Social research on urban environment at the University of Bologna addresses the complexity of urban space dynamics and their transformations, investigating the communities’ perceptions and behaviours, the roles of local and regional public authorities, the tourism impacts and the sustainability issues related to urban development and regeneration.
**Urban spaces and transformations**
- History of cities
- Practices, identities, memories, social actors and communities
- Urban poverty; social marginalization and exclusion; vulnerability
- Resilience of communities; neighbourhood approach; solidarity economies; social capital
- Migration processes in urban and rural contexts
- Active and participatory citizenship; collective forms of participation and decision-making
- Youth politics and participation in urban spaces
- Urban security, fear and prevention of crimes; victimization processes; gender-based violence
- Urban spaces and mobility
- Urban space and tourism: temporary mobility; tourism practices and their impacts on urban areas; tourist segregation; temporary uses of buildings and public space
- Socio cultural carrying capacity in urban areas

**Local public sector and public authorities**
- Comparative analysis on local governments structures, policies and practice
- Governance systems; local competences; public policies and decisional processes
- Public management and accounting systems
- Performance measurement; strategic planning and monitoring
- Financial assessment
- Organizational analysis
- Institutional role and policies for the implementation of rights at local level
- Local development policies
- Urban law
- Public enterprises; public-private partnerships; local public utilities; public services; public procurement; corruption
- Urban tourism policies

**Sustainability**
- Sustainability policies, planning, measurement and reporting
- Sustainable urban development; urban planning, spatial planning and landscape protection; land-use dynamics and planning; urban regeneration; urban sprawl and land take, nature based solutions
- Transition to a low-carbon society; climate change and future urban scenarios; environmental and economic performance, energy poverty and energy-related behaviour, sustainable mobility
- Sustainability indicators in urban tourist destinations

Urban@Bo is a sharing platform on urban policies promoted by the University of Bologna, public governments at city-level and the national centre on urban policies studies. It aims at sharing knowledge on the main urban issues to build collaboration among different stakeholders and co-create solutions.