



Program (as of 7th July)

Berlin City Link Conference Sustainable Cities, United Efforts: A European Approach

Kick-off conference of the ConnAct EU project

In cooperation with Association for International Affairs AMO, Municipality Fundao, Municipality Piraeus, Pakhuis de Zwijger Amsterdam, Provincia di Bergamo

Funded by EU CERV Networks of Towns

Tuesday, 15 July 2025 | 10:00 – 17:00h
Rotes Rathaus, Festsaal

Description / short information

This program is designed not only to impart knowledge to the participants, but also to identify concrete opportunities for action and approaches to cooperation. The interactive design promotes exchange and networking across national borders.



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Tuesday, 15 July 2025

09:00 – 09:30 h	Registration and Welcome Coffee
09:30 – 10:00 h	Welcome and introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greeting by Georg Klußmann, Chief of Protocol of the Federal State of Berlin ▪ Keynote on the importance of European city cooperation in municipal climate and environmental protection Prof. Dr. Jürgen Kropp, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
10:00 – 11:00 h	Input-Session: Best Practices from across Europe Inspirational short presentations on successful projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Berlin Urban Nature Pact Rebecca Noebel, Senate Department for Mobility, Transport, Climate Protection and the Environment Berlin ▪ Designing Cities for All Faezeh Mohammadi, Programme Lead, Pakhuis de Zwijger ▪ Climate Action & Urban Innovation: Best Practices from Piraeus Electra Nisidou, EU Programmes Consultant of the Municipality of Piraeus
11:00 – 11:30 h	Coffee break & thematic networking tables: Connect & Exchange
11:30 – 12:45 h	Interactive workshops (parallel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshop 1 Future visions: What will sustainable cities look like in 2050? Thijs Koster, Policy Advisor Visitors Economy, City of Amsterdam ▪ Workshop 2 Climate adaptation in municipalities: Experiences and challenges Climate-Team Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg ▪ Workshop 3 Empowering Territories Together: Fostering Energy Communities through Culture, Policy, and Public Trust Chiara Tisat, EU Office Bergamo; Lucio Brignoli, President Fondazione SINERGIA; Paolo Arrigoni, President GSE ▪ Workshop 4 Sustainable Territorial Innovation: Experiences from the Municipality of Fundão, Portugal Mariana Salvado, Municipality of Fundão
12:45 – 13:45 h	Lunch break

13:45 – 15:00 h	Deep Dive Sessions (parallel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Session 1 Financing sustainable urban projects at the European level Dr. Henrik Scheller and Marie Munzert, German Institute of Urban Affairs ▪ Session 2 Your City, Your Space: How to use top-down approaches to endorse bottom-up participation in urban planning Aneta Soukopová, Prague Institute of Planning and Development ▪ Session 3 Sustainable tourism in cities: Innovative concepts and cooperation Esther Bouw, ULT-Lab (Urban Leisure and Tourism Lab) Amsterdam ▪ Session 4 Talking Climate, Building Change: Strategies Against Misinformation and Inaction Martin Baumgarten, klimafakten
15:00 – 15:30 h	Coffee break & thematic networking tables: Connect & Exchange
15:30 – 16:30 h	Panel Discussion: "European Cities as Pioneers for Sustainability" Discussion with experts from politics, science, and civil society on the challenges and opportunities of international cooperation.
16:30 – 17:00 h	Conclusion of the day: Summary and Outlook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary of results ▪ Outlook on next project activities (Prague, Bergamo, Amsterdam) ▪ Official closing of the conference
17:00 – 18:00 h	Informal Networking & Get-together Space for further discussions, experience exchange, and joint planning.

PROGRAM CONCEPTION

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