

November 30th, 2009.

To whom it may concern,

As requested by the Secretariat of the Global Research Network on Human Settlements (HS-Net), we are addressing you in order to nominate Erminia Maricato for the 2010 UN-HABITAT Cities Lecture Award at the forthcoming World Urban Forum to be held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) from 22-26 March, 2010.

Professor Erminia Maricato is a distinguished Brazilian intellectual with national and international recognition for her dedication to cities and human settlements issues in the academic field, as well as in the public sector through the fight for the implementation of innovative public policies, and legal and institutional changes in traditionally conservative and exclusionary frameworks in Brazil.

Full Professor at the Architecture and Urbanism School at the University of Sao Paulo, Erminia Maricato has a substantial academic record, having published several books, which emphasize the specificities of the urban development in Brazilian cities, its relations with the production of informal settlements, and alternatives to the urban crisis within the context of the metropolis in developing countries.

She has developed important initiatives as a Secretary for Housing and Urban Development at the Municipality of Sao Paulo (1989-1992), starting out cutting-edge social housing programs that achieved remarkable results for the city and its population.

She also participated in the creation of the National Movement for the Urban Reform, which proved to be crucial for the inclusion of a Chapter that specifically addressed the urban development issues in the Federal Constitution enacted in 1988 in Brazil.

Together with a group of prominent intellectuals and social representatives, Erminia Maricato helped to develop an important document for the Citizenship Institute - the so-called Housing Project - , which established guidelines for a national housing policy in 2000. Based on the contents of this project, she performed the role of main articulator, in 2003, aimed at the creation of the Ministry of Cities, where she assumed the position of its first Deputy Minister – from 2003 until 2005. Her work at the Ministry of Cities was crucial for the elaboration of a new basis of the National Urban Policy and its related programs, as well as for the recovery of the National Sanitation Policies after almost two decades of governmental absence in dealing with these issues.

The work of Prof. Erminia Maricato (see also Brief Biography attached) reveals a great contribution for the critics of the unequal urban development in Brazil, with a perspective that has always taken a pro-active stance in favor of the implementation of more justice in the design and elaboration of public policies, and more equal urban and housing conditions in Brazilian Cities. That is why we would like to nominate her for the Cities Lecture Award at the WUF 2010.

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Brief Biography

Academic Curriculum

Graduated in 1971, Master Degree in 1974, PhD in 1984, and Habilitation Degree (*Livre Docência*) (1997) at the Architecture and Urbanism Faculty of the University of Sao Paulo - Brazil.

Visiting Professor at the Human Settlements Center of the University of British Columbia – Canada (2002), and at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning of Witwatersrand – Johannesburg/South Africa (2006).

Founded the LABHAB - Housing and Human Settlements Laboratory at the University of Sao Paulo – USP (1997), Coordinated the Architecture and Urbanism Post Graduation Programme at USP (1998-2002).

Professional Background

Encharged on the housing and urban development policy of the municipality of Sao Paulo, when she coordinated the elaboration of a new building code for the city, and also the construction and handing over of 40.000 housing units (1989/1992)

President of Sao Paulo Metropolitan Housing Company Administrative Council (1992)

Formulated the proposition for the creation of the Ministry of Cities while invited by President Lula to participate of the governmental transition period (2002)

Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Cities and technical coordinator of the Urban Development National Policy (2003-2005)

President of the Brazilian Company of Urban Trains Administrative Council (2003-2005)

Consultant at several Municipalities in Brazil and abroad, including Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and cities in Mexico, and national governments, such as India

International Events

Member of the Brazilian Delegation at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements - Habitat II (1996) in Istanbul, Turkey

Co-organizer of the Round Table intitled “Universities and Urban Sustainability: The Millennium City University” at the World Urban Forum 3 (2006) Vancouver, Canada. Organized in cooperation with the Centre for Human Settlements and School of Community and Regional Planning - University of British Columbia and the Faculty of Architecture - University of Sao Paulo; and Centro Studi Urbanistici per i Paesi in via di Sviluppo of DIPTU, Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza”.

Took part in the organization of the I World Social Forum (2001) in Porto Alegre, Brazil

Recent Awards and Distinctions

Award “Juan Torres Higuerras” from the Panamerican Federation of Architects (2006)

Award “Architect of the Year” from the National Federation of Architects and Urbanists (2007)

Key Speaker at the World Planning Schools Congress - Mexico (2006)

Present Activities

Full Professor and Member at the University of Sao Paulo Research Council – Brazil.

Member of the Scientific Board of Revue “Justice spatiales/spatial justice”.
Département de Géographie Paris Ouest Nanterre - France (jssj.org/02.php)

Member of the Editorial Council of the Brazilian Revue in Urban and Regional Studies of the National Association of Graduate Programmes and Research in Urban and Regional Planning (ANPUR) - Brazil.

International Advisor of the National Federation of Architects and Urbanists (FNA) - Brazil

Member of the Global Research Network on Human Settlements (HS-NET)
Advisory Board - UN HABITAT.

Main and Recent Publications (selected among the latest and most relevant titles)

MARICATO, E. Fighting for Just Cities in capitalism's periphery. In: Peter MARCUSE and others (Org.). Searching for the Just City. 1 ed. London e New York: Routledge, 2009, p. 194-213 (*book chapter*)

ARANTES, O. ; MARICATO, E. ; VAINER, C. A cidade do pensamento único. 5. ed. Petrópolis: Vozes, 2009 (*book*)

MARICATO, E. Brasil, cidades: alternativas para a crise urbana. 4. ed. Petrópolis: Vozes, 2008. v. 1. 204 pages (*book*)

MARICATO, E. Brazil's megacities, globalization, poverty and some reasons for hope. Cluster- città, design, innovazione, v. 07, p. 118-125, 2008 (*article in scientific revue*)

MARICATO, E. O nó da terra. Revista Brasileira de Direito Ambiental, v. 15, p. 191-196, 2008 (*article in scientific revue*)

MARICATO, E. A cidade e o automóvel. Ciência & Ambiente, v. 37, p. 5-12, 2008. (*article in scientific revue*) .

MARICATO, E. Metr6poles brasileiras: periferia do capitalismo e globaliza76o. Cadernos do Desenvolvimento, v. 4, p. 129-137, 2008 (*book chapter*)

MARICATO, E. Tackling the Housing Deficit. In: Jacques Marcovitch. (Org.). Economic Growth and Income Distribution in Brazil. 1 ed. S6o Paulo: Editora da Universidade de S6o Paulo, 2007, p. 33-56 (*book chapter*)

MARICATO, E. Vivienda y ciudad en Brasil y en la America Latina. In: Recife 2006 - Planificaci6n estrat6gica participativa para la construcci6n democr6tica de las ciudades. Conferencia del Observat6rio Internacional de Democracia Participativa - ODP, Recife, 2006 (*seminar annals*)

MARICATO, E. Challenges to Participation in Poverty Alleviation in Brasil. In: UN Department of Economic Affairs and Cooperazione Italiana allo Sviluppo. Fighting urban poverty: which participatory approaches. Vancouver: WUF 3 /DESAUN, 2006 (*seminar annals*)

MARICATO, E. Housing and cities in Brazil and Latin America. In: Housing and Cities International Studies Seminary, 2006, Roma. Housing and Cities International Studies Seminary. Roma : Facolt6 di Architettura, 2006 (*seminar annals*)

MARICATO, E. Ciities, urban population. In: William F. Fisher and Thomas Ponniah. (Org.). Social Urban Forum: another world is possible. 1 ed. New York: Zed Books, 2003, v. 1, p. 173-179. (*book chapter*)

MARICATO, E. Plano de A76o habitacional e urbano para tr6s bairros em situa76o de risco pela viol6ncia urbana. In: Maria Ruth Amaral de Sampaio e Paulo Cesar Xavier Pereira. (Org.). Profissionais da cidade - UNESCO PROGRAMA MOST. 1 ed. S6o Paulo: FAUUSP, 2003, v. 1, p. 113-138. (*book chapter*)