ISTANBUL
Governing at the Crossroads: An Exploratory Study Trip to Istanbul
During the week of January 9th to 15th 2012, Governing the Large Metropolis students embarked on a study trip to Istanbul, a city of intersections with a population of over 13 million, as part of one the most important pedagogical aspects of the program. The goal was to reach a further understanding of the issues concerning urban studies and the governance of a large metropolis:

*How are big cities governed?*
Architecture of Power

The distribution of power is a key element to grasp the way Istanbul’s governance is organized. Though, one needs to go deeper than a mere diagram of competences as some relations are not formal, yet are crucial.
“The IMP serves as an informal solution to the complexity of the city - as a structural mechanism enabling and constraining different actors to meet, discuss, and negotiate planning-related issues.”

- Christian Josef Pollok & Juan Manuel Restrepo

Dr. Ulas Akin, Istanbul Municipal Planning Center
International Organization for Migration (IOM) & the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

“The issue of international migration represents a challenge for Istanbul, and takes into account the...cooperation between different international, local, and central government actors.”

–Lucie Billaud & Elise Gilliot

Architecture of Power
Religion and Politics in Contemporary Turkey

“The relationship between religion and politics has changed, shaking Turkey’s founding principle: secularism.”

—Benoit Mayaux & Lluis Pino

Sociologist Ferhat Kentel, Şehir University

Architecture of Power
Istanbul as a Benchmark & Global City

Different layers of the “global city” approach
1. Economic Development

Istanbul Development Agency

"ITSKA provides another link between local actors and international investors."

-Onur Partel, ISTKA

-Nonjabulo Zondi & Charlotte Lafitte
2. International Culture Strategy

Redevelopment Project of Istanbul 2010, SALT Galata

Korhan Gümüş, architect, former director of the Agency for Istanbul 2010, and the main person responsible for proposing the idea of organizing a bid for Istanbul to be the European Capital of Culture in 2010.

“Culture as not only an isolated object/service, but as a strategic instrument”

-Luis Felipe Lopes & John-Arthur Palmer
3. The Geopolitical Role of Istanbul

A Talk by Dr. Yaşar Yakiş, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey

“Its location at the intersection of cultures and continents brings Turkey tremendous leverage in international relations.”

-Anna Győry, Arslan Bissembayev
Weaving the Urban Fabric: Changing Neighborhoods and Development

Urban redevelopment projects are central to the politics of the city and are closely linked to immigration issues, as some projects directly affect cosmopolitan neighborhoods and communities.
1. Housing: Urban Redevelopment Projects

A resident protests regeneration done to his house in Fener-Balat.

View of Tarlabasi
2. Water

Dr. Ahmet Saatci, Chair and Professor of Environ. Engineering, Marmara University

Water Regulation and Conflicts in the Istanbul Metropolitan Region: Past, Present and Future

“...The continuing population increase of Istanbul will have a direct impact on the water supply in the city...”

-Jusmeet Sihra

Dr. Mehmet Emre Baștopçu, above, general manager of the Paşaköy Advanced Biological Wastewater Treatment Plant, pictured below.
3. Intersection of Cultures

Tarlabaşı Community Center

Asena Günal

Depo: Cultural Policy and Neighborhood Development

Neşe Erdilek, Administrative Coordinator, Center for Migration Research, Istanbul Bilgi University

Karaköy Greek Primary School

Mrs. Mere, head of Karakoy Foundation
Governance Perspectives
Today’s Istanbul: The Major Issues of Contemporary Urbanism

Istanbul faces great economic, political and demographic pressures...

From left to right: Serdar Kaya, Irem Ayrancı (both of Istanbul Technical University, Department of Urban and Regional Planning), and Başak Demires Özkul (Bartlett School of Planning, University College London).

Jean François Pérouse, IFEA/Galatasaray University, talks with us about urban issues facing Istanbul.

L-R, Pelin Tan, sociologist Dept. of New Media;, Yonca Erkan Associate Prof. Preservation of Cultural Heritage; Levent Soyal, anthropologist and Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Communications, Kadir Has University.
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In remembrance of
Camille Barberet, 1989-2012
Governing the Large Metropolis student, colleague, and above all, friend.