

# Intercultural City

## Planning for the Intercultural City

by Jude Bloomfield & Franco Bianchini

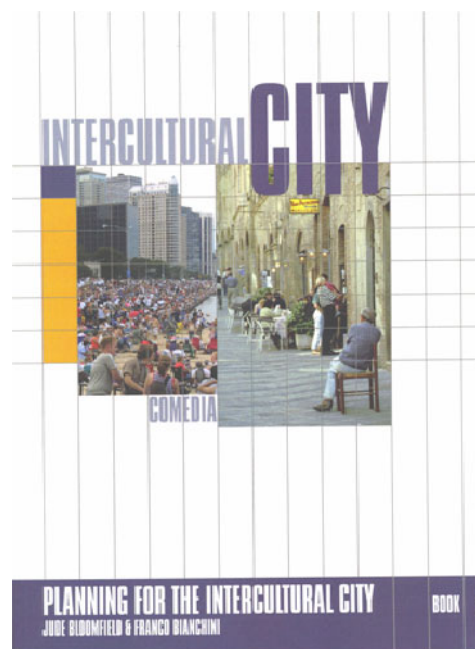
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This book forms part of the research project *The Intercultural City: Making the Most of Diversity*, led by Comedia and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. It provides a background to debates about multiculturalism and interculturalism, and their relevance to innovative and progressive urban policy-making.

The book argues that city governments should promote cross-fertilisation across all cultural boundaries, between 'majority' and 'minorities', 'dominant' and 'sub' cultures, localities, classes, faiths, disciplines and genres, as the source of cultural, social, political and economic innovation.

It starts by putting forward the argument for the intercultural city, and by evaluating different approaches to dealing with cultural diversity. It then highlights problematic urban trends, including the needs to address socio-economic inequalities, the spatial segregation of ethnic minority groups and ethnic segregation in public life. It discusses the challenge of creating a cosmopolitan civic identity and culture, and offers exemplary initiatives which adopt an intercultural approach, found in a variety of European cities and across a range of policy fields, from local economic development to health, education, place marketing and festivals. The concluding section focuses on the need to rethink the practices of city authorities. The aim is to make the urban policy-making process more open to creative ideas, and better able to learn from experiences of other cities and collaborate with the academic community and the third sector, so that the richness of talent and entrepreneurship in ethnic minority groups can be realised.

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