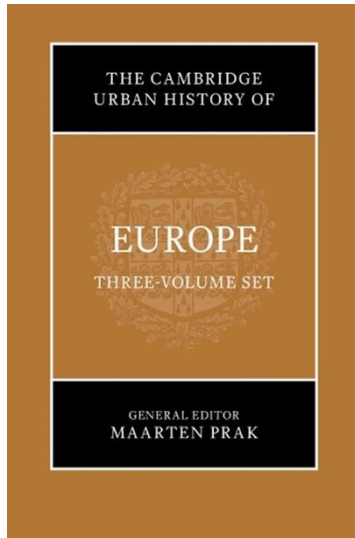


Writing new urban histories

Workshop, January 16th 2026

Location: Hoek 38, Leuvenseweg 38 in Brussels



Split into three volumes chronologically, The Cambridge Urban History of Europe comprehensively and methodically examines Europe's long urban history from its pre-historic roots through to today. Featuring over a hundred essays from experts across various disciplines and countries, the volumes provide an up-to-date analysis of current issues and major themes in urban studies, and shed new light on regions that are often ignored or receive marginal treatment.

The Centre for Urban History seizes this opportunity to look ahead to the future of urban history. We have challenged several promising scholars to critically reflect on the *New Cambridge Urban History of Europe* as a companion to their own innovative research in the field. The workshop will be introduced by Maarten Prak, the general editor.

13.00: Welcome - Bruno Blondé

13.10: Maarten Prak (Utrecht University) - Introduction

13.30: Jeroen Puttevils (University of Antwerp) - Inside/outside perspectives on European urban history anno 2026

14.00-14.20: Thierry Oppeneer (Ghent University & FWO) - The Participatory *Polis* and Its Potential Benefits: A Diachronic Perspective on the Ancient Greek Cities

14.20-14.40: Jonas Roelens (Ghent University) - Inclusion & exclusion in the city. Unwanted minorities in the early modern Southern Low Countries

14.40-15.00: Bob Pierik (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Water, Space and Environmental Inequality in Early Modern Amsterdam

15.00-15.20: Break

15.20-15.40: Danielle Van den Heuvel (Utrecht University) - The Material City

15.40-16.00: Wout Saelens (University of Antwerp & FWO) - The Polluted City: Sketches from Urban-Environmental History

16.00-16.20: Margot Luyckfasseel (University of Antwerp) - Beyond Europe: Reflections on Central African Urban History

16.20-17.30: Drinks

Join us for free—just register [here](#) (deadline January 10th 2026).



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