Contributors

S. Harris Ali is Professor of Sociology at York University in Toronto, Canada. His areas of research interest include: disaster research, environmental sociology, environmental health, and the social and political dimensions of infectious disease outbreaks. He is currently conducting research on Ebola in sub-Saharan Africa.

Hillary Angelo is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, whose work explores the relationship between nature and urbanisation from historical, theoretical, and ethnographic perspectives. She has been published in leading social science and geography journals, including the Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Theory and Society, and the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research. Her new book is How green became good: urbanized nature and the making of cities and citizens (University of Chicago Press, 2021).

Martín Arboleda is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile. His research interests include the fields of global political economy, critical social theory, and development studies. He is the author of the books Planetary mine: territories of extraction under late capitalism (Verso, 2020) and Gobernar la utopía: sobre la planificación y el poder popular (Caja Negra Editora, 2021). His research on the political economy of resource extraction in Chile and Latin America has been published in several scholarly journals. He is currently working on a long-term research project on the political economy of the globalised agro-food system, as well as on the intellectual history of economic planning during the 1960s and 1970s in Latin America.

Neil Brenner is the Lucy Flower Professor of Urban Sociology, the Director of the Urban Theory Lab, and the Chair of the Committee on Environment, Geography and Urbanization (CEGU) at the University of Chicago. His books include New urban spaces: urban theory and the scale question

Creighton Connolly is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Planning and Design at the University of Hong Kong. His research focuses on cultural politics, urban political ecology, and contestations over urban development in Malaysian cities. He uses a collaborative, action-oriented approach for his research, which involves working closely with civil society actors in research sites to identify challenges in the areas of transportation planning, environmental sustainability, public health, and heritage conservation and how they may be overcome.

Mike Davis (1946–2022) was Professor Emeritus at the University of California at Riverside. Davis, the author of City of quartz, Late Victorian holocausts, Planet of slums, and Ecology of fear, and is considered one of the founding thinkers of UPE. He was the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and the Lannan Literary Award. Davis was most recently the co-author with Jon Wiener of Set the night on fire: L. A. in the sixties (Verso, 2021).

Matthew Gandy is Professor of Geography at the University of Cambridge and an award-winning documentary filmmaker. His books include Concrete and clay: reworking nature in New York City (MIT Press, 2002), The fabric of space: water, modernity, and the urban imagination (MIT Press, 2014), Moth (Reaktion, 2016), and Natura urbana: ecological constellations in urban space (MIT Press, 2022).

Kian Goh is Associate Professor of Urban Planning at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and Associate Faculty Director of the UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy. She researches urban ecological design, spatial politics, and social mobilisation in the context of climate change and global urbanisation. She is the author of Form and flow: the spatial politics of urban resilience and climate justice (2021, MIT Press).

Joris Gort is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Geography at King’s College London. His research focuses on the political ecology of Dutch water management throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and the way rational water management has asserted liberal hegemony. He also researches authoritarian populism and hegemony through the lens of relational comparison more broadly.

Shubhra Gururani is Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at York University. She also serves as the Director of York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR). Gururani’s research draws on extensive ethnographic
fieldwork in the city of Gurgaon in India and focuses on the politics of land, property, urban nature/ecologies, planning, villages in the cities, agrarian-urbanism, waste, sewage, and infrastructure. Her recent publications have appeared in Urban Geography, Urbanisation, and SAMAJ.

**Nik Heynen** is a Distinguished Research Professor of Geography at the University of Georgia and visiting scholar at Spelman College. He studies abolitionist politics, political ecology, and cities. His main research foci relate to the analysis of how uneven social power relations – including race, gender, and class – are inscribed in the transformation of nature and space and how in turn these processes contribute to uneven development.

**Maria Kaika** is an urban political ecologist. She works on cities and crisis, urban radical imaginaries, and land financialisation. She is Director of the Centre for Urban Studies and Professor in Urban Regional and Environmental Planning at the University of Amsterdam. Her most recent book is *The political ecology of austerity: crisis, social movements, and the environment* (edited with R. Calvário and G. Velegrakis; Routledge, London, 2022).

**Nikos Katsikis** is Assistant Professor of Urbanism at TU Delft and affiliated researcher at Urban Theory Lab – Chicago. He works on the intersection of urbanisation theory, design, and geospatial analysis. He holds a Doctor of Design from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

**Roger Keil** is Professor in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University. The inaugural Director of the university’s City Institute and a former York University Research Chair, Keil has authored *Suburban planet* (Polity), co-authored *Pandemic Urbanism* (with S. Harris Ali and Creighton Connolly, Polity) and edited several books including *The globalizing cities reader* (with Xuefei Ren; Routledge), *After suburbia* (with Fulong Wu; University of Toronto Press) and *Public Los Angeles* (with Judy Branfman; University of Georgia Press).

**Wangui Kimari** is an anthropologist based at the Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA). Her work draws on many local histories and theoretical approaches – including oral narratives, assemblage theory, urban political ecology, and the black radical tradition – in order to think through urban spatial management in Nairobi from the vantage point of its most marginalised residents. Wangui is also the participatory action research coordinator for the Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC), a community-based organisation in Nairobi, and an editorial board member of the online publication *Africa Is a Country*. 
Mary Lawhon is Senior Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Edinburgh. She is a political ecologist whose work focuses on the ways in which politics shapes and are shaped by urban infrastructural flows including waste and sanitation. Her work draws on and contributes to postcolonial theory, the politics of socio-technical sustainability transitions, and urban political ecology.

Ester Limonad is Full Professor in the Department and Graduate Programme of Geography at the Fluminense Federal University (Niteroi, Brazil), where she directs a human geography and critical territorial planning research group. Her main teaching and research interests include emerging problems and conflicts related to extended urbanisation, the production of space and everyday life concerning uneven social power relations, and the appropriation of nature, with an emphasis on Brazilian urbanisation trends.

Alex Loftus is Reader in Political Ecology at King’s College London. His research addresses questions in political ecology, ranging from debates over water privatisation, to struggles over water in post-apartheid South Africa, around the right to water and, more recently, debates over the financialisation of water infrastructure. More broadly, Alex has sought to reframe political ecological questions through a philosophy of praxis as articulated through the work of Antonio Gramsci.

Nikki Luke is Assistant Professor of Geography at the University of Tennessee. She studies energy, labour, race, social reproduction, and urban political ecology in the US South. Her work has been published in Antipode, the Annals of the American Association of Geographers, American Quarterly, and Social and Cultural Geography.

Anesu Makina holds a PhD from the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability at the University of Oklahoma. Her work focuses on urban environmental issues.

Tait Mandler completed a PhD in Anthropology and Urban Planning at the University of Amsterdam. Their research interests include urban political ecology, agro-food economies, human-chemical entanglements, and anthropology of the senses.

Roberto Luís Monte-Mór is Full Professor at Centro de Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional at the Federal University of Minas Gerais. He teaches and researches in the areas of economics and urbanism, with an
emphasis on theories of urbanisation, urban and regional planning, metropolitan planning, regional and urban economy, popular and solidarity economy, organisation of space and environment, production of space among traditional populations, and urbanisation and development alternatives in the Amazon.

Hamzah Muzaini is Assistant Professor with the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore with research interests on topics related to war heritage and memoryscapes, geographies and politics of theme parks, migration heritage making, and island geographies and heritage. He is author of Contested memoryscapes: the politics of second world war commemoration in Singapore (with Yeoh; Routledge, 2016) and editor of After heritage: critical perspectives of heritage from below (with Minca; Edward Elgar, 2018).

Gloria Nsangi Nakyagaba, alias Gloria Nsangi, is a PhD student and Teaching Assistant (Human Geography/GIS) at the University of Oklahoma. She is an enthusiastic urban researcher in urban infrastructure including sanitation, energy, food systems, and climate change. Her current research is examining the links between nature, environment, and modes of sanitation in Kampala which is funded by RJ Nature Project (KTH Royal Institute of Technology). She holds a Master of Arts degree in Geography from Makerere University, Kampala Uganda. Recent publications include ‘Towards a modest Imaginary? Sanitation in Kampala beyond the modern infrastructure ideal’ (Urban Studies, 2022) and ‘Power, politics and a poo pump: Contestation over legitimacy, access and benefits of sanitation technologies in Kampala’ (Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography, 2021).

Andrea J. Nightingale is Professor of Human Geography, University of Oslo, and Research Fellow, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Her current research passions seek to account for power and politics within dynamic and unpredictable environmental change in Nepal, Kenya, and Nicaragua. Her interests cross between climate change adaptation and transformation debates, collective action and state formation, the nature-society nexus, political violence in natural resource governance, and feminist work on emotion and subjectivity in relation to development, transformation, collective action, and cooperation. Her recent book is Environment and sustainability in a globalizing world (Routledge, 2019).

Camilla Perrone is Associate Professor on Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Florence and Founding Director of the Research Laboratory of Critical Planning and Design. Her fields of interest cover
critical planning and design, DiverCity and interactive design, social, spatial and environmental justice, new sustainable forms of city and regional planning beyond traditional city design and town planning, contemporary regional urbanisation processes, interdisciplinary urban and environmental studies, and research methodology. She has published articles and books on spatial planning, participatory design, and urban policies for managing diversity.

**Federico Savini** is Assistant Professor in Environmental Planning, Institutions and Politics at the University of Amsterdam. In his works he studies the politics that drive institutional change, focusing on the different sets of regulations that shape city-regions and influence their ecological impact on the planet. His work envisions a degrowth path for city-regions. His most recent publication is the edited book *Post growth planning: cities beyond the market economy* (Routledge).

**Erik Swyngedouw** is Professor of Geography at the University of Manchester, UK. He holds degrees in environmental engineering, urban and regional planning, and geography. His was previously Professor of Geography at Oxford University and held the Vincent Wright Visiting Professorship at Science Po, Paris, 2014. He also holds Honorary Doctorates from Roskilde University (Denmark) and the University of Malmö (Sweden). His research focuses on political ecology, critical theory, environmental politics, democratisation, urbanisation, urban governance, politicisation, and socio-ecological movements.

**Stefan Treffers** is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at York University, Toronto, Canada with broad interests in urban sociology and critical criminology. His doctoral work explores the politics of urban revitalisation in post-bankruptcy Detroit. He has recently co-authored several refereed journal articles on various topics in *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, and *Housing Studies*.

**Yannis Tzaninis** is an urban and social geographer at the University of Amsterdam. His current research focuses on urban political ecology, European suburbanisation, and discourses of space. He has published on cosmopolitanism, the urban–suburban dichotomy, utopias, place-making, and educational inequalities.

**Irina Velicu** is a political scientist working on environmental conflicts in post-communist countries. Her research interests revolve around political theory and aesthetics, social transformation, and equality. She is currently
a co-coordinator of the PHOENIX Horizon2020 project related to green citizenship. She holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Hawaii (USA) and an MA in International Studies from the University of Warwick (UK). Her recent publications can be found in the Journal of Rural Studies, Sociologia Ruralis, Antipode, Environmental Politics, Theory, Culture and Society, Ecological Economics, GeoForum, and Globalizations. Dr Velicu has recently edited HRANA, a collection of peasant storytelling, and is frequently a contributor to Undisciplined Environments and the Berliner Gazette.

David Wachsmuth is the Canada Research Chair in Urban Governance at McGill University, where he is also an Associate Professor in the School of Urban Planning. He directs UPGo, the Urban Politics and Governance research group at McGill, where he leads a team of researchers investigating pressing urban governance problems related to economic development, environmental sustainability, and housing markets. Dr Wachsmuth has published widely in top journals in urban studies, planning, and geography, and his work has been covered extensively in the international media, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press, and the Washington Post. He is the Early Career Editor of the journal Territory, Politics, Governance and serves on the editorial boards of the journals Urban Geography and Urban Planning.