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## AYUDAS RAMÓN Y CAJAL CONVOCATORIA 2014

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### Título:

Environmental Justice and Cities

### Resumen de la Memoria:

I am a social scientist trained in urban studies and planning (MIT, 2011), nonprofit organizations (Harvard University, 2004), international development (La Sorbonne, 2001), and political studies (Science Po, 2000). My research is situated at the intersection of urban planning and policy, social inequality, and development studies. It examines the extent to which urban plans and policy decisions contribute to more sustainable, just, and resilient cities, and how community groups in marginalized neighborhoods contest the creation or exacerbation of environmental inequities as a result of urban (re)development policies and projects.

For my recent academic monograph (Neighborhood as Refuge: Community Reconstruction, Place-(re)making, and Environmental Justice in the City, MIT Press 2014), I researched how community activists in three historically marginalized neighborhoods ♦ Dudley (Boston), Cayo Hueso (Havana), and Casc Antic (Barcelona) ♦ organized to improve local environmental quality and address residents' ♦ environmental trauma, fear of erasure, and loss. The book argues that projects such as community-based urban farms, gardens, parks, playgrounds, or green housing serve as tools to help create safe havens and foster a renewed sense of place and identity for residents.

My most current research is divided in three projects. First, I examine processes of environmental gentrification in formerly depressed neighborhoods, especially the ways in which such processes pose new challenges for residents and environmental justice activists. Through case studies in Boston, New York, Rio, and Medellín, I expose how green amenities, for which marginalized residents often fought for, are paradoxically now increasingly seen as Locally Unwanted Land Uses. This research is supported by 8 graduate students and a postdoctoral fellow whom I supervise (or have recently supervised) at the UAB-ICTA and the Universitat Internacional de Catalunya.

Second, in collaboration with researchers at MIT and the UAB, I explore the variety of approaches that cities engaged in adaptation planning take to protect the lives, housing, and livelihoods of historically marginalized groups exposed to climate risks and impacts. This research specifically looks at how municipalities approach issues of socio-spatial vulnerability, adaptive capacity, inclusion, equity, and resilience. Case studies include the cities of Quito, Surat, Durban, New York, and Sydney.

Last, as the local UAB PI, I am engaged in a collaborative European project (FP7 TESS) which studies the emergence, scaling-up, and diffusion of community initiatives that can lead to a transition towards a low-carbon economy. Among others, research partners from six European countries examine the extent to which community-based transition initiatives in the domains of food, energy, transportation, and waste entail social innovations that address issues of equity and access. Case studies include urban regions in Spain, Germany, Scotland, Finland, Rumania, and Italy.

I have also just started a new research project with UAB graduate students and collaborators in two American universities (Brandeis U. and Temple U.), which analyzes in 40 cities in Europe and the US whether ♦greening♦ projects tend to increase or reduce environmental inequalities and under which conditions such projects might address equity concerns.

### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

As a cross-disciplinary urban planning scholar writing articles and books and traditionally using qualitative methods, since my PhD in 2011 I published 5 empirical articles as sole author and 7 collaborative articles in top journals, three of which as first author. All these journals are Q1 journals. Since 2011, I also published three chapters in books by MIT Press and Routledge. Most importantly, in 2014 I published one monograph, Neighborhood as Refuge, in the top series in the field ♦ Urban and Industrial Environments, MIT Press. During my PhD, I also published 2 journal articles (2007 and 2010) in international peer-reviewed journals, a monograph (MIT, 2008), and a book chapter (2008). In 2008, I co-edited Vol. 8 of the planning journal, PROJECTIONS.

My work appears in Global Environmental Change (IF 8.046), Ecological Economics (IF 3.732), Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability (IF 3.720), Geoforum (IF 2.694), International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IF 1.848), Journal of Planning Education and Research (IF 1.705), Environmental and Planning C (IF 1.463), Climate Policy (IF 1.703), Society and Natural Resources (IF 1.54), and City and Community (IF 0.907). My field does not tend to use metrics such as the h index, but as reference, I have an h-index of



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6 with 231 total citations (Google Scholar), which is a very solid record for an urban planning scholar 3.5 years after completing her PhD (especially considering two maternity leaves of five months each in 2011 and 2014). In addition to traditional academic publications, my work has been broadcasted in the national Spanish media, including radio and TV appearances in 2014.

Last, I have demonstrated serious fundraising and grant writing capacity. During my tenure at MIT, I received around \$250,000 in awards, which included fellowships and competitive grants. In 2011, I received a prestigious Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship. In addition, in May 2013, I was awarded as PI an FP7 collaborative project (TESS) with a budget for the UAB of 295 260 Euros (2013-2016) and a Juan de la Cierva Fellowship. Earlier in 2009, I participated in the writing of an NSF grant on climate adaptation which was successfully rewarded with 215.368 Euros of funding and for which I conducted research in Latin America. Since arriving at the UAB in 2011, I have also participated in 4 FP7 Projects and 2 Spanish Ministry projects.

Since the completion of my PhD, I was invited to give 7 keynote speeches in international conferences and symposia, evaluated research proposals on sustainable urban development for national funding agencies, and participated as expert evaluator in 2 international review panels.

My work has been awarded 11 prizes in the US, Europe, France, and Spain. Among others, in 2012, I received the Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award from the MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning. In 2013, I received the National Prize for Youth Research Talent, a prize given once a year to one young scholar under 36 years old in Spain. Most recently, in 2014, I received a Burgen Scholarship Award from the Academia Europaea, an award given to young PhD recipients, who are either just embarking on a career of scholarship, or who are only recently established in a post dedicated to research and learning and who show great potential in their respective field.



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### Título:

Social Stratification and the Life Course

### Resumen de la Memoria:

My primary research line revolves around the question how social stratification impacts people's life course. In this vein, both my M.A. (Diploma) thesis and my doctoral dissertation have focused on the study of social heterogeneity in the transition from work to retirement using advanced quantitative methods of data analysis. As a postdoctoral researcher and junior faculty, I have pursued this agenda further, while also developing new research interests related to family, education, social participation, and immigration. I have published 10 articles (including 4 solo-authored papers) in peer-reviewed academic journals included in the Journal Citations Report, five of which have been ranked in the first quartile (Q1) of their respective categories. I am also the author of 4 books, 6 chapters in edited volumes, and 3 invited papers in high-circulation periodicals in Germany and Spain.

My research has garnered various prestigious awards: My MA thesis was decorated with the Gerhard-Fürst-Förderpreis (prize: 1.000 EUR) and my PhD thesis was awarded the FNA Forschungspreis (prize: 5.000 EUR). Lastly, I co-authored a research monograph that received the La Caixa Prize in Social Sciences worth 40.000 EUR. My work has been cited 145 times according to Google Scholar, yielding an h-index of 7.

I have participated in several funded research projects, most notably the EU FP7 project FamiliesAndSocieties, (budget: 6.5 million EUR). I have also been involved in three projects funded by the Spanish National Plan and three projects funded by the German Research Foundation. I have held dozens of talks at academic congresses and conferences. On three occasions my scholarship on retirement has earned me the privilege to feature as invited speaker at international workshops organized by renowned institutions like the University of Tel-Aviv, Friedrich-Ebert Foundation and Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg Institute for Advanced Study. I have acted as referee for 10 peer-reviewed journals and on various occasions as project evaluator for the Spanish ANEP. Connected through a dense international network, I have collaborated with a variety of outstanding scholars based at excellent institutions such as the University of Wisconsin-Madison, European University Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science, Mannheim University, Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), and Utrecht University.

### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

Jonas Radl studied Sociology at Free University Berlin (Diploma with minors in Economics and Political Science). He spent the academic year 2002/03 as an Erasmus exchange student at Universidad Complutense de Madrid. During his studies he worked as teaching assistant for the Free University and as research assistant for the Research Data Center of the German Pension Insurance. In 2006 he graduated with the best-possible qualification. In the same year he enrolled into the PhD program of the European University Institute (the acceptance rate for German applicants was around 5%), earning him a full stipend by the German government. During his doctoral studies, he spent research visits at the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC, Demography unit), the Center for Advanced Study in the Social Sciences (Juan March Foundation) in Madrid, and the Center for Research on Inequalities and the Life Course (CIQLE) of Yale University, New Haven, USA. Supplementing his training at the EUI, he attended the ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques at University of Essex; the ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at University of Michigan, and the ECSR/TransEurope Summer School "Globalization, Social Inequality and the Life Course" at University of Groningen. In 2010, Jonas Radl defended his dissertation in front of a thesis committee formed by Prof. Martin Kohli (Supervisor), Prof. Fabrizio Bernardi (Co-Supervisor) from the EUI as well as Prof. Hans-Peter Blossfeld (then University of Bamberg) and Prof. Bernhard Ebbinghaus (Mannheim University) as external members. Some months before, Radl had started to work at Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED) in Madrid (as assistant, Ayudante). Soon after, he was selected for the competitive Juan de la Cierva program by the Spanish government. In this modality he became a postdoc at the Department of Social Structure of UNED in 2011. He has been a course instructor for UNED's distance learning courses and is still teaching face-to-face classes at the local center of UNED in Getafe. During the year 2014 he was working as postdoctoral researcher at both UNED and University Carlos III (UC3M) of Madrid. In January 2015 he moved to UC3M full-time, becoming an Assistant Professor (Profesor Visitante con Categoría de Titular) at the Department of Social Sciences. In 2014, Jonas Radl was named as a member of the Management Committee of the COST Action Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in western countries, representing Spain in this EU Horizons 2020 initiative. He is also acting as stakeholder representative within the EU project FamiliesAndSocieties, funded by the 7th Framework Programme.



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### Título:

Comparative Historical Sociology

### Resumen de la Memoria:

My research so far has contributed to at least four overlapping yet distinct fields of sociology and the social sciences internationally: global social movements and civil society; ethnicity, race, and nationalism; social movements and religion; and the sociology of culture. The work I have done has been mostly comparative-historical in character, while also combining attention to larger theoretical questions with rigorous causal inferences based on careful examination of the evidentiary material. I have presented it in top-tier peer-reviewed journals (The American Sociological Review, Theory and Society) and in a monograph by Cambridge University Press. My publications have received several awards and one of them has been reprinted several times.

### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I am a historical-comparative sociologist (Ph.D. UCLA 2006) whose award-winning work has appeared in first-rank peer-reviewed journals and in a monograph with top-tier university press. I have taught extensively and worked as full-time faculty at the highly-ranked sociology department of Yale University. In addition, I have presented my work widely in US and European academic institutions and scholarly conferences and have served at numerous evaluation committees (among others, at the Editorial Board of The American Sociological Review ranked number 1 in sociology) .



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### Título:

Religion, Politics and Temporality in Africa and Atlantic Diasporas

### Resumen de la Memoria:

Throughout my career, I conducted anthropological research on religious and political movements, mainly in Portugal, Spain, Angola and the Atlantic space. My inquiries so far have been:

1) Charisma, politics, violence: In my research on prophetic movements in Angola, I studied the issue of leadership, and its implications in terms of succession and violence (Sarró, Blanes & Viegas 2008; Blanes 2009), charismatic regimes and vocations (2010), political repression (2009, 2012), and memory. More recently I am inquiring about the intersection of ethnic factors in the constitution of a plural religious-political setting in contemporary Luanda and its architectural and demographic imprint.

2) Temporality and knowledge: Subsequently I discussed politics of martyrdom and resistance, exploring ideologies of suffering (Blanes 2009, 2013), in connection with the concept of ♦prophetic biographies♦ (2011). In my monograph (2014) I broaden the scope towards the concept of temporality, (memory, historicity, hope and expectations). Currently I explore notions of resistance, transitional states, memory and utopia (2013, 2013b), as well as the mutual constitution of mobility, place and heritage, as Project Leader of the project Currents of Faith, Places of History: Connections, Moral Circumscriptions, World-Making in the Atlantic Space (HERA-ESF). I have also been interested in regimes and modes of knowledge and rationality, through the study of prophetic work and spiritual mediation. One consequence was the edited volume I co-edited on The Social Life of Spirits (Blanes & Espírito Santo 2013).

3) Mobility and religious pluralism in the Atlantic space: I have also been interested in the role religious movements play in migrant, diasporic settings. I debated the place of African Christian movements in the reconfiguration of the plural religious scenario in cities like Lisbon, advancing an agenda that reflected upon the issue of ♦prophetic diasporas in the Lusophone Atlantic♦ (Sarró & Blanes 2009), as well as on the wider issues of religion and human mobility (Sarró & Blanes 2009b; Blanes & Sarró 2008). In this respect I studied the intersection of mobility and belonging within transnational religious movements, advancing the concepts of double presences (2011) and moral circumscriptions (2012).

4) Ritual and bodily dispositions: Using the study of ritual as analytical device, I have kept a longstanding interest in the issue of religious transmission (2007, 2014), and discussed the ritual politics of prayer in the Tokoist Church (2009) as well as on the role of corporeality in contemporary religious experience (2014b; Fedele and Blanes 2011).

5) Anthropological politics: I have also engaged in epistemological and methodological debates within the general discipline. I debated personal belief and negotiations of distance and proximity in anthropological research (2006). I also co-authored an article on romanticism in anthropology (Maskens & Blanes 2013). Concerning the anthropology of religion, I made critical contributions to the topics of corporeality in religious contexts (Fedele & Blanes 2011), of emerging theories and practices in the subdiscipline (Cornejo, Cantón & Blanes 2008), on spiritual agency, invisibility and intangibility (Blanes & Espírito Santo 2013), and finally non-belief too (Blanes & Oustinova-Stjepanovic 2015).

### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I am currently working at the University of Bergen (UiB), Norway, as a Postdoctoral Researcher. I am also Principal Researcher at the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon (ICS-UL), Portugal, where I received my PhD (2007). I have previously been Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics (2010-2013) and the University of Leiden (2007-2010). My current research site is Angola, where I investigate religion, mobility (diasporas, transnationalism, the Atlantic), politics (leadership, charisma, repression, resistance), temporalities (historicity, memory, heritage, expectations, utopias), knowledge, body and gender.

I have published in several international journals in anthropology (Ethnos, HAU, Social Anthropology, Terrain, History and Anthropology, etc.), African Studies (Politique Africaine, Canadian Journal of African Studies, African Diaspora, etc.) and Religious Studies (Exchange, Religião e Sociedade), as well as several book chapters, in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. I have published edited volumes at the University of Chicago Press, Berghahn, Brill and others, and two monographs, in Portuguese (2008) and English (2014, Berghahn). I have shared outputs of my research in venues, summits and departments across the world, such as AAA (USA), EASA (Europe), IAHR (Japan), IUAES (South Africa), RAM (Argentina), FAAEE (Spain), APA (Portugal), etc.

I am currently the Project Leader of the Collaborative Research Project Currents of Faith, Places of History: Diasporas, Connections, Moral Circumscriptions and World-making in the Atlantic Space (CURRENTS), funded by the HERA consortium. I have also participated as researcher in several international projects funded by agencies such as NORFACE (EU), ANR (France), FNR (Norway), CAPES (Brazil) and FCT (Portugal).

I am also co-Editor of the journal Advances in Research: Religion and Society, edited by Berghahn, and Associate Editor of the journal HAU



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◆ Journal of Ethnographic Theory. I am part of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Religion in Africa (Netherlands) and Debates do NER (Brazil).



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### Título:

Migrant integration and participation: a transnational and gendered approach

### Resumen de la Memoria:

I completed my undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the UK and have worked as a researcher in England, Spain and Belgium. While I have specialised in Human Geography, Political Science and Latin American studies, I have always worked in multidisciplinary environments. My main areas of research are: international migration, transnational migrant political participation and integration processes. I have also worked from a gendered approach.

Since finishing my PhD in 2008 on the transnational political practices of Colombian migrants in Europe, I have worked in 3 other projects expanding on the subject of migrant local-transnational political participation, focused on the Latin American migrant community. These projects received funding from national and international public bodies in competitive calls. I have participated in other projects, and I am currently running my own independent study at the University of Liege (Belgium) funded by Marie Curie. In these projects, I have moved on from playing a Research Assistant role, to becoming Coordinator of a sub-project and Principal Investigator leading a small team of research assistants.

Migrant political participation is a key part of integration but also a growing transnational phenomenon. Up until recently, migrants were taken to be mostly apolitical, with studies focusing on their low levels of electoral participation and representation. This was ascribed mostly to individual characteristics (education, gender, age, political culture, etc.), although some analyses take into account the political opportunities structure in the host society. However, the development of the transnational approach, more focused on the links migrants keep with their countries of origin (and how home states develop relations with their diasporas) has helped enrich the study of migrant political participation. By looking at the way migrants remain connected politically to their countries of origin, not only through 'formal' politics (the option of voting from abroad in home elections is recent for many migrants), a wide range of migrant 'informal' political practices have emerged (through migrant organisations, trade unions, churches, in protest movements, etc.). The transnational approach has also made possible the study of the connections between migrant political participation 'here' and 'there', both at the micro (migrants), meso (e.g. migrant organisations) and macro (role played by States) levels. These are some of the research themes I have pursued in my research career.

Recently, my research line has expanded to cover the theme of integration processes more widely, being political incorporation a key part of integration. Integration processes are assumed to be bilateral, involving both migrants and the host societies (although the transnational approach has also highlighted the role played by home countries in integration). However, the onus is generally on migrants. This is why my recent research project focuses on the impact of the current economic crisis on migrant integration processes and strategies. These are major concerns for contemporary European societies with increasingly diverse societies, which bring many benefits but also conflicts. Future social cohesion will depend on how well we understand such tensions and manage them.

### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I completed my higher and postgraduate education at the University of London in the United Kingdom with excellent results (BA in Geography and Politics, MA in Latin American Studies, MSc in Geography, PhD in Geography), and later moved to Spain where I worked at the University of Huelva (Department of Sociology and Social Work) and the Instituto de Estudios Sociales Avanzados (Institute for Advanced Social Studies, IESA-CSIC). Currently, I am based at the inter-disciplinary Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM), University of Liege (Belgium), after having won a Marie Curie-COFUND Fellowship.

Since obtaining my PhD, I have participated in 7 research projects, moving on from a position as Research Assistant to Principal Investigator of my own study and Coordinator of a sub-project within a larger research effort involving universities in three countries. 4 of these projects received funding (from national and international sources) through a competitive call, and I participated in the project design and funding applications as well as the running of a small team of research assistants. This has provided me with ample experience in the leading and completion of research, as well as its dissemination.

I have published 9 articles, 6 of them in ISI journals, and 4 as sole author. I have also published 9 book chapters in national and international publications of relevance, in most cases following expressed invitations by the editors of the collections. In addition, I am the



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co-editor of a book published by the CSIC (the main public research body in Spain), one of the first books to be devoted to the theme of migrant political participation in Spanish (with contributions from leading international scholars). The prestigious academic publishers Palgrave Macmillan have just accepted my book proposal for a monograph on international migration, transnational politics and conflict, based on the data I have accumulated over the last 10 years on Colombian migration to Europe (forthcoming in 2016). My publications have been mostly academic, but also include research briefings and other reports more oriented towards policy makers and/or the general public (on the themes of refugees, gender and migration, migrant labour market incorporation, etc.).

My participation in conferences and workshops and experience organising such events is also extensive. I have presented my work in 30 national and international conferences, seminars and workshops after being invited or having my abstract accepted. In addition I have co-organised conference panels, seminars and workshops addressed to different publics. I form part of several research associations and networks, including IMISCOE (the main migration studies association in Europe) and LASA (Latin American Studies Association, grouping scholars from around the world), and recently was accepted as **◆Miembro Titular◆** of FLACSO-Spain (the Faculty for Social Science Research in Latin America) in recognition of my career and scientific production. I am also external evaluator for several academic journals, and have acted as jury member of a PhD thesis (at the University of Liege).

Through my career I have also acquired experience in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching (course design, teaching, directing end of year projects, evaluating students, etc.). And I have received ANECA accreditation as 'Profesor Contratado Doctor'. My academic networks are international and extensive.