. Statements are transcribed in a second volume which appears after the congress as well as a third which summarizes the course of the sessions, the speeches and the visits. The result of the congresses can lead to a list of resolutions, such as in Amsterdam (1924) and New York (1925), respectively on regional and urban planning and on traffic reorganization in metropolitan areas.

The whole is translated quite accurately in at least three languages, English, French, German. In addition, booklets issues open up the horizon on urban planning in many countries. A glossary of urbanism in several languages French, English, German, Italian, Spanish is published in 1932. From 1938, a quarterly magazine and the minutes of the Federation meetings is published in Germany⁸. Since the Vienna Congress (1926) there is talk of establishing an "international quotation that should be used in the development of [all] civic surveys and city plans"⁹. Looking for a similar standard mapping, CIAM does not seem to have succeeded either.



The 18th International Planning History Society Conference - Yokohama, July 2018

The life of the IFHTP is ritualized by banquets and visits scheduled the days following the congress. Ministers and sometimes the heads of state include these international meetings in their diplomatic agenda. Since the mid-twenties, congress attendance often exceeds 1,000 people.

The original English and French nucleus is rapidly expanding to a second circle of personalities from a dozen countries. The Presidency, Vice Presidency and Treasurer are relatively stable over the period. The elected Council and the appointed Executive Committee, in charge of the next congress to be held, evolve according to geographical transplants inside and outside Europe¹⁰. Thus one crosses in the council representatives from Scandinavian, Central and South Europe. Finally, UdSSR, Japan, Latin America, Australia, New Zealand and, episodically, Zionist Palestine, make their appearance in the mid-twenties¹¹.

The project of a merger with IHA, based in Frankfurt am Main, follows the Berlin Congress of 1931. However, the coming to power of the Nazis leads to a negative missive of the IFHTP in April 1933, confirmed at the London Congress in 1935¹². Then the discussions resume and lead to a memorandum presented at the Paris Congress in 1937. The establishment of a seat in Brussels is planned for the following year with a joint secretariat: Donald C.L. Murray from IFHTP and assistant Paula Schäffer from IHA. The merged body take over the name of the IFHTP. From October 1938, the mayor of Stuttgart, Karl Strölin, will assume the presidency, succeeding the English George L. Pepler.

What happened to the Federation to change its mind? Probably the ousting of German Social Democrat and Jewish colleagues first shocked, especially that of Robert Schmidt, member of the Executive Committee, Vice President and Treasurer of the IFHTP. A valued pioneer in regional planning, Robert Schmidt has been managing the *Siedlungsverband Ruhrgebiet* (SVR) since 1920, the regional planning agency of the industrial Ruhr area. In 1933, he is dismissed and dies in 1934. The renewal of the actors in Germany is a result of aryanization and political purges. In 1933 Karl Strölin takes the helm of the IHA and is appointed mayor of Stuttgart by the Nazi party. It is likely that after the death of Schmidt, the relations of the IFHTP with the new German leaders gradually resume. Supporting good planning practice must go beyond political resentment.

Until the end of 1941, Strölin aims to keep the town planning movement a political neutrality. Despite the narrowing of delegations, he does not cease to operate the IFHTP effectively with colleagues whose countries have been subjected to the German occupation. He is receiving valuable assistance from Paula Schäfer, alone at the IFHTP secretariat in Brussels since the death of Murray. Under her supervision, the trilingual quarterly journal will not have to suffer from the war, nor the bi-weekly newsletter whose bibliography is thickening including information on the Chinese city of Hsinking, the capital of Manchukuo state, then ruled by Japan¹³.

NSDAP member since 1923, Strölin is one of those few Nazi notables for whom Hitler betrayed the interests of Germany. In 1944, he plotted with Rommel and was worried after the failed attack against Hitler in July 1945. Excluded from the party, he remains mayor of Stuttgart and takes contact with the allies for a peaceful surrender of his town. Despite his responsibility for the deportation of Jews from Stuttgart, he is little worried by the denazification commissions, unlike another member of the IFHTP, Guido Harbers, who was director of urban planning and housing in Munich and remains three years in jail.

The French within the IFHTP

What is the implication of the French within the IFHTP before the Second World War? It can thus be summarized as follows: they occupy permanent places in the bodies¹⁴, but they contribute weakly in the writings of the federation. At the Paris 1928 and 1937 congresses, they represent less than 20% of the attenders, whereas those of the country concerned are normally the majority¹⁵.

The French random presence in the IFHTP is reflecting a certain backwardness inside the international movement for urban planning. Thus the Minister of Labor and Hygiene, Louis Loucheur, author of a law bearing his name for the improvement of defective suburbs (1928), introduced the IFHTP Paris congress of 1928 in these terms: "It is necessary that in these international meetings [...] you bring us your thoughts, your ideas and very often your lights. Alas, apart from some remarkable efforts made in France in recent years, we may not have enough to show you beautiful things [...]"¹⁶. Even if Beaux-Arts planners export their know-how abroad (Jaussely in Barcelona, Prost in Antwerp, Gréber in Philadelphia, Agache in Rio de Janeiro and Le Forestier in Argentina), the debates is not very international comparing to Germany, Holland and Great Britain. Some people are exceptions like Henri Sellier who disseminates plenty of informations on foreign countries in the journal *La Vie urbaine*¹⁷. Senator of the Seine, Minister of Public Health under the government of the Popular Front, and Mayor of Suresnes, Sellier is a major figure in the debate on Greater Paris. As director of the OPHBM of the Seine (Public office for social housing), he initiated the garden cities built around the capital city. The magazine *Urbanism*, created in 1932 by the French Society of Planners (SFU), give accounts on the IFHTP congresses in Berlin 1931 and Paris¹⁸. Other



newspapers are quite indifferent to foreign references with the exception of *L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui* appearing in 1930.



Figure 4: *Plan d'aménagement de la région parisienne PARP*, May 14, 1934, original scale 1:50 000 [Archives d'architecture du XX^e siècle. Fonds Henri Prost, 343 AA: HP-DES-002-04-01, -02, -03]

The discussion on the Paris Regional Development Plan (PARP) (Figure 4) was expected to occupy an important place in the congress of 1937. The Berlage extension plan, studies for New York and its environs, Regulatory Plan of Rome, Berlin Plan of 1929, were respectively at the heart of the IFHTP congresses of Amsterdam (1924), New York (1925), Rome (1929) and Berlin (1931). On the contrary, French planners do not seem to seize this international opportunity to give a broader echo to the PARP. In London (1935), Henri Prost gave a general statement on “The development plan of the Paris region currently in the process of approval”. In 1937, he is retained in Turkey for his first studies on Istanbul¹⁹. Some statements are delivered by his assistants, Jean Royer and Pierre Remaury, and by Georges Sébille another expert. The Greater Paris paradigm is based on the densification of the suburbs and the improvement of road traffic by the construction of landscaped motorways. Projects of satellite towns have been abandoned due to land expropriation difficulties and financial uncertainty. In 1941, the master plan will be applied by the French State to a set of heterogeneous municipalities without a single metropolitan governance²⁰.



The 18th International Planning History Society Conference - Yokohama, July 2018

In 1937, French participants seem to have mobilized more for the first Congress of Underground Urban Planning which deals with road infrastructures but also passive defense against air attacks, for which Germany appears at the forefront. There will be referred to a Goebbels speech on measures listed by the National Air Defense League (*Reichsluftschutzbund*)²¹.

After WWII the life of the IFHTP/IFHP resumes with a very active participation of French delegations as their country embraces the culture of voluntary planning as headline for the national reconstruction.

The handling of CIAM 5 by Le Corbusier

This lack of international challenge highlights the originality of LC on the French scene. The native Swissman is close to Germanic avant-gardes that manipulates slogans and manifestos. LC knows how to combine French inductive thinking with German propaganda efficiency.

After the CIAM 4 of Athens, the researches on the “Functional City” had to be continued, but the next congress is several times postponed. Le Corbusier explicitly reinforces the preparations of CIAM 5 and is careful to publish the conference report just after. In the same way as IFHTP congress, the topics are introduced and moderated by rapporteurs and chairmen. The main session deals with the functionalist mantra “Living, recreating, working, transporting”²².



Figure 5: Le Corbusier, Pavillon des Temps nouveaux, Exhibition *Habiter, Recréer, Travailler Transporter* [Photo: Albin Salaün © FLC/ADAG]

The second part of the congress is a mix of themes, none of which predominates such as: “Spatial organization of recreation”, “Urbanism and rural architecture”²³, “Urbanism and aerial threat” with a statement of Colonel Vauthier, expert at the GECUS²⁴. High-rise buildings and land issues are also discussed, but rather superficially if compared to the IFHTP.

Le Corbusier introduces a questionnaire sent in advance and commented during the meeting. Thus the French Quétant is given an investigation on “Settlement and the high-rise building”. Le Corbusier entrusted also Norbert Bézard with a memorandum on “Villages coopératifs” and “Agrarian unity”. Presented as a ‘corresponding specialist, agricultural worker’, Bézard had published in 1934 together with Le Corbusier *La Ferme Radieuse*. By inviting Bézard and Dr. Pierre Winter to CIAM 5, Le Corbusier shows acquaintances with French fascist groups²⁵.

The book of CIAM 5, *Logis, Loisirs* (Dwelling, Recreation), is remarkable for its graphic and the exhibition presented at the Pavillon des Temps Nouveaux for its innovative scenography (Figure 5). With an abundance of



slogans, plans, drawings and large photos, the subject is somewhat scattered but is a pleasure to the eye²⁶. However, two major themes emerge: rural urbanism and a project of LC for Paris which completes his Plan Voisin of 1925.

CIAM's narrative of resistance to the conformity reaches its limits. If, Le Corbusier still shows a certain disregard for the *'phynance [sic]'*²⁷, the German and Dutch members of CIAM are then engaged in large social housing programs such as Ernst May in Frankfurt and JJP Oud in Rotterdam. In La Muette-Drancy (1935), Marcel Lods, member of CIAM France (then associated with Eugène Beaudouin) has just experienced large-scale prefabrication in what is considered the first French *'grand ensemble'*. Besides, in peripheral European countries avant-garde and city architects are part of the same patriotic elite, like in Poland where the CIAM section includes both the radical Simon Syrkus and Tadeusz Tolwinski who has been in charge with the master plan of Warsaw.



Figure 6: Front cover of Le Corbusier's book, *Des Canons, des munitions ? Merci! Des logis... s.v.p.* Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, 1938.

Conclusion: City planning or war ?

In the 1930s, the arrival of the Nazis in power thwarts the equilibrium at the CIAM and IFHTP. Once leftist and Jewish Germans and Austrians gone into exile, Le Corbusier got the way free to take the CIAM direction. The integration of IHA into the IFHTP in 1937-1938 insures the influence of German experts appointed by the Nazi regime. Towards UdSSR, the CIAM testify sympathy – in spite the cancellation of the Moscow congress – and the IFHTP shows a benevolent opening – at the previous London congress of 1935, the Soviet delegation was numerous but for any reason absent from Paris in 1937. Whether in the CIAM or the IFHTP, the Fascist Italian regime is perceived favourably. The IFHTP Congress in Rome in 1929 is a success. In 1937 rural settlement programs of Pontine Marshes are widely discussed within IFHTP and CIAM. In France, the book of Gaston Bardet on the Rome of Mussolini comes out well in 1937²⁸.

Pleading for peace by urban planning seem absurd with historical distance, but it was not so at that time. Planning is presumed to smooth social tensions and to contribute to peace between nations.

This is evidenced by the polite exchanges of Karl Strölin with his French hosts on July 4th, 1937: Strölin: "Social discontent can, as you know from history, easily influence foreign policy. I see [...] in the sanitation of the housing conditions of the working class, an essential means for the stabilization of world peace, in general. [...] All our work must strive for this goal and we Germans want to work hard to solve this problem."²⁹ Then Jean Royer replying: "Henri Sellier told us yesterday that congresses, such as ours, were a striking example of international solidarity and that there should no longer be national borders when considering such questions."³⁰

"Et maintenant, préfères-tu faire la guerre?"³¹. Le Corbusier takes up the same plea vehemently in his book, *Des canons des munitions ? Non des logis s.v.p.*, issued in 1938 as the exhibition catalogue of the Pavillon des Temps nouveaux (Figure 6). Everyone is preparing for hostilities, but the enemy is not named.



Acknowledgements

Disclosure Statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author.

Notes on contributor(s)

Corinne Jaquand is lecturer at the ENSA-Paris-Belleville and researcher at the IPRAUS. She has worked as urban planner for the city of Paris, the Senate of Berlin and for private investors. She earned a PhD at the EHESP, dealing with the metropolization of Greater Berlin at the beginning of the 20th century and received a grant from the CCA Montréal to research on regional planning and landscape urbanism overseas. She is co-editor of the website www.inventerlegrandparis.fr which provides the proceedings of conferences on the history of Greater Paris, comparing international planning cultures up to the present.

Endnotes

¹ The 1937 International Exhibition has left on the site two buildings in neo-classical style : the Palais de Chaillot, transformed by the architects Jacques Carlu, Louis-Hyppolite Boileau and Léon Azéma, and the new Musée d'Art moderne/Palais de Tokyo, built by Jean-Claude Dondel, André Aubert, Paul Viard et Marcel Dastugue.

For the lay-out, pavillons and light scenographies at night, see: Emile Labbé. *Exposition internationale des Arts et Techniques dans la vie moderne 1937* (Paris: Ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie, 1937) ; Bertrand Lemoine (ed.), *Paris 1937: cinquantenaire de l'Exposition internationale*, exhibition catalogue (Paris: IFA, 1987).

² IFHTP and GECUS congresses take place in the "International Fortnight of Housing and Town Planning", from 5-17 July 1937 at the Maison de la Chimie, rue Saint-Dominique. The Fortnight will also host the conference of the Brussels-based International Union of Cities, as well as other national conferences, such as the Congress of Social Housing Societies (OPHBM). This Fortnight was inaugurated by the President of the French Republic, Albert Lebrun, and is held under the patronage of the French Government, the City of Paris and the General Council of the Department of the Seine. "Les congrès de la Quinzaine internationale des administrations publiques, de l'urbanisme et de l'habitation", *Urbanisme*, no. 58 (1937): 204-sq.

³ CIAM 5 is held at the Palais d'Iéna, recently completed by architect Auguste Perret. LC obtained the patronage of four Ministers: Foreign Affairs, National Education and Fine Arts, Agriculture, Public Works; of the Under-Secretary of Sports and Recreation, of the Director General of Beaux-Arts school.

⁴ On the city-planning exhibitions: *Exposition internationale des arts et des techniques dans la vie moderne. Catalogue général officiel* (Paris, R. Stenger: 1937). 2 vol.; "Exposition Universelle : Classe 17 l'Aménagement des villes et des campagnes", *Paris et la région capitale*, no. 1 (May 1937): 32 ; "L'Urbanisme à l'exposition", *L'Architecture*, no.12 (December 15, 1937): 415-426; *Urbanisme*, no.56 (June-July, 1937).

⁵ The Cornudet law requires the establishment of PAEE (development and extension plans and embellishments) to cities with more than 10,000 inhabitants. The PARP follows the Cornudet law and concerns Paris, the department of Seine and part of the departments of Seine-et-Oise, Seine-et-Marne and the Oise, within a radius of 35 km from Notre-Dame. The studies began in 1928 and were headed by the Higher Planning and Organization Committee of the Paris region (CSAORP) under the auspices of the Ministry of the Interior and the Seine Department. Following the law of May 14, 1932, the architect Henri Prost, assisted by Pierre Remaury and Jean Royer, receives order to establish the plan to 1: 10.000, jointly with the National Railways Cie, the geographical service of the army and the bureau of Extension of the City of Paris. Presented in May 1934, it has since been submitted to a public inquiry. The plan finally approved in 1941, then revised in 1956.

⁶ "Exposition Universelle: Classe 17 TER urbanisme souterrain", *Paris et la région capitale*, no. 1 (May 1937): 32; *Le Monde souterrain*, no.15-16-17 (November 1937). The passive defense shelter was built by: The Society of Government-Certified Architects (SADG); the aeronautical group [students] of the School of Beaux-Arts (GAEDBA); the Association of Veteran Architects (AAAC) and the Underground Urban Center Study Group (GECUS). Besides the GECUS had since 1933 a magazine: *L'Urbanisme souterrain*, under the direction of Edouard Utudjian and Gaston Bardet as editor. On the GECUS see: Catherine Blain. "La ville épaisse d'Édouard Utudjian. Un concept et ses ramifications", *Dossiers du Lacth #2, La ville souterraine: représentations et conception. La part de l'invisible* (December 2017): 55-60.

⁷ Designations of IFHTP: 1913 (1st Congress, Paris): *The International Garden Cities and Town Planning Association* (IGCTPA); 1922 (6th Congress Paris): *International Garden Cities & Town Planning Federation*; 1923 (7th Congress Göteborg): *International Federation for Town & Country Planning and Garden Cities*; 1926 (10th Congress, Vienne): *International Federation for Housing and Town Planning* (IFHTP). In the post-war period the federation will take the name of: *International Federation for Housing and Planning* (IFHP) (24th Congress, 1958, Liege).

⁸ After the merger of IFHTP and IHA, is published by Julius Hoffmann (Stuttgart) the quarterly review : *Habitation et Urbanisme/Housing and Town Planning/Wohnungswesen und Städtebau*, no. I, II, III/IV (1938) ; no. II, III/IV (1939) ; no. I/II, III/IV (1940) ; no. I/II, III/IV (1941) and the bi-monthly newsletter : *Informations de la Fédération Internationale de l'Habitation et de l'Urbanisme/Notes of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning/Mitteilungen des Internationalen Verbandes für Wohnungswesen und Städtebau*, no. 1-6 (1939) ; no. 1-5/6 (1940) ; no. 1-6 (1941).

⁹ Xth *International Housing and Town Planning Congress*, Vienna 1926, Part III. Reports (Brussels: IFHTP), 15-16.

¹⁰ Thus the important role of John Nolen at the IFHTP until his death in 1937, and for the Mexico of Carlos Contreras.

¹¹ On Japan, see "The Procedures, powers and duties. Japan, Finland", *IFHTP Bulletin*, no. 5 (1924). Japan appears in the IFHTP bodies for the Vienna Congress (1926).



The 18th International Planning History Society Conference - Yokohama, July 2018

¹² Decision April 28th, 1933, on the basis of a Joint Committee report. End of the discussion. A similar merger with the International Union of Cities will not happen.

¹³ “Mandchouco/Mandchukou/Madschukuo”, *Informations de la Fédération Internationale de l’Habitation et de l’urbanisme/Notes of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning/Mitteilungen des Internationalen Verbandes für Wohnungswesen und Städtebau*, no.3 (1939): 124-125; no.5/6 (1940): 174 ; no.2/3 (194): 64-65.

¹⁴ In IFHTP’s bodies, we find since the early 1920s: Louis Bonnier (Vice-President) and Marcel Poëte, the garden city activists, Henri Sellier, George Benoit-Lévy, the economist Charles Gide, Sentenac, and the polyglot Bruggeman, depending on the year, members of the Council and of the Executive Committee. These people are linked to the Musée Social and defend a multi-disciplinary approach to urban planning that finds continuity in the teaching provided from 1919 at the Institute of Urban Planning of the University of Paris (IUUP). They revolve around the magazine *La Vie urbaine*, also founded in 1919 and chaired by Henri Sellier. Later leading architects from the Beaux Arts will enter the instances, as Jacques Gréber, Henri Prost, Jean Royer. From 1937, the young Gaston Bardet, editor-in-chief of the journal *Urbanisme*, became also active. This sphere of practicing architects draw together a pole linked to the French Society of Urban Planners (SFU).

¹⁵ Before that of 1937, two congresses of the IFHTP are held in Paris. The first for its inauguration in 1913, and the 11th in 1928, which is held at the University of La Sorbonne parallel to an exhibition of urban planning situated at the Parc des Expositions Porte de Versailles.

¹⁶ *XIth International Housing and Town Planning Congress, Paris 1928*, Part III (Brussels: IFHTP), 24.

¹⁷ Founded in 1919, in connection with the Institute of Urban Planning of the University of Paris (IUUP), *La Vie urbaine* follows the major metropolitan plans of New York (1925-1929), Berlin (1929), Greater London (studies of Unwin, then Abercrombie), the planning of the region of the Ruhr, expansion plans in the French colonies, the concept of neighborhood unit set up in Radburn.

¹⁸ Alfred Agache, “Exposition d’urbanisme à Berlin”; Louis Dausset, “La politique foncière à Berlin”, *Urbanisme*, special issue (1932): LI-LV ; LVI.

¹⁹ Henri Giraud and Henri Prost, “L’aménagement positif en France”, *XIVth International Housing and Town Planning Congress, London 1935*, Part I. Papers and General Reports (Brussels:IFHTP, 1935), 93-99.

²⁰ Indeed no supra-communal body is set up that is comparable to the London Council Council. Municipalities lack the means and the political will to expropriate. The PARP is thus the object of criticism including among the high officials like François Latour, councilman of Paris and member of the IFHTP.

²¹ Gérald Nissen, “La défense aérienne”, *Paris et la région capitale*, no. 3 (September 1937): 96-97.

²² CIAM 5, we found : “Solutions of principle” based on the four fundamental principles “Living, recreating, working, transporting”, rapporteur Le Corbusier, president Weissmann (Yugoslavia), “Application cases of cities”, J.-L.L. Sert (Spain) and Emery (France-Algeria), “Case of application of regions and countryside”, Syrkus (Poland) and Bézard (France), Limberg (Holland). In *Logis et Loisirs*, 112-119.

²³ Pollini, Figini (Milan), “Notes on Leisure Areas”; Tolwinski (Poland), “Organization of leisure in the workers’ cities”; Paul Nizan (writer), “The problem of recreation in contemporary society”. The discussion distinguishes daily, weekly, annual, bi-annual leisure activities.

Bierbauer (Hungary), “The Basics of Rural Reconstruction in Hungary”; Banfi, di Belgioso, Peressutti, Rogers, Radice-Fossati, Banfi, “Rural town planning”. Le Corbusier posits as a principle the city-countryside interaction: “The biological essence of the city and the countryside”. Cf.: D. Chenut, *CIAM 1928-1956*, 102.

²⁴ Lieutenant-colonel Vauthier, *Le Danger aérien et l’avenir du pays*. Préface de M. le maréchal Lyautey (Paris, Berger-Levrault: 1930). From 1936 up to 1939, Vauthier is chief camp of Marshal Pétain at the Ministry of War.

²⁵ Norbert Bézard (1896-1956) belonged to the movement *Faisceau*, close to Italian fascism. In 1945, he joined ASCORAL (Assembly of Architects for an Architectural Renovation). Le Corbusier had a close relationship with the doctor Pierre Winter who also intervened in CIAM 5. Since 1932 Winter participated in the magazine *Plan* before founding with Hubert Lagardelle *Prélude* (subtitled : Avant-garde of architecture and politics) to which LC contributed. Winter animated with Philippe Lamour the french Fascist Revolutionary Party. The connection of LC to fascism has been well established since its bi-century: François Chaslin, *Un Corbusier* (Paris: Seuil, 2015) ; Jean-Louis Cohen, *Le Corbusier, la planète comme chantier* (Paris: Librairie Eyrolles, 2015) ; Marc Perelmann, *Le Corbusier, une froide vision du monde* (Paris: Michalon, 2015) ; Xavier de Jarcy, *Le Corbusier, un fascisme français* (Paris: Albin Michel, 2015).

²⁶ See the reissue: *Le Corbusier et Norbert Bézard, La Ferme radieuse et le centre coopératif* (Dijon, Les Presses du réel: 2015). 84p. And: Gilles Ragot, “La Ferme et le Village radieux de Le Corbusier. Nouvelle déclinaison du principe d’équilibre entre l’individuel et le collectif”, *In Situ*, no. 21 (2013), <http://journals.openedition.org/insitu/10445>, DOI : 10.4000/insitu.1044

²⁷ *Logis et Loisirs*. 5^e congrès CIAM Paris 1937 (Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l’Architecture d’Aujourd’hui, 1938). See also the comments on CIAM 5: D. Chenut, *CIAM 1928-1956*, Graduation thesis under direction of Robert Auzelle (Paris: IUP, 1956). And as well: Archives Fondation Le Corbusier. D2-6 Congrès CIAM; D2-10 Congrès CIAM V (Paris Exposition 1937 – Participation de CIAM, Pavillon des Temps nouveaux) ; D2-13 (typed manuscripts for the book *Logis et Loisirs*).

²⁸ Gaston Bardet, *Une nouvelle ère romaine sous le signe du faisceau, la Rome de Mussolini* (Paris: Ch. Massin, 1937). This book follows his thesis presented June 25, 1932 at the Institute of Urban Planning of the University of Paris (IUUP), under the direction of Marcel Poëte.

²⁹ Karl Strölin, “Session Financement de la construction d’habitation des classes peu aisées”, in Fédération internationale de l’habitation et de l’urbanisme, *Rapport conclusif du congrès de Paris 1937*, typed (Brussels: IFHTP,1937).

³⁰ Jean Royer, “General Rapporteur Session Construction at Height and Surface”, in International Federation of Housing and Town Planning, *Rapport du Congrès de Paris juin 1937*, typed (Brussels: FHTP, 1937), 24. The architect Jean Royer had built the garden city of Plessis-Robinson with Maurice Payret-Dortail.

³¹ Le Corbusier, *Des Canons, des munitions ? Merci ! Des logis... s.v.p* (Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l’Architecture d’Aujourd’hui, 1938), 143.



Bibliography

- Blain, Catherine. "La ville épaisse d'Édouard Utudjian. Un concept et ses ramifications", *Dossiers du Lacth* #2, *La ville souterraine: représentations et conception. La part de l'invisible*, December 2017, 55-60, https://issuu.com/catherineblain/docs/dossierslacth02_villesouterraine
- Chenut D. *CIAM 1928-1956* (Graduation thesis under direction of Robert Auzelle), Paris: IUP, 1956.
- Fédération internationale de l'habitation et de l'urbanisme. *Rapport conclusif du congrès de Paris, juillet 1937*, typed. Brussels: IFHTP, 1937.
- Geertse, Michel A. *Defining the universal city: The International Federation for Housing and Town Planning and Transnational Planning dialogue 1913-1945* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Amsterdam: VU University, 2012.
- Geertse, Michel A. "The international garden city campaign: Transnational negotiations on town planning methods", *Journal of Urban History*. Advance online publication., (2015), doi:10.1177/0096144214566974
- Geertse, Michel A. "Cross-Border Country Planning Dialogue in Interwar Europe", *SAGE Open*, July-September 2015, 1-12.
- Geertse, Michel A. "The International Garden City Campaign: Transnational Negotiations on Town Planning Methods 1913-1926". *Journal of Urban History* 42, no. 4 (2016): 733-752.
- Graham, Allan. *A Hundred Years at the Global Spearhead: A Century of IFHP 1913-2013*. Copenhagen: IFHP, 2011.
- Labbé, Emile. *Exposition internationale des Arts et Techniques dans la vie moderne 1937*. Paris: Ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie, 1937.
- Le Corbusier (ed.), *Logis et Loisirs. 5^e congrès CIAM Paris 1937*. Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, 1938.
- Le Corbusier, *Des Canons, des munitions ? Merci! Des logis... s.v.p.* Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, 1938.
- Lemoine, Bertrand (ed.), *Paris 1937: cinquantenaire de l'Exposition internationale*, exhibition catalogue, Paris: IFA, 1987.
- Mumford, Eric. *The CIAM discourse on urbanism 1928-1960*, The MIT Press, 2002.
- Riboldazzi, Renzo. "Historical heritage, landscape and modernity: aspects of the Italian contribution to the IFHTP congresses between the two wars". *Planning Perspectives* 28 (2013): 399-419.
- Riboldazzi, Renzo. "The IFHTP discourse on urbanism in colonial Africa between the wars", In *Urban Planning in Sub-Saharan Africa: Colonial and Post-Colonial Planning Culture*, edited by Carlos Nunes Silva. Oxford: Routledge, 2015, 41-52.
- Riboldazzi, Renzo. *La costruzione della città moderna. Scritti scelti dagli atti dell'IFHTP, 1923-1938*. Milan: Jaca Book, 2010.
- Riboldazzi, Renzo. *Un'altra modernità. L'IFHTP e la cultura urbanistica tra le due guerre, 1923-1939*. Rom: Gangemi, 2009.
- Somer, Kees. *The Functionnal City. The CIAM and Cornelius van Eesteren, 1928-1960*, chap. "CIAM and the 'Big Congresses'". Rotterdam/Den Haag: NAI Publishers/EFL Foundation, 2007, 25-29.
- Wagner, Philipp, *Stadtplanung für die Welt? Internationales Experten wissens 1900-1960*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016. 400p.
- Wagner, Phillip. "Facilitating planning communication across borders: The International Federation for Housing and Town Planning in the interwar period". *Planning Perspectives* 31 (2016): 299-311.



Image sources

Figure 1: *Promenades à travers l'exposition. 20 cartes détachables. Série 3* (Boulogne-sur-Seine, M. Chipault), 1937, Front cover

Figure 2-2 bis: *Logis et Loisirs. 5^e congrès CIAM Paris 1937* (Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, 1938), Front cover; Fédération internationale de l'habitation et de l'urbanisme. *Rapport conclusif du congrès de Paris, juillet 1937*, typed (Brussels: IFHTP, 1937), Front cover.

Figure 3: *Le Monde souterrain*, no.15-16-17 (November 1937): 16.

Figure 4: Académie d'architecture/Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine/Archives d'architecture du XX^e siècle. Fonds Henri Prost 1874-1959 (343 AA: HP-DES-002-04-01, -02, -03)

Figure 5: Photo: Albin Salaün © FLC/ADAG,

http://www.fondationlecorbusier.fr/corbuweb/morpheus.aspx?sysId=13&IrisObjectId=5070&sysLanguage=fr-fr&itemPos=45&itemSort=fr-fr_sort_string1%20&itemCount=78&sysParentName=&sysParentId=64

Figure 6: Le Corbusier, *Des Canons, des munitions ? Merci! Des logis... s.v.p.* (Boulogne-sur-Seine: Editions de l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, 1938), Front cover.