Klaus R. Kunzmann graduated from the School of Architecture of the Technische Universität München in 1967 and received a PhD from the Technische Universität Wien in 1971. Appointed as Professor by the School of Planning of the Universität Dortmund in 1974, he was Director of Research of the Institut für Raumplanung until 1993. From then onwards, and until his retirement in 2006, he held the personal Jean Monnet Chair of Spatial Planning in Europe. Klaus R. Kunzmann is a Honorary professor of Chung Hua University, in Hsinchu, Taiwan, a Honorary member of the RPTI, received a Honorary PhD from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1994, and taught as visiting professor at a number of universities in Europe, the US and in China. From 1987 to 1990 he was the first president of AESOP. Based on four decades of explorations into the field of spatial development of cities and regions, he is now living in Potsdam/Berlin, exploring the implications of China’s economic growth on urban regional development in Europe, and relentlessly writing on territorial planning in Europe, regional restructuring in the Ruhr, and on creative and knowledge city development.

The lecture will identify the challenges, planning schools are facing in times of globalisation, market led territorial development and information overload, and it will explore pathways into the future of planning education in Europe.
The Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) and the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) have launched a joint activity within the framework of the Decade of Planning: a series of lectures in 2012-2013 by well known planners and other ‘urban thinkers’, both academics and practitioners. The idea is to attract not only the planning community but also a wider audience of politicians, community leaders and organizations, business and the media to promote planning as a discipline that can contribute to the quality of life, help find new tools of governance of the urban structures and function as an effective mediator between the many stakeholders.

The aim is to find possible answers to present day and emerging challenges that face planning and planners as a modern discipline in a new role in our contemporary complex and dynamic society. Big name speakers will attract media attention and give us the possibility of presenting planning in more positive, constructive and attractive way.

The connecting element running through the whole series is for the speakers to fill in on aspects of a new vision for planning by taking lessons from the past. Of course, each lecture will be following by a discussion with the audience led by a professional moderator. There is a (case by case) option for sending out the lecture live on the web to capture an even wider audience.

The first two years of lectures will form part of the activities being organised within the framework of both the Silver Jubilee of AESOP (2012) and the Centenary of IFHP (2013).

MORE INFO:
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