

# STIMULATING URBAN COMPETITIVENESS BY NETWORKING. PART I - URBACT EU PROGRAMMES

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**Abstract:** *Many factors determine the attractiveness of a city for residents, tourists and innovative companies, amongst which economic strengths, social aspects and urban environment, accessibility and liveability, and environment are some of the most referred at. An instrument used to increase the attractiveness of the cities is the EU URBACT programme. The paper is structured in two parts. This first part is focussed on the analysis of the main aspects, changes and improvements, and the results generated by the three URBACT programmes. The financed projects cover many cities and a variety of urban topics. In the second part, the authors will analyse the participation and achievements of Romanian cities in URBACT projects.*

**Key words:** urban attractiveness; urban governance; knowledge transfer; network of cities

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