

PRESS RELEASE

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Winner of the Cultural Policy Research Award 2009 announced at opening of ENCATC Annual Conference on 22 October in Barcelona

Davide Ponzini is the winner of the 6th Cultural Policy Research Award 2009 (CPRA). The prize, worth €10,000 for the best proposal in comparative cross-cultural research in Europe, is a joint initiative of the **European Cultural Foundation** along with the **Swedish Riksbankens Jubileumsfond** in partnership with ENCATC. It was awarded by an international jury, who listened to candidates from a pre-selected shortlist of six on 21 October in the context of the 3rd Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum. The winner was announced during a ceremony chaired by Isabelle Schwartz (European Cultural Foundation), ENCATC President Jacques Bonniel and Sylvain Pasqua (European Commission) at the opening of ENCATC's 17th Annual Conference on 22 October in Barcelona.

Davide Ponzini is assistant professor at the Architecture & Planning Department of the University Politecnico of Milano. His research, entitled "Governing urban diversity? A policy tool comparison of five European capitals" will explore the use of policy tools addressing cultural diversity issues as the direct or indirect result of international programmes. The analysis will look at the creation, promotion or support of local cultural centers working in ethnically and culturally diverse neighbourhoods in Helsinki, Paris, Rome, Tallinn and Budapest.

Along the Award winner, the five other shortlisted candidates were: Yohann Floch, France (research: "What cultural strategies for arts magazines?"); Tobias Nielsen, Sweden (research: "The most creative regions in Europe? The right definition for policy making"); Jordi Balta Portolez, Spain (research: "Building for diversity: The governance of culture & international development policies"); Margaret Tali, Estonia (research: "The Janus faces of heritage collection: Contemporary art and the European nation states"); and Nadheza Savova, Bulgaria (research: "Tangible places of intangible heritage: Civil society & development revisited within European and Latin-American networks of cultural centres"). The members of the Award jury are Milena Dragicevic (Serbia), Ritva Mitchell (Finland), Lluís Bonet (Spain), Veronika Ratzenböck (Austria), Michael Quine (UK), Mikko Lagerspetz (Estonia) and ENCATC President Jacques Bonniel (France).

The CPRA was launched in 2004 to stimulate academic and applied cultural policy research in Europe, and is administered by ENCATC since 2007. This reflects ENCATC's wish to contribute to the creation of a network of young cultural policy researchers competent in comparative research. This year's CPRA took place in the context of ENCATC's 17th Annual Conference which attracted around 200 participants from across Europe and other world regions – educators and managers, researchers and policy makers. It was also positioned along the 3rd edition of the Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum hosted by the University of Barcelona and focusing on "Cross-cultural and cross-national approaches to cultural policy research". Supported by ENCATC and the European Cultural Foundation, the Forum brought together around fifty confirmed and emerging researchers in the field of cultural policy in a European context from a wide range of countries.

A report on the Annual Conference will be available on the ENCATC website in November along with **video footage** from the Award ceremony and the Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum, including interviews of all shortlisted candidates and the members of the jury.