Gentrification has become a global phenomenon. Over half a century after Ruth Glass described how the middle class “invasion” transformed the working class neighborhoods in London, similar processes have been observed across the world – from mega cities to regional centers and small towns, from the industrialized world to developing, post-colonial and post-socialist societies, and from declining inner cities to suburbs, urban fringes and even rural areas. The various contexts, mechanisms and representations in these global cases of urban restructuring, redevelopment and displacement have since challenged the Western discourse of gentrification, adding diverse and often contested dimensions to the concept. Closely related is the discussion of varied approaches and responses to gentrification that addresses the displacement, exclusion and housing affordability issues, such as inclusionary housing, social mix, and grassroots resistance, which further exemplifies the social, economic, and political differences facing transforming neighborhoods in diverse urban environments. As local processes are increasingly fueled by globalized movements of people, capital and ideas, the need for a global perspective becomes pressing than ever in studying gentrification and informing policy and practice towards inclusive (re)development.

This session will feature new research and insights that further the understanding of global gentrification and traditional/innovative approaches to inclusive (re)development. Relevant topics may include, but are not limited to, comprehensive measures of affordability; housing market and land use regulations; inclusionary housing; mixed-income housing; people-based housing assistance; politics of gentrification and inclusive (re)development; the shifting geography of low-wage labor and employment; and the welfare effects of gentrification. We encourage contributions from the Global North, South, and East, and welcome different approaches and methodologies for an inclusive, transdisciplinary discussion.